

# BURNS LAKE AND SURROUNDING AREA PROFILE



VILLAGE OF  
**BURNS  
LAKE**



SMITHERS | TELKWA | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | **BURNS LAKE**  
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF



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## Burns Lake and Surrounding Area

Burns Lake is a regional centre within the RDBN, surrounded by nature and endless options for recreational enthusiasts. Radley Beach and Spirit Square, located within the municipality on the shores of Burns Lake, boasts free camping, outdoor fitness stations, playground, public docks, boat launch, kayak/canoe rentals, and an outdoor stage.

Community members enjoy easy access to the natural surroundings of Burns Lake, a key contributor to their quality of life. A wide variety of hiking trails, canoeing and kayaking areas, as well as an abundance of lakes are found in Burns Lake and surrounding area. There are also world class mountain bike and cross country ski trails just five minutes from the village centre. Forestry is the primary industrial driver with pellet plants and lumber mills as the main employers in the area. Agriculture, tourism, and mining (emerging) also provide employment for residents.

Burns Lake and surrounding area residents have full access to many health care services including a new Lakes District Hospital and Health Centre scheduled to open in 2015. The local airport, with a 5000 foot runway offers charter flights, overnight accommodation and service for industry.

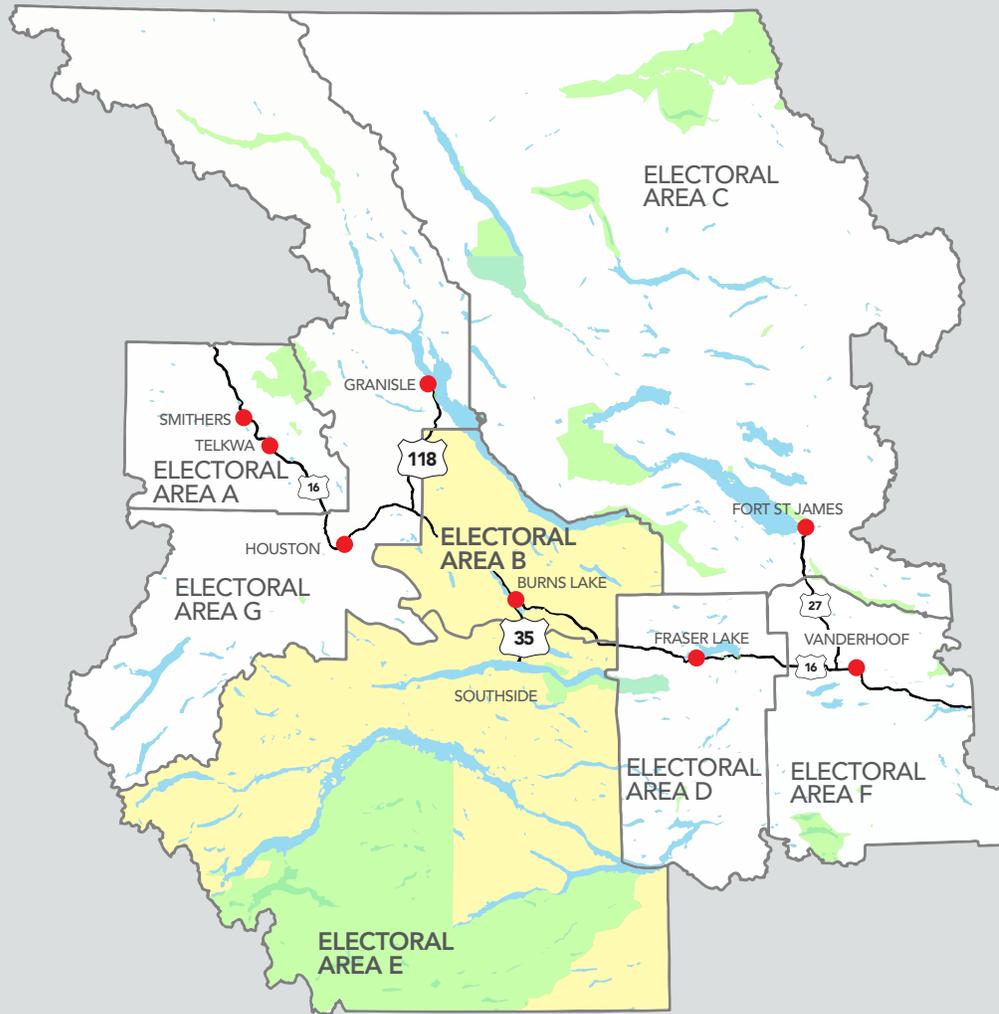
## The Regional Profile

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) Regional and Community Profiles bring together current and detailed demographic data as well as information about workforce, transportation, energy, utilities, local government and quality of life. The information about the region is intended to inform potential investors, support decisions to establish or expand a business and provide opportunities to future residents. The Community and Surrounding Rural Area profiles provide the complete picture of each Electoral Area, as well as insight into why residents love to work, live and play in the RDBN.

Northern BC is used as a comparative area in many of the profile graphs. In this case, the area of Northern BC is defined as the three northern [federal electoral areas](#) in the province, including Skeena-Bulkley Valley, Cariboo-Prince George, and Prince George-Peace River.

More information about the businesses and organizations listed in this document is available on the RDBN website under *Bulkley-Nechako Directory*. Please use the Bulkley-Nechako Directory by inserting the following website in your browser: [directory.rdbn.bc.ca](http://directory.rdbn.bc.ca).

# Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Map



## Distance from Burns Lake to:

PLACE	DISTANCE (KM)	DRIVING TIME (HR)
Prince George, BC	227	2 hr 40 min
Kitimat, BC	402	4 hr 52 min
Prince Rupert, BC	490	5 hr 58 min
Edmonton, AB	966	10 hr 50 min
Vancouver, BC	1,008	11 hr 6 min
Calgary, AB	1,012	12 hr 4 min
Seattle, WA	1,122	12 hr 22 min
Whitehorse, YT	1,392	18 hr 17 min
Portland, OR	1,402	15 hr 6 min
Yellowknife, NT	1,832	21 hr 52 min
Anchorage, AK	2,523	33 hr

## Legend

- Municipalities
  - Parks
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  - Electoral Area Boundary
  - Regional District Boundaries
  - Highway
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1: BURNS LAKE AND SURROUNDING  
AREA COMMUNITY PROFILE



# DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

## Population Growth

Population growth in Burns Lake, 2001-2011

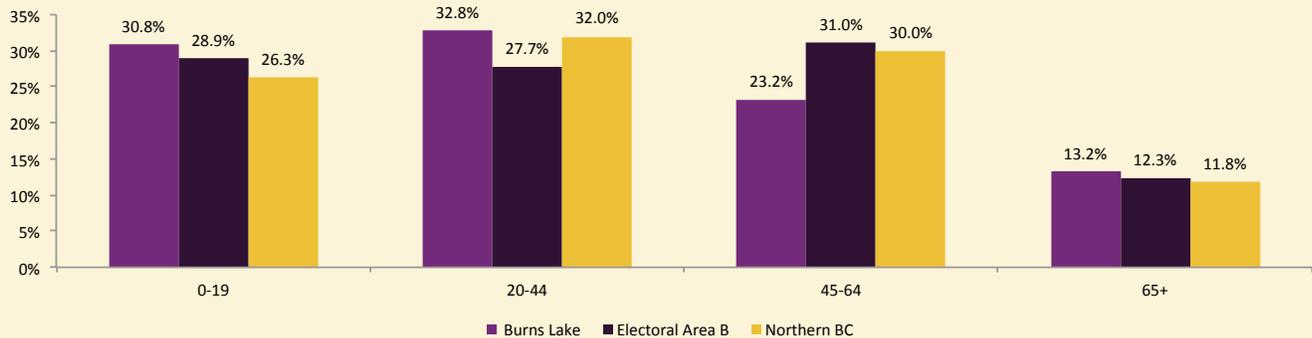
POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Burns Lake	1,942	2,107	2,029
Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)	2,2777	2,154	2,102
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

The Village of Burns Lake has a population of 2,029 which has been relatively stable over the past 10 years. In Electoral Area B, the surrounding rural area, the population has been slowly decreasing over the same time period.

## Age Structure

Age structure in Burns Lake and Electoral Area B, 2011

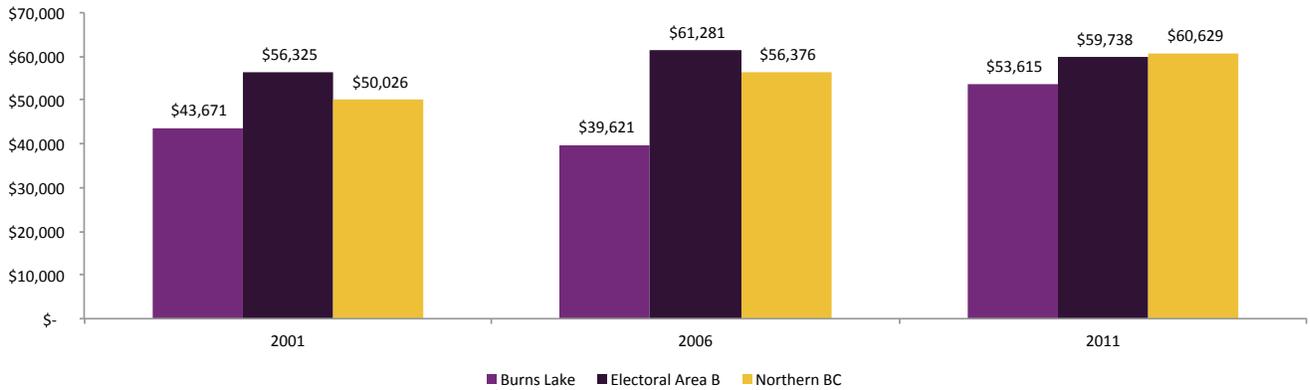


Source: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

The residents of Burns Lake are younger than Electoral Area B, on average, as well as Northern BC. The median age in Burns Lake is 34 while in the Electoral Area and Northern BC the median is 41 and 39 respectively. The age structure reveals that Burns Lake has a higher youth population (ages 0-19) and significantly lower proportion of people between the ages of 45-64 as compared to the Electoral Area and Northern BC.

# Household Income

## Median household income in Burns Lake and Electoral Area B, 2001-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006

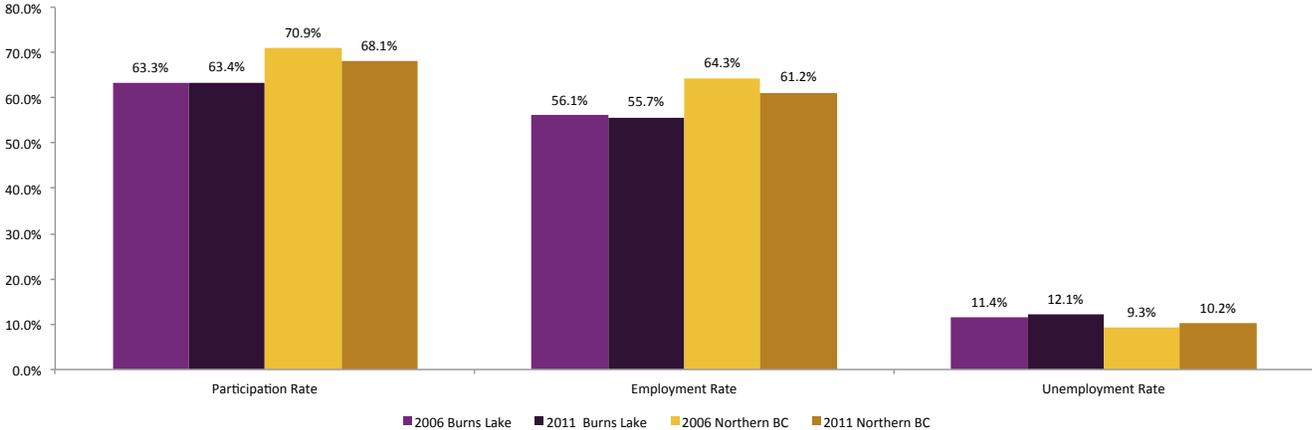
The median household income in Burns Lake has generally been lower than the Electoral Area and Northern BC; however, it is increasing. Between 2006 and 2011 the median household income grew by 35% in Burns Lake while the growth rate in the Electoral Area and Northern BC was -3% and 13% respectively.



# WORKFORCE PROFILE

## Employment

Employment data in Burns Lake and Northern BC, 2006-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006

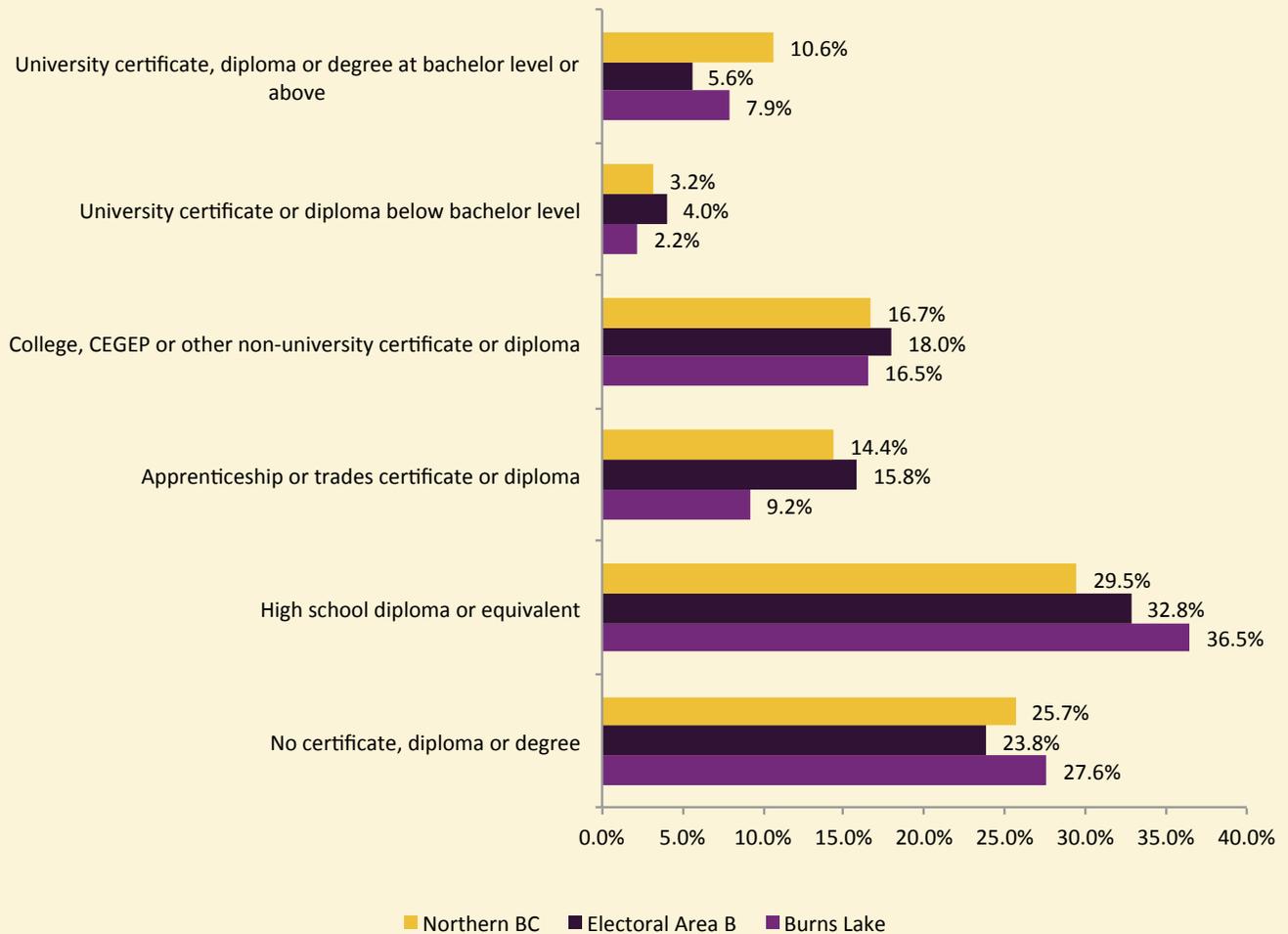
Burns Lake had a higher unemployment rate than Northern BC in 2006 and 2011. The unemployment rate in Burns Lake increased by 1% from 2006-2011 which is comparable to the rate of increase in Northern BC.



