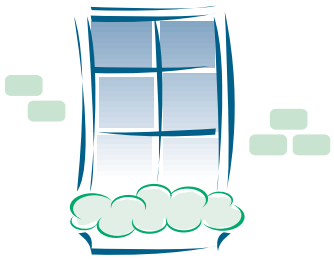

The FCM Quality of Life
Reporting System

Quality of Life in Canadian Communities

May 1999

President's Message

If one were to ask Canadians what makes their communities such great places to live, reactions would be as diverse as the places themselves. Examples might include: child-friendly environments, clean air and water, cultural diversity, access to libraries and museums, community safety, employment opportunities, and park space. Whatever the reasons, it is clear that the perception of well-being is influenced by many factors touching all aspects of our lives. Just as it takes more than one violin to create a symphony, municipal governments need more than just good roads or a strong economy to ensure quality of life.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Quality of Life Reporting System was born out of a desire to bring a community-based perspective to the development of public policy and to monitor the consequences of changing demographics, as well as shifting responsibilities and fiscal arrangements. The attached document represents the work of FCM in cooperation with sixteen large urban governments. Although it has been two and a half years in the making, this report is not intended to be definitive, but rather to offer preliminary analysis and a starting point for discussions about the quality of life in our communities. It establishes a baseline for future reports, which will be produced annually. Additional indicator reports will be developed throughout the year to provide greater analysis in specific areas and to explore new themes.

As the order of government closest to Canadians, municipal governments have first-hand knowledge of the complex interplay of factors affecting well-being in our communities. Our understanding of these factors guides our work. Municipal governments are about more than just roads and sewers. We are also recreational and health care providers, economic development agencies, cultural and social institutions, and community planners. We are front-line workers and the first line of response in a crisis, frequently filling voids while the larger machinery of other orders of government swings into action. In short, municipal governments play a fundamental role in sustaining and improving quality of life in Canadian communities.

FCM has been recognized since 1937 as the national voice of municipal government in Canada. We represent the interests of all municipalities on policy and program matters within federal jurisdiction. Municipal governments constituting FCM's membership represent more than 20 million Canadians. Members include Canada's largest cities, small urban and rural communities, and the 17 major provincial and territorial municipal associations. Municipal leaders from all parts of Canada meet annually to establish FCM policy on key issues, and our National Board of Directors meets quarterly to review policy and program matters.

FCM's interests are diverse. Our areas of involvement include the environment, social policy, municipal infrastructure, transportation, municipal-Aboriginal relations, economic development, crime prevention and international cooperation. The scope of our work has not always been so broad in nature. Our expanded mandate is a reflection of our membership, which finds itself facing greater responsibility for community well-being.

Our urban centres are growing. As they grow, so too do the challenges facing municipal governments. We must become more sophisticated in both our policies and our services. Moreover, the long term trend of federal and provincial offloading has left municipal governments struggling to fill voids in areas previously occupied by the federal or provincial governments. While responsibilities have been transferred, the fiscal resources to meet the new demands on us have not always followed.

Municipal governments are not opposed to a greater role in the development of policies and services affecting quality of life. In fact, we have a unique and important voice to bring to public policy discussions. However, a broadened mandate must be accompanied by adequate financial resources.

On behalf of FCM, I thank the mayors and chairs of the sixteen participating municipal governments and the FCM Standing Committee on Social Infrastructure for their contribution. I also thank Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada for their financial contributions. Finally, I extend a sincere thank you to members of the FCM Quality of Life Technical Team and to Terry Hunsley of the Advocate Institute, without whose time and energy this report would never have been possible.

This has been an exciting project. In a sense, we are navigating uncharted waters. While others have shown an interest in developing quality of life indicators, we are among the few actually doing it. It is our belief that this will provide communities and all orders of government with an important framework to understand and respond to issues affecting quality of life in Canada. In addition, it will contribute to a new vision of intergovernmental and community cooperation wherein the voice of municipal governments plays an important role.

We hope that you will find this report provocative.

Claude Cantin
President, FCM

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I. Executive Summary

i. Introduction

The Quality of Life Reporting System was developed by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and 16 large urban centres. By providing a framework to monitor quality of life, the report is of value to Canadian communities and all orders of government as a tool to:

- identify and raise awareness of issues affecting quality of life in Canadian communities;
- better target policies and resources aimed at improving quality of life; and to
- establish municipal governments as a strong and legitimate partner in public policy debate in Canada.

It also provides municipal governments with a valuable national forum for sharing experience and expertise. As a result of this project, a strong network of municipal leaders and staff has been established.

In 1996, FCM commissioned a study of how changes to the funding structure of federal transfer payments would affect municipal governments. Having reviewed the report, FCM concluded these changes would have an impact on growing municipal responsibilities, but that members lacked tools and data to debate this and other policies on behalf of their communities. To ensure a more effective voice in the future, the largest urban members of FCM recommended the creation of a reporting system to monitor quality of life in Canadian communities. FCM immediately began developing ten strategic and sustainable indicators of well-being. Its efforts mark the first time that a nationally consistent collection of local data has occured.

A Technical Team, comprising representatives from each of the 16 participating municipal governments (please see Appendix II), oversaw the development of the eight quality of life indicators in this report. To expedite this task, the group was subdivided into smaller "indicator teams" of two or three municipal governments to work on each measure. These indicator teams then vetted their ideas through the larger group, thereby ensuring that the work remained community-based, yet national in scope.

Eight of the first ten measures identified by the Technical Team have been completed, and the quantitative baseline data, as well as some preliminary analysis, is presented in this report. Future reports will be supplemented by qualitative data and an increased number of indicators to include new social, economic and environmental dimensions.

The eight completed indicators are illustrated in summary below.

ii. The Quality of Life (QOL) Measures

1. Population Resources Measures (PRM): This is a profile of population characteristics, population growth, education levels, literacy levels, cultural diversity, immigration and the age structure of the population. It provides a basis for the monitoring of long-term demographic changes.

2. Community Affordability Measures (CAM): These measures compare levels of income with the cost of living. A higher affordability measure (CAM) occurs when average incomes are relatively higher than average costs of living.

3. Quality of Employment Measures (QEM): These measures monitor employment dimensions and trends, such as the capacity of the labour market to provide opportunity, labour market efficiency, equity, and the distribution of employment, partial employment, and unemployment among population groups.

4. Quality of Housing Measures (QOHM): These measures include the affordability of housing to rent and purchase (relative to prevailing incomes), percentage of homes in need of repair, and property taxes as a source of municipal revenue.

5. Community Stress Measures (CStM): These measures reflect social problems and they examine variables related to vulnerable groups. They include the incidence of low income, the number of homeless, the incidence of lone-parent families, and the incidence of various crises, including crisis calls, bankruptcies and suicides.

6. Health of Community Measures (HOCM): These measures reflect the rate of premature deaths (before age 75) and why they occur, the incidence of and reasons for illness, the percentage of babies born in vulnerable health, and workdays lost due to illness or disability. Future revisions of the HOC measure will include incidence of notifiable disease and will address self-rated health.

7. Community Safety Measures (CSfM): These measures reflect rates of crime and violence, youth crime, the rate of unintended injuries, and (in future) resident's subjective feeling of safety.

8. Community Participation Measures (CPM): These measures reflect the involvement of citizens in their community, and include political participation (voter turnout), civic literacy as indicated by daily newspaper circulation, charitable giving, and support for community projects as measured by contributions to the annual United Way campaign.

Table 1: Illustration of the Quality of Life (QOL) Template: Measures and Indicators

Population Resources	Community Affordability	Quality of Employment	Quality of Housing	Community Stress	Health of Community	Community Safety	Community Participation
Population age groups	CAM1	Employment and unemployment rates	Median income compared with median house cost	% lone-parent families	Infant mortality	Young offender charges per 100,000 residents	Voter turnout
Population growth	CAM2	Permanent, temporary and self-employment as a % of population	Rental affordability: % renters paying 30% or more of income for rent	% of families that are low-income	Low birth weight babies	Violent crimes per 100,000 residents	Charitable donations
Multi-culturalism immigrant and visible minority populations	Patterns of change in family incomes	Families receiving Employment Insurance or Social Assistance as % of all taxfilers	Median rental as % of median income	Teen births per 1,000 teen women	Premature mortality	Property crimes per 100,000 residents	United Way contributions per resident
Migration: internal and external	Public transportation: cost as % of minimum wage	Median hourly wages by gender and age	Substandard dwellings: % of houses needing major repair	Suicide rates per 100,000 residents	Hospital discharges	Fear to walk in neighbourhood*	Daily newspaper circulation
Labour force replacement ratios	Government transfer income by source	Long-term unemployment	Residential property tax revenues per resident	Homelessness;* children in care;* crisis calls*	Work hours lost due to illness or disability	Injuries and poisonings per 100,000 residents	Recycling, kg per resident, per year
Education levels		Employment income as % of all income	Real estate sales per resident	Personal and business bankruptcies			
Literacy							

*Note: Reliable data for these indicators is not yet available

iii. Uniqueness of the QOL Monitoring System

Although the QOL report corresponds closely to cutting-edge developments in monitoring quality of life, the report has a number of unique characteristics. This marks the first time in Canada that municipal governments have worked together to develop a national policy and planning system for quality of life issues and public policy related to them. As an annual report, the document will follow closely changes at the community level.

The indicators selected are, for the most part, familiar concepts. However, some are newly created. The Community Affordability Measure (CAM) is designed to reflect the true standard of living of the population and of certain sub-populations. For example, the CAM can be calculated by age group, by gender, or by income level. Other measures contain innovative components. In particular, the Community Participation Measure has a new combination of indicators. New indicators are also used to portray income and housing affordability.

When the QOL template is complete, it will include a qualitative dimension that complements the objective measures. The database that has been constructed in the process contains more valuable information and is a source for continuing research and analysis. Many of the reported indicators are portrayed at an aggregate level, and the database itself will be useful for special inquiries and research initiatives. The methodology, both technical and community-based, makes the benefits of the work transferable to other communities in Canada, and to communities in other countries.

The QOL database gives municipal governments and communities an important tool to use in monitoring and responding to social and economic change. The challenge for makers of public policy is to orchestrate public and private forces toward the common interest. In this regard, the QOL project enables local governments to make a bold step forward into policy development for the new millenium.

iv. Preliminary Findings (Highlights)

As this is a preliminary report, the data establish baseline measures that will be reference points for future monitoring. Where possible, historical data and comparison with other research complement these measurements.

A number of important insights have emerged from the preliminary analysis. In some cases, QOL conditions or trends are not consistent across municipal governments, and this raises questions about the differential impact of policies in different communities. However, some conditions or trends do appear to be consistent across communities:

1. The income, education and employment standards in several participating communities are higher than the Canadian and provincial averages. This means that characteristics of Canadian urban communities are in keeping with the United Nations Human Development Index[1], which gives Canada a number one ratio. Living standards for average and higher-income segments of the population, as well as standards for the whole population in matters such as education and health, are generally high, and, in some cases, improving. Unemployment rates improved in most communities during the period.

2. Canadian metropolitan areas are undergoing a dramatic transformation into vibrant multicultural societies. For example, Toronto, Peel and Vancouver now have 40 per cent or more of their population that is foreign born. Municipal governments and urban communities are continually adjusting their service systems to help ease the newcomers' transition to their new society. These multicultural communities are establishing patterns of social, cultural and economic relationships that will play a major role in defining Canadian society in the 21st century.

1. The Human Development Index is a composite indicator developed by the United Nations and reported annually in the *Human Development Report*. It combines measures of income, education, and life expectancy to form an overall ranking of countries. Although there have been criticisms of the construction of the index, Canada has consistently been at the top. The UN attempts to promote use of the *Human Development Report,* not to see who is at the top of the list but to draw attention to the sub-components and trends that underlie the report.

3. The urban communities studied in this report have larger ranges of income inequality and higher incidence of poverty than the Canadian and provincial averages. Between 1992 and 1996, families on the top half of the income scale experienced income increases in the range of six to eight per cent. In most cities, families on the bottom half of the income scale experienced income losses of the same or greater magnitude—this without accounting for the decrease in spending power resulting from inflation.

4. The trend data suggest a growth and concentration of social problems in Canada's major urban centres. These problems include a lack of affordable housing, some forms of urban crime, concentrations of poverty, and affordability concerns for large segments of urban populations.

5. Overall crime rates have been decreasing in Canada (about 10 per cent between 1991 and 1996). However, the evidence suggests that these rates are volatile and shifting over time, and that violent crimes have increased in some communities in recent years.

6. Housing is a serious concern in urban communities with extreme affordability problems. The number of renters paying 30 per cent or more of their income for rent increased between 1991 and 1996 in several cities by as much as 40 per cent.

7. Youth unemployment remains an unsolved problem in Canada, despite federal and provincial efforts to ameliorate the situation. The low wage paid to young workers is an associated difficulty.

8. Consistent with the problems of youth in the labour force, young families are becoming more financially vulnerable. Low wages, low family incomes and increasing incidence of lone-parent families are evident.

The consultative process also revealed that municipal governments have been taking initiatives to gain a better appreciation of the developments taking place locally, and to engage communities in plans to improve QOL conditions. Sample descriptions of such initiatives are provided in the appendix.

v. Preliminary Summation

Canadian urban communities reflect both positive and negative experiences in the 1990s. Economic indicators and many social indicators have been either holding steady or improving for the overall population. Canadians are relatively healthy and are well-educated. However, social problems are growing. These problems reflect the accumulated effects of economic transformation (globalization, information technology revolution, and profound restructuring of the labour market) and the shifts in provincial and federal policies over the last two decades. A more sophisticated and inclusive approach to policy development is required, involving communities and municipal governments as real partners. This is a real challenge for Canada's social union.

Quality of Life Reporting System Communities

City of Vancouver

City of Burnaby

City of Calgary

City of Edmonton

City of Regina

City of Saskatoon

City of Winnipeg

City of Windsor

City of London

City of Toronto

Regional Municipality
of Hamilton-Wentworth

Regional Municipality
of Peel

Regional Municipality
of York

Regional Municipality
of Ottawa-Carleton

Regional Municipality
of Waterloo

Regional Municipality
of Halifax

II. QOL and Public Policy Issues at the Municipal Level

Complementarity in Public Policy and Planning

When thinking of the public policies that support their quality of life, Canadians must peer into the murky waters of the constitutional division of powers to discern which government has which jurisdiction. The policies and programs aimed at improving or sustaining quality of life are divided among federal, provincial and municipal governments. This chronic Canadian issue has been the subject of ongoing intergovernmental debates, the latest of which coined the concept of a social union.

A separate but related issue in current public policy is a change toward achieving public objectives through orchestrating the actions of public, private and community resources, and ensuring that all "stakeholders"—including all governments—work together toward clearly specified and measurable outcomes. The complex assortment of policies and program delivery systems is, in turn, influenced by developments in both the global economy and the local community culture. This is clearly the case in QOL concerns, where economic changes, market transactions, social and cultural behavior, and public policy, all influence local quality of life, whether in concert or in contradiction.

Municipal governments are growing, both in scope and in economic and political reach. However, they tend to resist responsibility for financing public programs and services, including broad income redistribution or social insurance. When municipal governments are required to finance these programs, this role often strains local resources, which are raised primarily from property taxes. The property tax has varying affects and can be inequitable. The municipal financial base is simply too small to support social insurance or income redistribution. For municipal governments to take on more financial responsibility, they would clearly need access to a portion of broader-based tax revenue systems, such as income and sales taxes.

Under current arrangements, the best development would be the acceptance of municipal governments, at least of the large urban communities, as full partners with the federal and provincial governments. In this, municipal governments already have a well-developed capacity to participate and contribute.

Moreover, municipal governments can bring to the table resources and experience to contribute to more positive outcomes. Municipal governments manage a broad range of resources and work on an ongoing basis with a wide range of community interests. Therefore, municipal governments are instrumental in achieving policy and program complementarity.

A few examples:

- It has become a recent concern that, despite the extensive public education campaigns about lifestyle and health, many Canadians are not benefitting from regular exercise and healthy diets. This has implications for public policy, since it generates greater health care costs, more disability insurance claims, and potentially lower family incomes. Municipalities can complement policy objectives by promoting bike paths and lanes, pedestrian areas, access to sports and recreation facilities, community gardens, lifestyle education in community centres, etc.

