



THE MABR IN BLOOM

A COMMUNITY PROFILE • FALL 2021



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE Qualicum, Snaw-naw-as, K'ómox, Snuneymuxw, Tseshaht, Hupacasath, and Ditidaht First Nations. This study refers to, and was conducted in their Traditional Territories, and we raise our hands to them.

THE MABR IN BLOOM - A Community Profile was conducted by Alisha Feser and Pierce Melnick under the supervision and guidance of Dr. Sylvie Lafrenière. The report was designed by Claire Stewart of A Human Called Claire: Graphic Design & Illustration. Additional support and guidance was provided by Vancouver Island University's Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute (MABRRI), the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Roundtable, and the research team on The View from 2117: Human Actions, Consequences, and Perspectives on Mountain Regions project.

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opportunity to position Canada as a global leader in mountain systems research at a time when Canada's mountain systems are undergoing rapid and uncertain change. This opportunity was in turn made possible by the support of a five-year, \$18.3 million grant from the Networks of Centres of Excellence (NCE) program.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Jean Blackburn, collections librarian at VIU, for her assistance with the Statistics Canada data.

FINALLY, WE WOULD like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the MABR community members who generously volunteered their time to participate in our survey.

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ABOUT THE MABR

THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH Biosphere Region (MABR) is a United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designated biosphere reserve. The MABR was designated in 2000, aligning its geographic boundary with five major provincial watersheds: Bonnell Creek, Nanoose Creek, Englishman River, French Creek, and Little Qualicum. Some of the larger communities contained within the boundary of the MABR include Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Nanoose Bay, Hilliers, Whiskey Creek, Coombs, and Errington. In total, just shy of 45,000 people reside within the boundary of the MABR, most of whom live within 5 km of the Salish Sea.

THE MABR IS situated within seven First Nation Traditional Territories including Qualicum, Snaw-naw-as, K'ómox, Snuneymuxw, Tseshaht, Hupacasath, and Ditidaht. Since time immemorial, Indigenous Peoples have been stewards of the 1,200 km² of lands and water which make up the MABR, from the top of Mount Arrowsmith (1,819 m)

down 300 m into the Salish Sea. On the east coast of Vancouver Island one of the Hul'qumi'num names for Mount Arrowsmith is "Ts'xuliqw", while on the west coast, one of the Nuu-chah-nulth names for the mountain is "Kulth-ka-choolth", translating to "jagged tooth".

ALL BIOSPHERE RESERVES across the world (700+) are mandated to meet the following objectives:



Conserve biodiversity, restore and enhance ecosystem services, and foster the sustainable use of natural resources;



Contribute to building sustainable, healthy and equitable societies, economies and thriving human settlements in harmony with the biosphere;



Facilitate biodiversity and sustainability science, education for sustainable development and capacity building; and



Support mitigation and adaptation to climate change and other aspects of global environmental change.

THE MABR HAS been guided by a roundtable since 2015 with representatives from Snaw-naw-as First Nation, Qualicum First Nation, Snuneymuxw First Nation, Vancouver Island University, Regional District of Nanaimo, City of Parksville, Town of Qualicum Beach, Parksville & District Chamber of Commerce, Parksville-Qualicum Beach Tourism Association, Islands Trust, Mosaic Forest Management, and community representatives striving to support the mandates listed.

THE MOUNT ARROWSMITH Biosphere Region Research Institute (MABRRI) was established at Vancouver Island University to further support the MABR. This document is one of the many projects undertaken by MABRRI since its inception in 2014.

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE MABR FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS:

“ It is quiet and close to the beach. People are friendly. Easy access to the city for shopping.



“ Very close to nature. Access to many trails, parks and recreational activities.

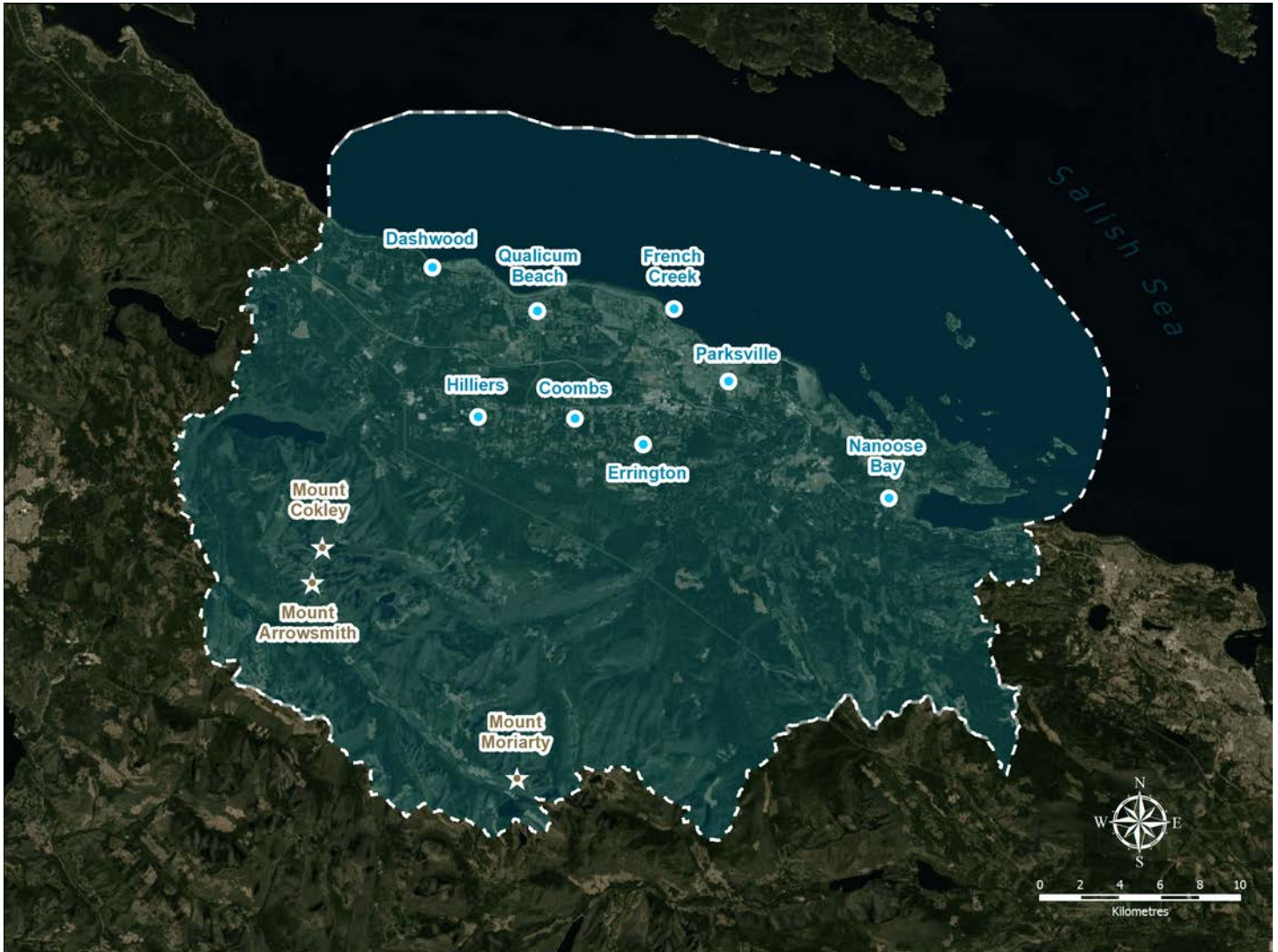


58%

of survey respondents reported that they had never heard of the MABR before taking the survey

OF THOSE THAT had heard of the MABR before, most had heard of it from social media and other news sources, Vancouver Island University, and/ or social circles including friends and family.