# COLLEGE OF NEW CALEDONIA LAKES DISTRICT CAMPUS

## Education

### Education in Burns Lake and Electoral Area B, 2011

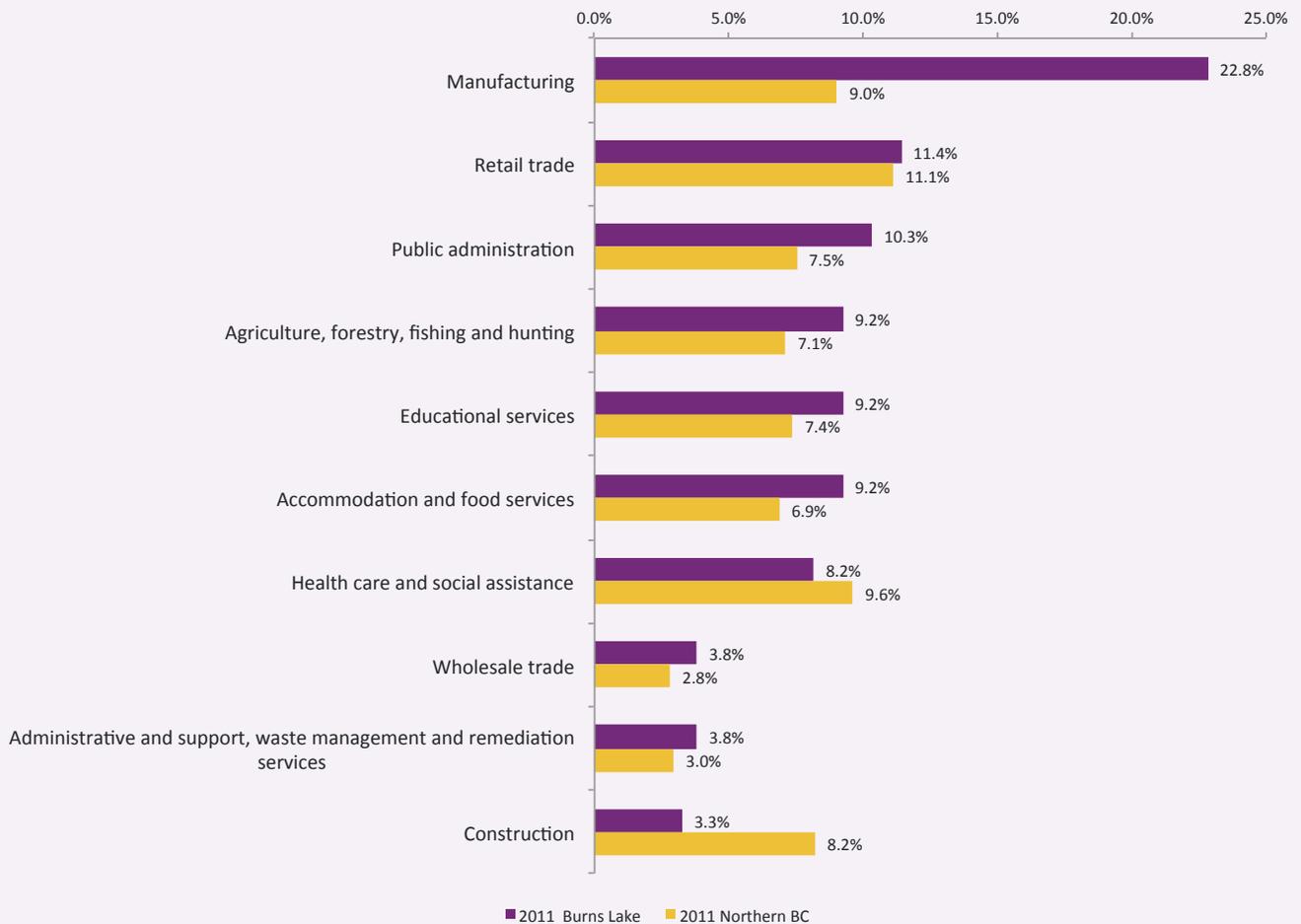


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey

Burns Lake has an equivalent portion of the population with a college level degree and a higher portion of the population with a high school diploma compared to Northern BC. However, when compared to the Electoral Area, Burns Lake has a lower percentage of the population with a college level degree and higher portion with a high school diploma.

# Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Burns Lake and Northern BC, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey

In 2011 Burns Lake had a total labour force of 920 people. Around a quarter of the local labour force works in the manufacturing sector while in the Northern BC this sector only accounts for 9% of the workforce. Retail trade and public administration are other major employment sectors as they employ around 11% and 10% of the local labour force respectively.

Some of the major employers in Burns Lake include the following:

NAME	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES
Northern Health	150
College of New Caledonia	100
Tahtsa Timber	109
Lakes District Maintenance	50
Hampton Affiliates - Babine Forest Products	200
Hampton Affiliates - Decker Lake Forest Products	100
Pinnacle Burns Lake	54

## Local Post-Secondary Education Facilities and Employment Service Providers

In Burns Lake the following local post-secondary education facilities and employment service providers are available:

NAME	FACILITY OR SERVICE
College of New Caledonia	Post-Secondary Institution
WorkBC Employment Services Centre	Employment Services
Kopar Administration Ltd	Employment Programs
WCG International - Jobwave	Employment Programs
Lakes District Employment and Career Services	Employment Programs
Community Futures Nadina	Employment Services

# TRANSPORTATION

The following transportation businesses and facilities exist within the community:

NAME	CATEGORY
Greyhound Canada	Bus
Baker Airport	Airport
Lakes District Air Services Ltd.	Charter Planes
Ootsa Air Ltd.	Charter Planes
VIA Rail Canada Inc.	Rail
Westland Helicopters Inc.	Helicopters

The Baker Airport is located 20km northwest of the Village of Burns Lake. There are no scheduled services to or from the Burns Lake airport but charter flights are available. Baker airport is a year-round facility, with a lit runway. Overnight accommodations and a van are available on-site.

# COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS

- Telus
- Shaw Communications Inc.
- Bell Mobility
- ABC Communications



# WATER AND WASTE

## Water

### Source of Water Supply and Means of Access

Name of Provider - Village of Burns Lake

Means of Access - The Village of Burns Lake water system is comprised of 3 supply wells located on Gerow Island, and is piped from there underwater, to the high lift station at the Public Works Yard. Currently there is a portable backup generator that could be used in the event of a sustained power loss. Planning is underway to improve the backup power system. We have two water reservoirs totaling 500,000 gallons, and the water system is chlorinated. There is over 29 km of water distribution lines serving the Village.

### Water Supply vs. Projected Demand

Rated Capacity	110m <sup>3</sup> /hour
Average Daily Demand	958m <sup>3</sup>
Peak Demand	1,250m <sup>3</sup>

### Residential, Commercial and Industrial Water Rates

Residential Cost	\$181.24/year
Industrial Cost	\$1.63/1,000 gallons for first 30,000 gallons
Commercial Non-Metered cost	\$623.00/year
Commercial Metered	Starts at \$1.9847/1,000 gallons for first 30,000 gallons and Cost increases
Bulk Water User Charge	\$9.45/1,000 gallons

## Solid Waste Disposal Services

Residential curbside pickup is conducted every Wednesday and commercial curbside pickup is done every Friday.

### Capacity of Waste Disposal Site vs. Projected Demand

Landfill Name	Knockholt Landfill
Location	80km northwest of Burns Lake
Capacity Left at Current Site	64 years
Plans for New Capacity	Current plans will add an additional 3-5 years
Transfer Station	4410 Babine Lake Road

## Recycling

Although no curb side recycling is available at this time several recycling options are available to residents of Burns Lake. For more information go to [www.rdbn.bc.ca/environmentalservices/recycling](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/environmentalservices/recycling).

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## Taxes

The following chart summarizes 2013 tax rates in Burns Lake. For up to date information contact the municipality. Tax rates are calculated in dollars of tax per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value.

PURPOSE OF TAX RATE	RESIDENTIAL	UTILITIES	MAJOR INDUSTRY	LIGHT INDUSTRY	BUSINESS / OTHER	MANAGED FOREST LAND	RECREATION / NON-PROFIT	FARM
Municipal	7.2967	36.2874	45.8035	45.8035	16.3196	0.0000	7.2967	0.0000
Regional District	2.3962	8.4180	8.1775	8.1775	5.8926	0.0000	2.4052	0.0000
Hospital District	0.5566	1.9481	1.8924	1.8924	1.3637	0.0000	0.5566	0.0000
School	3.9281	14.0000	6.2000	10.8000	6.2000	2.3000	3.4000	6.9000
Other	0.5766	2.3260	2.2745	1.9343	1.4444	1.8819	0.5766	0.5766
Total	14.7542	62.9795	64.3479	68.6077	31.2203	4.1819	14.2351	7.4766

## Development Processes and Fees

Frequently requested development and business fees in Burns Lake are as follows

TYPE OF FEE	COST
OCP Amendment	\$750
Zoning Bylaw Amendment	\$750
Development Permit	\$750
Board of Variance Application	\$300
Building Permit(Commercial)	\$6/\$1000 construction value
Building Permit (Residential)	\$6/\$1000 construction value
Business License for period of January 1 - December 31	\$100
Business License for period of July 1 - December 31st	\$50

# Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Burns Lake's official community plan and zoning bylaw are available at [www.burnslake.ca](http://www.burnslake.ca)

- [Official Community Plan](#)
- [Zoning Bylaw](#)

## Incentive Programs

The community of Burns Lake has adopted several initiatives to improve competitiveness for small business. These initiatives include the following:

- Façade Improvement program providing up to \$5,000 in matching funds for façade improvement in downtown Burns Lake
- Tax Revitalization Bylaw offers a business which invests at least \$50,000 in new construction or improvement on an industrial property no property tax on the improvement in the first year after construction, as long as the investment creates at least two new full-time jobs. An eligible business will also enjoy generous tax breaks in the following four years, with the tax exemption declining 20% per year.
- [Small Town Love](#). Cost effective small local business profiles.

## Local Economic Development Services

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact the Economic Development Officer and Chamber of Commerce:

Krystin St. Jean  
Economic Development Officer  
Village of Burns Lake  
Email: [kstjean@burnslake.ca](mailto:kstjean@burnslake.ca)  
Phone: 250-692-7587 x225

Shelley Wall  
Chamber Manager  
Burns Lake and District Chamber of Commerce  
Email: [info@burnslakechamber.com](mailto:info@burnslakechamber.com)  
Phone: 250-692-3773

## Mayor Contact

Mayor Luke Strimbold  
#15 3rd Ave, PO Box 570  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Email: [mayor@burnslake.ca](mailto:mayor@burnslake.ca)

# QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

## Housing

The housing stock in the municipality consists of the following:

DESCRIPTION OF TYPICAL HOUSING STOCK	# OF UNITS
Total Private Dwellings (2011 census)	846
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents (2011 census)	766
Single detached houses (2006 census)	460
# of owned dwellings (BC Stats –Community Facts)	440
# of rented dwellings (BC Stats –Community Facts)	360
RECENT AND FUTURE HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS	# OF UNITS
# of dwellings constructed before 1986 (2006 census)	200
# of dwellings constructed between 1986-2006 (2006 census)	180

The typical cost for a single family home is as follows:

TYPE OF HOUSING	COST
Single Family Homes (BC Stats – Community)	\$126,056





## Accommodations

- [Sunshine Inn](#)
- [Travelers Motel](#)
- [Burns Lake Motor Inn](#)
- [Wanakena Motel](#)
- [Lakeland Inn](#)

## Shopping

Shopping District: Downtown Burns Lake

Shopping Malls:

- [Evergreen Mall Ltd.](#)
- [Lake View Mall](#)

## Banks

- [Bulkley Valley Credit Union - Lakes District](#)
- [Investors Group Financial](#)
- [CIBC](#)
- [Royal Bank of Canada](#)

## Legal Firms

- [Warren Chapman Law Office](#)

## Media

- [CBC Radio](#)
- [CJFW Radio \(Astral Media\)](#)
- [Lakes District News](#)
- [LD Free Classifieds](#)
- [The PEAK - CFBV Radio](#)

# Local Community Organizations

- Burns Lake & District Chamber of Commerce
- Burns Lake Community Forest Ltd.
- Omineca Cross Country Ski Club
- Lakes District Community Theatre
- Lakes District Festival Association
- Both Sides Now Choir
- 4-H Club
- Artistic Guild
- Burns Lake Community Choir
- Palling Recreation Commission
- Pioneer Club
- Rod Reid Trail Committee
- Rose Lake Community Club
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 50
- Scouts Canada
- Sea Cadets
- Lakes Outdoor Recreation Society
- Decker Lake Recreation Commission
- Eagle Creek Recreation Commission
- Lakes District Airport Society
- Lakes District Amateur Radio Club
- Lakes District Arts Council
- Lakes District Merchants Committee
- Lakes District Museum Society
- Lakes District Rock & Gem Club
- Lakes District Team Penning Association
- Lakes District Trappers Association
- Lakes District Watershed Enhancement Society
- Lakes LRMP Monitoring Committee
- Burns Lake Community Garden
- Burns Lake Heritage Commission
- Burns Lake Ladies Auxiliary
- Burns Lake Rodeo Association
- Burns Lake Rotary Club
- Burns Lake Army Cadets
- Burns Lake Minor Hockey Association
- Burns Lake Mountain Biking Association
- Burns Lake Snowmobile Motocross Club
- Tweedsmuir Park Rod & Gun Club
- Burns Lake Tennis Club
- Lakes District Museum
- Lakes District Community Services Society



# Local Community Assets

- Carnoustie Golf and Country Club
- Lakes District Fitness
- Radley Beach & Playground
- Dick Schritt Ice Rink
- Tom Forsyth Memorial Arena
- Eagle Creek Fair Grounds
- Burns Lake Snowmobile Motocross Track
- Boer Mountain Bike Trails
- Omineca Ski Club
- Burns Lake Curling Rink
- Dick Norris Tennis Courts
- Y2K Skate Park
- Burns Lake Recreation Complex
- Burns Lake Spirit Square

## Schools

- Lakes District Secondary School (8-12)
- William Konkin Elementary School (K-7)

## Health Services

- Lakes District Hospital & Health Centre
- Burns Lake Medical Clinic
- The Pines Care Home
- Burns Lake Dental Clinic
- Lakeview Dental Centre

### Lakes District Hospital & Health Centre

The Lakes District Hospital is currently being replaced and upgraded. The facility offers 16 beds, emergency services, diagnostic imaging, a laboratory, pharmacy rehabilitation services, administrative offices, food services, and logistical services. Provisions will be made for public health, mental health and addictions, and home and community care services, as well as local physician and emergency services. A procedure space will be large enough to provide future flexibility for the development of operating room space.

### Burns Lake Medical Clinic

The clinic provides family doctor services.

### The Pines Care Home

The Pines care home is a full care home for the elderly.