- Municipal governments exert a major influence in achieving employment equity though their contracting procedures, their requirements for local employers, and their own practices as major Canadian employers.

- Municipal regulations influence the ability to develop the community-based service response capacity that is required for the major human service reorganizations occurring in health care, social services, justice and corrections. Many of

these services require zoning approval, various forms of inspection, planning and coordination assistance. Several municipal governments provide financial assistance to social planning councils to assist in planning for more efficient and effective service provision.

- Municipal planning affects the attractiveness of a city or region for investment, and for the employment situation. Cultural facilities; green space, the quality of air, services and housing, and the availability of housing options, all play a role. Municipal governments are involved in "managing the context" in which other policies are implemented.

- Municipal facilities can be gateways to a range of services that go far beyond traditional municipal interests. For example, "single window access" options allow citizens to obtain information or apply for benefits or services from programs of all orders of government.

- Municipal governments are involved in local responses and service delivery for homelessness and other social problems that are not addressed by existing federal and provincial public policies. Often municipal government and local agencies are the only source of information on local outcomes.

- Municipal governments have been actively involved for several years in training programs, and other employment-related activities. The municipal government is an important link between public resources and the labour market.

- Municipal governments have a profound and continuing involvement in issues related to housing and the quality of the built environment. Access to adequate and affordable housing affects living standards, vulnerability to poverty and danger, physical and mental health, and family-friendliness of environments.

Municipal governments are active on matters related to a broad range of public policy. They form a national network of resources and are concerned about protecting and improving Canadian social and economic conditions. While municipal governments are limited in jurisdiction and are often excluded from federal and provincial policy development, they are, as institutions, as employers and as nationally cooperative community-based systems central to Canadian culture, the economy and infrastructure. Municipal governments have much to offer to Canadian democratic federalism, and they want to be involved.

As a practical basis for Canadian governments to work together, a shared system of policy analysis, using consistent measures of cost, benefits, performance, and outcomes would be useful. The QOL system measures the local outcomes of national, provincial and municipal policies, and is a concrete step toward cooperation.

III. Research Foundations and Methodology for the QOL Monitoring System

Why have a QOL monitoring system coordinated by a national effort of municipal governments?

The QOL system reflects an emerging *vision* of municipal government:

> *The issues and concerns that affect the life of the community are becoming the basis of municipal planning and action. Although other governments are responsible for many of the policies that influence the quality of life, municipal government is in a unique position to assess the performance of those policies, to identify beneficial outcomes as well as problems, and to work with communities and other governments to develop solutions.*

The restructuring of provincial and federal health care, social service, education and justice systems, and the expansion of the role of community-based human service organizations and of voluntary and for-profit human services, increase the need to coordinate policies and planning for best effect.

Because Canada is a decentralized federation, the need is great for communities to have an effective role in the process. Municipal government is in the best position to develop and nurture this coordination and involvement at the community level, to monitor quality of life as an integrated objective of all public policy, and to organize cooperative efforts for improvement.

The QOL system measures outcomes.

In the past two decades, industrialized countries have experienced social upheaval and perplexing social problems, even in the midst of reported economic "successes" such as GDP growth, export growth, positive balance of trade, low inflation and personal success stories of the "mega-winners"- millionaire athletes and billionaire business leaders.[2] However, the incongruities of these successes with the life experience of large segments of the population have resulted in a loss of public confidence in political leaders and public institutions, and in the Canadian federal system itself.[3]

Outcomes measurement is part of a public sector response that emphasizes accountability of public policy and transparency in the operations of public institutions. Leading-edge analysis is focusing on quality of life indicators, assessing what actually happens to people as a result of social, economic and environmental changes (and of course of their own lifestyle choices too), and on how well public policies serve to improve their life situation. This is in contrast to traditional program evaluations, which have tended to measure the delivery of specific benefits or services, without much reference to their effect.

The QOL Reporting System responds only in part at this stage, to the consensus among researchers that effective QOL monitoring must include subjective and qualitative, as well as objective and quantitative, indicators. The consultations that guided the development of the indicators provided some qualitative information. However, more extensive qualitative measurements will be built into the next phase of research. This first report focuses on establishing baseline quantitative measures and preliminary analysis. It is primarily descriptive. Subsequent reports will look in more depth at specific issues.

2. Cobb, C., Haistead, T., Rowe, J., "If the GDP is UP, Why is America Down?", *The Atlantic Monthly,* October 1995.
3. See for example, Gregg and Posner, *The Big Picture,* 1990. This book chronicles the loss of public confidence in public institutions and leaders, as measured by a series of opinion polls.

Important Related Research Efforts

Five dimensions of current research inform and enrich the development of the QOL system:

1. International measures focus explicitly on outcomes. Monitoring quality of life has become an important initiative of several United Nations agencies and international financial institutions. Reports such as the *United Nations' Human Development Report* have provided vital measurements of human progress among nations, and have established the importance of looking beyond simple economic measures.

2. Composite indexes are being developed to reflect the complex inter-relationships among the social, economic and environmental dimensions of human progress. For example, the Fordham Index in the USA was developed as an alternative to GDP, and has inspired the Government of Canada (Human Resources Development Canada) to invest in reconstructing that Index in a Canadian context. The Centre for the Measurement of Living Standards is also developing an alternate measure of economic well-being.

3. The new measures emphasize community participation in developing benchmarks, since measuring policy performance requires government accountability. A number of urban communities are well-known for their method of establishing community QOL measures and using them to guide planning efforts (e.g. the "Oregon benchmarks" and Hamilton Wentworth's "VISION 2020").

4. Increasingly it is realized that public policy must respond to the needs of a changing society, and changes first become evident at a community level. The focus on outcomes has begun to penetrate government policy-making. This has been evident in recent attempts of federal and provincial governments to agree on "cost-shared" programs, not by dividing up an agreed set of expenditures, but by coordinating separate expenditures toward measurable social outcomes. This is the case in the recently modified National Child Benefit Program.

5. A qualitative dimension that is coming into prominence is "perceived QOL"- perceived health, perceived safety and perceived happiness have all been the focus of recent surveys and studies. These measures serve to test the objective measures, and to reflect changes before they become evident in national statistics.[4] As mentioned, it is our intention to add qualitative indicators to future editions of this report.

Research Method and Limitations

The establishment of a comprehensive QOL monitoring system is complex. The research teams established by FCM, each with two lead municipalities, undertook first to define the categories and dimensions of information to be collected. The information had to:

a. be meaningful at the community level;
b. be available annually and on a nationally-consistent basis; and
c. be easily understood.

The teams undertook to develop concept papers where indicators were needed, and to engage their communities in consultations about definition and content. The consultations consistently indicated that the indicators should reflect the various dimensions of our living reality, and should use the substantial existing research that has identified consistent relationships among those dimensions.

4. Report on the Health of Canadians, prepared by the Federal, Provincial/Territorial Advisory Committee on Population Health, 1996

The research teams soon discovered that what would be desirable information is by no means the same as what could be available information. In Canada when one searches for consistently defined information that is available regularly and nationally, almost all roads lead to Statistics Canada. That is the good news.

Unfortunately, Statistics Canada research focuses predominantly at national and provincial levels, and not much data reflects local conditions. With notable exceptions, such as the Census and The Small Area and Administrative Database (taxfiler data), much of Statistics Canada information is gathered from surveys. These surveys are not necessarily done annually, and the sample sizes may not be large enough to provide reliable information for smaller geographic areas or for population groups with in them.

Even when information is available, it may not fit within municipal boundaries. For example, Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) usually include parts of several municipalities, and some data is published only at the CMA level. As well, as in the case of the CPI (consumer price index), all data is not collected in all CMAs. Problems are compounded when data is requested for non-standard boundaries or for population subgroups such as women or men in specified age groups. Nevertheless, building a reliable national system requires a reliable base, so the first phase of the QOL project focused on "mining" the available sources for data to reflect the needs identified in the consultation phase. The results of that exercise are presented in the tables that follow.

Each of the indicators in this report constitutes a small information package, behind which is a substantial research database of quality of life measurements. The indicators do not combine to produce an overall ranking of communities. That would require subjective judgments about the relative importance of different dimensions of life. Moreover, it is not the purpose of the QOL system to create competition among municipal governments. To the contrary, this system aims to establish an information base for cooperation among governments, and between government and private organizations.

IV. The QOL Benchmarks

This section presents benchmark data[5] and highlights key findings. The QOL municipalities will use the back-up database for monitoring and identifying needs and opportunities for coordinated national action.

1. Population Resources Measures (PRM)

The people of a community are its main resources. Age structure, cultural make-up, education and skill levels are important factors in the population's ability to meet social, economic and environmental challenges. The tables illustrate demographic characteristics of these communities compared with Canadian averages.

Population Age Groups

Canadian communities are aging (Table 1.1). More than 12% of the population is now over the age of 65. However, when we look at the proportion of the population that is in the 45 to 64 group, and the 25 to 44 group, it is evident that the impact of aging has only just begun. With a large baby boom generation approaching their 50s, and with the trend to longer lives (including more chronic disability and long-term care needs, and more of all of the requirements of an older population), Canadian communities need to plan now. The demands of everyday life change with age, and local services will be under stress to respond.

The communities with the greatest proportion of people over the age of 65 are Windsor (14.6%), Hamilton-Wentworth (14.2%), Winnipeg (13.7%), and Toronto (13.4%), compared with 12.2% for Canada. The other communities are grouped close to the average. Vancouver and Burnaby stand out as the communities with the smallest percentage of children in the population, with 13.9% and 16.2% respectively.

It should also be noted that nine communities have populations in the 75+ category that are larger than the Canadian average. This category is a key indicator for health and support service planning.

Population Growth

The population growth (Tables 1.2a and 1.2b) between 1991 and 1996 varied from minus 0.1% in the City of Edmonton (although the Edmonton CMA grew by 2.6%) to 17.3% in the Region of York. Higher growth rates occur in the areas surrounding the main city boundaries, in satellite cities, and in urban regions than in the cities themselves, which may have little room for outward expansion. The differential growth pattern suggests that cities will continue to have problems financing services (roads, regional facilities, etc.) that are used by people from a larger geographic area especially since their revenue sources are primarily derived from a constrained property base.

Multiculturalism, Immigrant and Visible Minority Populations

The immigrant population (Tables 1.2a and 1.2b) varies dramatically across the country, with major concentrations in the larger cities and the growing metropolitan areas around them. Forty per cent or more of the population of Toronto, Peel, and Vancouver were born outside Canada, and the population characteristics and social relationships within these cities are undergoing rapid change. Several other communities, though, are now in the 20% range of immigrant population, above the national average and growing. It is interesting that the trends in numbers of foreign-born people and of visible minorities are not necessarily parallel. In Vancouver, almost the same proportion of the city is foreign-born as is visible minority. The figure changes in Toronto, where 48% are foreign-born, but only 37% are visible minority. In Peel 40% are foreign-born, while 31.2% are visible minority. In Hamilton-Wentworth, Waterloo and London, all areas of more than 20% foreign immigration, less than half that percentage of the population is visible minority. *Many of the issues of Canadian social solidarity, intercultural relationships, and adaptability are unfolding on a daily basis in the large urban communities. The needs and expectations of multicultural populations for public policy and community services are not necessarily the same as those of other communities.*

5. For the most part, the data definitions are as used by Statistics Canada. In instances where a "O" appears in a data column, this means that the data has been suppressed by Statistics Canada computers, usually because the sample size for that locality and the specific group or situation identified was too small to yield statistically reliable figures. In a few situations, it may mean that the data was not available.

Migration: Internal and External

Most of the migration (Tables 1.2a and 1.2b) in these communities comes from other municipalities within Canada, rather than from outside the country. However, only Halifax, Waterloo, Saskatoon and Regina have above the national average of 82.8% of migrants coming from within Canada. As would be anticipated, Toronto at 48.3% and Vancouver at 52.2% have the lowest proportion of internal migrants and the highest share of external migrants. The high concentration of new migrants is noteworthy in these centres, even compared, in the case of Toronto, with the surrounding urban communities of Hamilton, Peel, York and Waterloo.

Labour Force Replacement Ratios

The labour force replacement ratio (Tables 1.2a and 1.2b) is the ratio of the number of children (aged 0 to 15) to the number of people expected to leave the labour force over the next fifteen years (one third of the age group 16 to 60). Whereas most communities are near the national figure of 1.05, the ratios are 0.61 for Vancouver and 0.79 for Burnaby. There might be labour shortages in those communities over the next fifteen years, with more people leaving the labour force than coming into it from the ranks of the young.

Education Levels

Education levels (Tables 1.3a and 1.3b) vary significantly across communities, although most have proportionately more highly educated people than the national average. It is useful to compare the total population figures with the 25 to 34 group to get an idea of how education levels are improving. On a Canadian level, the three advanced education categories (post-secondary non-trade, some university and university degree) account for 47.2% of the total population, and 63.6% of the 25 to 34 age group. University degrees are held by 30.2% of young Torontonians and by almost 35% of Vancouver's younger group. Increased educational attainment is also evident in the number of graduates of non-university training programs. Because higher levels of education tend to be positively correlated with high incomes and also with active political participation, it could be expected that the residents of these communities will be demanding higher-quality services.

Literacy [6]

Literacy rates (Tables 1.3a and 1.3b) in the QOL communities tend to be higher than the national average. Calgary has the lowest rate of adults with less than Grade 9 education, at 5.5%, and Toronto has the highest, at 12.2%, which is still just over the national average.

6. Less than a Grade 9 education has been used as a proxy for illiteracy among adults. Because this may be problematic in highly multicultural areas, more acurate measurements are being adopted, but historical data is not yet available on them at the municipal level.

Population Resources Measures: Population Age Groups

Table 1.1 Total Population by Sex and Age Groups, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Both sexes	28,846,760	342,965	721,140	2,385,420	592,445	852,525	467,800	405,435	325,645
Under 15 (%)	20.5	19.9	19.9	17.8	22.8	22.8	20.0	21.9	20.4
15-24 years	13.4	13.6	13.2	12.4	14.0	14.0	12.9	14.1	13.8
25-44 years	32.4	35.4	34.3	35.0	32.5	35.2	31.6	33.2	33.2
45-64 years	21.5	20.8	21.6	21.3	22.5	20.8	21.4	20.0	20.1
65-74 years	7.1	5.9	6.4	8.0	5.2	4.6	8.5	6.4	7.1
75 years and over	5.1	4.4	4.7	5.4	3.1	2.6	5.7	4.4	5.3

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Both sexes	28,846,760	197,695	618,475	180,400	193,645	768,085	616,305	179,210	514,010
Under 15 (%)	20.5	18.9	20	21.9	22.2	21.2	20.6	16.2	13.9
15-24 years	13.4	14.2	13.7	14.9	15.8	13.5	14.1	14.2	13.3
25-44 years	32.4	31.7	32.3	32.2	32.6	37.2	34.9	34.7	38.6
45-64 years	21.5	20.6	20.4	19.0	17.9	19.3	19.5	21.6	21.3
65-74 years	7.1	8.6	7.4	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.5	7.4	7
75 years and over	5.1	6.0	6.3	5.5	5.5	3.5	4.4	5.9	5.9

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations)

Table1.2a Population and Migration Measures for Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Population growth, '91-'96 (%)	5.7	3.7	6.3	4.8	17.3	16.3	3.6	7.3	4.5
Visible minorities (%)	11.2	6.6	20.5	37.0	24.2	31.2	9.0	8.5	8.9
Foreign-born (%)	17.4	7.0	15	47.6	35.8	40.0	24.6	21.1	20.9
MOBILITY STATUS (Per Cent of Population) in Past 5 Years									
Total migrants	18.7	18.0	21.3	19.2	24.1	21.5	14.1	17.6	14.6
Internal migrants* (moved from a different municipality in Canada)	82.8	90.2	78.3	48.3	75.1	69.4	80.3	83.5	80.7
External migrants** (moved from other countries)	17.2	9.8	21.7	51.7	24.9	30.6	19.7	16.5	19.3
Labour force replacement ratio	0.97	0.90	0.91	0.85	1.06	1.04	0.99	1.05	0.98

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

*Note: Internal migrants are defined as individuals who have moved into the municipality from within Canada.