BOUNDARIES OF THE MABR






A COMMUNITY PROFILE EXPLAINED

THE MABR IN BLOOM was created to evaluate community vitality and health through social, economic, and environmental factors. This community profile can help provide local governments, policy makers, planners, and community organizations with valuable information regarding socioeconomic characteristics of the population living within the MABR boundaries. Additionally, this community profile is a reporting tool and a conversation starter to be used to implement a knowledge-driven approach to leadership (Harrow & Jung, 2016). It will create a standpoint for future research so localities can keep a record of how things have improved or not and gain a better understanding of the development of the population's relationship to their lived environment.

IN THIS COMMUNITY profile, each page is related to a specific theme. Each theme pertains to an important topic within the MABR. All themes are equally important and there is no order to which they are presented.

LEGEND

Throughout the report, each statistic will have a coloured badge next to it. Please refer to this legend in order to discover where the information comes from.

-  **Statistics Canada** — Data presented is from the 2016 Census of Population. We received custom census profile datatables based on the specific watershed boundaries of the MABR.
-  **Survey** — The community survey data was collected online from MABR residents. The online survey was open from October 27, 2020 to November 27, 2020, and 271 participants completed the questionnaire. It is important to note that this data is not representative of the entire MABR population.
-  **Other** — Multiple other sources of data were used to complete the Community Profile, such as community organizations, BC Parks, and personal contacts.



SDGS

ADOPTED IN 2015 by the United Nations (UN) as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to transform the world by 2030. The SDGs hold significant importance as they call all world nations—regardless of their economic status—to action to achieve a more sustainable future for all, while leaving no one behind. The SDGs incorporate a holistic approach to sustainable development, aiming to address a wide range of issues including: ending poverty and hunger, addressing climate change, reducing inequalities, and protecting and conserving biodiversity and ecosystems. Although the SDGs were developed for nations, their achievement requires collaboration and solutions from all levels, including the local level. As a UNESCO biosphere reserve, the MABR plays a significant role in promoting and contributing to the SDGs locally. Biosphere reserves are areas that model solutions for a sustainable future, celebrate cultural and biological diversity, and empower positive relationships between humans and

nature. The MABR involves partnerships between various community members, stakeholders, and organizations.

THROUGH THESE PARTNERSHIPS and its role as a UNESCO biosphere reserve, the MABR is in a position to make meaningful local contributions to the SDGs. Globally and within Canada, the vision and goals of biosphere reserves can make connections to the SDGs. Acting as models for a sustainable future, biosphere reserves connect to the 2030 Agenda as a whole, by representing all 17 SDGs, by working towards solutions for conservation of biological and cultural diversity and climate change, while also promoting economic and social development. Throughout the document, when a theme is presented, the related SDG is identified with an icon.

THE UNITED NATIONS (n.d.) website provides the targets of each goal. These are also scattered throughout this profile based on their connection to each topic.



DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION

44,870

48%
men



52%
women

5% identify as aboriginal

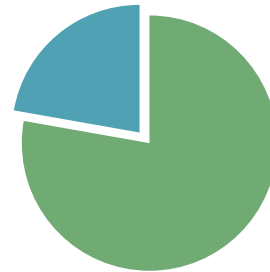
the average household size is

2.1

LONE PARENT FAMILIES



22%
are single male parents



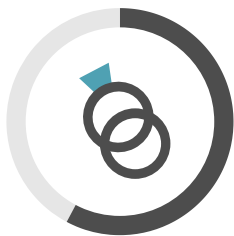
78%
are single female parents


AVERAGE AGE

Canada 41


BC 42

MABR 53



57%  is the proportion of married couples in the MABR compared to 49% of married couples in BC altogether



74%  of the census couples living in the MABR do not have children

CENSUS FAMILY DEFINITION

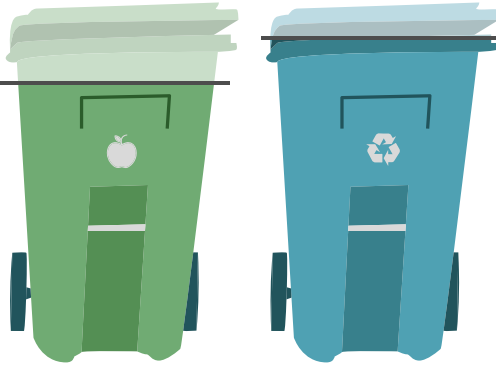
Census family is defined as a married couple (with or without children of either and/or both spouses), a common-law couple (with or without children of either and/or both partners) or a lone parent of any marital status, with at least one child living in the same dwelling (Statistics Canada, 2016).

ENVIRONMENT

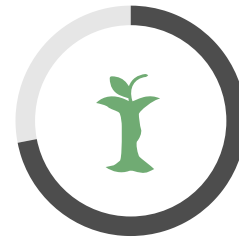
ECO-FRIENDLY PRACTICES

reported by survey respondents

78%
regularly use
the green bin
to compost



91%
regularly use
the blue bin to
recycle



72%
regularly use
a backyard
composter



81%
do not water
their lawn in
order to save
water

WHEN SURVEY RESPONDENTS were asked what other things they did to help the environment, one of the most prominent answers was that they participated in regular eco-friendly practices such as: filling products at refill locations, air drying laundry, and using a reusable water bottle.



SURVEY RESPONDENTS REPORTED that they advocate for the environment by volunteering with environmental organizations, donating to local charities, and boycott brands that are not environmentally friendly.

“ I use my own shopping bags. I return all recyclables appropriately. We do not purchase plastic for food storage.




“ I do not eat meat. I have reduced dairy intake. Shop local. Buy used clothing.

“ Try to purchase from thrift stores and recycling stores. Went one year without buying anything new I'm going to try it again this year...

“ ... I teach my kids about how to value our food chain as they see the effort it takes to raise the animals and the length of time and fragility of plants we eat. We talk often about making better choices, but also about the logic behind those choices for a balanced approach to life.

ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATIONS

reported by survey respondents

 agree  neutral  disagree

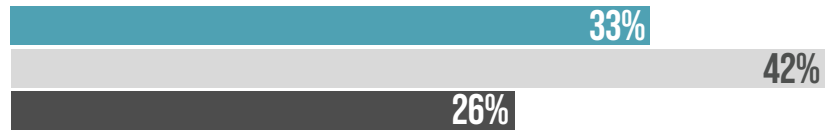
“I have noticed a water shortage in the last 12 months”



“In the last 12 months, I have noticed less trash on the streets”



“In the last 12 months, I have noticed more garbage on the shoreline”