*“Having the opportunity to build my business in Burns Lake was like being given a gift where I can do what I love and love where I live! The small town atmosphere has allowed me to really get to know my clientele and offer them a personalized and unique shopping experience they can’t find anywhere else. It is so rewarding to create customized wardrobes for the women who live here and now the women who come here.... just to shop! When you bring business local and make it extraordinary ... your community engages and something magical happens!”*

**Kelly Holliday, Aksenz Studios**

[www.burnslake.ca](http://www.burnslake.ca)

VILLAGE OF  
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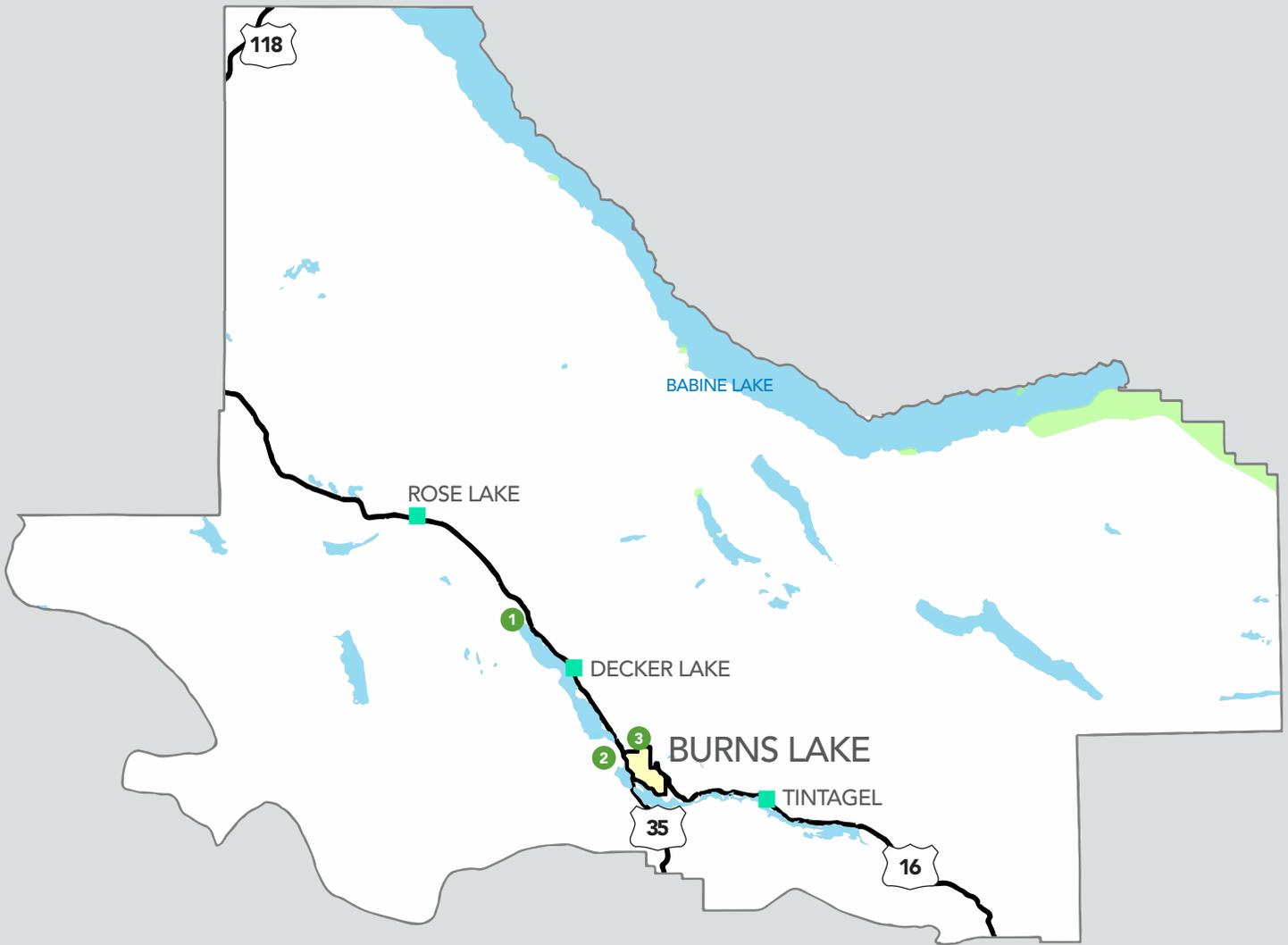


2: ELECTORAL AREA B  
(BURNS LAKE RURAL)



# ELECTORAL AREA 'B'

(Burns Lake Rural)



## Legend

-  Municipal Boundary
-  Unincorporated Communities
-  Lakes
-  First Nation Population Centers

-  Electoral Area Boundary
-  Parks
-  Highway



1. Wet'suwet'en First Nation (Palling Indian Reserve No. 1)
2. Ts'il Kaz Koh First Nation (Burns Lake Band Reserve)
3. Lake Babine Nation (Woyenne Reserve)

## Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural)

Burns Lake Rural, or Electoral Area B, has a small but stable population of just over 2,000 people. The rural area is known for its rolling hills, and beautiful lakes and rivers. The unincorporated communities of Rose Lake, Decker Lake and Tintagel as well as the Village of Burns Lake are located within its boundaries.

The residents of the rural area have strong participation rates in the local economy, and a relatively high percentage hold college and/or apprenticeship certifications. Residents tend to be employed in agriculture, manufacturing and public administration.

The Burns Lake Band, Lake Babine Nation and Wet'suwet'en First Nations are located in Electoral Area B.



# DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

## Population Growth

Population growth in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural), 2001-2011

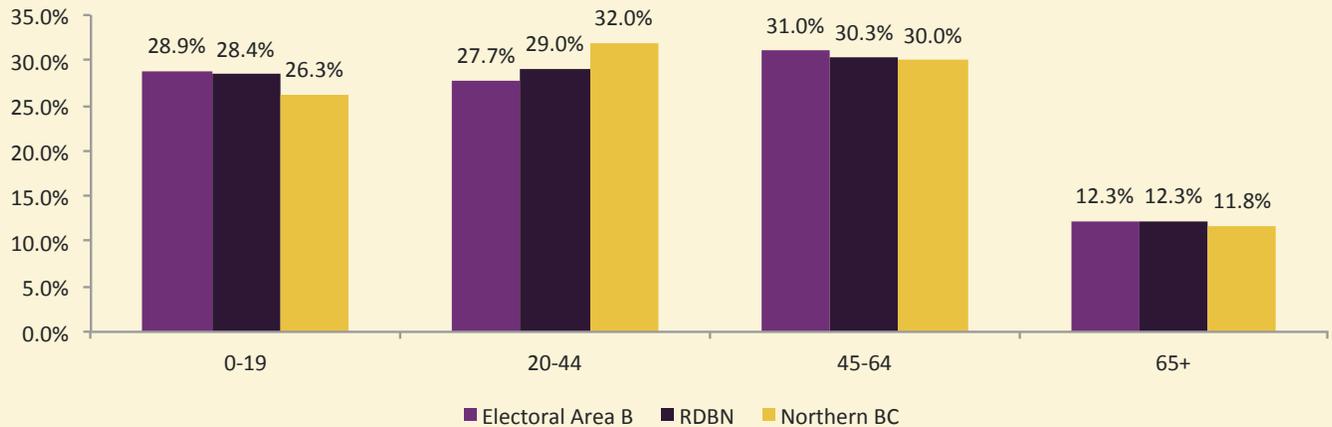
POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Electoral Area B	2,277	2,154	2,102
Regional District Bulkley-Nechako	40,856	38,243	39,208
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

The population of Electoral Area B has remained relatively stable over the past 5 years at just over 2,000 people. From 2001-2006 the population in the Northern BC decreased by 3.5% while in the Electoral Area the decrease was slightly higher, at 5.4%. From 2006 to 2011, the Electoral Area experienced a 2.4% decrease in population while in Northern BC the population increased by 0.1%.

## Age Structure

Age structure in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) and the RDBN, 2011

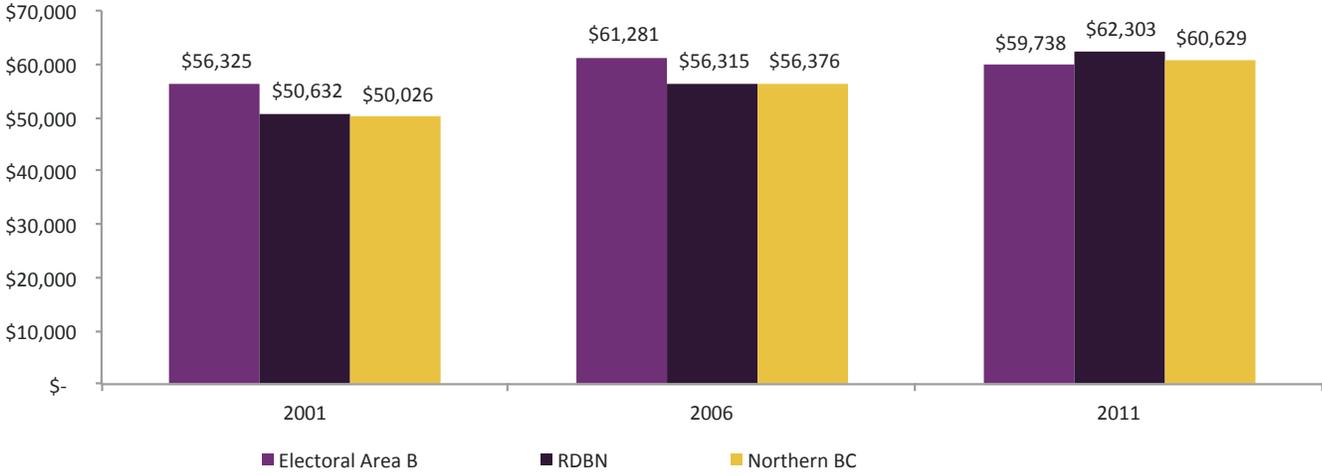


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011.

The Burns Lake Rural population is slightly older than the RDBN and Northern BC as a whole. The median age in the Electoral Area is 41 while in the RDBN and Northern BC the median age is 39. Its age structure reveals that Electoral Area B has a higher youth population (ages 0-19) and lower proportion of people between the ages of 25-44 compared to the RDBN and Northern BC.

# Household Income

Median household income in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) and the RDBN, 2001-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006.

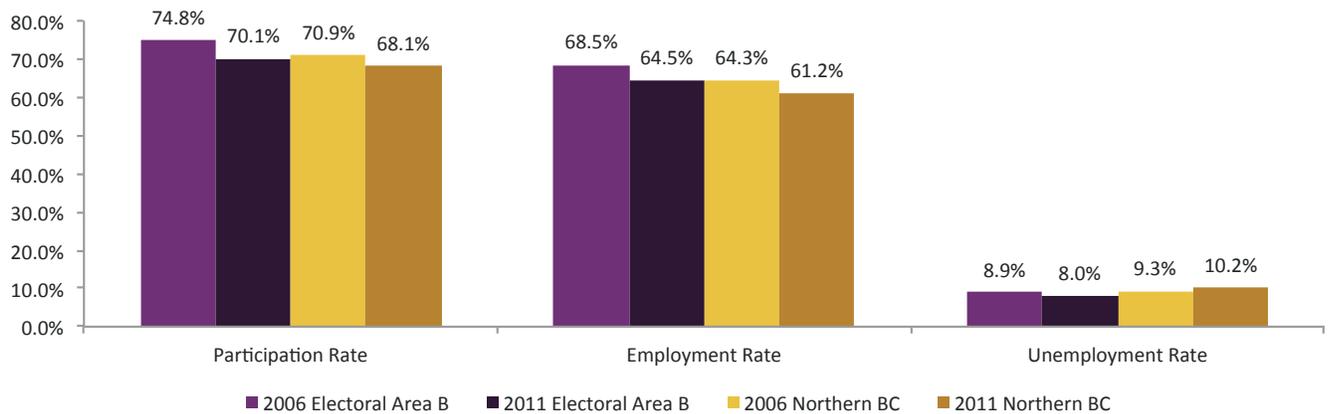
The median household income in Burns Lake Rural, or Electoral Area B, has been higher than in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2001 to 2006. The Electoral Area experienced a 9% increase in median household income from 2001 to 2006 and a 2.5% decrease from 2006 to 2011.



# WORKFORCE PROFILE

## Employment

Employment data in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) and the RDBN, 2006-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006.

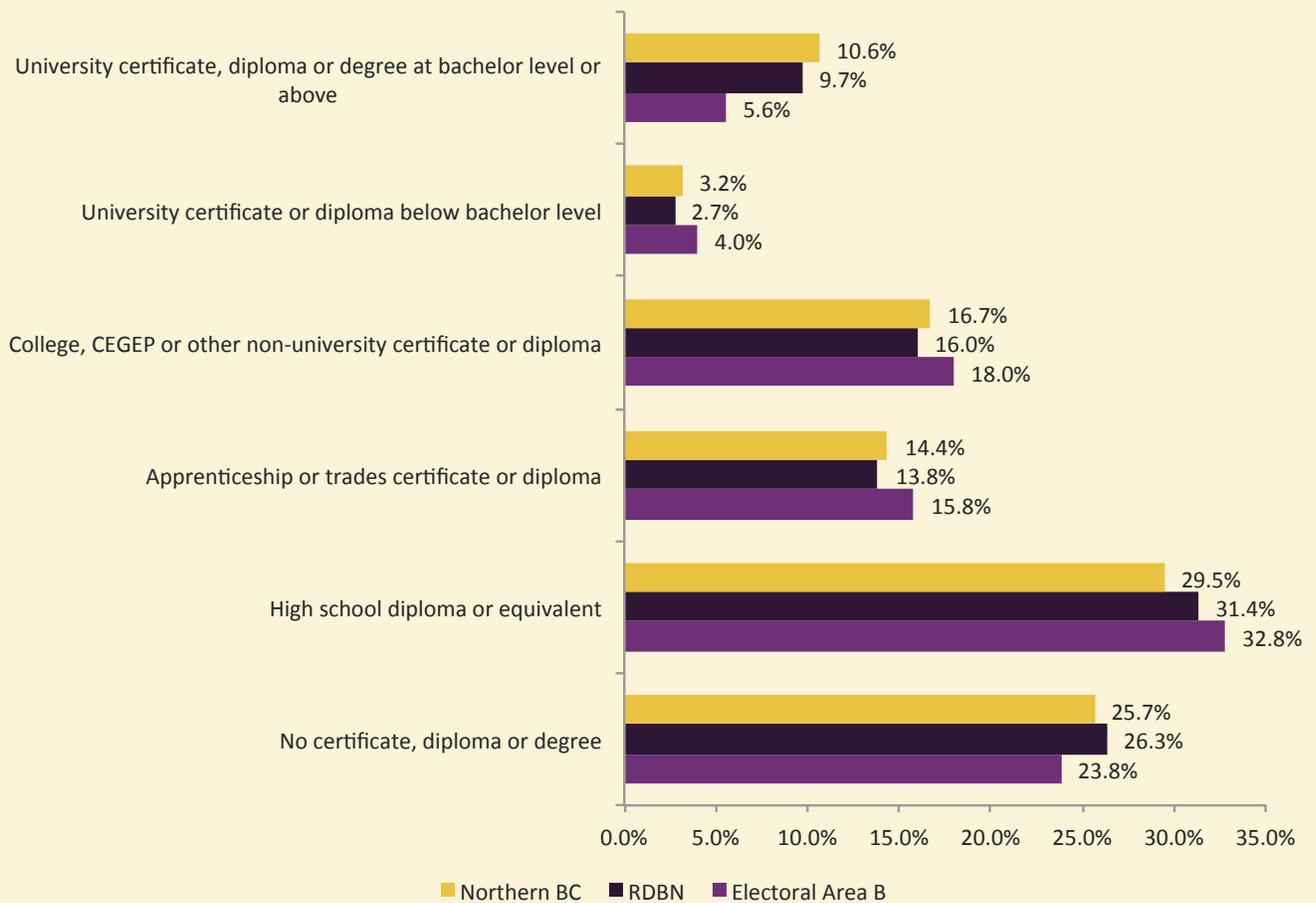
In 2011 Electoral Area B had the second lowest unemployment rate among the RDBN's electoral areas. Electoral Area B also had a lower unemployment rate than Northern BC in 2006 and 2011. The unemployment rate decreased by 1% from 2006 to 2011 while in Northern BC the rate increased by 1%.