**Note: External migrants are defined as individuals who have moved into the municipality from another country.

Population Resources Measures: Population Growth; Multiculturalism, Immigrant and Visible Minority Populations;

Table 1.2b: Population and Migration Measures for Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Population growth, '91-'96 (%)	5.7	3.3	0.5	0.7	4.1	8.1	-0.1	12.8	8.9
Visible minorities (%)	11.2	12.7	11.9	5.7	5.8	16.5	18.1	39.4	44.8
Foreign-born (%)	17.4	23.7	17.7	8.3	8.2	21.7	22.5	41.8	44.9
MOBILITY STATUS (Per Cent of Population) in Past 5 Years									
Total migrants	18.7	12.5	9.9	14.0	17.5	17.1	14.5	32.8	27.0
Internal migrants (moved from a different municipality in Canada)	82.8	67.4	74.5	87.7	88.3	74.6	74.0	58.3	52.2
External migrants (moved from other countries)	17.2	32.6	25.5	12.3	11.7	25.4	26.0	41.7	47.8
Labour force replacement ratio	0.97	0.92	0.97	1.06	1.07	0.96	0.97	0.74	0.61

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

*Note: Internal migrants are defined as individuals who have moved into the municipality from within Canada.

**Note: External migrants are defined as individuals who have moved into the municipality from another country.

Table 1.3a: Highest Level of Schooling, Total Population and Young Adults, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Total - School Attendance									
Total - Age Groups									
Less than Grade 9	12.1	6.7	6.1	12.2	8.8	8.0	11.5	10.7	6.9
Grades 9-13 without secondary school graduation certificate	22.7	22.6	16.7	20.1	19.6	21.4	25.0	24.4	21.7
Grades 9-13 with secondary school graduation certificate	14.3	9.8	13.4	12.8	13.6	15.5	14.3	14.6	15.1
Trades certificate or diploma	3.7	3.2	2.4	2.6	3.2	3.3	4.0	.3.4	3.4
Other non-university education only	24.2	24.7	22.8	20.5	24.0	25.6	25.6	24.9	25.8
University without bachelor's degree or higher	9.7	14.2	12.8	11.3	11.1	10.7	8.0	8.7	10.1
University with bachelor's degree or higher	13.3	18.7	25.8	20.5	19.7	15.4	11.6	13.4	17.0
25-34 years									
Less than Grade 9	3.3	1.7	1.5	3.4	1.0	2.1	2.1	3	1.5
Grades 9-13 without secondary school graduation certificate	15.6	13.0	8.4	13.1	11.0	14.2	14.8	16.6	11.8
Grades 9-13 with secondary school graduation certificate	14.3	9.4	11.7	12.7	12.4	15.3	16.0	15.2	14.4
Trades certificate or diploma	3.3	2.6	1.5	1.9	2.3	33.5	2.4	2.3	2.3
Other non-university education only	32.8	31.1	29.2	26.4	33.1	33.5	36.9	33.8	35.2
University without bachelor's degree or higher	11.0	15.8	13.1	12.4	10.7	11.2	9.1	8.8	11.1
University with bachelor's degree or higher	19.8	26.3	34.7	30.2	29.5	21.2	18.9	20.3	23.7

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations)

Table 1.3b: Highest Level of Schooling, Total Population and Young Adults, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Total - School Attendance									
Total - Age Groups									
Less than Grade 9	12.1	10.7	9.1	7.9	7.9	5.5	7.9	7.7	10.4
Grades 9-13 without secondary school graduation certificate	22.7	23.7	26	25.6	23.8	21.5	23.9	20.8	17.4
Grades 9-13 with secondary school graduation certificate	14.3	16.0	11.6	12.0	10.5	11.4	11.3	12.9	10.5
Trades certificate or diploma	3.7	3.0	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.9	3.2	2.8	1.9
Other non-university education only	24.2	23.5	21.6	20.6	23.1	27.2	27	26.2	22.3
University without bachelor's degree or higher	9.7	10.6	13.5	16.3	15.5	12.8	11	13.2	13.9
University with bachelor's degree or higher	13.3	12.5	15.1	14.8	16.6	18.7	15.6	16.3	23.6
25-34 years									
Less than Grade 9	3.3	1.8	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.4	1.4	2.8
Grades 9-13 without secondary school graduation certificate	15.6	13.8	17.6	17.6	17.2	14.4	16.7	10.9	10.0
Grades 9-13 with secondary school graduation certificate	14.3	16.3	12.6	11.4	10.7	11.3	11.4	11.5	8.8
Trades certificate or diploma	3.3	2.1	2.4	1.4	1.7	2.0	2.3	2.1	1.5
Other non-university education only	32.8	32.2	27.3	26.2	29.6	32.6	35.1	33.9	27.3
University without bachelor's degree or higher	11.0	13.4	16.3	21.0	16.0	13.5	11.8	15.3	14.6
University with bachelor's degree or higher	19.8	20.5	21.6	20.6	22.8	24.2	20.4	24.9	34.9

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations)

2. Community Affordability Measures[7] (CAM)

The Community Affordability Measure (CAM) is a new measure (Tables 2.1a and 2.1b) designed to indicate community affordability through ratios of income to costs of living (Tables 2.2a and 2.2b). The cost of living data was collected through a local pricing exercise, and income data was derived from Statistics Canada's Small Area and Administrative Database. The CAM measures relative affordability of Canadian communities and changes to their affordability over time. It does not measure communities against an ideal or theoretical standard, but against the standard established by the aggregated experience of all municipal governments.

The CAM has two components – CAM1 and CAM2:

CAM1 measures community affordability for the total population using the median income of the total population in relation to the cost of living of the average consumer:

$$\text{CAM1} = \frac{\text{Median Income of the Total Population}}{\text{Average Cost of Living (based on FCM Local Pricing Exercise)}}$$

CAM2 measures community affordability for the half of the population that is below the median, the modest-income group. It is calculated in the same way as CAM1 by using the median income of the modest-income population in relation to the cost of living for that group:

$$\text{CAM2} = \frac{\text{Median Income of Modest-Income Population}}{\text{Average Living Costs of Modest-Income Population}}$$

7. Cost indexes were calculated from a local pricing exercise carried out in the sixteen participating municipal governments whereby a cost was identified for a specific basket of goods and services. The pricing exercise was designed and coordinated by the City of Winnipeg. The reference for the pricing exercise was Statistics Canada's list of items for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This list consists of commodities identified through their Family Expenditure Survey, which identifies what the average family purchases. Statistics Canada's items, specifications, and associated expenditure weights were utilized in defining the FCM "basket" or list of commodities and services. The Cost of Living for the modest-income population was calculated based on weights provided by Statistics Canada from special calculations using the Family Expenditure Survey. The confidence of the FCM team in the validity of this exercise is high, as results closely followed the results of a similar exercise carried out a year earlier by Statistics Canada using actual CPI data (this data was only available for seven of the QOL communities).

The income indexes were calculated using income percentile data from Statistics Canada. The 50th percentile was used as the median family income for each community. These medians were then calculated as percentages of the Canadian average median, to form the index for CAM1. The same exercise was carried out using the 25th percentile, or median of the modest income population, for CAM2. The income indexes were then calculated as a percent of the cost indexes to derive CAM1 and CAM2.

Shelter costs account for a significant weight in terms of overall costs. However, they pose particular problems for ensuring comparability in pricing. This is an issue that has also kept Statistics Canada from including comparative shelter price data in their geographic price comparisons. For the calculation of the CAM, the average rental price of a two-bedroom apartment in each community (as calculated annually by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) was used as a proxy shelter cost. Therefore, the housing costs are based exclusively on rental information not home ownership.

In Tables 2.1a and 2.1b, the higher the value of the CAM, the more affordable the community. Differences in CAM1 and CAM2 may indicate income inequality or that certain living costs, such as housing, may be more costly for one population than another.

Communities like the Regional Municipalities of Ottawa-Carleton and York Region combine high incomes with reasonable living costs to achieve a high level of affordability. Regina combines moderately high incomes with low living costs. Burnaby and Vancouver have below-average incomes and high costs, which result in affordability problems.

The position of the modest-income population does not always mirror the experience of more affluent populations. Regina ranks fourth on the scale of affordability for the general population, but is first in relation to the modest-income group. This would indicate that modest-income families would tend to have more discretionary income after paying living costs in Regina than in other centres.

There have been some small changes in relative position among communities between 1992 and 1996, as indicated in the CAM table. Most noticeable is a significant decrease in Ottawa's affordability for modest-income families, although Ottawa still remains relatively high in the list, and Windsor's substantial increase in affordability for the median-income family, with a smaller but significant increase for the modest-income population. Burnaby has suffered a substantial decrease in affordability during that period.

As government policies become more and more narrowly targeted, it is useful to know that basic benefit levels, or even standardized user fees, may actually create different net outcomes, according to the affordability of the community.

The CAMs portray *relative affordability* among the communities. However, between 1992 and 1996 the cost of living increased by 7.5% in Canada, while the median income of all communities moved up by less than one per cent, meaning that all communities became less affordable by about 6.5%.

Patterns of Change in Family Incomes [8]

More startling than the changes of the 1990s in relative positions among communities were the standards among population groups within communities. The trend information on the family incomes of people at various points (percentiles) of the income scale allows us to observe if there is increasing inequality, even amid increasing wealth. Traditional measures of average or median family income do not make this distinction and may show a stable or gradual trend while masking important changes actually taking place.

As shown in Tables 2.3a and 2.3b even before adjusting for inflation, it is clear that fully half of the population of most communities lost income during the 1992 to1996 period.

The modest-income half experienced, on the basis of a population-weighted average[9], a decrease of 5.8% in income, compared to a 4.4% increase for the top half of the population. Moreover, the decreases become greater toward the bottom. The twentieth-percentile income figure, which could be said to correspond roughly to the low-income group, lost 8%, and the bottom 10 percent (welfare-level incomes) lost over 18 % during this four-year period. The Tables show the change in incomes at various percentiles, 1992 and 1996 before and after adjusting for inflation.

All of the negative figures are increased by 6.5% after adjusting for inflation, meaning that the bottom group lost almost one quarter of their real incomes. It is indicative that income decreases in the QOL communities were greater than those in Canada as a whole. Poverty is becoming more concentrated in these communities, and the middle class is losing ground as well.

8. Statistics Canada carried out a special run to divide family incomes into "percentile categories", divided essentially into 10-per-cent slices. The 50th percentile is the median income, and all those families below the median represent what we have called the modest-income population. The 25th percentile is the median of the modest-income population.

9. A population-weighted average takes into account the proportion of the overall population represented by each community.

Public Transportation: Cost as a Percentage of Minimum Wage

Another indicator of affordability in a community, especially for the modest-income population, is the cost of public transportation. Table 2.4 illustrates the cost of a bus pass as a percentage of the prevailing minimum hourly wage. This measure will be useful to municipal planners in relating changes in ridership to ticket-price changes. It does not, however, say anything about other factors in planning transportation systems, such as convenience and travel time. Ottawa, Calgary and Edmonton have the highest costs on this scale, while Regina has the lowest.

Government Transfer Income by Source

Employment is the major source of income in all communities. However, the proportion and distribution of family income that comes from government transfers (Tables 2.5a, 2.5b, 2.5c and 2.5d) is an important indicator of affordability issues, since much of it is targeted to lower-income groups. In 1996, all communities, except Winnipeg, were below the national average in the proportion of families and non-family persons receiving government transfer income, and only Hamilton was above the national average in the per cent of community income deriving from government sources. In 1992, several communities exceeded the national average.[10] Although the majority of families receive government transfers, in one form or another, the makeup of government transfer income reveals important characteristics of the population. Hamilton, for example, is well above the other communities and the national average in the number and amounts of workers' compensation payments. This indicates a high incidence of disabilities. Calgary, York and Peel receive much less than the national average of total community income from government sources, and this is a reflection of lower numbers of elderly people and lower social assistance benefits. Hamilton has proportionately higher numbers of elderly persons.

It is significant that as total community incomes *were decreasing faster than the Canadian average in the QOL communities,* government support was also falling more rapidly *than the Canadian average in the QOL communities. In 1992, the average percentage of total community income derived from government transfers among the QOL communities was 16.3% (author's calculation), which represented* 87.6% *of the Canadian average of 18.6%. In 1996, the average percentage of total community income derived from government transfers among the QOL communities dropped to 11.5% or* 82.7% *of the Canadian average of 13.9%. It would appear that the social safety net is being dismantled most rapidly in the communities where it is most needed.*

10. The total transfers for 1992 and 1996 are not exactly similar. The 1992 figures contained a category entitled "Other Pensions" which included private pension income. Statistics Canada discontinued that practice with the 1996 Data.

Community Affordability Measures: CAM1 and CAM2

Table 2.1a Community Affordability Measures for Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities

	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
CAM1* 1996	1.06	1.26	0.96	1.26	1.26	1.1	1.17	1.09
CAM1 1992	1.08	1.32	1.01	1.3	1.15	1.11	1.14	1.11
CAM2** 1996	1.1	1.21	0.87	1.19	1.04	1.16	1.23	1.11
CAM2 1992	1.14	1.32	0.94	1.28	1.12	1.15	1.19	1.15

Sources: FCM Local Pricing Exercise, Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute
*Note: CAM 1 is calculated based on median incomes of the total population. The higher the value of the CAM, the more affordable the urban centre.
**Note: CAM 2 expresses the value for the modest-income population (the half of the population that is below the median).

Community Affordabilily Measures: CAM1 and CAM2

Table 2.1b: Community Affordability Measures for Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities

	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
CAM1* 1996	1.2	1.09	1.22	1.13	1.19	1.13	0.9	0.84
CAM1 1992	1.0	1.09	1.19	1.12	1.18	1.17	1.01	0.87
CAM2**1996	1.18	1.18	1.26	1.15	1.19	1.13	0.87	0.76
CAM2 1992	1.1	1.16	1.24	1.12	1.18	1.15	0.99	0.79

Sources: FCM Local Pricing Exercise, Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute
*Note: CAM 1 is calculated based on median incomes of the total population. The higher the value of the CAM, the more affordable the urban centre.
**Note: CAM 2 expresses the value for the modest-income population (the half of the population that is below the median).

Table 2.2a: The Cost of Living and Incomes Indices Used to Calculate the CAMs

	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
COST 1 1996	0.989	1.019	1.114	1.048	1.07	0.981	1.002	0.998
INCOME 1 1996	1.05	1.28	1.07	1.32	1.18	1.1	1.17	1.09
COST 2 1996	0.984	1.019	1.144	1.054	1.093	0.972	1.005	0.989
INCOME 2 1996	1.08	1.23	0.99	1.25	1.14	1.13	1.24	1.11

Sources: FMC Local Pricing Exercise, Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

Table 2.2b: The Cost of Living and Incomes Indices Used to Calculate the CAMs

	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
COST 1 1996	1.016	0.934	0.93	0.91	0.965	0.887	1.025	1.096
INCOME 1 1996	1.22	1.02	1.13	1.03	1.15	1	0.95	0.92
COST 2 1996	1.01	0.924	0.912	0.985	0.964	0.885	1.032	1.112
INCOME 2 1996	1.19	1.09	1.15	1.03	1.15	1	0.9	0.84

Sources: FMC Local Pricing Exercise, Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

Community Affordability Measures: Patterns of Change in Family Incomes

Table 2.3a: Percentile Family Incomes (Total Income from All Sources), Per Cent Change (1992-1996), Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, Current Dollar Value

	10%_ile	20%_ile	25%_ile	30%_ile	40%_ile	50%_ile	60%_ile	70%_ile	75%_ile	80%_ile	90%_ile
Halifax	-11.1	-7.0	-5.9	-3.5	-0.8	1.3	2.2	3.2	3.7	4.8	6.3
Ottawa	-21.0	-14.5	-10.3	-7.4	-3.4	-1.4	0.1	1.6	2.3	3.2	5.4
Toronto	-23.6	-12.6	-9.6	-6.8	-3.9	-1.5	0.9	2.6	3.4	4.1	6.1
York	-30.6	-13.1	-9.2	-6.8	-2.7	-	2.3	3.7	4.5	5.2	7.0
Peel	-29.4	-13.6	-8.7	-6.6	-3.0	-0.8	1.4	2.9	3.6	4.5	6.3
Hamilton	-12.9	-2.9	-1.1	-	2.3	4.0	5.4	6.5	7.1	7.6	8.5
Waterloo	-9.7	0.4	1.6	3.2	5.5	6.3	7.2	8.2	8.4	8.9	9.7
London	-18.1	-7.6	-5.4	-2.8	-	1.7	2.8	3.8	4.5	4.9	6.1
Windsor	-10.1	3.2	5.6	7.5	9.9	12.1	13	13.8	14.2	15.0	16.1
Winnipeg	-8.7	-0.8	-	1.0	1.6	2.9	3.5	4.1	4.6	5.2	6.6
Regina	-3.9	0.4	0.3	1.8	3.5	4.1	5.5	6.0	6.4	6.9	8.2
Saskatoon	-5.1	-	0.8	2.0	3.5	4.5	6.0	7.1	78	8.3	9.5
Calgary	-10.7	-1.2	-0.3	0.6	2.4	3.4	4.6	6.0	6.8	7.8	10.2
Edmonton	-16.9	-3.7	-4.0	-3.8	-2.7	-1.1	-0.2	0.8	1.3	1.7	2.8
Burnaby	-33.6	-16.8	-15.9	-13.3	-9.3	-6.3	-3.1	-	1.5	2.4	4.6
Vancouver	-15.3	-4.9	-6.6	-6	-3.1	-1.2	1	2.8	3.8	4.7	5.6
Canada	-10.7	-1.8	-1.6	-0.3	1.7	3	4.5	5.4	5.9	6.3	7.5
Numerical Average	-16.3	-5.9	-4.3	-2.6	-0.01	1.8	3.3	4.6	5.2	6.0	7.4
Population-Weighted Average *	-18.8	-8.0	-5.8	-3.9	-1.3	0.7	2.4	3.7	4.4	5.2	6.8

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by Advocate Institute

*Note: The population-weighted average takes into account the size of the population in each community so that Toronto with a large population will influence the average more than Regina with a smaller population.