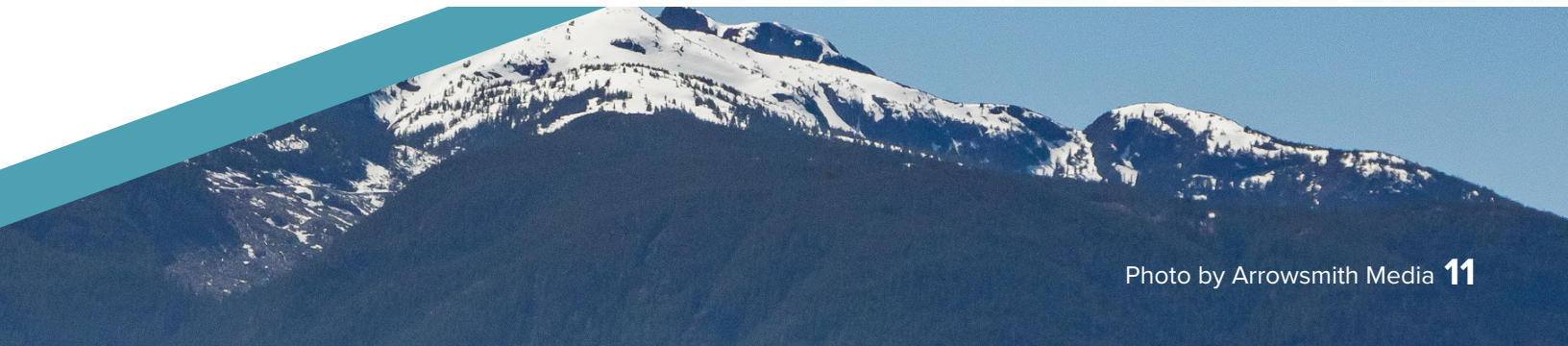


“In the last 12 months, I have noticed more invasive plants”



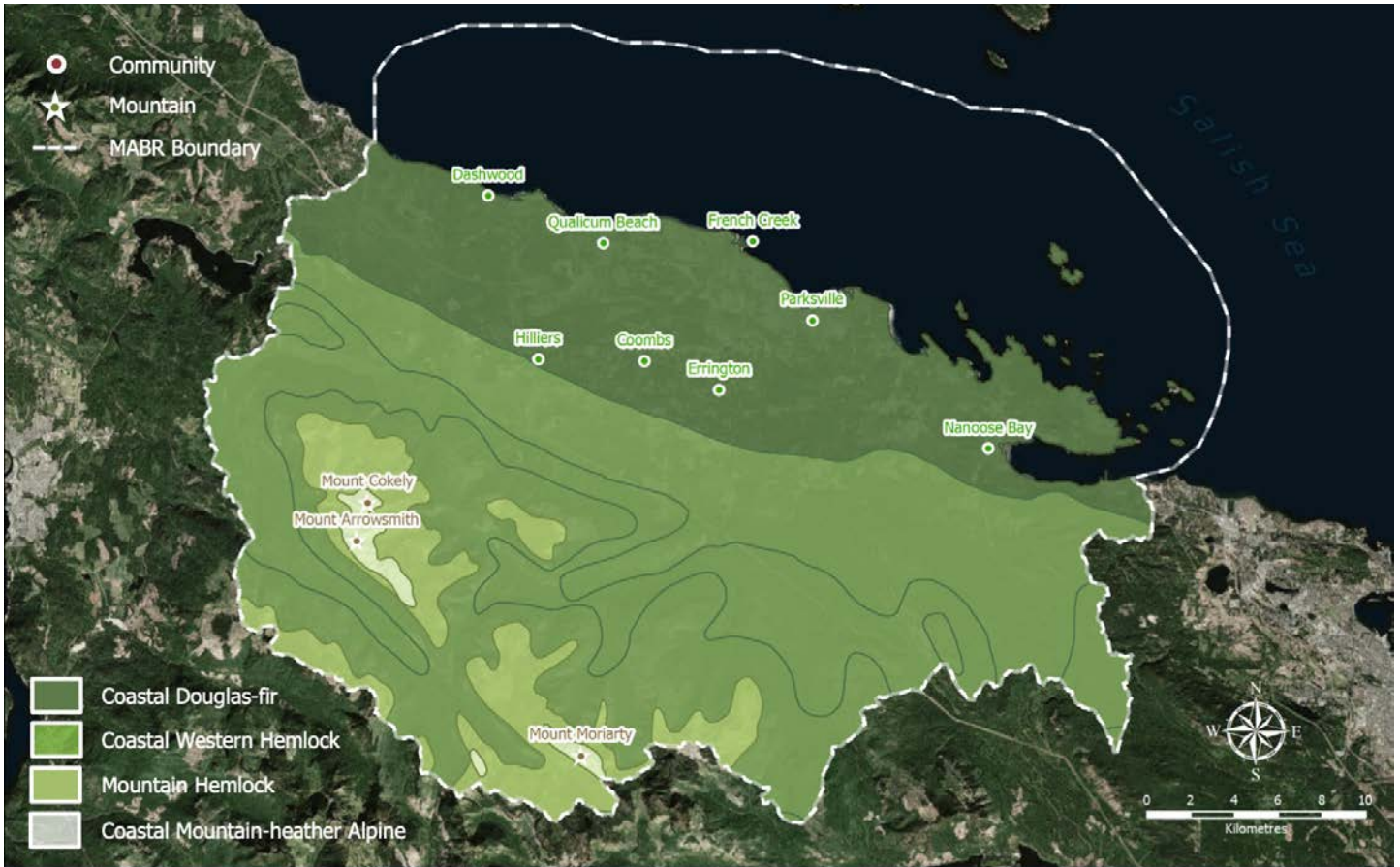
Target 12.5: By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

Target 12.8: By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature



ENVIRONMENT

MABR BIOGEOCLIMATIC ZONES



MOST PROMINENT TREES

9%

Western Red-cedar

11%

Red Alder

55%

Coastal Douglas-fir

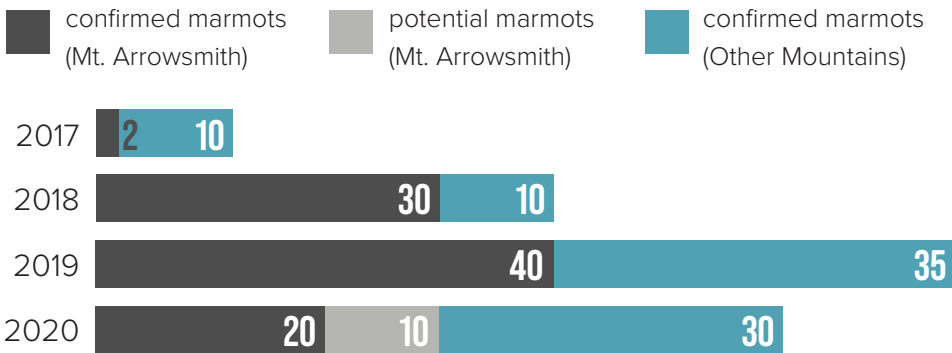


Target 15.4: By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development



NUMBER OF MARMOTS IN THE MABR

from the Marmot Recovery Foundation

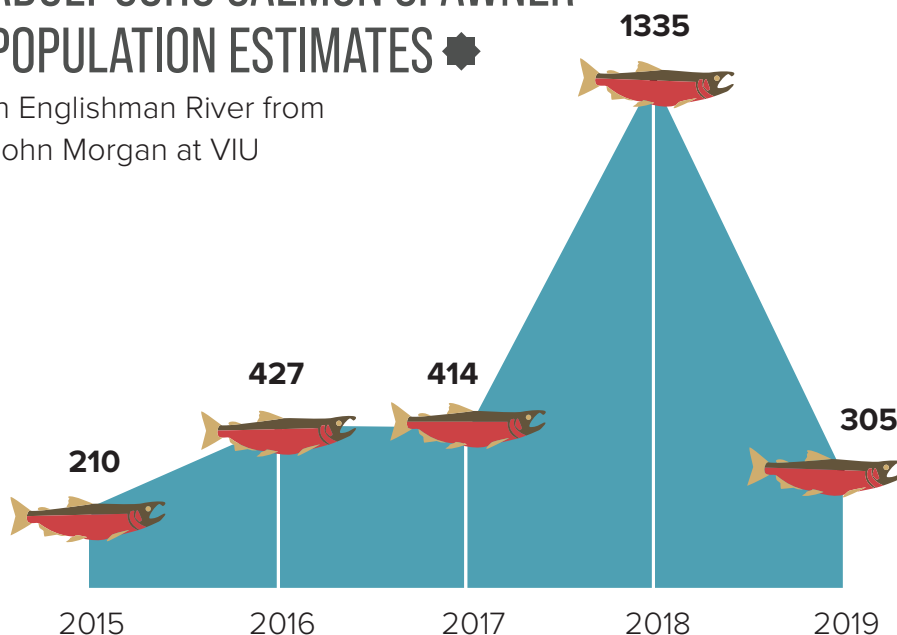


The Vancouver Island marmot is one of the **rarest mammals in the world**. Endemic to high mountains of the island, it is currently critically endangered.

