

## Town of Banff FCSS Social Assessment 2008 Update

### Population

#### Banff Municipal Census

- The total population of Banff increased by 13.0% between 2000 and 2007, from 7,716 to 8,721 people.
- In 2007, 36.0% of the population was between 20 and 29 years old.
- In 2007, 14.2% of the population was age 19 or younger.
- In 2007, 28.6% of the population had been resident in Banff for less than one year. An almost equal number had been residents for more than 10 years.
- In 2007, there were a total of 405 seniors aged 65 and older in Banff (4.6% of the total population).
- In 2007, there were 903 seniors aged 55 and older (10.3% of the total population).

#### Statistics Canada - Census of Canada Community Profiles

- There were a total of 1,070 immigrants living in Banff in 2006, representing 16.1% of the population.
- 16.7% of Banff residents were visible minorities in 2006, (compared to 13.7% of Albertans). Japanese are the largest visible minority group, representing 49.8% of the visible minority population, or 8.3% of the total population.
- Approximately 25% of Banff's population had a mother tongue other than English in 2006. Japanese was the second most common mother tongue followed by French.
- Banff's median population was 32.1 years old in 2006 compared to 36 years of age in Alberta.
- There were a total of 1,440 families in Banff in 2006 (couple families, lone parent and families with children).
- In 2006, 335 children in Banff were under the age of 6.
- There were a total of 1,265 children living at home within 580 families in Banff in 2006.
- There were 170 lone parent families in Banff in 2006.
- In 2006, 30% of the seniors' population age 65 and older, were living alone.

### Income

- Total reported median income in 2006 was \$29,000, lower than that in Alberta (\$31,400), and higher than that reported for Canada (\$26,500).
- In 2006, 22% of tax filers earned less than \$15,000, 20% earned \$15,000 to \$24,999, 40% earned between \$25,000 and \$49,999, 18% earned \$50,000 or more.
- In 2007, there were 101 seniors 65 + (24.9% of seniors) in the Town of Banff eligible to receive the Alberta Seniors cash benefit (indicating an annual income of \$22,700 or less for individuals, or \$33,900 or less for couples). (Note: there were 96 in 2006)
- In 2006, 370 seniors were recipients of Old Age Security (OAS/GIS) benefits. 100 seniors were also recipients of other social assistance programs (qualification is based on a means/income test).
- In 2006, the median income for seniors in Banff was \$33,400, \$9,400 higher than the median in Canada, and \$6,300 higher than in Alberta.
- In 2006, 87.7% of residents were participating in the labour force, compared to 74.0% of Albertans. The proportion of women participating in the labour force was also higher, with 84.0% of women in Banff, compared to 67.7% of women in Alberta.
- The accommodation sector was the largest employer in 2007, accounting for 26.7% of all jobs, followed by the food & beverage industry at 11.6% and retail at 9.0%.
- Banff's unemployment rate was 0.98% in 2007.

### Affordability

- 836 people or 13.8% of Banff's residents (in private households) were living below the low income cut-off level (LICO) in 2005. Compared to 15.3% in Canada, and 12.2% in Alberta. Eighty-four "economic families" (or 5.8% of the total) were below the LICO, and a total of 609 unattached individuals were below the LICO.

- 150 individuals in Banff were receiving social assistance payments in 2006 (this reflects all federal and provincial programs).

## Housing

- The median monthly payment for rented dwellings in 2006 was \$931 in Banff, compared to \$731 in Alberta and \$825 in Calgary. (Note: data not comparable to 2001 due to changes in methodology)
- In 2006, 24.2% of homeowners reported spending more than 30% of household income on home owner's major payments (Alberta comparison not available). 38.1% of tenant households spent more than 30% on gross rent.
- In 2007, 46.0% of Banff dwelling units were apartments, 12.5% fourplex/triplex, 12.2% single family homes, 12.1% row townhouse, 9.0% duplex, and 5.8% suite in single detached or non residential building.
- Renters occupied 60.9% of Banff's dwelling units in 2007, while 32.4% were owner-occupied. The remaining were 3.9% vacant, and a total of 2% under construction, 0.4% vacant lot, and 0.3% unknown.

## Social Vitality and Supports

- According to 2006 Statistics Canada, 27% of Banff's residents aged 25 to 64 had completed a university degree (compared to 22% in Alberta), and 23% had completed high school (compared to 24%).
- According to Statistics Canada, the total number of criminal code offenses (including traffic) decreased by an additional 7.7% between 2004 and 2007.
- Reported crimes of violence against persons rose from 128 in 2005 to 157 in 2007.
- The total number of sexual assaults ranged between 10 and 13 incidents per year between 2005 and 2007.
- Property crimes dropped by an additional 29.0% between 2004 and 2007.
- Thefts under \$5000 account for approximately 75% of the property crimes per year.
- Bow Valley Victim's Services Association (BVVSA) reported dealing with 26 cases of domestic violence in 2006/7 and 38 cases in 2007/8.
- At the YWCA shelter there were 27 shelter guests for a total of 91 nights in 2005/6. In 2006/7, there were 34 shelter guests for a total of 165 shelter nights. In 2007/8 there were 50 shelter guests for a total of 96 shelter nights.
- In 2007 there was an average of 6.2 registered full time physicians per 1,000 residents in Banff (compared to 1.97 per 1000 residents in Alberta)
- 15% of Emergency Department patient visits to the Banff Mineral Springs Hospital are related to sports and recreational injuries. Of these, 85% are skiing and snowboard related.
- Note: The Calgary Health Region no longer provides community specific health statistics due to concerns about sample size in small communities. All statistics are now grouped into larger regions.
- The Chief Medical Examiner's Office of Alberta reported no suicides in Banff for the years 2005 and 2006.
- Bow Valley Victim's Services Association was involved in a total of: 1 completed/3 attempted suicides in 2006; 2 completed/3 attempted suicides in 2007; and 4 attempted suicides in 2008.
- Bow Valley Victims Services Association (BVVSA) handled 127 caseloads in 2007/8 with 236 people involved. The most common reason was domestic abuse (29.9%), followed by theft/fraud (12.6%), and assault (9.4%).
- The YWCA Violence Prevention Outreach Coordinator provided counselling to 34 victims of violence in 2006 and 50 in 2007. (The program title was previously Violence Against Women).
- In 2006, the Family School Liaison worker saw 41 clients for individual counselling, and provided preventative programs to 818 students. In 2007 saw 38 individual clients and preventative programming to 387 students. In 2008 56 individual clients were seen, and preventative programming to 446 students.
- The Banff Mental Health Unit had a client caseload of 457 in 2006, 511 in 2007, and 582 in 2008.
- As of December 2008 there are 82 full time spaces and 76 families on the waitlist at the Banff Childcare Centre. (Note: since 2006 the fees and age structure have changed, the facility is also a fully accredited child care centre).
- As of April 2009, the Bow Valley Family Childcare Agency oversee 3 approved day homes in Banff, providing 14 childcare spaces. There are currently 10 children on their waitlist.