*Table 2.3b Percentile Family Incomes (Total Income from All Sources), Per Cent Change (1992-1996), Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1992 Dollar Value**

	10%_ile	20%_ile	25%_ile	30%_ile	40%_ile	50%_ile	60%_ile	70%_ile	75%_ile	80%_ile	90%_ile
Halifax	-18.6	-14.5	-13.4	-11.0	-8.3	-6.2	-5.3	-4.3	-3.8	-2.7	-1.2
Ottawa	-28.5	-22.0	-17.8	-14.9	-10.9	-8.9	-7.4	-5.9	-5.2	-4.3	-2.1
Toronto	-31.1	-20.1	-17.1	-14.3	-11.4	-9.0	-6.6	-4.9	-4.1	-3.4	-1.4
York	-38.1	-20.6	-16.7	-14.3	-10.2	-	-5.2	-3.8	-3.0	-2.3	-0.5
Peel	-36.9	-21.1	-16.2	-14.1	-10.5	-8.3	-6.1	-4.6	-3.9	-3.0	-1.2
Hamilton	-20.4	-10.4	-8.6	-	-5.2	-3.5	-2.1	-1.0	-0.4	0.1	1.0
Waterloo	-17.2	-7.1	-5.9	-4.3	-2.0	-1.2	-0.3	0.7	0.9	1.4	2.2
London	-25.6	-15.1	-12.9	-10.3	-	-5.8	-4.7	-3.7	-3.0	-2.6	-1.4
Windsor	-17.6	-4.3	-1.9	0.0	2.4	4.6	5.5	6.3	6.7	7.5	8.6
Winnipeg	-16.2	-8.3	-	-6.5	-5.9	-4.6	-4.0	-3.4	-2.9	-2.3	-0.9
Regina	-11.4	-7.1	-7.2	-5.7	-4.0	-3.4	-2.0	-1.5	-1.1	-0.6	0.7
Saskatoon	-12.6	-	-6.7	-5.5	-4.0	-3.0	-1.5	-0.4	0.3	0.8	2.0
Calgary	-18.2	-8.7	-7.8	-6.9	-5.1	-4.1	-2.9	-1.5	-0.7	0.3	2.7
Edmonton	-24.4	-11.2	-11.5	-11.3	-10.2	-8.6	-7.7	-6.7	-6.2	-5.8	-4.7
Burnaby	-41.1	-24.3	-23.4	-20.8	-16.8	-13.8	-10.6	-	-6.0	-5.1	-2.9
Vancouver	-22.8	-12.4	-14.1	-3.5	-10.6	-8.7	-6.5	-4.7	-3.7	-2.8	-1.9
Canada	-18.2	-9.3	-9.1	-7.8	-5.8	-4.5	-3	-2.1	-1.6	-1.2	0

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

*Note: 1992 dollar value expresses the gain or loss in real purchasing power between 1992 and 1996 by including the decrease resulting from inflation. The inflation adjustment comes from Statistics Canada CPI figures.

Community Affordability Measures: Public Transportation (Cost as a Percentage of Minimum Wage)

Table 2.4: Cost of One Pass on Public Transportation as a Percentage of Minimum Wage, Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities

	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Cost of bus/subway	1.50	2.25	2.00	1.80	2.00	1.75	1.75	2.00
Minimum wage	5.5	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85
Cost as % minimum wage	0.27	0.32	0.29	0.26	0.29	0.26	0.26	0.29
	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Cost of bus/subway	1.95	1.50	1.20	1.50	1.60	1.60	1.88	1.88
Minimum wage	6.85	5.4	5.6	5.6	5	5	7.15	7.15
Cost as % minimum wage	0.28	0.28	0.21	0.27	0.32	0.32	0.26	0.26

Source: FCM Local Pricing Exercise

Table 2.5a: Government Transfer Income as a Percentage of Total Community Income, Family Data (Husband-Wife Families, Lone-Parent Families, and Non-Family Persons), Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1992

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Total Transfers									
% Reporting	89.6	87.7	84.6	86.4	87.1	86.1	90.3	88.9	89.2
% Total income	18.6	17.1	16.7	14.5	10.4	11.9	21.1	15.9	18.7
Employment Insurance									
% Reporting	25.2	23.7	16.0	20.0	20.6	23.6	21.6	23.4	19.0
% Total income	3.6	2.9	1.6 a	2.5	2.1	2.8	2.9	2.6	2.0
Old Age Security									
% Reporting	19.3	15.9	17.1	16.6	13.3	11.0	22.5	17.8	19.7
% Total income	2.4	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.2	1.1	2.7	2.1	2.4
Canada / Quebec Pension Plan									
% Reporting	23.0	21.0	20.7	19.4	16.6	14.4	27.5	22.1	24.1
% Total income	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.4	1.7	1.7	3.9	2.9	3.3
Other Pensions									
% Reporting	15.2	6.9	18.9	13.0	11.2	10.2	20.8	15.0	18.0
% Total income	4.1	5.5	6.9	3.1	2.3	2.3	4.8	3.1	4.9
Child Benefits (FA + CTC)									
% Reporting	32.7	32.3	29.2	30.4	41.2	39.2	30.7	34.8	30.4
% Total income	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9
GST Credits									
% Reporting	62.8	60.5	52.0	58.6	50.6	53.5	60.3	56.8	59.5
% Total income	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Non-Taxable Income/ Provincial Tax Credits									
% Reporting	39.8	19.6	50.5	58.0	50.4	53.1	62.6	58.0	60.3
% Total income	3.7	2.3	3.0	3.5	1.9	2.8	5.4	3.9	4.7

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

Table 2.5b: Government Transfer Income as a Percentage of Total Community Income, Family Data (Husband-Wife Families, Lone-Parent Families, and Non-Family Persons), Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1992

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Total Transfers									
% Reporting	89.6	91.2	93.7	89.0	89.8	84.9	87.5	85.3	85.0
% Total income	18.6	20.9	19.4	16.7	17.5	12.4	16.3	16.3	15.0
Employment Insurance									
% Reporting	25.2	24.6	20.9	18.4	21.3	22.0	21.7	20.7	19.6
% Total income	3.6	2.6	2.5	1.9	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.5
Old Age Security									
% Reporting	19.3	22.1	22.2	20.3	18.8	13.3	15.7	20.1	18.6
% Total income	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.5	2.5	1.4	2.0	2.6	2.3
Canada / Quebec Pension Plan									
% Reporting	23.0	26.7	25.1	23.7	22.6	16.5	19.1	22.4	19.3
% Total income	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.1	3.1	2.0	2.7	3.2	2.5
Other Pensions									
% Reporting	15.2	21.1	18.2	18.0	15.9	12.5	13.5	15.3	12.3
% Total income	4.1	5.4	5.0	5.1	4.6	3.4	4.0	4.0	3.6
Child Benefits (FA + CTC)									
% Reporting	32.7	31.3	29.8	34.7	34.6	33.3	31.4	24.3	20.1
% Total income	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7
GST Credits									
% Reporting	62.8	60.9	66.0	60.8	63.9	57.4	62.9	62.2	66.0
% Total income	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6
Non-Taxable Income/ Provincial Tax Credits									
% Reporting	39.8	62.3	76.0	21.5	21.8	16.9	23.4	22.0	22.6
% Total income	3.7	5.4	3.8	2.5	2.8	1.9	3.3	2.7	2.9

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

Table 2.5c: Government Transfer Income as a Percentage of Total Community Income, Family Data (Husband-Wife Families, Lone-Parent Families, and Non-Family Persons), Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Government Transfert									
% Reporting	86.6	84.1	79.0	82.4	79.6	81.2	85.9	83.3	85.0
% Total income	13.9	11.6	10.5	10.7	7.6	8.8	15.2	11.8	13.8
Employment Insurance									
% Reporting	18.6	17.6	12.0	13.7	13.7	16.7	14.4	16.1	13.4
% Total income	2.2	1.8	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.3
Old Age Security / Net Federal Supplements									
% Reporting	21.2	17.7	18.9	18.8	16.2	13.4	24.1	19.5	21.6
% Total income	3.6	2.9	2.4	2.5	1.8	1.7	3.7	2.8	3.2
Canada / Quebec Pension Plan									
% Reporting	25.3	24.0	23.1	21.2	19.2	16.5	29.4	24.0	26.8
% Total income	3.6	3.6	3.0	2.9	2.2	2.1	4.4	3.3	4.0
Child Tax Benefits									
% Reporting	26.6	26.8	21.7	24.9	28.5	31.0	25.2	27.9	24.5
% Total income	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
Goods and Services Tax Credit									
% Reporting	62.9	61.3	53.9	60.6	53.0	56.2	60.3	56.3	59.9
% Total income	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Workers' Compensation									
% Reporting	5.3	3.9	2.8	4.8	4.9	6.2	8.5	6.2	5.8
% Total income	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.9
Social Assistance									
% Reporting	13.7	11.0	15.7	13.2	6.5	8.9	17.2	13.2	16.4
% Total income	2.0	1.7	2.3	1.8	0.7	1.1	2.9	1.9	2.7
Provincial Refundable Tax Credits/ Family Allowance									
% Reporting	35.4	0.0	44.5	51.3	42.6	44.5	51.8	45.8	51.3
% Total income	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.4

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

Table 2.5d: Government Transfer Income as a Percentage of Total Community Income, Family Data (Husband-Wife Families, Lone-Parent Families, and Non-Family Persons), Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Governments Transfers									
% Reporting	86.6	84.1	91.2	84.5	86.4	78.8	84.8	84.2	82.7
% Total Income	13.9	12.7	13.9	12.0	12.5	7.8	12.0	12.7	11.1
Employment Insurance									
% Reporting	18.6	15.9	15.1	12.5	14.2	15.3	16.2	14.3	13.2
% Total Income	2.2	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.6	1.4
Old Age Security/ Net Federal Supplements									
% Reporting	21.2	22.6	23.8	22.1	20.5	15.3	18.8	20.7	19.6
% Total Income	3.6	3.0	4.1	3.5	3.4	2.0	3.1	3.4	3.1
Canada/Quebec Pension Plans									
% Reporting	25.3	27.3	27.5	26.0	24.7	18.5	22.6	22.2	19.4
% Total Income	3.6	3.6	4.2	3.6	3.6	2.2	3.4	3.4	2.6
Child Tax Benefits									
% Reporting	26.6	23.6	25.8	28.0	29.1	25.3	26.6	21.3	16.6
% Total Income	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.6
Goods and Services Tax Credit									
% Reporting	62.9	57.6	65.0	60.9	63.5	57.2	63.8	64.3	66.5
% Total Income	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6
Workers' Compensation									
% Reporting	5.3	8.7	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.1	4.6	5.2	3.5
% Total Income	0.7	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.3
Social Assistance									
% Reporting	13.7	14.2	11.3	13.4	13.7	11.5	17.5	11.9	14.9
% Total Income	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.1	0.8	1.8	1.7	2.0
Provincial Refundable Tax Credits/Family Allowance									
% Reporting	35.4	46.9	69.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	43.5	46.7
% Total Income	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.5

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations), Calculations by the Advocate Institute

3. Quality of Employment Measures (QEM):

More than provinces, or other geographic regions, Canada's metropolitan communities are shaping the Canadian economy. They provide the social and economic infrastructure and the human resources that nurture business development and sustain and fuel local and global trade. They generate employment opportunities and services that extend well beyond their boundaries. The characteristics and quality of the employment in each community are vital signs of the current and future economic health of the area. They also reflect the degree to which Canada's goals of opportunity for all ages, fair remuneration for work, and improving living standards, are being achieved. In several instances, the tables show figures for the 15 to 24 age group (youth), the 15 to 39 age group (younger half of the labour force) and 40+ age group (older half of the labour force), to illustrate the affects of new trends on these three groups.

Employment and Unemployment Rates

It appears that urban regions are generating employment levels (Table 3.1) and employment incomes that are above national averages, and (usually) comparable to or above provincial averages. (However, the employment record for older cities is more mixed, compared to the newer urban regions.) Urban employment levels, unemployment levels, and incomes generated from employment fluctuate around the national and provincial averages.

The urban unemployment rates tend to be better than the national average. It is significant that unemployment rates among younger workers are consistently 50% to well over 100% higher than other age groups. Combined with the figures on temporary employment among youth, it indicates that about one third of youth who are seeking solid employment are not finding it. This is a chronic problem in Canada and indicates inefficiency in labour market entry processes and opportunities.

It should be noted that while urban unemployment rates are lower than the Canadian average, the net "employment rates" of each age group, which are also higher than the Canadian averages, may not always mirror the unemployment levels. For example, Peel had in 1996 an unemployment rate of 8.3% among older workers, higher than the national average of 7.5%. However, Peel enjoyed an overall employment rate among that age group of 60.8%, well above the national average of 49.9%. This indicates that a significantly higher percentage of older workers in Peel participate in the labour force.

Permanent, Temporary and Self-Employment as a Percentage of Population

Most communities show a similar pattern in relation to the amount of employment (Tables 3.2a, 3.2b, 3.2c and 3.2d) considered "permanent" (which Statistics Canada defines as stretching more than six months into the future). The proportion of permanent employees is higher in the 15 to 39 age group than it is in the 15 to 24 or the 40-plus age group. In the younger groups, temporary employees make up the majority of the non-permanent workers, while self-employment is much more prevalent among the older workers. York and Vancouver top the list for self-employment, especially among older male workers, with about 34% listed as self-employed. This indicates a sizeable portion of the population that is not eligible for employment insurance, and that may also be experiencing problems in obtaining credit. The overwhelming concentration of temporary employment is among the young – over 20% of the young population is temporarily employed in several of the studied communities.

Families Receiving Employment Insurance and Social Assistance as a Percentage of All Taxfilers

The percent of the population in each community in receipt of employment insurance benefits (Tables 3.3a and 3.3b) dropped dramatically between 1992 and 1996, by figures ranging from 22% to 40% depending on the community and population group. Some of this decrease can be attributed to improving employment prospects during that period, but federal changes to decrease Employment Insurance coverage have also played a major role. The unemployment-related benefits of all family and non-family groups decreased by more than the national average in these urban communities, and among "non-family persons" all sixteen communities witnessed decreases that exceeded the national average. Lone parents were the group most dramatically affected, but all population groups saw significant decreases. It appears that changes in social assistance policies also contributed to the decreased standard of living among the lower-income groups. Normally a decrease in expenditures on social assistance would signal increased income from other sources. But this does not seem to be the case in this instance. It is also significant that, in 1996, from 30% to 50% of all lone parents in these communities were dependent on social assistance. Clearly, the labour market and the related social insurance and safety net policies introduced over the past several years are not effectively serving the needs of these families.