The increase in numbers from 2017 to 2018 reflects a slow increase in the region that was suddenly detected, rather than a rapid increase in colony/regional counts. The apparent drop in numbers in 2020 is almost certainly the result of fewer field visits rather than a decrease in colony size (C. Jackson, personal communication, April 30, 2021).

ADULT COHO SALMON SPAWNER POPULATION ESTIMATES

in Englishman River from John Morgan at VIU



ONE SURVEY RESPONDENT

reported that their least favorite thing about the MABR is that there have been more recent clear cuttings of large portions of land.



Other survey respondents reported that their favorite things about the MABR are:

“ West coast nature, beautiful beaches, weather. It is where my heart belongs.

“ ...Connection to the natural environment - including the beach, trails and trees...

“ I love the quiet pace of life, plus the (generally) good air quality, great water and the awareness for the environment that many share.

ARTS & CULTURE

OF THE SURVEY RESPONDENTS



50%
had attended an artistic or cultural event in the MABR in the last 2 years



25% were satisfied with the amount of arts and cultural events that are available already



34% said they want more indoor and outdoor music events

13% said they want more arts events and shows

11% said they want more activities for youth

6% said they want more aboriginal activities and events

46%

went to concerts and music events

23%

went to art shows and events

19%

went to art classes

17%

went to theatre plays

7%

went to local markets

SOME THINGS THAT survey respondents reported they want to see change:

“ More theatre type activities. I think this would benefit the arts community greatly.

“ I would like to see us switch from fireworks ... to silent fireworks and laser displays.

A mural on The ECHO Players Society theatre located in Qualicum Beach (by artist David Goatley)

Target 8.9: By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



HEALTH & WELLBEING

THOUGHTS ON MEDICAL SERVICES

reported by survey respondents


“ *My doctor made sure to tell me not to hesitate to get in touch if I need medical care [...] despite covid. I have had two video appointments with her...* ”

“ *...better mental health and addictions help. More doctors and psychiatrists and addictions medicine specialists.* ”

“ *Medical services - have been on the waitlist for a doctor or nurse practitioner for two years. It's a joke to have such a shortage in a community of many seniors and a growing number of families with young children...* ”



63%
have a health care provider within the MABR

 **ACCORDING TO FIND A DOCTOR BC** (n.d.), there are **20** doctors within **10** clinics in the MABR. As of July 2021 there were no doctors accepting new patients.

 **2,240** people in the MABR work in the **healthcare and social assistance industry** (second highest industry in the MABR)



Target 3.5: Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol

Target 3.7: By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes



HOMELESSNESS

EACH PERSON STRUGGLING with homelessness has his or her own life circumstance that led to homelessness. This could include employment loss, economic downturn, fire, illness, a traumatic incident, physical disability, family breakdown, abuse, mental illness, drug addiction, and/or other physical disabilities.

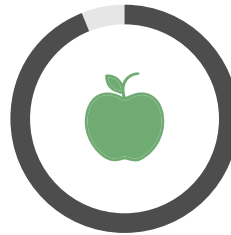
IT CAN HAPPEN to anyone regardless of income, status, education, lifestyle, age, race, or gender.

(Metro Vancouver and Fraser Valley Council of Community Homelessness, n.d.)

Target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance



MANY SURVEY RESPONDENTS agree that the MABR needs more resources for people struggling with homelessness:



94%
agreed that a food bank is necessary



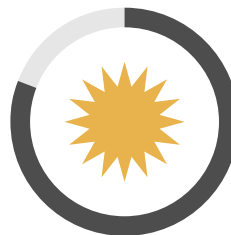
91%
agreed that a shelter is necessary



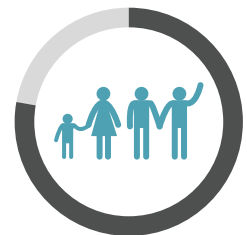
84%
agreed that a free clothing resource is necessary



81%
agreed that social housing units are necessary



81%
agreed that a day centre is necessary (a place for individuals to do laundry or shower)



78%
agreed that a public living room is necessary (a place to safely spend the day)

IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

from survey respondents by theme

COMMUNITY ---

1. Support organizations currently working in the field
2. Educate the public and increase awareness
3. Vote for governments that will work towards minimizing homelessness

A NEED FOR PROFESSIONALS ---

1. Develop a professional action group to work with individuals living on the street
2. Mental health workers to accompany police
3. Addictions specialists

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS SUPPORT

1. More individual support with specific individual plans
2. More support for low income families
3. More mental health resources and facilities


INFRASTRUCTURE ---


1. Safe spaces for women
2. Clean treatment facilities
3. Better infrastructure to support future needs


PROGRAM IDEAS ---

1. Programs for those who suffered from childhood neglect and trauma
2. Programs that transition people off of the street
3. Programs for free education and job skills

THOUGHTS FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS

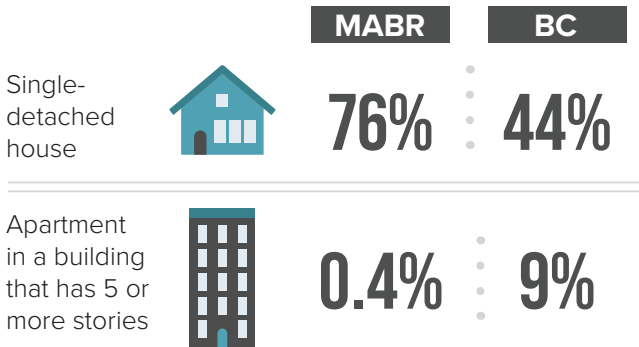
 *...We need various services/ institutions that people can safely go to if they are overdosing, or are fearful of overdosing, where they can get medical help. We need to invest more into mental-healthcare and services...*

 *It is such a complex issue... I feel like I don't know the true causes of the problem, and sometimes I'm not sure our elected officials do either.*

 *We need mental health facilities, without this you are just adding a bandaid that gets ripped off the next day and re-applied. Many of these people need treatment to get their lives back on track...*

HOUSING

TYPES OF DWELLINGS



HOUSING SUITABILITY

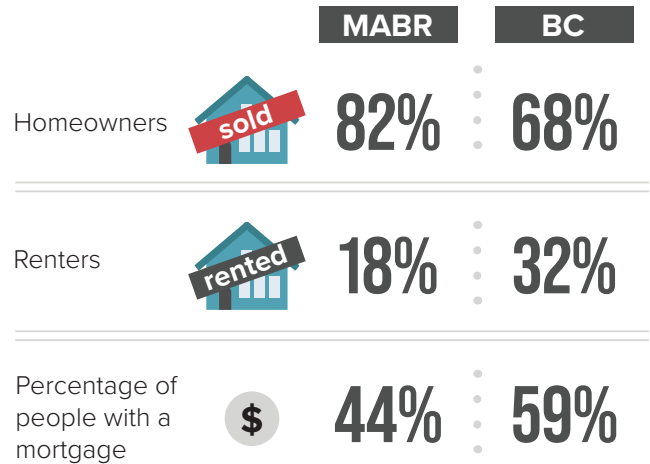
Housing suitability refers to whether a private household is living in suitable accommodations according to the National Occupancy Standard (NOS); that is, whether the dwelling has enough bedrooms for the size and composition of the household. A household is deemed to be living in suitable accommodations if its dwelling has enough bedrooms, as calculated using the NOS (Statistics Canada, 2016).