# Education

## Education in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) and the RDBN, 2011

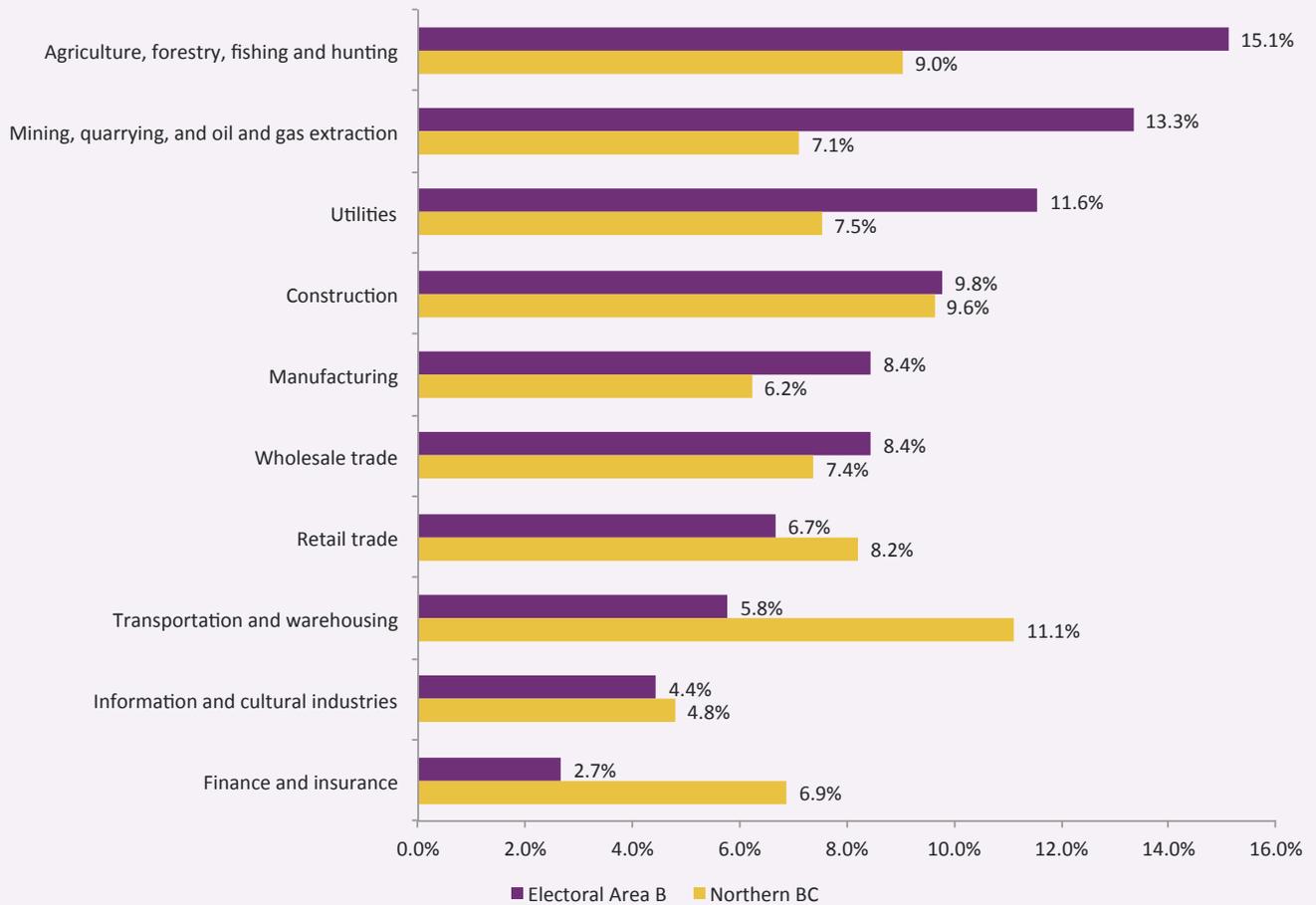


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

Electoral Area B had a higher portion of residents with a college education and an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma compared to the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011.

# Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Electoral Area B (Burns Lake Rural) and the RDBN, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2011 Electoral Area B had a total labour force of 1,125 people. The agriculture, manufacturing, and public administration sectors were major sources of employment. Among these major employers, agriculture, manufacturing, and public administration employ a greater portion of the labour force in Burns Lake Rural than in Northern BC.



# LOCAL GOVERNMENT

## Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Electoral Area B, or Burns Lake Rural, official community plan is available at [www.rdbn.bc.ca/planning-department](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/planning-department)  
[Burns Lake Rural Official Community Plan.](#)

## Local Economic Development Services

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact:

Corrine Swenson  
Manager of Regional Economic Development  
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
Email: [corrine.swenson@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:corrine.swenson@rdbn.bc.ca)  
Phone: 250-692-3195 / 1-800-320-3339

Krystin St. Jean  
Economic Development Officer  
Village of Burns Lake, RDBN Electoral Area B  
Email: [kstjean@burnslake.ca](mailto:kstjean@burnslake.ca)  
Phone: 250-692-7587 x225

## Electoral Area Director Contact

Director Bill Miller  
PO Box 450  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Email: [bmiller.pbm@gmail.com](mailto:bmiller.pbm@gmail.com)

# QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

## Local Community Organizations

The following is a list of civic and social organizations in the area:

- Decker Lake Recreation Commission
- Rose Lake Community Club
- Burns Lake and District Seniors
- Lakes District Airport Society
- Burns Lake Youth Soccer Association
- Burns Lake Curling Club
- Burns Lake Figure Skating Club
- Burns Lake Mountain Biking Association
- Burns Lake Paint Ball Association
- Burns Lake Rodeo Association
- Burns Lake Snowmobile Club
- Eagle Creek Recreation Commission
- Tweedsmuir Cavaliers
- Tweedsmuir Park Rod and Gun Club

## Local Community Assets

- Decker Lake Hall
- Rose Lake Hall
- Omineca Ski Trails
- Burns Lake Bike Park
- Eagle Creek Fair Grounds
- Baker Airport

## Schools

- Decker Lake Elementary (K-7)



# FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY

## Burns Lake Band

Burns Lake Band is a Dakelh Nation whose main community is located on Burns Lake.

The Burns Lake Band have four reserves, which total approximately 184.6 hectares. The Burns Lake Band are a member of the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council and have a registered population as of February 2014 of 129 members living on and off reserve.

### Ts'il Kaz Koh Business

- [Rainbow Gas Bar](#)
- [Little Angels Daycare](#)

### Band Office

653 Highway 16 West

Bag 9000

Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Phone: 250-692-7717

Fax: 250-692-4214

Toll Free: 1-888-692-7717

Website: [www.burnslakeband.ca](http://www.burnslakeband.ca)



# Lake Babine Nation

Lake Babine Nation is the third largest Aboriginal Band in British Columbia. Lake Babine Administration Office is located on the Woyenne Reserve in Burns Lake, with a total registered population of 2419 as of February 2014 living on and off reserves. The Nation has 27 reserve lands and three (3) communities, which are inhabited year round. Prior to 1957, Lake Babine was two separate Bands, the Old Fort Band and the Fort Babine Band, both situated on Babine Lake. At the time, approximately 12 communities were inhabited year round.

On June 12, 1957, Department of Indian Affairs amalgamated the two Bands to form what is now known as the Lake Babine Nation.

## Lake Babine Nation Business

- [Sne C'al Yeagh Gas Bar](#)

*"Burns Lake has always been known to keep the small business thriving. STAY HOME AND SHOP we have competitive prices! Burns Lake has over 1000 lakes to fish, swimming, boating, snowmobiling and lots more. Burns Lake has friendly helpful people who always invite you to comeback or stay."*

Cherill Greening, Sne C'al Yeagh Gas Bar, Lake Babine Nation

## Band Office

225 Sus Ave  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Phone: 250-692-4700  
Toll Free: 1-888-692-3214  
Fax: 250-692-7618  
Website: [www.lakebabine.com](http://www.lakebabine.com)



# Wet'suwet'en First Nation

Wet'suwet'en are a First Nations people who live on the Bulkley River, as well as around Broman and Francois Lakes in the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. The name they call themselves, Wet'suwet'en, means "People of the Wa Dzun Kwuh River".

The Wet'suwet'en are a branch of the Dakelh or Carrier people, and in combination with the Babine people have been referred to as the Western Carrier. They speak Witsuwit'en, a dialect of the Babine-Witsuwit'en language which, like its sister language Carrier, is a member of the Athabaskan family.

There are approximately 150 members living on or off reserve lands.

## Band Office

#8 Defoe Road

PO Box 760

Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0

Phone: 250.698.7307

Fax: 250.698.7480

Website: <http://www.wetsuweten.com>



[www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

VILLAGE OF  
**BURNS  
LAKE**



SMITHERS | TELKWA | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | **BURNS LAKE**  
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF

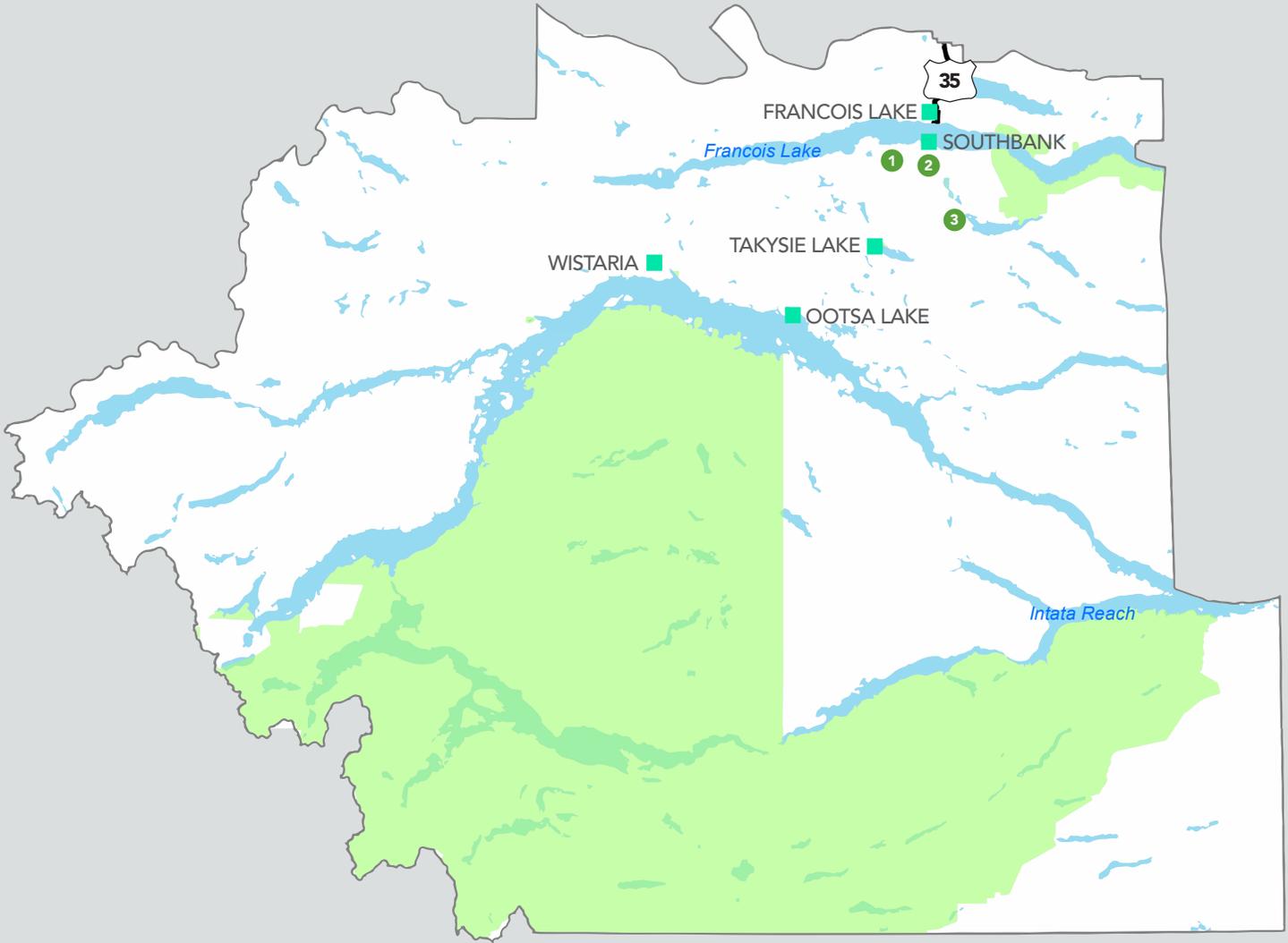


A dramatic sunset over a rural landscape. The sky is filled with large, dark clouds that are illuminated from below by the setting sun, creating a vibrant palette of reds, oranges, and yellows. The sun is visible as a bright, glowing orb on the right side of the horizon. In the foreground, a large, cylindrical hay bale sits on a field of dry grass. In the background, a line of dark evergreen trees stretches across the horizon. The overall scene is peaceful and evocative of a rural setting.

3: ELECTORAL AREA E  
(FRANCOIS/OOTSA LAKE RURAL)

# ELECTORAL AREA 'E'

## (FRANCOIS/OOTSA LAKE RURAL)



### Legend

- Unincorporated Communities
- Lakes
- First Nation Population Centers
- Electoral Area Boundary
- Parks
- Highway



1. Nee Tahi Buhn Band (Band Office) 2. Cheslatta Carrier Nation (Band Office) 3. Skin Tyee Nation (Band Office)

# Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural)

Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Lake Rural) is the rural area south of the Village of Burns Lake. The unincorporated communities within the area are Francois Lake, Noralee, Grassy Plains, Ootsa Lake, Southbank, Danskin, Wisteria, and Takysie Lake.

Electoral Area E is unique in that there is no municipality within its borders. The forestry, agriculture and tourism sectors are the major industries in the area. The Francois Lake Forester, owned and operated by Waterbridge Equipment Ltd., is a free ferry that is the connector for the southside of Francois Lake. Capable of transporting up to eight loaded logging trucks, the Forester is a key infrastructure component in Electoral Area E. The north shore community of Francois Lake is an agricultural community with acres of hay land and several cattle ranches.

The Cheslatta Carrier Nation, Nee Tahí Buhn Band and Skin Tyee First Nation are located in Electoral Area E.



# DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

## Population Growth

### Population growth in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural) 2001-2011

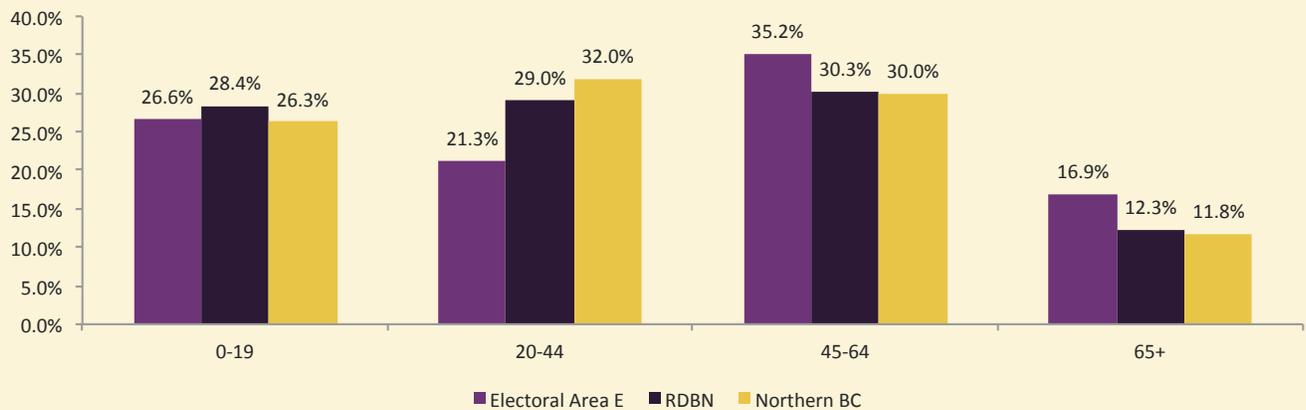
POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Electoral Area E	1,750	1,771	1,507
Regional District Bulkley-Nechako	40,856	38,243	39,208
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

From 2001-2006 the population in the Northern BC decreased by 3.5% while the population of Electoral Area E, or Francois/Ootsa Rural, increased by slightly less, 1.2%. From 2006 to 2011 the rural area experienced a 14.9% decrease in population, while the population of Northern BC increased by 0.1%.

## Age Structure

### Age structure in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural) and RDBN, 2011

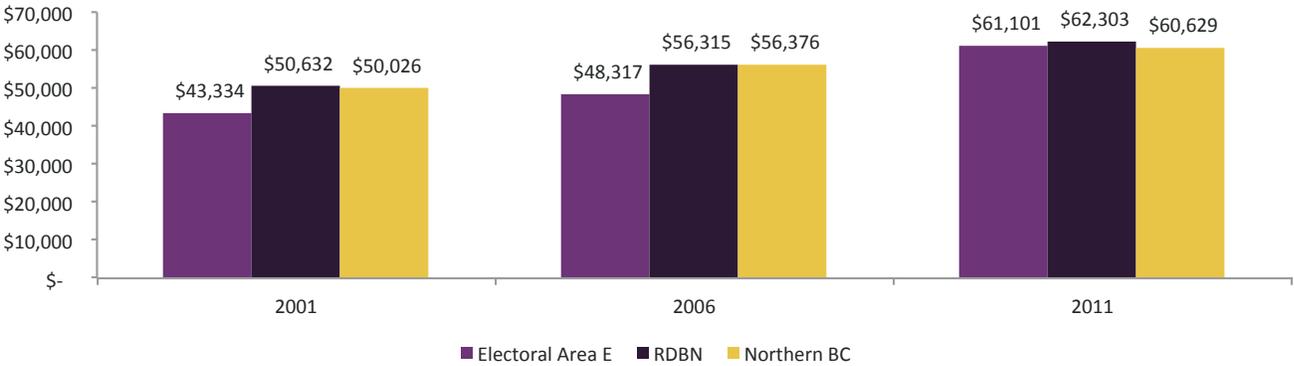


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011.

The population of Electoral Area E tended to be older than RDBN and Northern BC in 2011. The median age in the rural area was 47 while in RDBN and Northern BC the median age was 39. Its age structure reveals that Electoral Area E has a lower percentage of its population between the ages of 25-44, and a significantly larger portion between the ages of 45-64, compared to RDBN and Northern BC.

# Household Income

Median household income in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural) and RDBN, 2001-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006.

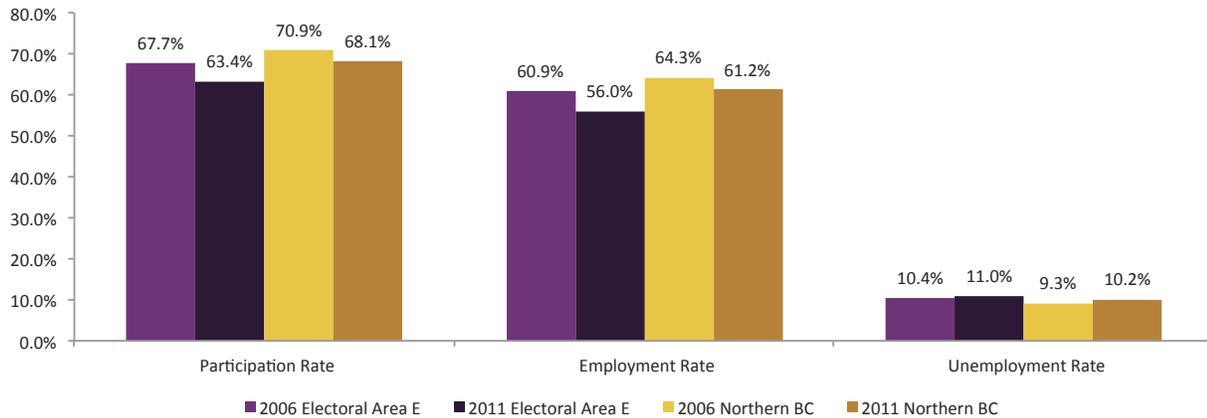
The median household income growth rate in Electoral Area E was lower than RDBN and Northern BC from 2001 to 2006. From 2006 to 2011, there was a 27% increase in median household income while in RDBN and Northern BC the increase was 11% and 8%, respectively.



# WORKFORCE PROFILE

## Employment

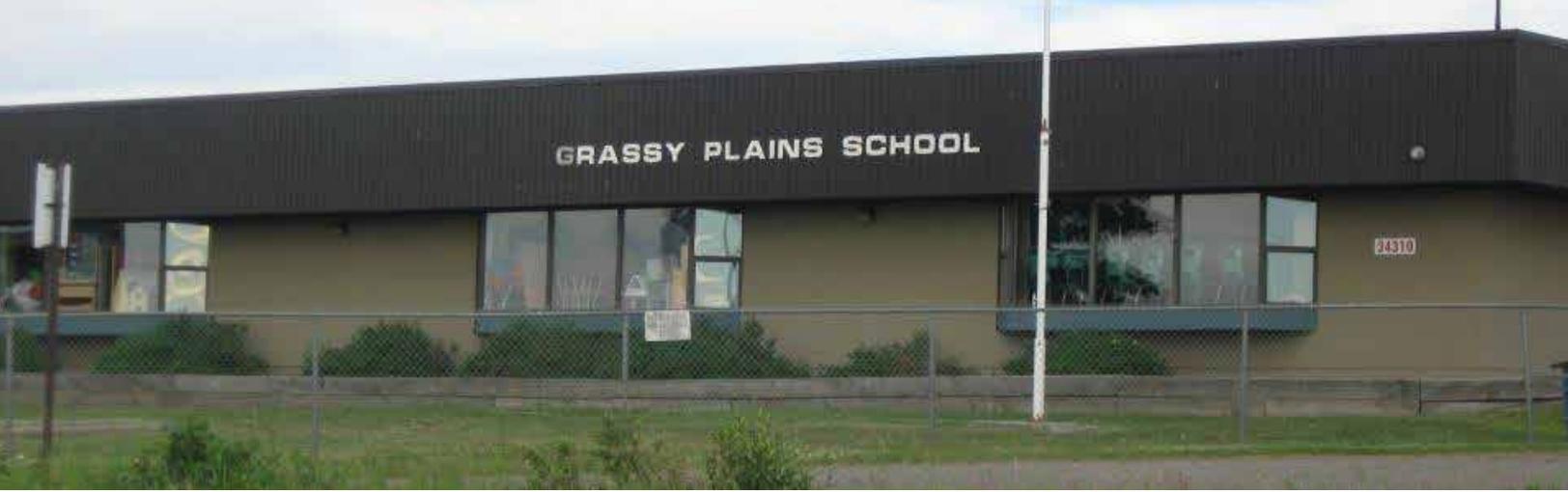
Employment data in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural) and RDBN, 2006-2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006.

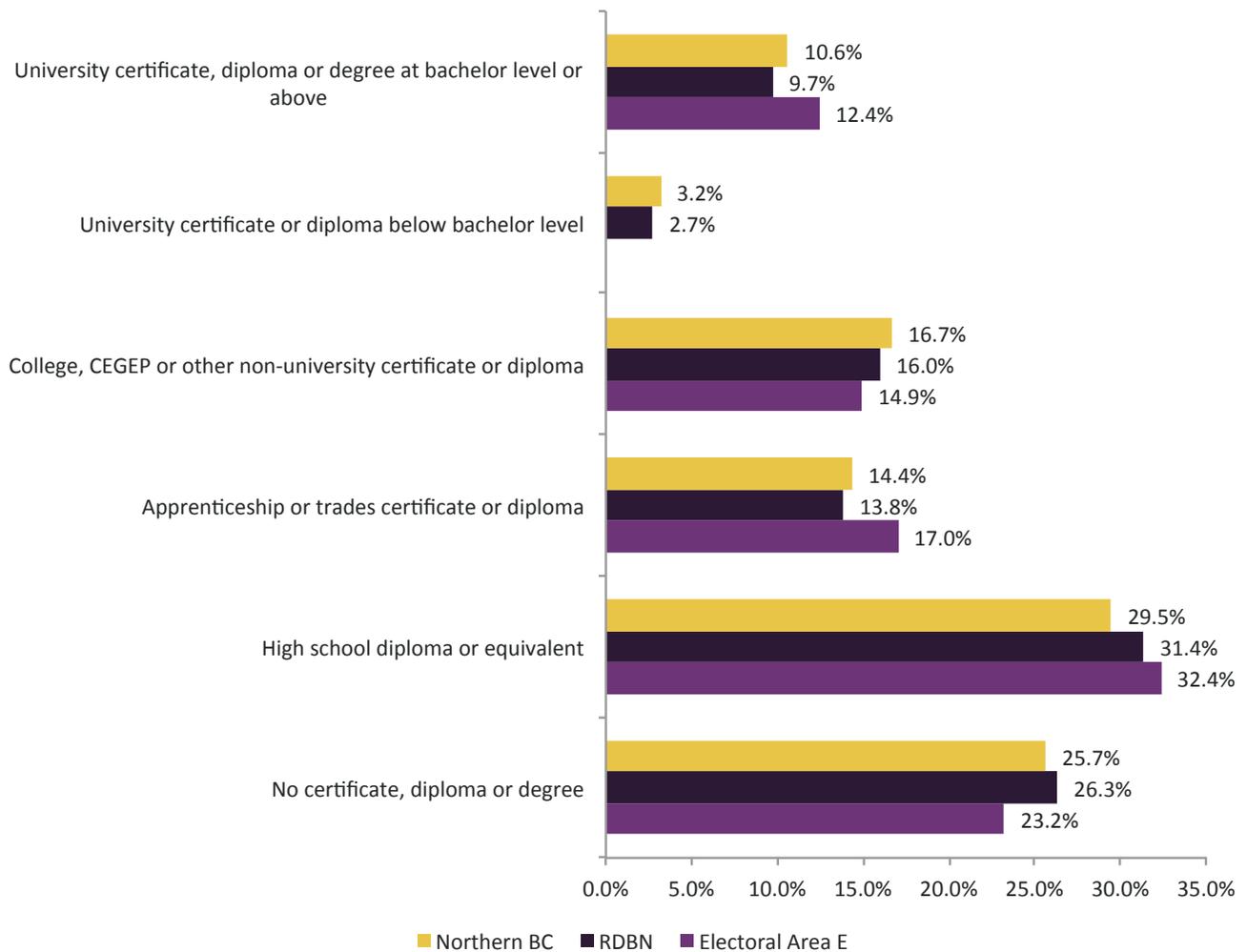
Electoral Area E had a comparable unemployment rate to the Northern BC between 2006 and 2011. The unemployment rate in the rural area increased by a similar amount as the change in Northern BC from 2006 to 2011.





# Education

## Education in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural) and RDBN, 2011

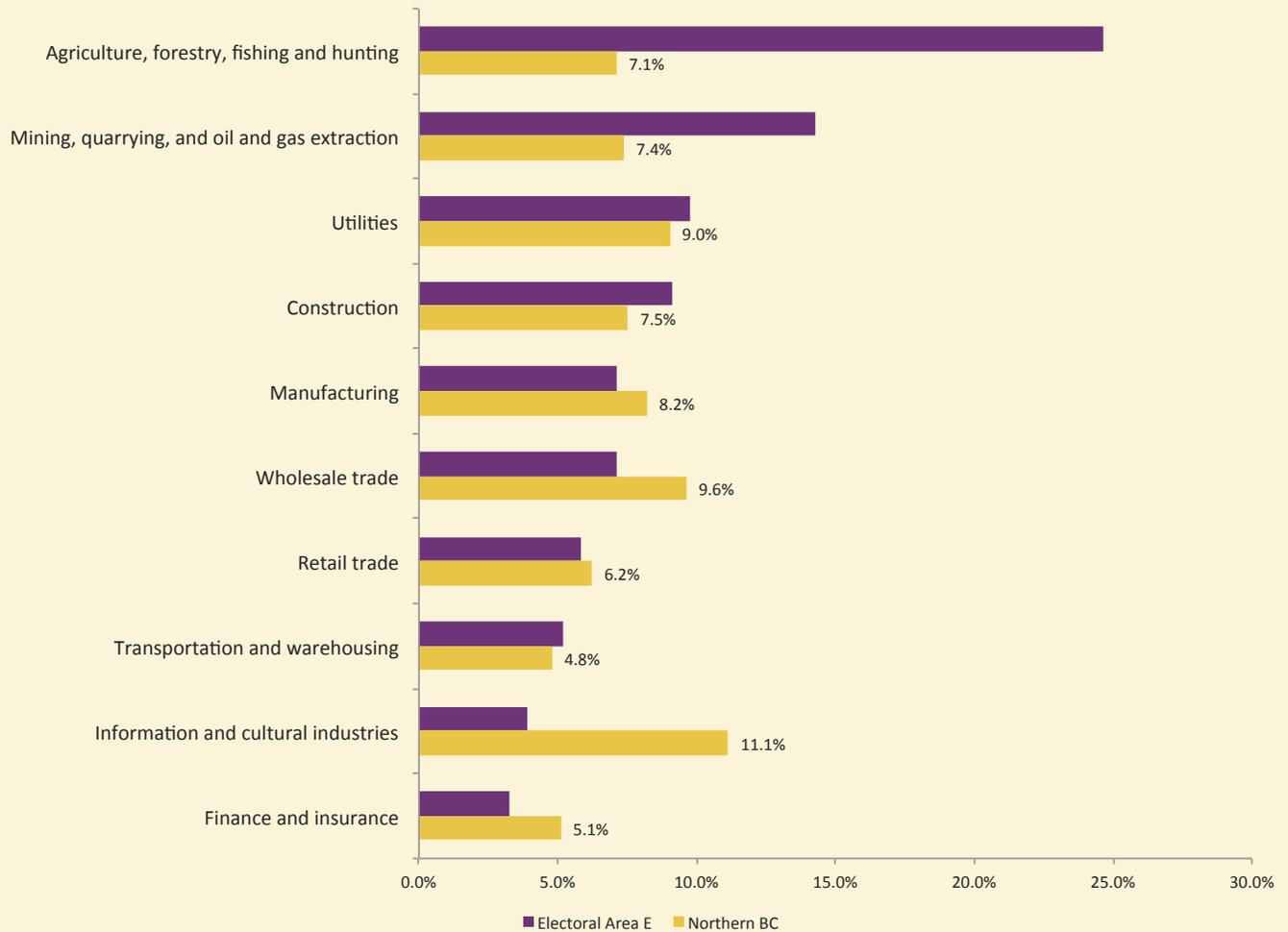


Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

A higher percentage of Electoral Area E's population had a university education, apprenticeship, trades certificate, or diploma in comparison with the RDBN average in 2011. The rural area also had a lower portion of the population with no certificate, diploma or degree.