Median Hourly Wages by Gender and Age

The wage data (Table 3.4) illustrates the difficult situation faced by young workers in the labour force. Median wage workers under 25 earned only 60 to 70% of the amount earned by the 15-to-39 group, and only about half of that earned by workers over 40. These depressed wages often result in postponed family formation and a retarding effect on the economy.

Long-Term Unemployment

When older people lose their jobs, the chances are greater that they will remain unemployed for longer periods (Tables 3.5a and 3.5b)—more than six months in this measure. Of the unemployed female workers over age 40 in York and Peel in 1996, more than half were classified as long-term unemployed. The situation persisted in Peel in 1997, but improved significantly in York. The overall unemployment rate among older workers was well below the national average in York, but higher in Peel.

Employment Income as a Percentage of All Income

York, Peel and Calgary generate the greatest proportion of total income from the employment base (Table 3.6). Other income sources include investment income and government transfer income. This measure indicates the role of employment in sustaining the economy of the community. Changes in the proportion of community income generated from employment may indicate either a changing demographic base (e.g., a more elderly population and therefore more government transfer income), changes in the economic base, or changes in public policy regarding programs such as social assistance and employment insurance income.

Quality of Employment Measures: Employment and Unemployment Rates

Table 3.1: Labour Force Characteristics, Canada and Specified Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996 Annual Averages

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Unemployment rate									
15-24 years	16.1	13.9	11.3	14.6	12.1	17.4	12.6	15.6	15.1
15-39 years	11.4	9.4	9.8	11.4	9.4	10.0	10.5	9.7	10.8
40 + years	7.5	7.3	5.9	8.5	4.5	8.3	4.8	5.8	6.5
Employment rate *									
15-24 years	51.6	54.0	54.8	44.8	54.2	51.9	55.4	59.4	53.7
15-39 years	67.9	69.5	68.1	66.2	70.2	72.2	68.6	73.5	68.8
40 + years	49.9	52.6	53.3	46.5	63.9	60.8	49.1	56.3	51.2

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Unemployment rate									
15-24 years	16.1	11.2	14.1	13.9	13.7	12.9	15.1	17.5	14.1
15-39 years	11.4	10.3	9.6	8.4	10.3	8.0	9.6	10.6	9.4
40 + years	7.5	7.7	7.1	3.9	5.8	6.3	8.2	6.1	8.3
Employment rate									
15-24 years	51.6	59.4	59.4	57.4	54.9	60.9	54.1	43.6	47.3
15-9 years	67.9	69.4	73.2	72.8	68.2	75.9	71.1	68.0	68.6
40 + years	49.9	45.3	49.4	53.8	53.4	58.8	52.9	48.2	50.2

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Percentage of people within the age range who are in the labour force.

Quality of Employment Measures: Permanent, Temporary and Self-Employment as a Percentage of Population

*Table 3.2a: Permanent**, Temporary and Self-Employed as a Percentage of Total Employed, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, by Age and Sex, 1997 Annual Averages*

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Both Sexes									
Total Employed (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24 years Permanent Employees	69.0	66.6	69.4	71.2	71.4	78.4	76.3	76.7	70.4
Temporary Employees	23.3	25.5	22.6	22.4	23.3	18.6	15.3	15.0	20.8
Self-Employed	7.7	7.9	7.9	6.3	5.3*	3.0 *	8.4	8.0	8.8
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-39 years Permanent Employees	75.0	77.2	77.3	78.1	74.3	82.6	81.2	81.2	75.6
Temporary Employees	12.3	13.1	11.6	10.8	9.6	8.7	7.2	7.8	11.7
Self-Employed	12.8	9.7	11.1	11.1	16.1	8.7	11.5	11.0	12.5
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
40+ years Permanent Employees	70.3	75.9	75.4	72.7	68.7	75.4	76.9	75.1	77.5
Temporary Employees	5.6	6.1	3.9	4.5	3.1	4.7	3.0	3.9	3.9
Self-Employed	24.0	17.8	20.7	22.7	28.2	19.9	20.1	20.9	18.6
Males									
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24 years Permanent Employees	68.6	66.2	72.7	68.8	72.2	77.5	76.5	78.5	67.0
Temporary Employees	23.8	26.9	19.8	22.6	24.6	19.6	14.7	15.4	23.7
Self-Employed	7.6	7.7	7.5	8.7	3.2 *	2.9 *	8.8 *	6.1 *	9.3 *
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-39 years Permanent Employees	73.6	76.3	76.8	75.2	72.6	81.9	79.6	80.7	74.3
Temporary Employees	11.9	12.6	10.8	10.3	9.7	8.3	7.6	7.9	11.5
Self-Employed	14.5	11.1	12.4	14.5	17.7	9.9	12.9	11.5	14.2
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
40+ years Permanent Employees	66.3	72.8	72.7	68.3	63.8	70.5	73.8	72.0	74.5
Temporary Employees	4.8	5.1	2.5	3.4	2.0 *	4.5	3.4	3.3	3.1 *
Self-Employed	28.8	22.1	24.7	28.3	34.2	25.1	22.7	24.5	22.4

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Value added by the Advocate Institute (suppressed by Statistics Canada computer).

**Note: Statistics Canada defines "permanent" as those persons who expect to be with their current employer for at least the next six months.

Quality of Employment Measures: Permanent, Temporary and Self-Employment as a Percentage of Population

*Table 3.2b: Permanent**, Temporary and Self-Employed as a Percentage of Total Employed, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, by Age and Sex, 1997 Annual Averages*

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Both Sexes									
Total Employed(%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24 years Permanent Employees	69.0	86.3	74.2	70.3	68.9	75.2	74.6	79.7	78.7
Temporary Employees	23.3	10.6	20.9	23.6	22.8	18.4	20.6	0.0	13.8
Self-Employed	7.7	3.1 *	4.9	6.7	8.2	6.4	5.0	0.0	7.5
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-39 years Permanent Employees	75.0	87.8	79.4	79.1	72.8	78.1	77.6	76.5	75.7
Temporary Employees	12.3	6.6	12.1	12.5	15.3	9.5	9.7	13.0	9.40
Self-Employed	12.8	5.6	8.5	8.5	12.1	12.4	12.7	10.7	15.0
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
40+ years Permanent Employees	70.3	85.9	78.1	76.9	72.4	71.0	71.5	76.0	69.5
Temporary Employees	5.6	2.7 *	4.7	4.1	6.4	4.5	5.9	5.9	3.9
Self-Employed	24.0	11.4	17.2	19.0	21.2	24.5	22.7	18.1	26.6
Males									
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24 years Permanent Employees	68.6	83.3	75.1	71.3	66.7	70.8	70.8	80.4	79.0
Temporary Employees	23.8	0.0	20.8	23.0	24.6	23.1	23.5	0.0	0.0
Self-Employed	7.6	0.0	4.1	5.7 *	7.9	6.1 *	5.7 *	0.0	0.0
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-39 years Permanent Employees	73.6	87.1	79.3	78.1	71.9	76.1	78.4	74.9	75.1
Temporary Employees	11.9	6.3	11.4	12.5	15.7	10.2	10.8	10.8	8.2
Self-Employed	14.5	7.0	9.4	9.7	12.5	13.7	10.8	14.3	16.7
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
40+ years Permanent Employees	66.3	85.5	73.8	73.2	70.1	66.7	68.1	71.1	63.8
Temporary Employees	4.8	1.9 *	3.4	2.4 *	5.2	4.3	4.5	6.6 *	2.5 *
Self-Employed	28.8	12.6	22.8	24.4	25.1	29.0	27.3	22.3	33.7

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Value added by the Advocate Institute (suppressed by Statistics Canada computer)

**Note: Statistics Canada defines “permanent” as those persons who expect to be with their current employer for at least the next six months.

Quality of Employment Measures: Permanent, Temporary and Self-Employment as a Percentage of Population

*Table 3.2c: Permanent**, Temporary and Self-Employed as a Percentage of Total Employed, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, by Age and Sex, 1997 Annual Averages*

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Females									
Total Employed (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24 years Permanent Employees	69.4	66.9	66.1	73.9	71.0	79.3	76.5	74.7	73.2
Temporary Employees	22.8	25.0	25.3	22.4	21.9	17.5	16.1	14.6	17.6
Self-Employed	7.9	8.1	8.6	3.7 *	7.1 *	3.2 *	7.4 *	10.1	9.2 *
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-39 years Permanent Employees	76.4	77.9	77.8	81.7	76.3	83.5	83.3	81.9	77.4
Temporary Employees	12.8	13.5	12.6	11.4	9.4	9.2	6.8	7.6	12.0
Self-Employed	10.8	8.3	9.7	6.9	14.1	7.3	9.9	10.5	10.5
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
40+ years Permanent Employees	75.5	79.9	78.4	78.3	74.4	81.7	80.6	78.6	80.7
Temporary Employees	6.7	7.2	5.5	6.0	4.3	4.9	2.5 *	4.8	4.7
Self-Employed	17.8	12.9	16.2	15.7	21.3	13.3	16.9	16.6	14.6

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Value added by the Advocate Institute (suppressed by Statistics Canada computer)

**Note: Statistics Canada defines “permanent” as those persons who expect to be with their current employer for at least employer for at least the next six months.

Quality of Employment Measures: Permanent, Temporary and Self-Employment as a Percentage of Population

*Table 3.2d: Permanent**, Temporary and Self-Employed as a Percentage of Total Employed, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities, by Age and Sex, 1997 Annual Averages*

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Females									
Total Employed (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-24 years Permanent Employees	69.4	89.2	73.2	68.4	72.4	79.8	78.4	77.4	78.5
Temporary Employees	22.8	0.0	21.1	24.1	20.0	13.6	17.7	0.0	16.6
Self-Employed	7.9	0.0	5.8	7.5 *	7.6	6.7	3.9 *	0.0	4.9*
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
15-39 years Permanent Employees	76.4	88.7	79.6	80.0	73.6	80.4	79.2	78.1	78.8
Temporary Employees	12.8	6.9	12.8	12.5	14.9	8.7	13.0	14.8	11.0
Self-Employed	10.8	4.4 *	7.6	7.5	11.6	10.9	7.7	7.1*	10.2
Total Employed	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
40+ years Permanent Employees	75.5	87.1	83.2	80.7	76.0	76.6	75.4	81.3	77.2
Temporary Employees	6.7	2.9 *	6.0	6.1	8.0	4.7	7.3	0.0	5.9
Self-Employed	17.8	10.0	10.8	12.7	16.0	18.7	17.3	0.0	17.1

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Value added by the Advocate Institute (suppressed by Statistics Canada computer)

**Note: Statistics Canada defines “permanent” as those persons who expect to be with their current employer for at least employer for at least the next six months.

Quality of Employment Measures: Families Receiving Employment Insurance and Social Assistance as a Percentage of All Taxfilers

Table 3.3a: Percent Receiving Employment Insurance and Social Assistance, by Family Type, Canada and Specified Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1992 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Husband-Wife Families									
EI 1996	24.2	23.1	16.4	18.5	16.8	21.0	19.5	20.7	18.5
EI 1992	31.9	30.4	21.1	26.1	24.8	28.9	28.3	29.2	25.5
EI Percent Change '92-'96	-24.1	-24.0	-22.3	-29.1	-32.3	-27.3	-31.1	-29.1	-27.5
Social Assistance 1996	7.8	5.3	9.3	7.7	3.2	5	9.3	7.4	9.4
Lone-parent Families									
EI 1996	16.5	14.5	9.8	11.7	11.5	13.2	11.1	12.4	10.2
EI 1992	24	20.6	14.6	18.6	17.9	20.2	18.5	19.9	15.2
EI Percent Change '92-'96	-31.3	-29.6	-32.9	-37.1	-35.8	-34.7	-40	-37.7	-32.9
Social Assistance 1996	39.9	42.6	45.2	38.4	26.9	31.5	50.7	45.5	49.5
Non-Family Persons*									
EI 1996	10.7	10.4	6.8	7.0	6.1	8.2	7.6	8.9	7.4
EI 1992	15.4	15.1	9.8	11.4	10.3	13.1	12.1	13.9	11.4
EI Percent Change '92-'96	-30.5	-31.1	-30.6	-38.6	-40.8	-37.4	-37.2	-36.0	-35.1
Social Assistance 1996	15.7	10.3	17.4	14.9	9.3	9.7	19.7	14.6	17.2

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Statistics Canada defines "non-family persons" as persons in a household without a spouse, children or parents.

Quality of Employment Measures: Families Receiving Employment Insurance and Social Assistance as a Percentage of All Taxfilers

Table 3.3b: Percent Receiving Employment Insurance and Social Assistance, by Family Type, Canada and Specified Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1992 and 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Husband-Wife Families									
EI 1996	24.2	21.6	20.9	16.7	18.9	18.7	21.0	18.1	18.6
EI 1992	31.9	33.0	28.3	24.2	27.5	26.6	27.4	26.2	26.3
EI Percent Change '92-'96	-24.1	-34.5	-26.1	-31.0	-31.3	-29.7	-23.4	-30.9	-29.3
Social Assistance 1996	7.8	7.5	5.7	6.7	6.9	6.1	9.2	7.5	8.3
Lone-Parent Families									
EI 1996	16.5	13.6	14.5	12.1	12.0	15.1	15.2	13.6	12.7
EI 1992	24.0	20.2	20.6	17.1	19.1	21.3	19.5	22.3	20.5
EI Percent Change '92-'96	-31.3	-32.7	-29.6	-29.2	-37.2	-29.1	-22.1	-39.0	-38
Social Assistance 1996	39.9	44.6	35.5	39.3	43.5	26.6	37.2	37.5	38.7
Non-Family Persons*									
EI 1996	10.7	8.6	7.9	6.6	8.3	10.1	10.3	9.6	8.8
EI 1992	15.4	13.9	11.7	10.3	12.6	15.1	15.0	14.0	14.1
EI Percent Change '92-'96	-30.5	-38.1	-32.5	-35.9	-34.1	-33.1	-31.3	-31.4	-37.6
Social Assistance 1996	15.7	14.7	12.2	15.2	14.6	16.1	22.8	12.5	17.1

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Statistics Canada defines "non-family persons" as persons in a household without a spouse, children or parents.