 **2.1%** of housing in the MABR is not suitable to occupants

Target 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums



HOMEOWNERS VS RENTERS



COSTS OF HOUSING

\$1,009 is the average monthly shelter costs for rented dwellings in 2016

\$480,239 is the average value of dwellings in the MABR in 2016

21% of people spend more than 30% of their income on shelter costs

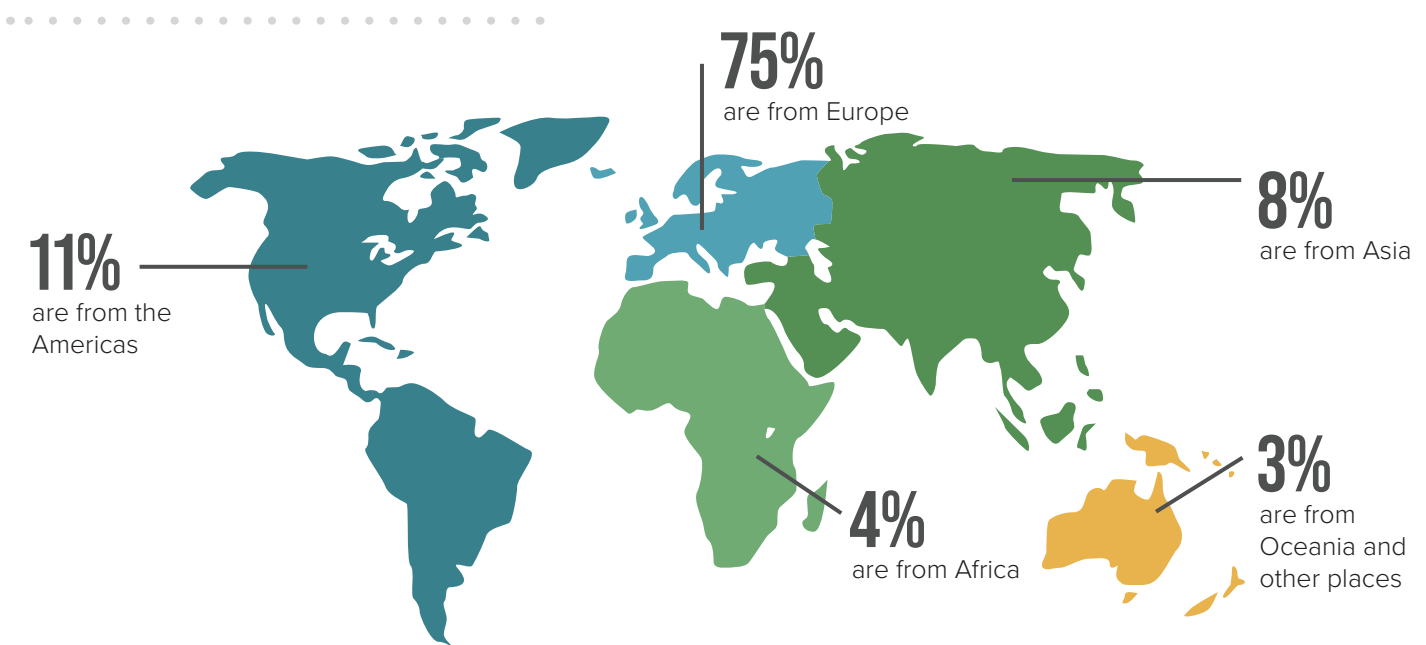
50% of tenant households spend 30% or more of their income on shelter costs

NEWCOMERS & ETHNICITY

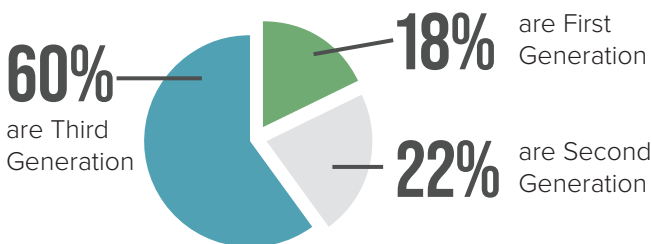
DIVERSE POPULATION OF THE MABR ✨

17% of the MABR population have immigrated from a variety of different countries

72% of people who have immigrated to the MABR have been here since before 1981



GENERATION STATUS ✨



✨ **3%** of the MABR's population identify as a visible minority. In comparison, **30%** of the population of BC identifies as a visible minority

APPROXIMATELY 145 PEOPLE are in the MABR as non permanent residents who are attending school and/or working

WORKFORCE

TOP 5 OCCUPATIONS IN THE MABR

Occupation refers to the kind of work performed by persons aged 15 years and over as determined by the description of the main activities in their job. The occupation data are produced according to the National Occupational Classification (NOC) 2016. (Statistics Canada, 2016)

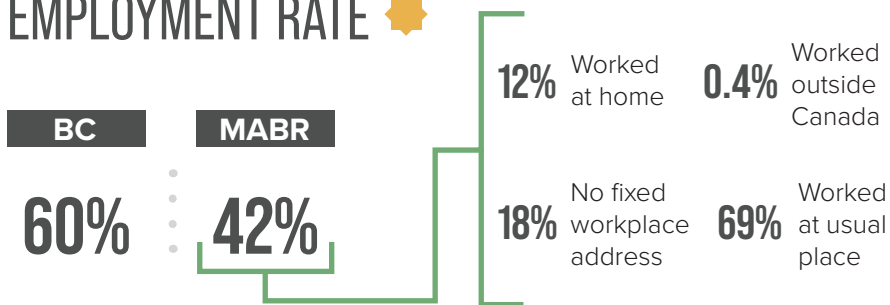


TOP 3 INDUSTRIES

Industry refers to the general nature of the business carried out in the establishment where the person worked. The data are produced according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) 2012. (Statistics Canada, 2016)



EMPLOYMENT RATE

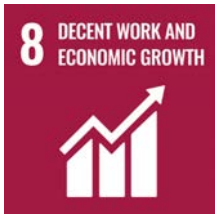
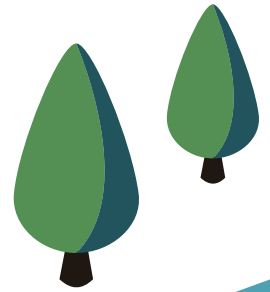
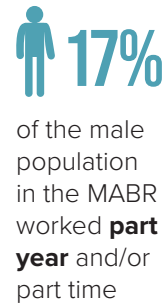
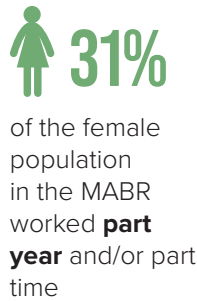
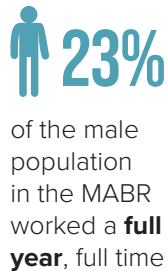
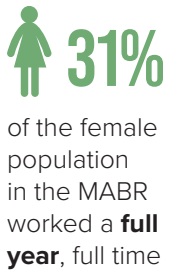
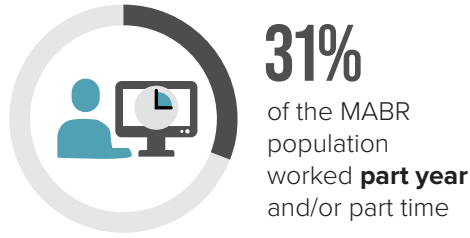
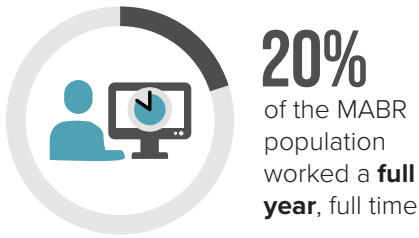