# Labour Force by Industry

Labour force by industry in Electoral Area E (Francois/Ootsa Rural) and RDBN, 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2011 Electoral Area E had a total labour force of 770 people. The agriculture and educational service sectors were major sources of employment and employed a greater portion of the labour force than in Northern BC. The primary industries employed around 25% of the labour force while in Northern BC this sector accounts for only 7% of employment. The portion of the labour force that works in agriculture in the Francois/Ootsa Rural Area is the highest of the electoral areas in the RDBN.

# TRANSPORTATION

Inland Ferry operated by [Waterbridge Equipment Inc.](#) runs from 5:30 am – 11:00 pm. with service generally on the half hour.

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### Links to Official Plan and Zoning Documents

Electoral Area E, Francois/Ootsa Rural's official community plan is available at [www.rdbn.bc.ca/planning-department](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca/planning-department).

- [Burns Lake Rural Official Community Plan.](#)
- [Southside Official Community Plan \(unadopted\)](#)

## Local Economic Development Services

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact:

Corrine Swenson  
Manager of Regional Economic Development  
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
Email: [corrine.swenson@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:corrine.swenson@rdbn.bc.ca)  
Phone: 250-692-3195 / 1-800-320-3339

Kelly Friesen  
Manager  
Southside Economic Development Association  
Email: [seda@lakescom.net](mailto:seda@lakescom.net)  
Phone: 250-694-3219

## Electoral Area Director Contact

Director Eileen Benedict  
Box 513  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Email: [benedict@explornet.com](mailto:benedict@explornet.com)



# QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

## Local Community Assets and Organizations

- [Trout Lake Hall](#) - Colleymount Recreation Commission
- [Francois Lake Hall](#) - Francois Tchesinkut Recreation Commission
- [Grassy Plains Community Hall](#) Grassy Plains Community Hall Association
- [Wisteria Hall](#) - Tweedsmuir Recreation Commission

## Schools

- [Francois Lake Elementary](#) (K-7)
- [Grassy Plains School](#) (K-12)

## Health Services

- [Southside Health and Wellness Centre](#)

# FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY

## Cheslatta Carrier Nation

The Cheslatta Carrier Nation (CCN) is located in the Interior of British Columbia. The traditional territory of the community is centered on Cheslatta Lake. However, much of their territory, including several Cheslatta Villages, was flooded due to the construction of the Kenney Dam in 1952. Most members now live on a dozen small scattered reserves just south of Francois Lake. The band office and other community buildings are located on a reserve about 1km south of the Southbank ferry landing.

The Cheslatta Carrier Nation has a registered population of 344 residents living on and off reserve. The CCN is actively engaged in a number of substantial businesses and partnerships including mining, forestry, marine services and community infrastructure, and, they hold the long-term Cheslatta Community Forest License.

CCN also owns and operates the Chief Louie Paddle Company, which produces hand crafted canoe paddles and a large variety of wood products. Currently, the Cheslatta Nation is proposing to build and operate the Kenney Dam Release Facility that would include hydro-electric generating facilities. Cheslatta's private land holdings include over 12,000 acres of fee-simple, waterfront property.

### Cheslatta Carrier Nation Businesses

- Chief Louis Paddle Company
- Nootsenay Enterprises
- Cheslatta Community Forest
- Tsacho Enterprises, Cheslatta Forest Products Ltd
- Bad Boys Contracting
- Cheslatta Archives
- Cheslatta Carrier Nation Contracting

### Band Office

1215 Keefe's Landing Road / Box 909  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Phone: 250-694-3334  
Fax: 250-694-3632  
Website: <http://www.cheslatta.com/>



*“The Cheslatta Carrier Nation welcomes visitors to our land and community. We invite people to stay, explore and enjoy the spectacular natural beauty that the area has to offer. We have a rich and fascinating history to share!”* Chief Richard Peters, Cheslatta Carrier Nation



# Nee Tahí Buhn Band

Nee-Tahi-Buhn is the name for Francois Lake, and means, “it fills at one end and empties at the other.” The Nee Tahí Buhn Band is part of the Athapaskan language family. The people speak the Wet’suwet’en dialect of the Bulkley Valley/Lakes District language.

The Nee Tahí Buhn Band is located on the Southside of Francois Lake. The registered population is 143 people as of February 2014 living on and off reserve.

## Band Office

47805 Olsen Road  
Burns Lake, BC V0J 1E0  
Phone: 250-694-3494  
Fax: 250-694-3492



# Skin Tyee Nation

The Skin Tyee First Nation is located in Omineca Country to the west of the City of Prince George and near Francois Lake, the second longest natural lake in BC

In 1960 the Decker Lake, Francois Lake, Maxim Lake and Skin Tyee Bands merged to form the Omineca Band. In 1984 the Omineca Band divided into the Nee-Tahi-Buhn and Broman Lake Bands. In 2000 the Skin Tyee Band separated from the Nee Tahi Buhn Band.

The Skin Tyee Nation speaks the Wet'suwet'en language, and is a community of 175 registered residents as of February 2014 living both on and off the reserve.

## Band Office

6914 Campbell Road  
PO Box 131  
Southbank, BC V0J 2P0  
Phone: 250-694-3517  
Fax: 250-694-3517



*"I moved to the Southside because the area is so beautiful and the residents are so nice and welcoming. There is great opportunity for business development and growth here, and the community is very supportive!"*

**Lana Hunter**, Chief Louie Paddle Company  
Cheslatta Carrier Nation

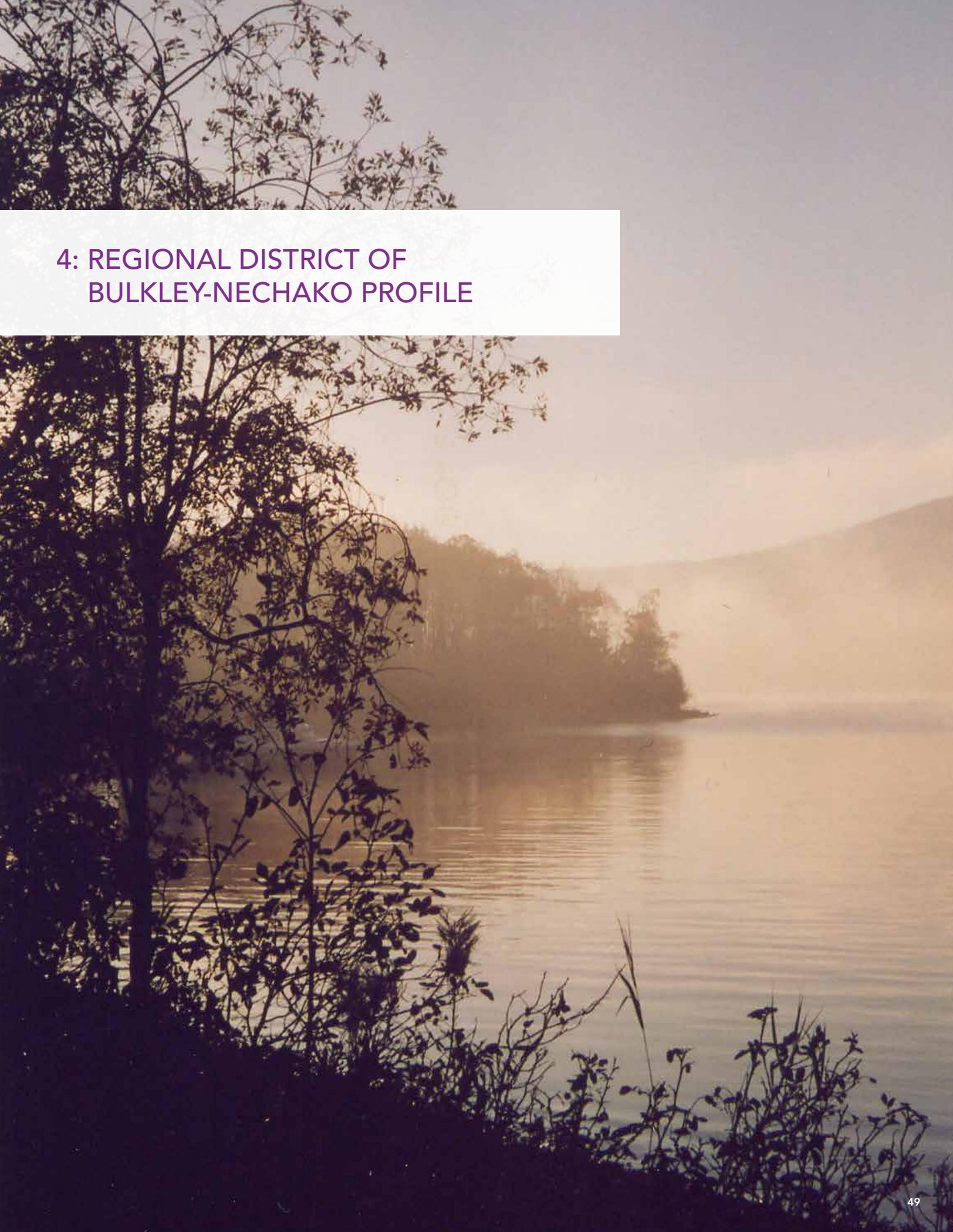
[www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

VILLAGE OF  
**BURNS  
LAKE**



SMITHERS | TELKWA | HOUSTON | GRANISLE | **BURNS LAKE**  
FRASER LAKE | FORT ST. JAMES | VANDERHOOF





## 4: REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO PROFILE

# Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Profile

Located in the heart of British Columbia and home to 8 unique municipalities, 7 electoral areas, and 13 First Nations, the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) boasts extraordinary natural beauty, vibrant small town culture and exciting business opportunities.

Residents of RDBN enjoy the natural splendor of snow-capped mountains in winter, refreshing lakes and rivers in the summer, abundant and diverse wildlife, a wealth of community events, and all-season recreation create an abundance of activities for the outdoor enthusiast. Quality of life is highly valued; the natural amenities of the region and family values are an integral part of life in the RDBN.

Culture and history are an important part of life in the RDBN, where a strong agricultural heritage and natural resource economy are the foundations of its welcoming, family friendly communities. Cultural experiences enjoyed by residents include charming local museums, inspiring First Nations events and artwork, historic sites, galleries, theatres, and unique small businesses.

## The Regional Profile

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN) Regional and Community Profiles bring together current and detailed demographic data as well as information about workforce, transportation, energy, utilities, local government and quality of life. The information about the region is intended to inform potential investors, support decisions to establish or expand a business and provide opportunities to future residents. The Community and Surrounding Rural Area profiles provide the complete picture of each Electoral Area, as well as insight into why residents love to work, live and play in the RDBN.

Northern BC is used as a comparative area in many of the profile graphs. In this case, the area of Northern BC is defined as the three northern [federal electoral areas](#) in the province, including Skeena-Bulkley Valley, Cariboo- Prince George, and Prince George-Peace River.

More information about the businesses and organizations listed in this document is available on the RDBN website under *Bulkley-Nechako Directory*. Please use the Bulkley-Nechako Directory by inserting the following website in your browser: [directory.rdbn.bc.ca](http://directory.rdbn.bc.ca).

# DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

## Population Growth

Population growth in the RDBN and Northern BC, 2001-2011

POPULATION GROWTH	2001	2006	2011
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	40,856	38,243	39,208
Northern BC	315,217	304,173	304,620

Sources: Statistics Canada. Census Profile from 2001-2011

The population of the RDBN was 39,208 in 2011. From 2001 to 2006 the population of Northern BC decreased by 3.5%, while the RDBN's population decreased by 6.4%. However, the RDBN's population increased by 2.5% from 2006 to 2011, which outpaced the growth rate of 0.1% in Northern BC.

## Age Structure

Age structure in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011

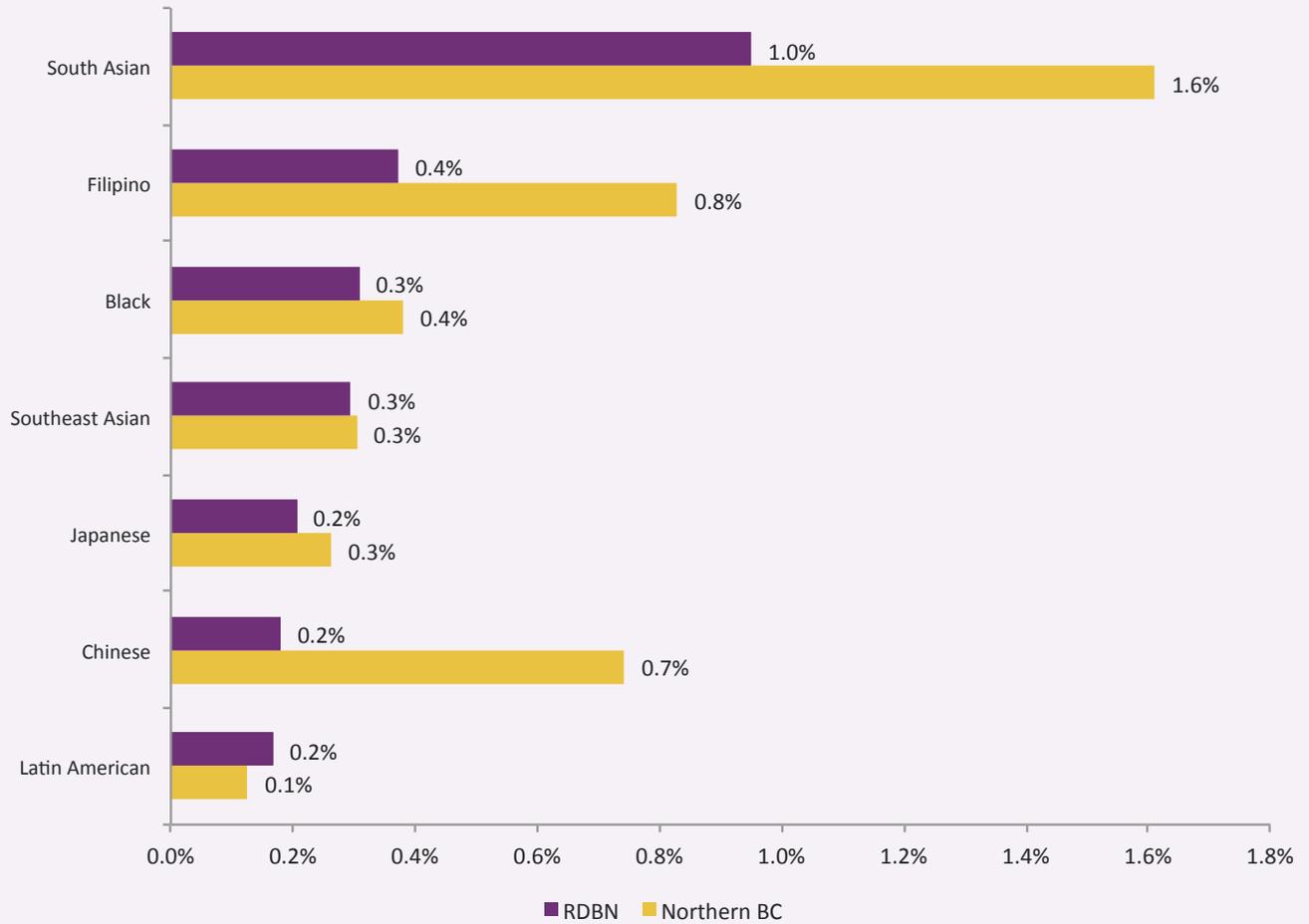


Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

Residents of the RDBN and Northern BC had a median age of 39 in 2011. The age structure of the region reveals that the RDBN had a higher youth population (ages 0-19) when compared to Northern BC. A lower portion of the RDBN's population was between the ages of 20-44 as compared to Northern BC.