Quality of Employment Measures: Median Hourly Wage by Sex and Age

Table 3.4: Median Hourly Wages, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, Population Aged 15 Years and Over, by Age and Sex, 1997

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Both sexes									
15-24 years	7.46	6.33	7.90	8.00	7.5	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.55
15-39 years	11.65	10.21	13.35	13.00	13.00	13.55	14.00	12.02	12.57
40+ years	16.00	15.38	21.54	17.00	19.00	17.31	17.31	16.00	17.45
Males									
15-24 years	7.85	6.30	7.86	9.00	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.00	8
15-39 years	12.92	11.06	14.42	13.94	14.00	14.43	15.38	13.71	13.50
40+ years	18.75	18.32	25.00	18.36	23.60	20.00	20.00	17.63	21.00
Females									
15-24 years	7.00	6.33	8.00	8.00	7.50	8.00	7.05	7.50	7.3
15-39 years	10.28	10.00	12.95	12.50	12.02	12.50	12.00	11.00	11.88
40+ years	13.54	13.00	18.71	15.69	15.02	14.90	14.00	14.00	14.90

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Both sexes									
15-24 years	7.46	8	7	7	7	8	7.5	10	9
15-39 years	11.65	12.02	11.00	12.00	10.00	12.00	11.54	15.00	13.80
40+ years	16.00	17.26	15.00	16.08	15.38	16.92	15.38	19.23	17.23
Males									
15-24 years	7.85	8.00	7.00	7.00	7.50	8.40	8.08	10.00	9.00
15-39 years	12.92	14.42	12.00	12.82	11.50	13.14	13.50	15.00	14.42
40+ years	18.75	22.00	17.41	18.72	18.62	19.23	18.56	20.85	19
Females									
15-24 years	7.00	8.00	6.50	7.00	6.50	7.50	7.00	10.25	9.00
15-39 years	10.28	10.00	10.26	11.40	9.00	10.49	10.00	14.50	13.2
40+ years	13.54	13.46	12.75	13.65	13.00	14.00	13.04	18.00	15

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey (Special Tabulations)

Quality of Employment Measures: Long-Term Unemployment

Table 3.5a: Percent of Unemployment which is Long-Term, Canada and Specified Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, by Age and Sex, 1996 and 1997*

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1997									
Both sexes									
15-24 years	12.5	13.5	9.9	8.3	8.8	14.9	7.2	14.5	12.0
15-39 years	20.5	23.3	17.6	20.5	28.2	21.9	15.4	20.1	20.7
40+ years	34	33.3	40.1	34.5	38.7	43.9	30.6	33.6	43.4
Males									
15-24 years	13	11.9	12.9	9.9	7.6	10.9	5.0	17.4	12
15-39 years	21.8	20.9	22.4	23.0	31.5	17.0	19.7	20.5	24.6
40+ years	35.9	38.9	51.7	37.0	44.7	35.5	33.7	34.9	47.6
Females									
15-24 years	11.9	16.2	6.2	6.6	0.0	18.1	9.8	11.1	12.1
15-39 years	18.8	27.7	10.9	18.0	24.5	25.4	10.2	19.7	16.9
40+ years	31.7	26.3	26.1	31.3	33.1	49.3	25.7	31.7	34.2
1996									
Both sexes									
15-24 years	14.3	14.2	17.5	11.9	12.0	14.3	20.2	16.9	15.7
15-39 years	23.0	20.9	28.1	28.8	25.7	23.8	28.8	22.5	25.1
40+ years	35.2	38.2	42.8	36.1	42.8	50.4	29.8	36.2	39.9
Males									
15-24 years	14.8	15	19.8	9.9	16.4	15.2	9.4	17.8	10.6
15-39 years	23.8	24.5	33.5	26.9	31.7	19.2	31.0	24.1	28.3
40+ years	35.9	36.0	45.1	37.5	0.0	46.4	29.3	40.8	50.4
Females									
15-24 years	13.5	12.7	14.9	15.6	0.0	13.5	28.4	15.2	21.1
15-39 years	22.0	16.4	20.1	31.2	18.7	27.5	26.3	20.5	21
40+ years	34.3	41.2	39.8	34.3	50.6	54.7	30.3	31.8	27.6

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Statistics Canada defines long-term unemployment as unemployment for more than 6 months.

Quality of Employment Measures: Long-Term Unemployment

Table 3.5b: Percent of Unemployment which is Long-Term, Canada and Specified Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, by Age and Sex, 1996 and 1997*

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1997									
Both sexes									
15-24 years	12.5	12.4	8.5	7.4	7.4	6.9	9.9	0.0	11.3
15-39 years	20.5	17.0	13.9	13.3	13.5	9.9	13.8	19.5	20.1
40+ years	34.0	34.7	33.2	34.6	42.4	20.8	29.2	44.2	34
Males									
15-24 years	13.0	8.6	10.4	9.2	8.7	9.7	3.2	0.0	16.1
15-39 years	21.8	12.4	14.6	14.3	16.7	10.6	13.9	22.2	23.6
40+ years	35.9	42.2	40.0	36.9	43.5	18.1	30.7	43.4	39.6
Females									
15-24 years	11.9	16.8	5.7	3.6	5.3	1.8	16.6	0.0	4.8
15-39 years	18.8	22.0	13.0	11.7	9.1	9.0	13.7	16.3	13.8
40+ years	31.7	28.1	24.3	31.0	40.9	23.3	26.9	0.0	27.5
1996									
Both sexes									
15-24 years	14.3	18.5	11.5	16.6	6.5	9.3	10.8	0.0	13.1
15-39 years	23.0	19.4	19.1	27.6	16.4	13.1	13.3	0.0	18.4
40+ years	35.2	31.0	36.7	32.9	32.7	30.5	34.5	42.8	28.9
Males									
15-24 years	14.8	9.5	12.7	20.0	4.4	9.9	10.0	0.0	8.5
15-39 years	23.8	17.1	21.5	27.3	16.3	12.5	14.6	30.4	18.8
40+ years	35.9	36.8	38.3	35.9	37.9	30.5	30.7	0.0	28.2
Females									
15-24 years	13.5	0.0	9.7	11.7	9.9	8.6	11.5	0.0	0.0
15-39 years	22.0	22.3	16.0	28.1	16.5	13.7	11.6	0.0	17.9
40+ years	34.3	24.9	34.8	30.5	26.1	30.4	39.9	0.0	30.3

Source: Labour Force Survey, Statistics Canada (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Statistics Canada defines long-term unemployment as unemployment for more than 6 months.

Quality of Employment Measures: Employment Income as a Percentage of All Income

Table 3.6: Employment Income as a Percentage of Total Income, Canada and Specified Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1992 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996	71.6	71.5	71.08	75.7	80.1	81.07	69.9	75.5	69.6
1992	71.9	74.8	74.8	75.9	80.7	82.0	69.6	74.8	71.1
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1996	71.6	72.9	70.5	72.9	73.02	78.4	71.9	72.02	71.1
1992	71.9	69.4	70.9	73.8	72.9	77.1	73.7	73.1	69.7

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations)

4. Quality of Housing Measures (QOHM)

Housing and the built environment are a crucial dimension of Canadian family life. Housing is the most variable component in family budgets, and is the largest financial commitment of many families. The cost, quality and location are vital factors in other aspects of life, such as schools and services for children, employment prospects, and safety of the family. These factors play a major role in family decisions about careers, mobility and lifestyle. The housing measures include various aspects of affordability, quality, and residential property taxes.

Median Income Compared with Median House Cost

The cost of owned housing varies substantially from community to community, and is not consistent with income levels (Tables 4.1a and 4.1b). The median family income varies from 10% to as much as 57% of the average value of an owned dwelling. Such a variance is a major consideration in housing affordability. However, it is also an important factor in the choice of neighbourhood, with associated implications for the travel distance to work, choice of schools, family safety, access to community services, and other family concerns. Regina, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Windsor and Halifax are the cities where the median income family was most able to afford to purchase a house.

Rental Affordability: Percentage of Renters Paying 30 Per Cent or More of Income for Rent

Housing affordability figures (Tables 4.1a and 4.1b) show a pattern similar to the income and employment patterns, and underscore the credibility of this general but startling pattern. Between 1992 and 1996, the percentage of renters who spend more than 30% of their income on shelter costs increased by a range of 15% to 40%. This means that in 12 of the 16 communities, over 40% of renters are now paying in excess of 30% of their income for shelter (the figure of 30% is a benchmark used by federal and provincial governments to determine the level at which it would be appropriate to pay rent subsidies[11]). As table 4.1b indicates, Regina is the only community where the median individual income would be sufficient to rent a two-bedroom apartment and stay below the affordability threshold. It seems that the problem is not in the rental costs, which have not increased much in the period, but is in the overall drop in incomes of the bottom half of the population.

Substandard Dwellings: Percentage of Houses Needing Major Repair

The percentage of substandard dwellings (Tables 4.1a and 4.1b) varies from a low of 4.7% in York Region to highes of 8.9% in Winnipeg and 9.1% in Toronto. In most communities, though, the numbers are lower than the national average of 8.3%.

11. This measure is restricted to renters, since a portion of home ownership costs could be considered investment or savings expenditures.

Residential Property Tax Revenues Per Resident

The taxes levied on housing provide municipal governments with their major source of operating revenue. The new component of this measure (Tables 4.1a and 4.1b) is the relationship of the residential tax revenues to the population base of the community (not to be confused with the average payment per residence owner). This provides for a standardized estimate of municipal revenue from residential property taxes.[12] The purpose is not to compare rates among communities, which vary considerably owing to differences in the types of services provided by municipal governments. Rather, the purpose is to establish baselines for each community in order to measure changes over time. The data indicate that residential taxes increased in all communities, but by substantially different amounts ranging from 6% to 34%. As a general comparison, the cost of living increased by approximately 7.5% during the 1991 to 1996 period.

Real Estate Sales Per Resident

This measure provides an indication of the importance of the housing industry to the local economy (Tables 4.1a and 4.1b). As with residential taxes, we have chosen to measure real estate sales in relation to the overall population in order to have a consistent and comparable measure. However, it should be emphasized that the data sources are not all the same, since many come from the local real estate association multiple listing service. Therefore, as in the case of the residential tax data, real estate sales should not be used now to compare communities but to measure changes over time in a given community. The measure will be refined in the coming year. The figures show substantial variation from small decreases to substantial increase in sales, reflecting changes in market conditions.

12. This measure has been derived from various municipal information that is not always defined in the same manner. It will be refined over time, and so should be used with caution.

Quality of Housing Measures: Median Income Compared with Median House Cost; Rental Affordability; Median Rental as a Percentage of Median Income; Substandard Dwellings; Residential Property Tax Revenues; and Real Estate Sales Per Resident

Table 4.1a Quality of Housing Measures, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Median Family Income as a Percentage of Average Value of Dwelling	30.3	41.5	33.3	19.8	21.1	25.1	31.5	33.6	31.7
Median Non-Family Person* Income as a Percentage of Average Rent of a 2-Bedroom Apartment	N/A	42.1	41.2	52.5	52.5	47.4	42.8	38.5	40.8
Average Rent of a 2-Bedroom Apartment as a Percentage of Median Family Income	N/A	15.7	15.4	20.4	16.7	18.6	15.2	14.2	15.7
Gross Rent Spending: 30% or More of Household Income on Shelter Costs									
1996	43.0	45.4	41.2	44.8	41.7	39.5	46.8	41.3	47.0
1991	33.7	34.0	28.9	32.4	31.6	30.5	34.1	31.5	34.2
Per cent change '91-'96	27.6	33.5	42.6	38.3	32.0	29.5	37.2	31.1	37.4
Substandard Units as a Percentage of Total Occupied Private Dwellings	8.3	7.3	6.8	9.1	4.7	8.2	7.1	6.8	
Residential Property Tax									
1996, $ per capita	N/A	N/A	474.01	611.75	N/A	N/A	194.63	N/A	785.89
1991, $ per capita	N/A	N/A	408.36	N/A	N/A	N/A	176.42	N/A	628.53
Per cent change '91-'96	N/A	N/A	16	N/A	N/A	N/A	10.3	N/A	25
Real Estate Sales,									
Per Capita Sales 1996	N/A	N/A	1684.51	5658.20	N/A	2645.70	3324.1	2203.7	2645.70
Per Capita Sales 1991	N/A	N/A	1778.51	4660.43	N/A	2436.91	3004.4	N/A	2593.7
Per cent change '91-'96	N/A	N/A	(5.5)	21.4	N/A	8.5	10.6	N/A	2.0

Sources: 1996 Census, (Special Tabulations), Municipal Governments

*Note: Statistics Canada defines "non-family persons" as persons living in a household without a spouse, children or parents.

Quality of Housing Measures: Median Income Compared with Median House Cost; Rental Affordability; Median Rental as a Percentage of Median Income; Substandard Dwellings; Residential Property Tax Revenues; and Real Estate Sales Per Resident

Table 4.1b Quality of Housing Measures, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Median Family Income as a Percentage of Average Value of Dwelling	30.3	42.9	47.9	57.2	46.7	34.1	35.2	13.0	10.1
Median Non-Family Person* Income as a Percentage of Average Rent of a 2-Bedroom Apartment	N/A	41.7	40.9	32.9	34.6	36.6	35.9	51.6	56.3
Average Rent of a 2-Bedroom Apartment as a Percentage of Median Family Income	N/A	14.9	14.9	11.8	12.4	13.9	13.9	22.03	24.7
Gross Rent Spending: 30% or More of Household Income on Shelter Costs									
1991	33.7	36.6	35.0	29.7	32.5	32.9	32.6	37.4	41.3
1996	43.0	47.2	43.5	39.6	44.1	37.9	40.9	44.7	47.2
Per cent change '91-'96	27.6	29.0	24.3	33.3	35.7	15.2	25.5	19.5	14.3
Substandard Units as a Percentage of Total Occupied Private Dwellings	8.3	7.9	8.9	7.2	5.8	5.5	6.4	7.1	8.4
Residential Property Tax									
1996, $ per capita	N/A	363.24	322.6	611.91	N/A	N/A	250.03	259.82	N/A
1991, $ per capita	N/A	341.89	284.18	455.69	N/A	N/A	225.21	230.87	N/A
Per cent change '91-'96	N/A	6.2	13.5	34.2	N/A	N/A	11	12.5	N/A
Real Estate Sales,									
Per Capita Sales 1996	N/A	N/A	1372.56	1330.0	2595.2	3114.3	2046.4	3958.7	N/A
Per Capita Sales 1991	N/A	N/A	1313.69	932.7	N/A	2788.9	2020.2	2884.8	N/A
Per cent change '91-'96	N/A	N/A	1.04	42.5	N/A	11.6	1.2	37.2	N/A

Sources: 1996 Census, (Special Tabulations), Municipal Governments

*Note: Statistics Canada defines "non-family persons" as persons living in a household without a spouse, children or parents.

5. Community Stress Measures (CStM)

These measures monitor selected social problems as well as certain population groups that tend to be vulnerable. Lone-parent families are widely recognized as a socially vulnerable group. The incidence of low income is a widely accepted measure of community stress, since it is closely associated with many more specific social problems such as poor health, low education and exposure to low-income neighbourhoods. Other indicators include the number of children who have been taken into the care (guardianship) of the state, the extent of homelessness, the number of crisis calls and the number of suicides. Many of these components have not been systematically collected in the past and are available only through local community agencies. There are substantial inconsistencies in definitions from one community to another. However, the measures will be refined over time.

It should also be noted that several other components, especially those showing affordability problems, are directly associated with community stress but have been placed under other indicators.

Percentage of Lone-Parent Families

The proportion of Canada's families that are lone-parent (Table 5.1) has been increasing, and there is substantial research evidence that these families are economically and socially vulnerable. The employment measures revealed that almost 40% of lone parents depend on social assistance. The percentage of families in Canada that are headed by a lone parent has grown from 12.7% in 1986 to 14.5% in 1996.[13] The population-weighted average percentage of lone parents in the QOL communities in 1996 was 15.9%. York, Peel, Waterloo and Calgary are below the national average, while all of the others are above.

Percentage of Families that are Low-Income

The incidence of low income (Tables 5.2a and 5.2b), as defined by Statistics Canada, varies significantly above and below the national average of 16.3%. This measure counts "economic families" as defined by Statistics Canada. The incidence has increased by over 3% nationally between 1991 and 1996. The increases are lower in several of the CMAs in which these communities are located, indicating again that poverty is becoming more concentrated in the large, central cities, and less so in regions undergoing urbanization. Toronto, Vancouver and Burnaby have the highest concentrations of low-income families, with York, Waterloo and Peel Regions at the low end of the scale. A recent study[14] shows that between 1973 and 1994 the family poverty rate (family incomes below the Statistics Canada Low Income Cut Off [LICO]) in rural areas decreased from 17% to 9%, while in communities of 100,000 and over the rate increased from 12% to 15%. This rapid growth in urban poverty has far outpaced the growth of urban populations during the same time period.

Teen Births Per 1,000 Residents

The rate of teenage fertility (Table 5.3) varies dramatically, from low figures in York Region, Peel Region, Vancouver and Burnaby, to high rates in Windsor, Winnipeg, Regina and Saskatoon. For the most part, the communities have maintained their relative positions between 1991 and 1996, with a small overall improvement. Still, the Canadian average figure of 24.8 (births per thousand women in the age range) in 1994 is much higher than the average of 10.7 in European Union countries in the same year.[15]

13. Hunsley, Terrance, *Lone Parent Incomes and Social Policy Outcomes,* (School of Policy Studies, Queen's University, 1997), p.4.
14. Lockhead, L. and Shillington R., *A Statistical Profile of Urban Poverty,* (Ottawa: CCSD, 1996).
15. Micklewright, J. and Stewart, K., *Is Child Welfare Converging in the European Union?,* UNICEF International Child Development Centre, Occasional Paper, Oct. 1998.