SELF EMPLOYED



PART TIME VS FULL TIME

proportions apply to those aged 15 years or older



Target 8.3: Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

Target 8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value



EDUCATION

SCHOOLS IN THE MABR

DISTRICT 69 SCHOOLS

- » Collaborative Education Alternative Program
- » PASS/Woodwinds Alternate School
- » Arrowview Elementary
- » École Oceanside Elementary
- » Errington Elementary
- » Nanoose Bay Elementary
- » Qualicum Beach Elementary
- » Springwood Elementary
- » École Ballenas Secondary
- » Kwalikum Secondary

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- » Arrowsmith Independent School
- » Discover Montessori School

INDIGENOUS SCHOOLS

- » Qualicum First Nation Child Care Centre
- » Uy'sqwalawun Daycare

IN ADDITION, PARKSVILLE runs the VIU ElderCollege program that offers a variety of different courses to those 50 years or older. The goal is to offer them “quality learning and teaching opportunities” (Vancouver Island University, n.d.)

Target 4.5: By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

MAJOR FIELDS OF STUDY

of the population that went to post secondary school

- 27%** Architecture, engineering, and related technologies
- 19%** Business, management, and public administration
- 17%** Health and related fields
- 10%** Education
- 9%** Social and behavioural sciences, and law
- 7%** Personal protective and transportation services
- 4%** Humanities
- 4%** Agriculture, natural resources, and conservation
- 3%** Visual and performing arts, and communications technologies
- 3%** Physical and life sciences, and technologies
- 2%** Mathematics, computer, and information sciences

EDUCATION DEMOGRAPHICS

for MABR residents aged 15 years or older

No certificate, diploma or degree



Secondary (high) school diploma or an equivalent certificate



Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree



AMENITIES & COMMUNITY EVENTS

AMENITIES USED

reported by survey respondents



83%

shopped at local grocery stores



76%

ate out at local restaurants



68%

went to local coffee shops



34%

shopped at local clothing shops



33%

used local non-profit organizations



31%

shopped at local boutiques

OTHER LOCAL AMENITIES that survey respondents mentioned include the library, post office, and gas stations

THOUGHTS FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS

“ I love that we have a wonderful range of events, both daytime and evening, varying days of the week ... However, parking is always a problem for those that have to drive to the area...

“ ...I have many fond-memories of celebrating Canada Day in Parksville with my family and friends...

TOP RATED CHANGES to community events:

1. More variety and frequency of events in general
2. Improved services and infrastructure: public washrooms, picnic tables, and garbage and recycling bins
3. Accessibly: additional parking, public transportation to and from events

76%

of survey respondents have attended a community event in the past 2 years

MOST POPULAR community events:

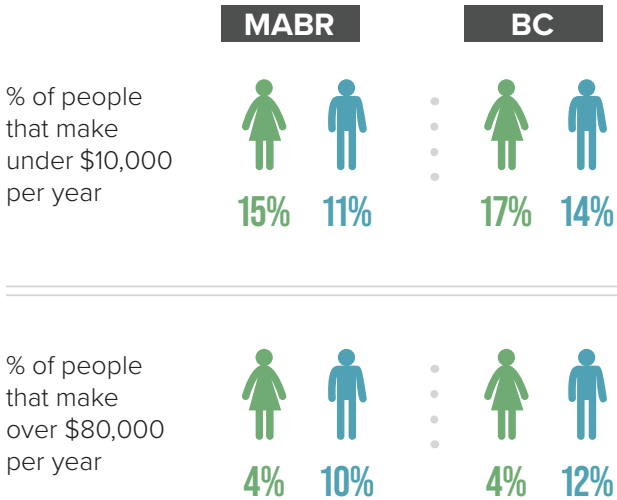
1. Sand Castles
2. Canada Day
3. Local Markets
4. Car Shows
5. Beachfest
6. Family Day



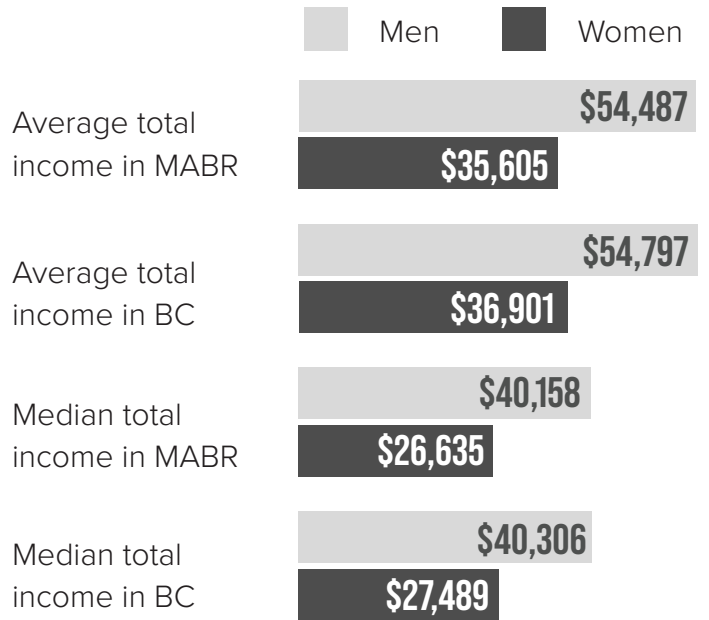
Target 11.7: By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

INCOME INEQUALITY

SEX WAGE GAP



AVERAGE & MEDIAN INCOMES



Target 10.1: By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average

Target 10.3: Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard

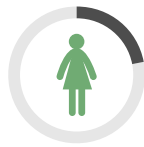


LOW INCOME & GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS



15%

of men in the MABR receive government transfers compared to **8%** of men in BC altogether



22%

of women in the MABR receive government transfers compared to **15%** of women in BC altogether

53%

of the population in the MABR is in the bottom half of the economic income distribution compared to **50%** of BC's population

14%

of the MABR's population is living in low income compared to **15%** of BC's population

Of the low income population in the MABR (based on the low income measure after tax)...

25% are **seniors aged 65 and over** compared to **17%** of the low income population in BC altogether



19% are **children aged 0-17** years old compared to **22%** of the low income population in BC altogether

56% are **aged 18-64** years old compared to **62%** of the low income population in BC altogether



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

THOUGHTS FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS

on experience with discrimination within the MABR

“ *My friend has an adopted daughter... who experiences horrific racism everyday...* ”

“ *...heard people who are LBGTQ talked about in derogatory ways.* ”

“ *..lots of resistance to younger populations yet rely on them for resources and maintaining services.* ”

“ *Older adults not getting their opinions asked in health care decisions.* ”

“ *...my mother and sister have witnessed sexist discrimination in the work-place...* ”

“ *...support for First Nations people, mental health, physical health and housing must be considered in a culturally respectful and sensitive way.* ”

Target 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.



.....