# Ethnic diversity

## Visible minority population in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. National Household Survey 2011

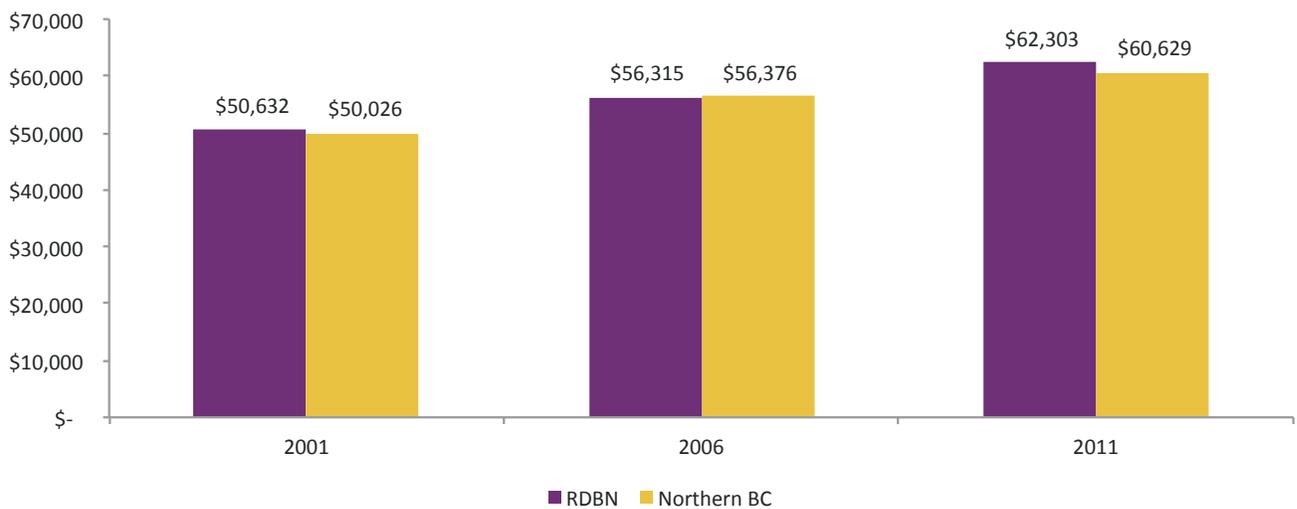
The total visible minority population of the RDBN was 2.5% of its total population, while Northern BC's proportion of visible minorities was higher, at 4.5%. The RDBN and Northern BC had a similar distribution of population amongst visible minority groups in 2011.





## Household Income

Median household income in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2001-2011



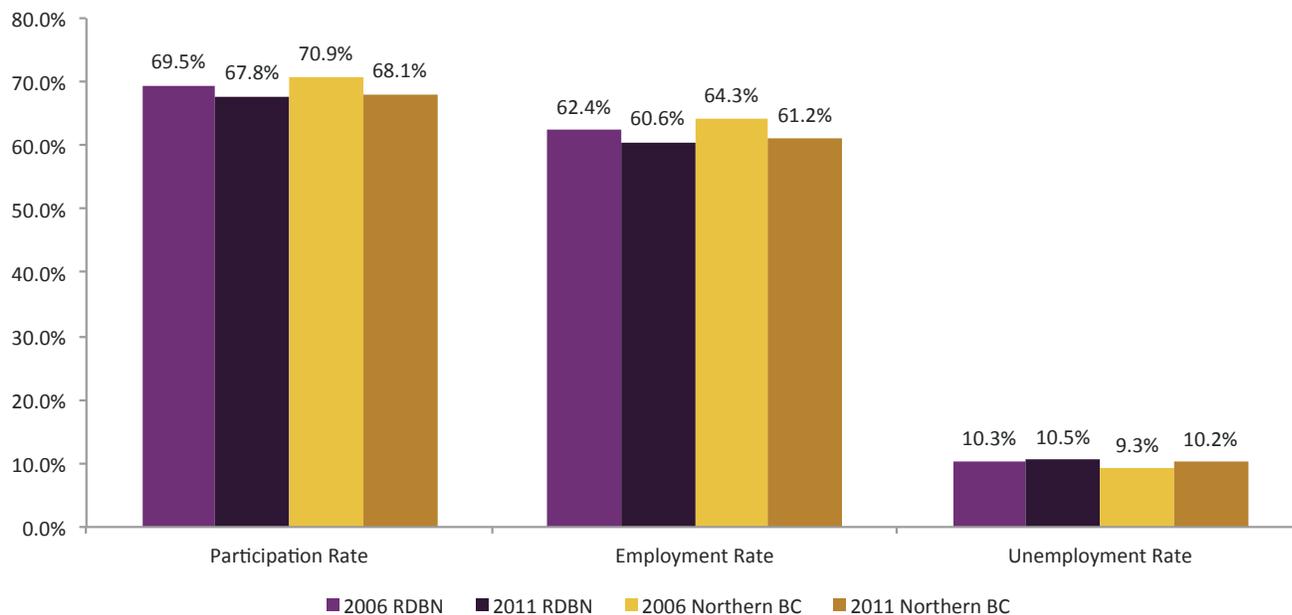
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2001-2006

The median household income in the RDBN has generally been similar to Northern BC with the exception of 2011 where it was slightly higher. The RDBN experienced an 11% increase in household income from 2001-2006, while in Northern BC incomes grew by 13%. From 2006 to 2011, the median household income in the RDBN grew by 11% while in Northern BC it grew by 8%.

# WORKFORCE PROFILE

## Employment

Employment data in the RDBN and Northern BC from 2006-2011



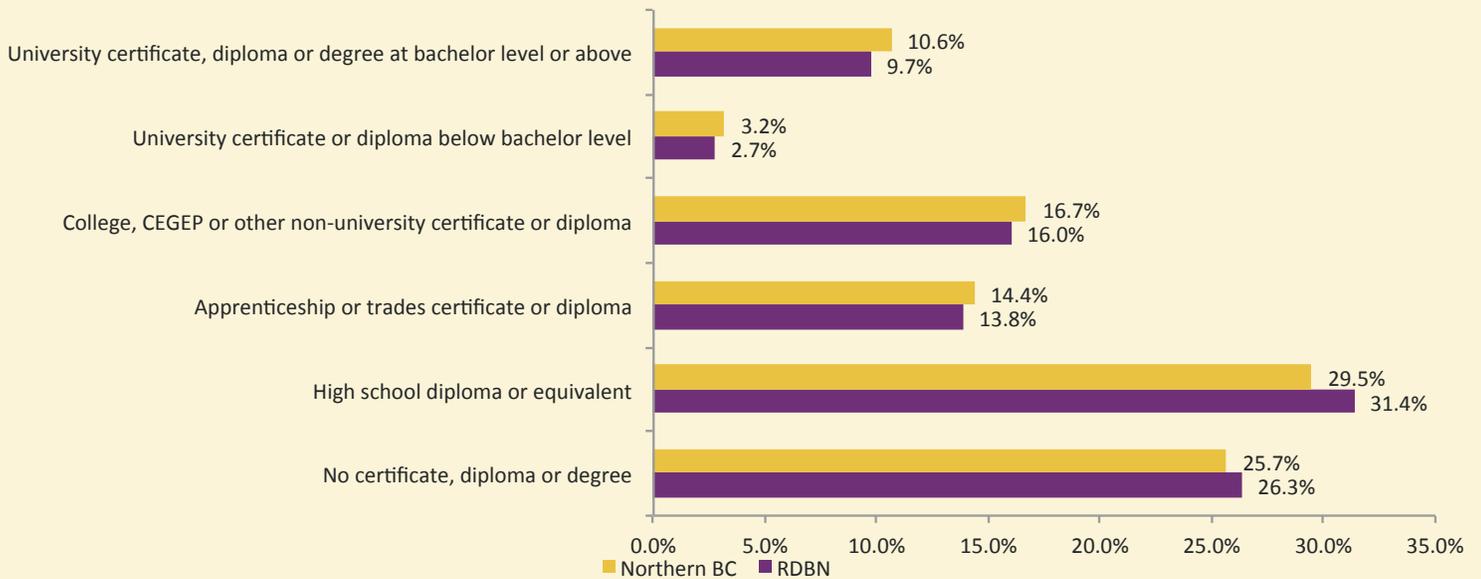
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey, Census Profile 2006

The RDBN had a higher unemployment rate than Northern BC from 2006 to 2011. The unemployment rate in the RDBN remained relatively stable from 2006 to 2011 while in Northern BC the rate increased by 1%.



# Education

## Educational attainment in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011



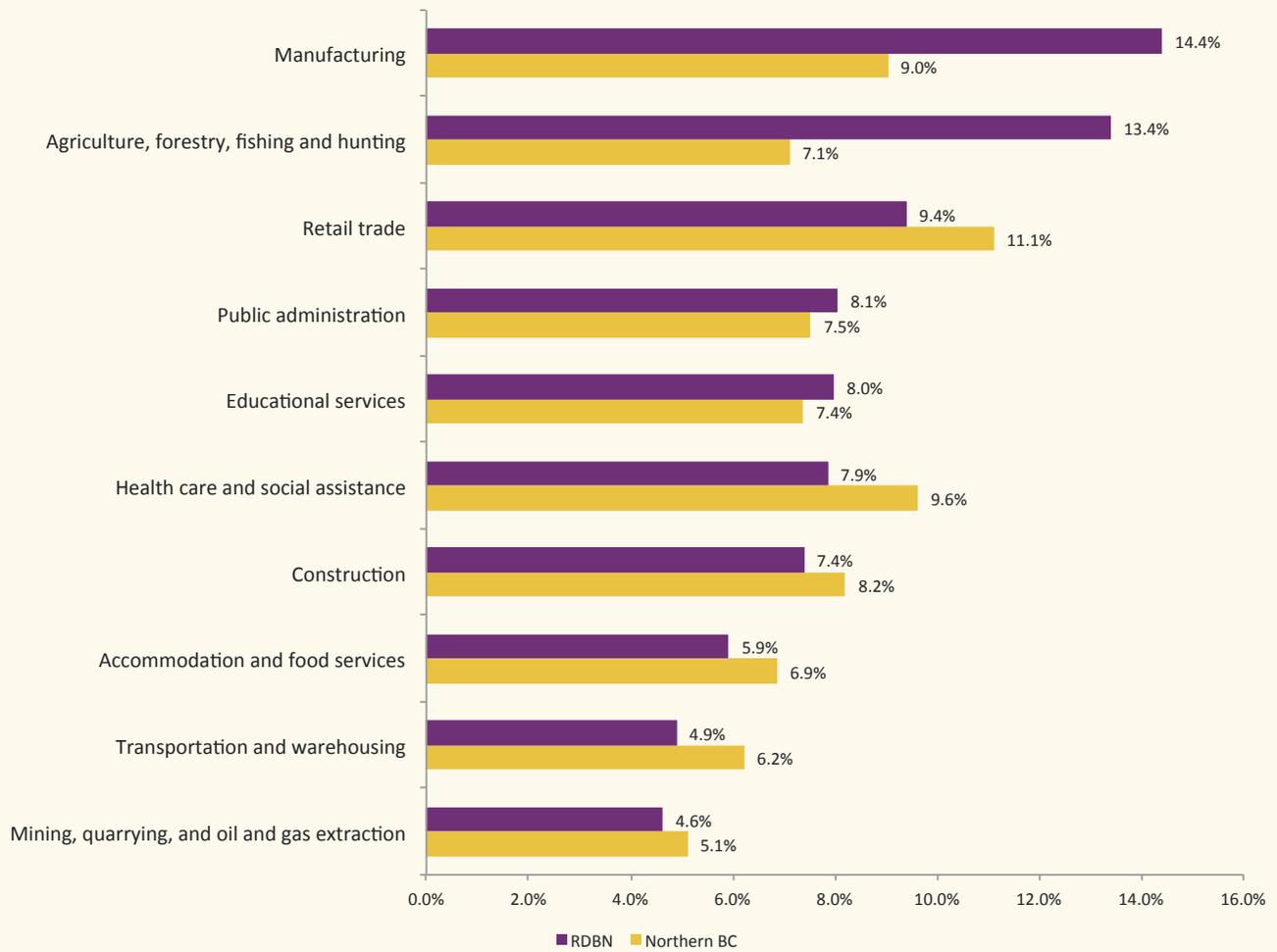
Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

The population of Northern BC had a similar level of education as the RDBN in 2011. Although a higher proportion of Northern BC's population held a college or university diploma or degree, or an apprenticeship or trades certification compared to the RDBN, the differences are not substantial.



# Labour Force By Industry

Labour force by industry in the RDBN and Northern BC in 2011



Sources: Statistics Canada. 2011 National Household Survey.

In 2011, the RDBN labour force numbered 20,430 people and the agriculture, forestry, fishing, hunting and manufacturing sectors were the leading sources of employment. These two major sectors both employed a greater portion of the labour force than is the case across Northern BC.

Some of the major employers in the RDBN include the following:

NAME	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	LOCATION
School District No. 91	725	Regional
Thompson Creek Mining – Endako Mines	379	Fraser Lake
Canadian Forest Products - Houston Sawmill	343	Houston
Canadian Forest Products – Plateau Mills	317	Vanderhoof
West Fraser – Fraser Lake Sawmills	300	Fraser Lake
Huckleberry Mine	280	Houston
School District No. 54	270	Smithers
Pacific Inland Resources	240	Regional
Sinclar Group Forest Products	200	Vanderhoof
St John Hospital	200	Vanderhoof
Hampton Affiliates Babine Forest Products	200	Burns Lake
Hy-Tech Diamond Drilling	171	Smithers
Apollo Forest Products	156	Fort St. James
Northern Health	150	Regional
Bulkley Valley Credit Union	100	Regional
College of New Caledonia	100	Burns Lake
DH Manufacturing	100	Houston
Conifex	91	Fort St. James

## Post-Secondary Education Facilities

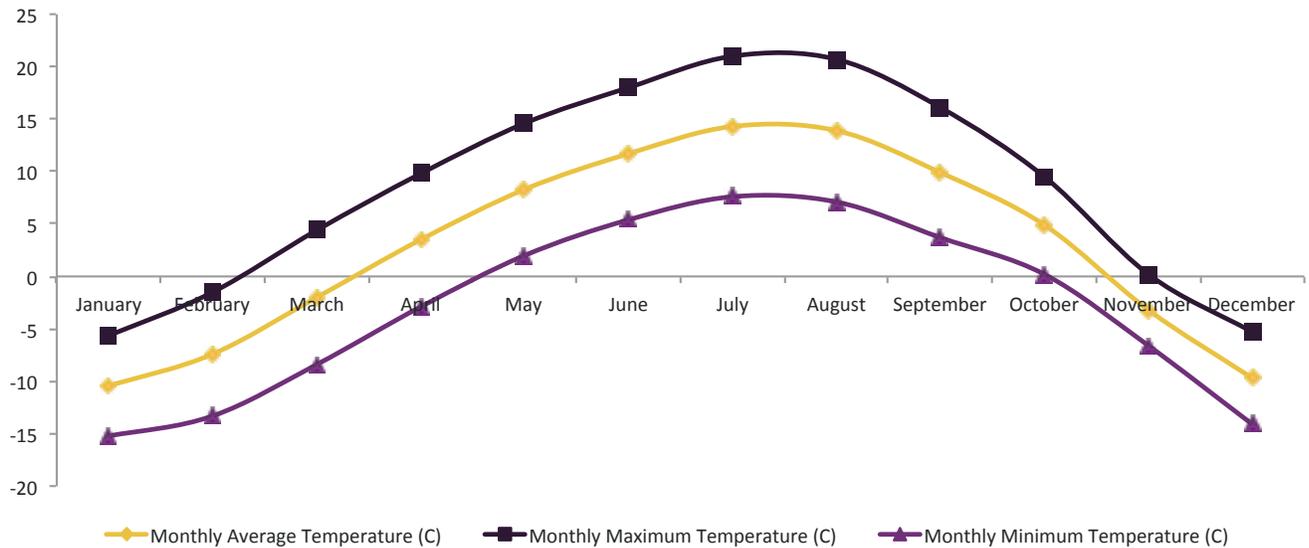
In the RDBN, post-secondary educational facilities are conveniently available in many communities.