Suicide Rates Per 100,000 Residents

The suicide rates (table 5.4) show a large amount of variance from year to year in the same community, as well as among communities. Because these statistics are based on low numbers of events, small changes may effect large changes in the figures. One community, Edmonton, has been substantially above the national average in all six years, while several communities are consistently below the national figure.

Homelessness

One area of considerable community stress, and for which good information is not widely available, is the incidence of homelessness. Several of the community consultations identified this problem, and indicate that it is growing as a local concern. Local estimates of the numbers of homeless are less than the number of available beds in shelters, and without serious investigation the extent, causes and solutions to this problem will not be known. People may change shelters, change communities, and move into and out of friends' accommodation. Others share woefully inadequate market accommodation. People in the business of serving the homeless believe that if the numbers of people in insecure, dangerous or inadequate tenancy were accurately counted, they would far exceed the numbers of shelter beds. Moreover, it is equally clear that access to a bed in an emergency shelter is not a home. This issue is being addressed in this report's section on community stress because, although housing affordability is a major concern for the homeless, it is not the only one. As Toronto's Homeless Action Task Force pointed out, an effective response to homelessness will require concerted action by local government in relation to local coordination and to property tax policies, land use policies, land supply and financing; by provincial governments in relation to health programs, mental health programs, housing programs, social assistance and social services; and by the federal government in relation to income security, and to policies dealing with housing, immigration, and Aboriginal people. Somehow, communities will have to deal with this complexity.

Children in the Care of Public Authorities

This is a measure of children at risk and of families in crisis. Although several municipalities were able to acquire statistics from the local child welfare authorities, the methods used by these agencies in defining their statistics, the differences in geographic coverage, and other variables, posed major problems for their accurate use. The measurement will be refined in the next stage of this project.

Crisis Calls

As with the Children in Care statistics, these measures are not yet collected consistently across the country. They will be refined in the next stage of this project.

Personal and Business Bankruptcies

The business bankruptcy data (Tables 5.5a and 5.5b) shows a wide variance among the communities, and a high degree of volatility in the year-to-year numbers. Halifax, Ottawa and Edmonton seem to have encountered consistently high numbers of business failures over the 1991 to 1996 period, while Toronto, Windsor, Burnaby and Vancouver have been consistently low on this component. Consumer bankruptcies (Table 5.5b) have also varied among communities, but all communities show a steady increase in occurrence in the last two years.

Table 5.1 Percentage of Lone-Parent Families, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996*

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Lone-Parent Families (%)	14.5	15.8	15.6	18.9	9.6	13.0	15.4	13.4	16.7
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Lone-Parent Families (%)	14.5	18.9	16.6	17.3	17.1	13.7	17.2	14.7	16.4

Source: 1996 Census

*Note: Lone-parent family refers to a lone parent with a least one never-married son or daughter living in the same dwelling.

Community Stress Measures: Percentage of Families that Are Low-Income

Table 5.2a Economic Incidence of Low Income, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Incidence of Low Income (%)	16.3	14.5	14.9	24.2	11.5	13.6	18.5	11.8	14.7
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Incidence of Low Income (%)	16.3	16	19.4	14.8	17.7	16.3	21.3	22.9	24.6

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations) and A Statistical Profile of Urban Poverty (Ottawa: CCSD, 1996).

Table 5.2b Economic Incidence of Low Income, Canada and CMAs, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax	Ottawa-Hull	Toronto	Hamilton	London	Kitchener	Windsor
1996 (%)	16.3	14.6	14.4	18.6	15.9	13.6	12.1	12.9
1991 (%)	13	12	12	12	13	11	10	9
	Canada		Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Vancouver
1996 (%)	16.3		18.4	14.1	16.6	15.7	17.4	18.7
1991 (%)	13		17	13	15	14	16	14

Source: 1996 Census (Special Tabulations) and A Statistical Profile of Urban Poverty (Ottawa: CCSD, 1996).

Table 5.3 Teen Fertility Rate Per 1,000 Women Aged 15-19, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991-1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996	22.1	26.8	13.3	18.0	5.8	11.7	24.3	25.8	25.5
1995	24.2	25.8	16.5	21.1	6.1	14.1	25.6	23.2	29.0
1994	24.8	31.1	18.3	22.1	6.3	13.4	25.5	23.6	29.8
1993	24.7	32.0	19.1	21.2	6.8	14.2	24.9	22.7	27.0
1992	25.4	31.0	19.5	20.3	7.6	12.7	24.1	22.1	28.6
1991	25.7	27.8	16.3	20.4	8.3	14.1	26.1	23.4	40.0
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1996	22.1	33.1	33.6	39.2	39.6	20.7	27.3	13.5	9.3
1995	24.2	37.6	36.5	46.6	45.6	24.8	30.3	10.2	11.9
1994	24.8	32.6	38.3	44.3	49.9	25.0	33.4	13.5	13.2
1993	24.7	32.7	38.2	44.6	43.7	26.9	37.7	12.2	11.1
1992	25.4	32.1	38.9	44.2	44.5	29.9	38.8	13.6	15.0
1991	25.7	20.8	37.1	46.9	41.5	28.7	45.8	16.2	15.6

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)

Table 5.4 Death Rate, All Suicides Per 100,000 Population, Canada and Selected Census Divisions, 1991-1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996	13.0	10.4	10.6	8.0	5.5	6.2	8.5	9.0	11.0
1995	13.3	12.4	10.5	8.8	4.1	6.7	10.2	9.3	9.2
1994	12.7	9.0	9.1	9.5	6.4	7.9	7.6	6.7	8.8
1993	13.1	10.8	10.5	8.3	5.8	9.7	8.9	6.2	9.9
1992	13.0	8.2	10.3	8.4	8.9	6.8	5.5	8.0	10.0
1991	12.8	13.9	11.1	8.5	4.5	8.1	5.9	9.0	5.6
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1996	13.0	18.6	10.3	13.5	12.4	12.5	19.1	8.1	8.2
1995	13.3	11.5	11.1	12.3	11.2	14.5	17.1	12.0	10.3
1994	12.7	11.4	9.5	14.5	12.9	12.8	17.9	8.7	11.1
1993	13.1	8.9	11.5	11.4	13.9	11.8	20.9	14.7	10.9
1992	13.0	5.4	9.3	15.8	14.9	14.9	18.1	11.6	17.4
1991	12.8	10.1	13.3	10.0	10.8	14.6	18.5	8.8	18.6

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)
Note: Rates are Standardized at 100,000 to the 1991 Population.

Table 5.5a Business Bankruptcies per 1000 Establishments, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991-1996

	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
Canada	15	14	13	14	16	16
Halifax Regional Municipality	23	24	23	29	41	29
Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality *	20	20	19	20	23	28
Toronto	8	7	7	10	9	8
York Regional Municipality	12	14	10	22	21	13
Peel Regional Municipality	10	11	10	11	9	11
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	15	15	15	17	16	16
Kitchener **	8	10	8	15	19	13
London	11	15	11	17	18	18
Windsor	5	8	5	8	10	10
Winnipeg	10	8	10	11	14	18
Regina	17	15	17	13	19	24
Saskatoon	17	17	17	14	23	28
Calgary	16	20	16	18	19	16
Edmonton	23	30	23	19	19	17
Burnaby	8	5	6	5	6	10
Vancouver	4	3	3	4	6	5

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, Industry Canada
*Note: Ottawa-Hull
**Note: Solely Kitchener

Community Stress Measures: Personal and Business Bankruptcies

Table 5.5b Consumer Bankruptcies per 1000 Population, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991-1996

	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
Canada	2.7	2.2	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.2
Halifax Regional Municipality	2.9	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.5	3.3
Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality *	3.2	2.6	2	2	2.4	2.7
Toronto	2.8	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.8	2.6
York Regional Municipality	3	2.4	2.1	2.4	2.8	2.5
Peel Regional Municipality	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.6	2.8	2.6
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	3	2.7	2.1	2.6	2.6	2.8
Kitchener **	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.9	2.3	2.3
London	3.9	3.1	2.4	2.1	2.5	2.3
Windsor	2	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.9
Winnipeg	3.5	3.3	2.9	3	3.3	3.4
Regina	2.7	2.2	2.1	2	2.6	2.8
Saskatoon	3.3	2.8	2.3	2.3	2.9	3.2
Calgary	4.2	3.9	3.3	3	3.5	3.2
Edmonton	5.1	3.9	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.4
Burnaby	2.3	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.9	1.7
Vancouver	2.2	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5

Source: Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, Industry Canada

*Note: Ottawa-Hull

**Note: Solely Kitchener

6. Health of Community Measures (HOCM)

Modern concepts of health are broad, covering many dimensions of life not contained in traditional health measures. In fact, the total group of QOL indicators is similar to the package of measures used by broad health-monitoring initiatives such as the World Health Organization and Healthy Communities projects. Because components correlated to population health outcomes are addressed in the other QOL indicators, the HOC measure is narrowly defined to highlight more traditional health concerns. This measure covers the rate at which people die prematurely, the incidence of and reasons for illness, the percentage of babies born in vulnerable health, and the reasons why people get sick at various ages. It is intended that future revisions of the HOC measures will include people's self-rated health as measured by surveys.

Infant Mortality

The infant (Table 6.1) mortality rates have been hovering around the 6.0 (per thousand live births) mark for the past several years. Only York and Peel regions have been at or below the national average for all six years, and only London and Vancouver have been above the national average in all six years. Infant mortality is related to the number of low birth-weight babies, as well as to neonatal care. It is often correlated with low income status.

Low Birth-Weight Babies

The information on low birth-weight babies (Table 6.2) reveals a high degree of similarity across communities, and the differences from the national average are generally small. York Region has been consistently below the national average, while Toronto and Windsor have been consistently above. The Windsor figures have, however, improved steadily over the period. Low birth weight is related to the general health, age, nutrition, income status of the mother and to whether she smokes.[16] It occurs more among teen mothers and women who have children late in life.

Premature Mortality (below age 75)

The Mortality Rates (Tables 6.3a and 6.3b) provide information on long term health trends. There is a fairly narrow degree of variance around the Canadian average. These rates have been gradually improving over the years. Between 1991 and 1996, all communities shared in the improving trend, which indicates increasing life expectancy.

Hospital Discharges

A common way of assessing the incidence of ill health is to examine the number of people admitted to hospital (Tables 6.4a, 6.4b). (The number of admissions can only be calculated using "hospital discharge" data). This method has limits, since hospital admission is influenced by many factors such as the availability of beds, the various methods of determining priority in admissions, and physicians' practices, etc. The figures on hospital admissions need to be interpreted with caution. There is a high degree of volatility in the figures that could be normal, given that these are measures of short-term health, which can be affected by social and economic conditions and cycles, or by institutional policy changes. As well it will be noticed that the overall admission rates in these communities are higher than national averages, which would result from some institutions serving populations that extend beyond the municipal boundaries. The changes over time will be important to monitor. However, it is evident that hospital admissions in Canada decreased by approximately 17% (10,532 to 8,771 per 100,000 population) between 1991 and 1996. The QOL communities saw greater decreases, as much as 30% in Edmonton. The data for Winnipeg and Halifax are incomplete and should not be interpreted as an increase.

Work Hours Lost Due to Illness or Disability

The data on hours of work lost due to illness or disability (Table 6.5) illustrates that about 2% of work time is lost across Canada due to these causes. Workers over the age of 39 experience about 40% more lost hours than do their younger counterparts. This was reflected in most, but not all, communities. Toronto, Peel and Calgary enjoyed lower-than-average lost hours over 1996 and 1997.

16. Briefing material prepared by Bruce Rice, City of Regina.

Table 6.1 Infant Mortality Rate Per 1,000 Live Births, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991-1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996	5.5	6.0	4.9	6.4	3.5	5.5	4.4	3.6	5.9
1995	6.1	5.7	6.4	5.9	4.5	5.2	7.9	6.6	7.2
1994	6.3	6.8	6.	6.9	5.1	5.0	8.1	4.6	6.8
1993	6.3	6.9	6.9	6.3	4.6	5.7	6.7	4.3	10.2
1992	6.0	4.9	5.3	7.0	5.0	3.5	4.4	6.3	8.8
1991	6.4	5	6.2	7.1	5.3	5.7	4.9	3.9	12.3
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1996	5.5	5.8	6.0	8.5	6.8	5.5	5.4	4.3	6.4
1995	6.1	9.4	6.1	13.4	10.6	6.4	7.9	3.7	8.5
1994	6.3	4.1	5.5	7.0	9.7	7.0	7.6	8.9	10.7
1993	6.3	7.5	7.6	6.3	7.9	6.5	5.4	2.6	7.1
1992	6.0	7.0	6.0	5.9	8.4	6.9	8.2	4.6	11.1
1991	6.4	4.9	5.6	7.4	5.6	5.0	8.3	3.1	6.9

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)

Table 6.2: Percentage of Single Births Less Than 2,500 Grams to Total Single Births, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996	4.6	4.3	4.7	5.7	4.3	5.2	4.7	4.1	4.9
1991	4.6	4.7	4.8	5.4	4.0	4.8	5.2	3.7	5.1
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1996	4.6	4.6	4.9	4.1	4.4	5.2	5.6	5.0	4.8
1991	4.6	6.2	5.0	5.1	4.6	5.1	5.1	4.1	4.0

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)

Health of Community Measures: Premature Mortality*

Table 6.3a: Crude Premature Mortality Rates Per 100,000 Population, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996	671.3	678.7	587.2	598.2	567.4	568.9	677.7	658.4	670.5
1991	697.6	695.6	647.2	647.8	620.1	631.6	733.7	672.7	688.5

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Premature Mortality is defined as Mortality before the age of 75

Health of Community Measures: Premature Mortality*

Table 6.3b: Crude Premature Mortality Rates Per 100,000 Population, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1996	671.3	702.5	660.4	663.8	643.6	629.4	622.7	623.7	651.3
1991	697.6	747.4	698.6	667.2	658.1	651.2	664.7	636.0	683.3

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)

*Note: Premature Mortality is defined as Mortality before the age of 75

Health of Community Measures: Hospital Discharges

Table 6.4a: Hospital Discharges, Crude Rate Per 100,000 Population, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, Fiscal Year 1991/92, and Fiscal Year 1996/1997

	Canada	Halifax* Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Total									
1996/97	8,771.3	14,369.4	9,886.3	10,474.1	11,001.5	10,414.0	13,325.8	13,908.3	11,839.9
1991/92	10,532.5	9,976.2	12,780.4	12,546.4	13,890.6	13,046.2	15,852.5	17,606.9	15,074.8

*Note: Incomplete data
**Note: Vancouver data includes Burnaby
Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information

Health of Community Measures: Hospital Discharges

Table 6.4b: Hospital Discharges, Crude Rate Per 100,000 Population, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, Fiscal Year 1991/92, and Fiscal Year 1996/1997

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Total									
1996/97	10,532.5	19,973.9	6,945.7	22,150.0	19,548.3	17,720.0	17,021.2	18,955.0	18,955.0
1991/92	8,771.3	15,969.1	10,757.6	17,975.1	16,828.6	13,771.3	12,002.6	15,846.3	15,846.3

*Note: Incomplete data
**Note: Vancouver data includes Burnaby
Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information

Table 6.5 Hours Lost (Full or Part Week) Due to Illness or Disability as a Percentage of Total Actual Hours Worked at All Jobs, by Age, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1996 and 1997 Annual Averages

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1997									
15-39 years	1.7	1.7	1.3	0.9	0.0	0.7	2.3	2.0	1.5
40+ years	2.4	2.6	2.5	1.8	1.2	1.5	2.6	2.2	2.2
1996									
15-39 years	1.6	2.0	1.4	0.9	0.0	1.1	2.0	1.3	1.4
40+ years	2.2	2.5	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.7	2.1	2.3	1.7
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
1997									
15-39 years	1.7	3.0	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.6	1.5	0.0	1.9
40+ years	2.4	3.2	3.0	2.3	2.0	1.8	2.4	0.0	2.4
1996									
15-39 years	1.6	0.0	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.4	1.7	2.0	1.2
40+ years	2.2	0.0	2.5	1.7	3.3	1.3	2.1	0.0	2.1

Source: Labour Force Survey (Special Tabulations)

7. Community Safety Measures (CSM)

High on the list of concerns for people in all communities is to live in a place that is safe for them, for their children, and for vulnerable people. In an Environics survey carried out in Toronto in 1995[17], respondents identified the perception of safety as the most important quality of life indicator. The survey also identified that people feel subjectively that crime is an increasing threat, even though the objective crime rates do not necessarily correspond. The components of this measure reflect the major dimensions of crime and violence, as well (in future) as the subjective feeling of safety of people in the streets. They also include information on unintended injuries, and where possible, reports of fire damage, as dimensions of safety that are not necessarily associated with criminal or dysfunctional behavior.