28%

of survey respondents reported being a victim of, or witness to discrimination based on race, gender, sexual orientation and/or age in their community

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

INTERSECTIONALITY

“provides critical insight that race, gender, ethnicity, and other identities operate not as unitary, mutually exclusive entities, but as [commonly] constructing phenomena that in turn shape complex social inequalities” (Burton et al., 2020).

AUDIBLE MINORITY

An individual whose accent is different from the mainstream community. It usually is used to refer to accent discrimination, and is part of a multi-faceted and interconnected web of prejudice that includes race, gender, sexuality, and many other notions of identity, whether chosen or imposed.

BIPOC

Black, Indigenous, and people of color (Duc Bo Massey et al., 2021).

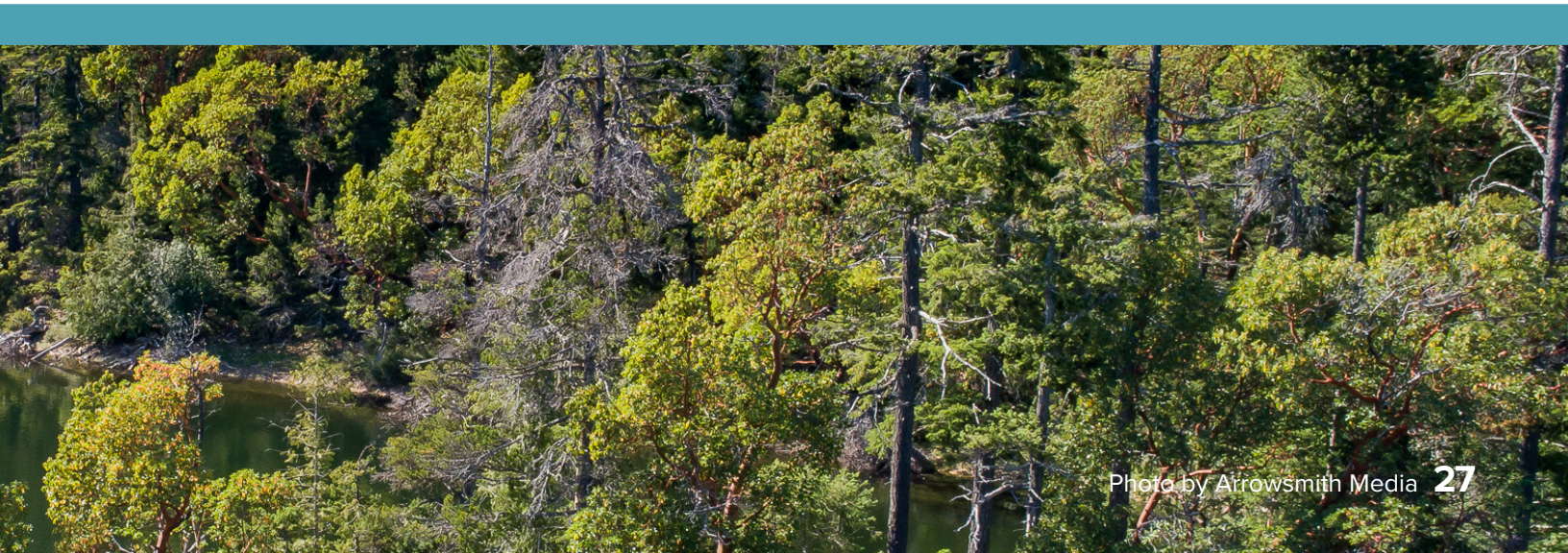
ALLY

A person who advocates for human rights of everyone while reaching across differences, and challenges discrimination against marginalized groups of people.

“ Promoting BIPOC representation and equity... requires that larger organisational bodies move beyond diversity statements and commit to active anti-racism work (Duc Bo Massey et al., 2021).

“ The Black Lives Matter Movement has awakened many to racism and anti-Blackness during the COVID-19 pandemic (Blake et al., 2021).

“ ...Racism continues to be the greatest indicator of a person’s opportunity at life or death. While this fact may be surprising to some, it has long been an inescapable truth for BIPOC communities (Espinoza & Narruhn, 2020).



EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

SOGI ✦

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

“SOGI IS AN INCLUSIVE TERM that is relevant to all individuals regardless of where they identify on the sexual orientation or gender identity spectrums, as every person has a sexual orientation and every person has a gender identity” (Edmonton Community Foundation, 2018).

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG (n.d.) “decided to adopt the practice of placing ‘2S’ for ‘Two Spirit’ at the beginning of ‘LGBTQ’ to acknowledge that Two Spirit Indigenous people were the first sexual and gender minority people in North America...”

“ *The acronyms and words used to describe 2SLGBTQ+ people and communities continue to evolve...*

“ *...Variations of the acronym... include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, Two Spirit, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and sometimes an asterisk or plus...*

SOGI IN SCHOOLS ✦

“ *B.C.’s new curriculum includes a focus on valuing diversity and respecting differences, and the topics of human rights and responses to discrimination (Government of British Columbia, n.d.).*

“ *19% of B.C. high school students identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or not exclusively heterosexual (Government of British Columbia, n.d.).*

“ *1% of B.C. high school students identify as transgender and 5% of Aboriginal students identify as two-Spirit (Government of British Columbia, n.d.).*

“ *In the past 12 months, lesbian, gay and bisexual youth were seven times more likely than heterosexual youth to attempt suicide (28% vs. 4%) (Government of British Columbia, n.d.).*

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEX AND GENDER? ✨



Gender: learned social and cultural roles and expectations of men and women. Gender can also be fluid, fluctuating between gender traits of men and women or both or neither. Additionally, some identify as transgender or gender diverse.



Gender expression: presentation of a person's gender expressed through an individual's name, pronouns, appearance, behaviour, or body characteristics. What society identifies as masculine or feminine changes over time and varies by culture.



Gender identity: a person's deep-seated, felt sense of gender, or how a person feels on the inside, regardless of what their body looks like.



Sex (sex at birth): refers to the label of male or female determined at birth based on biological characteristics. This often appears on identity documents.

RECREATION, LEISURE, & PARKS

BC PARKS IN THE MABR

(B. Yerex, personal communication, July 23, 2019)

Park	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Englishman River Falls Park					
Total Camping Attendance (People)	18,600	19,500	22,100	23,500	25,800
Day Use Attendance (People)	152,500	189,800	189,200	231,800	147,100
Little Qualicum Falls Park					
Total Camping Attendance (People)	24,500	25,600	26,900	30,500	29,200
Day Use Attendance (People)	338,500	317,400	304,700	345,500	267,900
Macmillan Park					
Total Camping Attendance (People)	-	-	-	-	-
Day Use Attendance (People)	349,000	432,300	483,200	543,700	427,500
Rathrevor Beach Park					
Total Camping Attendance (People)	90,300	98,500	93,800	112,800	111,600
Day Use Attendance (People)	455,700	573,200	598,000	723,500	608,900
Spider Lake Park					
Total Camping Attendance (People)	-	-	-	-	-
Day Use Attendance (People)	62,600	58,400	47,900	62,700	63,000

Notes:

(1) Englishman River Falls park gate closed December 2018 and for part of January 2019 due to windstorm damage to the park. No day use was recorded during this time.

(2) Macmillan and Spider Lake do not have any camping facilities.

(3) The above parks do not record boating attendance.

(4) No stats are recorded for Gerald Island and Arbutus Grove.

(5) Numbers presented are for the fiscal year, from April 1st to March 31st.