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION	CAMPUS
Northwest Community College	Smithers, Houston
College of New Caledonia	Fort St. James, Vanderhoof, Burns Lake, Fraser Lake

# CLIMATE

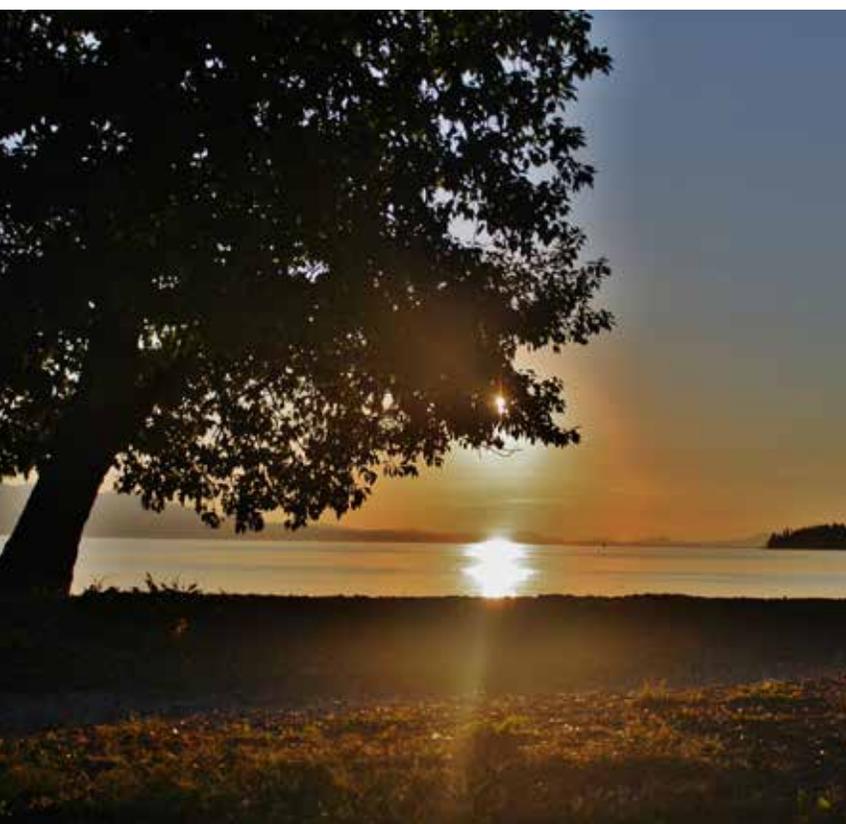
## Monthly Temperature

Monthly temperature in the RDBN in 2010



Environment Canada: 1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals

The warmest months of the year in the RDBN are between June and August, when temperatures reach above 20°C. The coldest months of the year occur between December and January, when temperatures drop below -15°C.



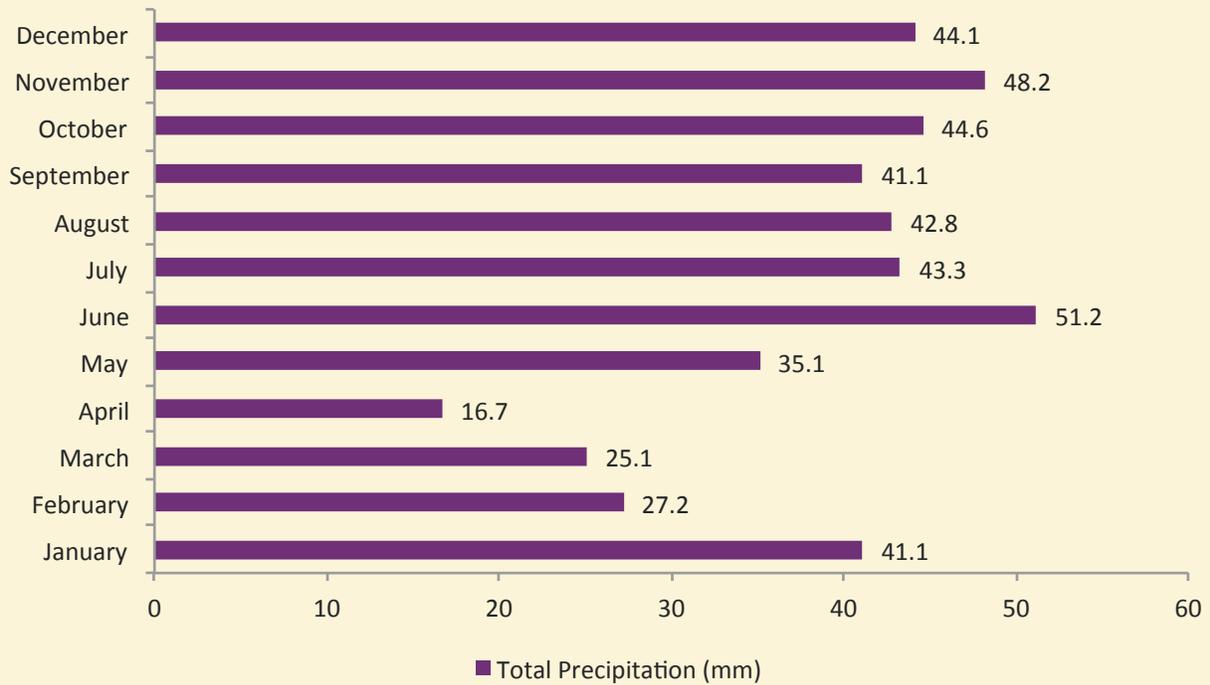
# Wind Speed

LOCATION	PERIOD	MEAN WIND SPEED	MEAN WIND ENERGY	WEIBULL SHAPE PARAMETER (K)	WEIBULL SCALE PARAMETER (A)
Burns Lake Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.216, longitude = -125.751	Annual	2.54 m/s	20.50 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.59	2.83 m/s
Houston Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.395, longitude = -126.653	Annual	1.71 m/s	8.75 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.29	1.85 m/s
Smithers Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.785, longitude = -127.163	Annual	2.20 m/s	12.88 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.64	2.46 m/s
Telkwa Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.668, longitude = -127.060	Annual	2.66 m/s	22.13 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.67	2.98 m/s
Fraser lake Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.062, longitude = -124.558	Annual	2.60 m/s	23.38 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.53	2.89 m/s
Vanderhoof Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 53.727, longitude = -123.656	Annual	3.09 m/s	26.75 W/m <sup>2</sup>	2.12	3.49 m/s
Fort St James Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.467, longitude = -124.298	Annual	3.37 m/s	42.50 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.74	3.78 m/s
Granisle Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 54.903, longitude = -126.245	Annual	2.67 m/s	24.25 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.57	2.97 m/s
Electoral Area E Numerical Values at 30m Latitude = 53.939, longitude = -125.361	Annual	4.47 m/s	99.63 W/m <sup>2</sup>	1.74	5.02 m/s

Data Source: <http://www.windatlas.ca/en/nav.php?no=52&field=EU&height=30&season=ANU>

# Precipitation

## Precipitation in the RDBN in 2010



Source: Environment Canada, 1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals

The RDBN experienced the lowest amount of precipitation during the months of February to April in 2010, as little as 17mm per month. In contrast, the most precipitation fell during June and November, surpassing 50mm per month.



# TRANSPORTATION

## Road

Highway 16 is the main paved transportation route running east to west through the RDBN. Highway 16 is the transportation route for goods being shipped in and out of the region.

The following provincial highways connect communities to the Highway 16 corridor:

- Highway 27 to Fort St. James from Highway 16 (Vanderhoof)
- Highway 35 to Francois Lake/Southbank from Highway 16 (Burns Lake)
- Highway 118 to Granisle from Highway 16 (Topley)

## Rail

The Canadian National Railway follows the Highway 16 corridor from Prince George to Prince Rupert, with service through the RDBN. Currently, CN Rail is upgrading the rail line to accommodate an increase in traffic due to goods being shipped to Asia. Prince George, to the east of the RDBN, is the regional trading centre for Northern BC, where CN Rails Intermodal Terminal is located. The Intermodal terminal is designed to support customers shipping to and from Asia through the Port of Prince Rupert.

VIA Rail operates ‘The Skeena’ passenger train, running from Jasper to Prince Rupert and back again, with stops in many of the communities within the RDBN. Passengers are able to disembark and take in the splendor of the communities on route. The journey passes through some of Canada’s most scenic areas.

## Airport

Airports are an integral part of the RDBN economy. Air services support the region’s economic drivers of forestry, mining, tourism, and agriculture. Charter, passenger, and cargo services are available. The following airports operate within the region:

NAME	LOCATION	OPERATOR
<a href="#">Smithers Regional Airport</a>	Smithers	Town of Smithers
<a href="#">Vanderhoof Airport</a>	Vanderhoof	District of Vanderhoof
<a href="#">Baker Airport</a>	Burns Lake	Lakes District Airport Society
<a href="#">Fort St James Perison Airport</a>	Fort St. James	District of Fort St. James
<a href="#">Fraser Lake Airport</a>	Fraser Lake	Village of Fraser Lake
<a href="#">Houston Airport</a>	Houston	District of Houston

The Smithers Regional airport is located 5 kms north of the Town of Smithers. This airport is the only airport in the region with scheduled passenger flights. Three commercial passenger airlines operate at the Smithers Airport:

- Air Canada—Daily service to Vancouver.
- Central Mountain Air—Service to and from Terrace, Prince George, Kamloops, and Kelowna.
- Hawkair—Service to and from Terrace and Vancouver.

# ENERGY AND UTILITIES

## Electricity and Gas Service Providers

The following businesses provide electricity and gas services:

- [BC Hydro](#)
- [Pacific Northern Gas](#)

## Commercial and Residential Rates for Electricity and Gas

### BC Hydro electricity rates:

(The electricity and gas providers are the same throughout the RDBN)

BC Hydro residential rates are listed as follows:

- 6.90 cents per kWh for the first 1,350 kWh
- 10.34 cents per kWh after first 1,350 kWh

BC Hydro commercial rates are listed as follows:

SERVICE RATE	BASIC CHARGE	ENERGY CHARGE	MINIMUM CHARGE
Small General Service Rate	\$0.1953 per day	\$0.0928 per kWh	\$0.1953 per day (equal to the Basic Charge)
Medium General Service Rate	\$0.1953 per day	\$0.00 per kW for first 35 kW \$4.76 per kW for next 115 kW \$9.13 per kW for remaining kW	Part 1 \$0.0885 per kWh for last 14,800 kWh \$0.0549 per kWh for remaining kWh up to baseline  Part 2 \$0.0956 per kWh for usage up to 20% above baseline \$0.0956 per kWh for savings down to 20% below baseline (credit) Usage or savings beyond 20% of baseline are based on Part 1 prices
Large General Service Rate	\$0.1953 per day	\$0.00 per kW for first 35 kW \$4.76 per kW for next 115 kW \$9.13 per kW for remaining kW	Part 1 \$0.0961 per kWh for last 14,800 kWh \$0.0462 per kWh for remaining kWh up to baseline  Part 2 \$0.0956 per kWh for usage up to 20% above baseline \$0.0956 per kWh for savings down to 20% below baseline (credit) Usage or savings beyond 20% of baseline are based on Part 1 prices

Small General Service (SGS) accounts have an annual peak demand less than 35 kW.

Medium General Service (MGS) accounts have an annual peak demand between 35 kW and 150 kW and use less than 550,000 kWh of electricity per year.

Large General Service (LGS) accounts have an annual peak demand equal or greater than 150 kW or total annual energy usage of at least 550,000 kWh.

## BC Northern Gas: Residential and Commercial Gas Rates

	BASIC MONTHLY CHARGE	DELIVERY CHARGE	COMPANY USE RIDER	RSAM RIDER	INTERIM RATE ADJUSTMENT RIDER	TOTAL DELIVERY CHARGE	COMMODITY CHARGE	GCVA RIDER	TOTAL COMMODITY CHARGE	DELIVERY + COMMODITY CHARGE
Rate Class	\$/Month	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ	\$/GJ
Residential	10.75	11.732	-0.017	-0.633	-0.188	10.894	3.5	0.07	3.57	14.464
Small Commercial	25	9.925	-0.017	-0.633	-0.132	9.143	3.481	0.07	3.551	12.694
Large Commercial	150	8.001	-0.017	N/A	-0.139	7.845	3.481	0.07	3.551	11.396



# Business and Workforce Support Services and Funding Programs

## Business Support Services

The following business support services are available for businesses and residents located within the RDBN:

ORGANIZATION	DETAILS
<a href="#">Community Futures Nadina</a>	Assistance with Building a Business Plan, Startup steps, or planning for existing businesses
<a href="#">Community Futures Stuart Nechako</a>	Business Start-up Assistance
<a href="#">Burns Lake Native Development Corporation</a>	Technical Services Including Business Plan Assistance, Training and Project Development Assistance
<a href="#">Small Business BC</a>	Business Start-Up / Growth Assistance
<a href="#">Doing Business in BC</a>	BC One-Stop -Business Start-Up and Registration Site.
<a href="#">Business &amp; Investing Services</a>	Resource for Business Owners

## Business Funding and Tax Credit Programs

ORGANIZATION	DETAILS
<a href="#">Community Futures Nadina</a>	Small Business Loans
<a href="#">Community Futures Stuart Nechako</a>	Business Loans Program
<a href="#">Burns Lake Native Development Corporation</a>	Small Business Loans Program
<a href="#">Northern Development Initiative Trust</a>	Capital Investment and Training Rebate Program
<a href="#">Northern Development Initiative Trust</a>	Competitiveness Consulting Rebate
<a href="#">BC Hydro</a>	PowerSmart Programs for Business
<a href="#">Investment Agriculture Foundation</a>	Funding to support innovative projects that support the Agri-food industry in British Columbia.

# Regional Employment Service Providers

The following employment service providers are available within the RDBN.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES	MUNICIPALITY
<a href="#">Community Living BC</a>	Smithers
<a href="#">Smithers Community Services Association</a>	Smithers
<a href="#">Fort Outreach Employment Services</a>	Fort St. James
<a href="#">Progressive Employment Services Ltd</a>	Vanderhoof
<a href="#">Targeted Skills Shortage Program</a>	Vanderhoof
<a href="#">Northern Skills Training</a>	Vanderhoof
<a href="#">Transitions Career Consultants</a>	Vanderhoof
<a href="#">Community Futures Nadina</a>	Smithers, Burns Lake, Telkwa, Granisle, Houston
<a href="#">WorkBC Employment Services Centre</a>	Smithers, Burns Lake, Houston

## Local Economic Development Services

The RDBN is engaged in the following economic development projects:

- [Mining in the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako](#)
- [Bulkley-Nechako Directory](#)
- [Visit Bulkley-Nechako - Tourism Site](#)
- Regional Skills Gap Analysis
- Annual RDBN Business Forum
- Annual RDBN Start-up Business Contest
- Industrial Land Inventory Reports
- Grant writing services for nonprofit organizations

RDBN supports the following initiatives:

- [Beyond the Market](#)
- [Invest Northwest](#) and [Invest North Central](#) Web Portals
- [Geoscience BC's Quest-West](#) projects

For any further assistance with local economic development services please contact the Regional Economic Development Department:

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