THOUGHTS FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS

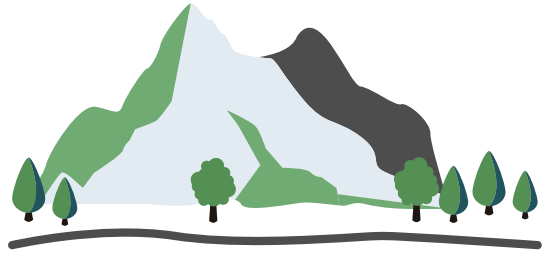
88% of survey respondents reported taking part in recreational activities

“ A multiplex in Parksville would be amazing. New squash courts, a pool, indoor track and turf for keeping sports going through the winter.

“ More youth oriented recreational opportunities.

25% of survey respondents reported the need for a new swimming pool in the MABR

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM survey respondents included the need for more bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, marked trails systems, and protection of natural areas.



82%

reported using trails within the MABR

80%

reported using provincial parks

74%

reported using community parks

TOP RATED ACTIVITIES by survey respondents

1. Non-organized activities including: hiking, mountain biking, camping, and bird-watching
2. Water activities including: paddleboarding, kayaking, and swimming
3. Other sporting activities including: golf, soccer, and baseball

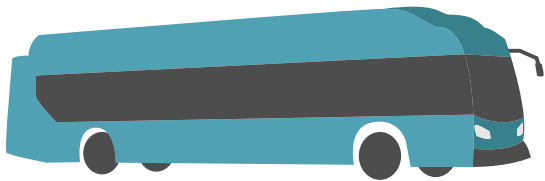
TRANSPORTATION

THOUGHTS FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS

“ Run more frequent [buses] and with stops that are not so far away from [...] points of interest.

“ There must be a better way! We need to be able to connect with Coombs [and other rural areas]. There needs to be connectivity for it to work. It should also be fully accessible.

“ Direct and functionally timed trips to ferry terminals and airport.



EXPERIENCES OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

MANY SURVEY RESPONDENTS reported that public transportation in the MABR is either non-existent or ineffective and inconvenient. In fact, **only 3%** of survey respondents reported using public transportation in the MABR.



23%

of survey respondents reported that they regularly carpool rather than drive



17%

of survey respondents reported that they regularly bike rather than drive



34%

of survey respondents reported that they regularly walk rather than drive

Target 11.2: By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons



COMMUTING TO WORK ✨

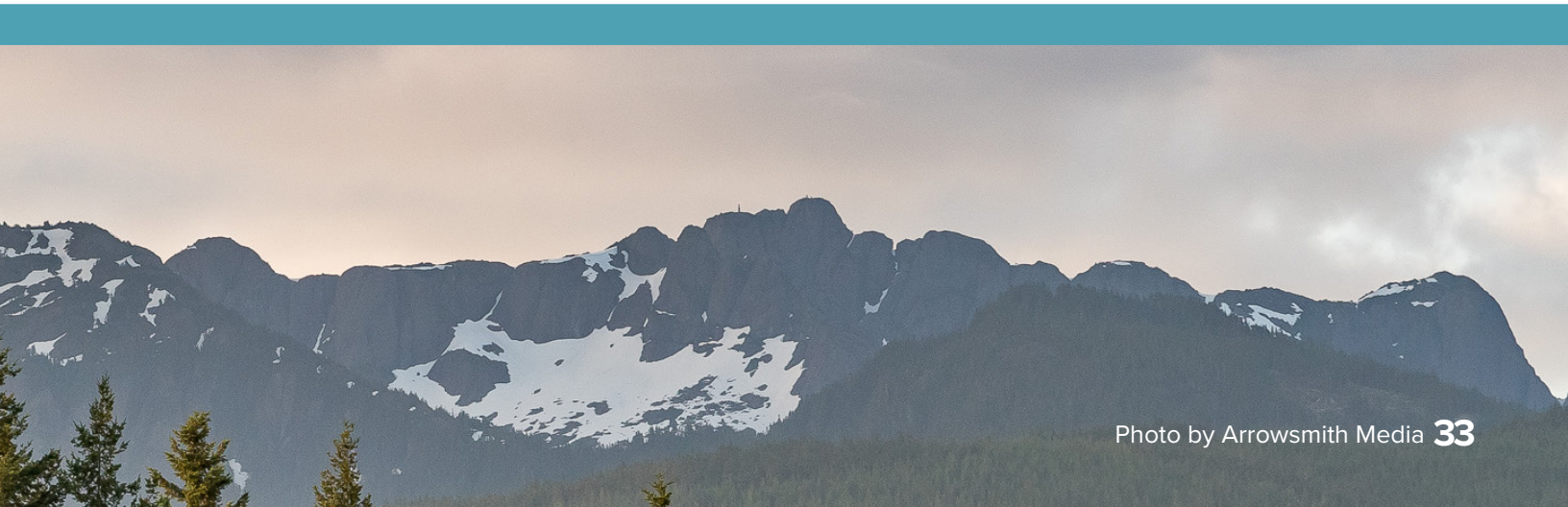
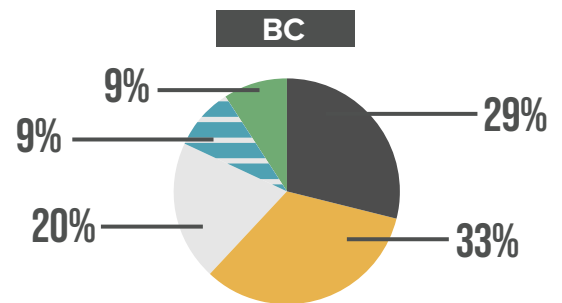
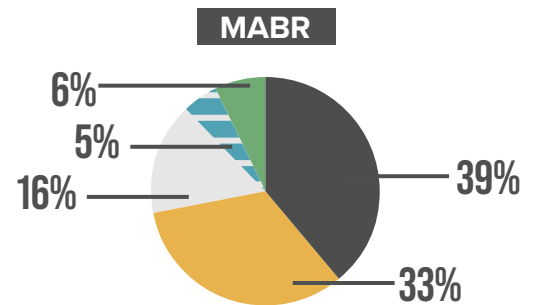
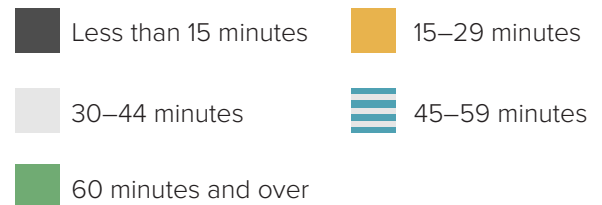
for the MABR population

- 30%** Commute within census subdivision of residence (ie. Parksville resident travelling within Parksville)
- 59%** Commute to a different census subdivision within census division of residence (ie. Parksville resident travelling to Nanaimo)
- 9%** Commute to a different census subdivision and census division within province or territory of residence (ie. Parksville resident travelling to the Mainland)
- 2%** Commute to a different province or territory (ie. Parksville resident travelling to Alberta)

CENSUS DIVISION (CD) is the general term for provincially legislated areas (such as county, *municipalité régionale de comté* and regional district) or their equivalents. Census divisions are intermediate geographic areas between the province/territory level and the municipality (Statistics Canada, 2016).

COMMUTING DURATION ✨

for the employed labour force in MABR



CLOSING ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

IT IS HOPED that the information provided in this community profile will be shared and distributed throughout the MABR and used by residents, local governments, policy makers, planners, and community organizations to engage in discussion and inform decisions.

THE TEAM ALSO hopes this community profile is the first of many, and that these future reports will bring to light the successes and the challenges of the people, communities, and environment of this extraordinary and unique area.



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