Crime Rates Per 100,000 Residents

The crime rates in Tables 7.1a and 7.1b are based on the numbers of incidents reported to and confirmed by the police. They cover young offender charges, violent and property crimes. The Young Offender Crimes are based on charges, since they could not otherwise be confirmed. Therefore, they reflect charging policies as well as incidents. It is often reported that crime rates in Canada are going down, and this is certainly evident in the trends since 1991. However, the 1996 crime figures are not significantly different from the 1986 rates. (Property crimes are generally lower in 1996 than in 1986, while crimes of violence are still somewhat higher.) This may suggest that the variance may be somewhat cyclical in relation to economic trends, as well as being longer-term in relation to economic and demographic trends.

The incidence of crime is higher in large urban communities than is reflected in national averages. The numerical average of violent crime in the QOL communities in 1996 was 1,072 incidents per 100,000 population, down from 1,187 in 1991. The annual average number of property crimes was 7,012 in 1996, down from 8,067 in 1991. The community trends are in the same direction but incident levels are significantly higher. Toronto, York, Peel and Waterloo were the areas with lowest property crime rates, with York and Peel also well below average in violent crimes. The data should be interpreted with caution in areas such as Toronto where inner city rates are combined with those of surrounding communities.

Survey data that reports the incidence of people feeling more or less safe on the streets is not currently available on either a community or national basis. However, the high rates of crime in several of the major urban centres combined with increasing concern about homelessness, with the problems associated with providing for mentally ill people in the community environment, with public concerns about "squeegee kids" and other visible urban problems, may explain why people do not feel safe.

Recent federal government research has reported that since 1980, there has been a trend of increasing concentration of social problems (distressed neighbourhoods) in large urban Canadian communities.[18]

Injuries and Poisonings Per 100,000 Residents

The mortality-by-injury/poisoning data (Tables 7.2a and 7.2b) shows that accidental deaths are significant occurrences in these communities, and more so in the rest of Canada. For the most part, the QOL communities were below the national averages, with York Region having the best overall record. Vancouver was somewhat above the national average in 1991, but the figures for 1996 were below.

The non-fatal injury information tells a somewhat different story. The QOL communities are both above and below the national average, low around Toronto and Winnipeg, and generally higher toward the west. Again, only Halifax and Winnipeg saw increases between 1991 and 1996.

17. Environics Research Group, *Quality of Life in the GTA,* 1995.
18. Hatfield, Michael, *Concentrations of Poverty and Distressed Neighbourhoods in Canada,* Human Resources Development Canada, 1997.

Table 7.1a Crime Rates Per 100,000 Population for Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1986, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Young Offenders Charged									
1996	473	N/A	226	278	237	377	397	426	724
1991	611	635	395	496	449	413	400	635	897
1986	522	504	310	522	404	432	431	331	660
Crimes of Violence									
1996	973	N/A	1,105	1,027	470	645	1,339	720	913
1991	1,056	1,760	1,545	1,399	516	697	1,203	878	1,016
1986	782	1,005	875	951	305	679	1,177	776	856
Property Crimes									
1996	5193	N/A	7,058	4969	3165	3,700	5,201	4,493	6,475
1991	6143	11029	9139	6642	3925	4562	5850	5,459	7,017
1986	5528	9561	8,581	5507	3345	4261	5537	4902	7177

Table 7.1b Crime Rates Per 100,000 Population for Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1986, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Young Offenders Charged									
1996	473	399	649	1,219	1,091	681	568	222	234
1991	611	480	779	1,215	1,111	1,244	804	462	481
1986	522	536	1,049	752	850	392	259	478	390
Crimes of Violence									
1996	973	1,207	1,183	1,293	1,407	777	1,038	1,360	1,602
1991	1,056	1,260	978	981	1,083	1,106	1,522	1,484	1,571
1986	782	1,326	904	896	1,031	526	1,396	1,068	1,765
Property Crimes									
1996	5,193	5,940	6,520	10,444	7,487	5,596	6,102	11,887	16,154
1991	6143	6682	7483	10177	7,234	8,256	10,634	11,928	13,061
1986	5528	7071	9,316	10139	11109	5665	9,322	11306	12314

Source: Canadian Centre for Justice Information

7.2a Crude Mortality Rates Per 100,000 Population Due To Injury and Poisoning, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Injury and Poisoning									
1996	45.5	41.2	32.1	31.7	24.5	33.0	38.4	31.5	40.1
1991	47.2	41.3	36.4	35.1	28.0	34.3	38.8	33.0	25.4
% change	(4.1)	(0.2)	(13.3)	(10.7)	(14.2)	(3.9)	(1)	(4.7)	57.8

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Injury and Poisoning									
1996	45.3	47.3	36.9	40.8	42.7	38.5	51.3	26.6	34.0
1991	47.2	34.7	40.0	41.9	41.9	42.0	51.5	42.1	65.9
% change	(4.1)	36.3	(8.4)	(2.6)	1.9	(9.1)	(0.3)	(58.2)	(93.8)

Source: Statistics Canada Health Information Division (Special Tabulations)

7.2b Hospital Discharge Rates Per 100,000 Population Due To Injury and Poisoning, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991 and 1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Injury and Poisoning									
1996	690.1	1011.2	675.7	634.5	695.3	609.7	1024.2	1044.6	951.3
1991	816.2	992.9	861.5	755.2	873.7	817.0	1110.8	1209.0	1086.9
% change	(18.2)	1.8	(27.4)	(19.1)	(25.6)	(34.0)	(8.4)	(15.7)	(14.2)

	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby*	Vancouver
Injury and Poisoning									
1996	690.1	938.8	761.7	1455.1	1212.0	1222.3	1058.6	1452.9	1452.9
1991	816.2	1176.4	515.6	1626.8	1327.5	1585.4	1563.2	1722.0	1722.0
% change	(18.2)	(25.3)	47.7	(11.7)	(9.5)	(29.7)	(47.6)	(18.5)	(18.5)

Source: Canadian Institute for Health Information

*Note: Vancouver data includes Burnaby

8. Community Participation Measures (CPM)

This measure indicates the involvement of the population in the concerns of their community. They include political participation and democratic involvement, the health of civil society, support for community projects, and civic literacy. The indicators of this measure are by no means comprehensive, since this is a multi-faceted dimension of community life. Nevertheless they are indicators of what some analysts are coming to call "social capital"... the valuable, but hitherto non-quantified, interest in collective community benefit and contribution to social solidarity and cohesion.

Voter Turnout

The turnout of voters (Table 8.1) in large urban communities is low and in some cases decreasing, based on the incomplete data that has been assembled. For the federal election of 1993, only one community – York Region – had a voter turnout that exceeded the national average of 69.6% of eligible voters. All others were in the 60 to 69% range. In the 1997 election, only Ottawa-Carleton and Halifax exceeded the national average. The general trend was toward decreased participation, consistent with national statistics. On a national level, voter turnout has been steadily declining since the 1980s when about 75% of eligible voters cast a ballot in federal elections.[19] The turnout for provincial and municipal elections is generally lower than for the federal level elections.

Charitable Donations

One of the components of the indicator is tax-assisted charitable donations. Revenue Canada data on taxfilers contains records of claims made for charitable donations. Tables 8.2a and 8.2b shows average charitable donations per taxfiler and per donor for 1995, 1996 and 1997. This data is available only for the CMAs used by Statistics Canada, which means that data for York and Peel are buried in the Toronto CMA and Burnaby data is buried in the Vancouver CMA.

It is clear, though, that charitable donations per donor and per taxfiler are higher than the national average in most of the QOL communities. Kitchener had the highest average contribution per taxfiler in 1997, and the Toronto CMA had the highest average donation. The Kitchener figure implies that a larger percentage of the population actually gave to charities, as compared to Toronto where proportionately fewer but larger donations were made. Voluntary donations increased at a time when the predominant political message was a need for restraint, and while taxation levels were still being increased. It suggests that local communities have continued to be responsive to community need, even in times of economic stress. It will be encouraging to the local agencies in all communities that the average donation per donor is dramatically larger among older age groups than among the younger.

United Way Contributions Per Resident

The contributions made to United Way campaigns (Table 8.3) are an indicator of both the willingness of people to make a contribution toward broad community service needs, and of community capacity to organize a successful campaign. The United Way campaign totals have been divided by the number of residents, although in some instances the campaign area does not correspond exactly to municipal or regional boundaries. Therefore, it may be more useful to note changes in giving over time than to place much emphasis on the different rates of giving across various municipal governments.

Daily Newspaper Circulation

The reading of daily newspapers (Table 8.4) was adopted as a component because of its linkage to local civic knowledge. The figures in Table 8.4 suggest that newspaper circulation has been decreasing in recent years, in all of the participating communities for which figures were available. Windsor has consistently had the highest figures in this category, although readership has also been declining there.

19. Chief Electoral Officer of Canada, Official Voting Results, Thirty-sixth General Election, 1997, Table 4.

It is not clear why newspaper circulation is down, although it must be noted that circulation statistics are collected on a per-household basis. It is possible that the number of households has been increasing more rapidly than general population growth. This could be because there was a delay in the process of household formation during the high unemployment periods of the late 1980s and early 1990s, as under-employed young people opted to live with their parents. Consequently, during the 1990s, more young people have set up new households and perhaps they cannot afford newspaper subscriptions. As well, there is a trend to more people living alone as the population ages, thereby creating more (but smaller) households. The loss of income among lower-income groups may also have had an effect on newspaper subscription purchases. And, of course, television and the Internet have continued to increase their markets.

It should be noted that these figures may be misleading as community newspapers, which are another common source of civic information, are not included in the daily circulation statistics. This may be particularly true in ethnically diverse communities where the population may look to community newspapers for information in languages other than English or French.

Recycling: Number of Kilograms Per Resident, Per Year

Table 8.5 shows the number of kilograms of recyclable material collected per resident in 1997. The numbers range from a low of 39kg in Winnipeg to a high of 96 kg in Vancouver and Burnaby, with a concentration around the average of 61 kg. The variation in these figures shows that it would be useful to learn more about the factors that influence participation in recycling. The indicator is a measure not only of citizens' willingness to participate in recycling, but also of the priority placed on this by municipal and provincial governments and by the associated incentives/disincentives.

Table 8.1 Percentage of Voter Turnout, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, Federal and Municipal Elections, Various Years from 1991-1996

	Canada	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
Federal 1997	67	67.6	71.4	66.5	65.2	64.2	60.9	63.4	62.4
Federal 1993	69.6	61	69.5	67.2	70.1	68.4	67	65.2	64.7
Municipal 97/98			31.9	50.8		26.7	34.56	30.4	43.1
Municipal 94/96		31	39.0	36.3*		32.2	36.93	37.4	43.4
Municipal 91/94		37.5	41.0	43.0*		31.2	41.02	30.2	35.5
	Canada	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
Federal 1997	67	57.3	62.2	65.1	62.4	59.5	57.1	66.2	64
Federal 1993	69.6	60.7	67.2	69.5	66.9	64.6	61.9	66	63.8
Municipal 97/98		30.9	53.6	23.4	20.01		35.5		
Municipal 95-96		34.5	53.5	39.4		23.4	50.3	27.4	
Municipal 92/94			58.4			34.2	51.6	27.7	

Source: Elections Canada (federal elections); Municipal governments, (municipal information)
*Note: These figures are for the old City of Toronto

Community Participation Measures: Charitable Donations

Table 8.2a Charitable Donations, Canada and Selected CMAs, 1995 and 1997

	Canada	Halifax	Ottawa-Carleton	Toronto CMA (inc. York and Peel)	Hamilton-Wentworth CMA	Kitchener CMA (incl. Waterloo)	London CMA
Average Donation Per Donor 1997	810	750	810	1120	860	1040	890
Per Taxfiler 1997 ($)	210	200	260	290	260	330	280
Average Donation Per Donor 1995	650	570	610	820	710	810	730
Per Taxfiler 1995 ($)	180	170	210	220	220	270	240

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations)

Community Participation Measures: Charitable Donations

Table 8.2b Charitable Donations, Canada and Selected CMAs, 1995 and 1997

	Canada	Windsor CMA	Winnipeg CMA	Regina CMA	Saskatoon CMA	Calgary CMA	Edmonton CMA	Vancouver CMA (incl. Burnaby)
Average Donation Per Donor 1997	810	700	850	830	1090	1080	880	1060
Per Taxfiler 1997 ($)	210	230	260	250	310	300	230	260
Average Donation Per Donor 1995	650	610	700	670	850	730	730	810
Per Taxfiler 1995 ($)	180	210	230	220	250	240	210	200

Source: Statistics Canada Small Area and Administrative Data (Special Tabulations)

Community Participation Measures: United Way Donations Per Resident

Table 8.3 Per Capita Donations to the United Way, Canada and Selected Regional Municipalities and Municipalities, 1991 and 1996

	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1996 campaign receipts ($)	3,570.000	11,714,075	52,100,000	N/A	8,798,138	6,020,367	5,719,024	4,368,000
Per capita ($)	10.41	16.24	21.84	10.32	12.87	14.11	13.41	
1991 campaign receipts ($)	4,010,000	N/A	44,971,000	N/A	6,218,000	6,700,000	4,411,915	4,096,000
Per capita ($)	12.12	19.76	8.48	14.83	11.68	13.14		
	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby*	Vancouver*
1996 campaign receipts ($)	7,137,184	9,330,000	1,668,082	1,500,000	14,700,000	8,664,470	2,204,810	6,322,298
Per capita ($)	36.10	15.08	9.25	7.75	19.14	14.06	12.3	12.3
1991 campaign receipts ($)	5,995,030	8,238,000	1,687,801	1,147,000	10,500,000	7,632,108	1,683,000	4,996,827
Per capita ($)	31.31	13.39	9.42	6.16	14.77	12.37	10.59	10.59

Source: Local municipal governments and local United Ways.

*Note: Burnaby and Vancouver figures are derived from the Lower Mainland United Way campaign. A breakdown of figures on municipal boundaries is not available. Therefore, the same per capita contribution has been attributed to both communities.

Community Participation Measures: Daily Newspaper Circulation

Table 8.4 Percentage of Total Households Receiving Daily Newspapers, Selected Cities and Regions, 1995 and 1997

	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
1997	67.2	58.4	35.2	38.8	35.7	51.3	44.9	43.8
1995	66.5	68.9	40.5	39.9	40.3	62.8	58.4	48.4
	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby *	Greater Vancouver
1997	65.3	56.5	57.1	56.5	51.1	52.7	46.2	46.2
1995	82.1	68.2	66.1	64	59	63.6	54.3	54.3

Source: Audit Bureau of Circulations, Penetration Report

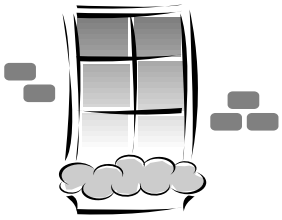
*Note: Burnaby data is included within Vancouver data

Community Participation Measures: Recycling (Number of Kilograms Per Resident, Per Year)

Table 8.5 Tonnage of Collected Recyclable Goods, Per Resident, 1997

	Average	Halifax Regional Municipality	Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	Toronto	York Regional Municipality	Peel Regional Municipality	Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	Waterloo Regional Municipality	London
kg collected per resident, 1997	61	N/A	62	51	N/A	61	56	61	49
	Average	Windsor	Winnipeg	Regina	Saskatoon	Calgary	Edmonton	Burnaby	Vancouver
kg collected per resident, 1997	61	59	39	75	N/A	51	41	96 (Greater Van.)	96 (Greater Van.)

Source: Association of Municipal Recycling Coordinators



The FCM Quality of Life
Reporting System

Quality of Life Report (QOL)

A Sample of Municipal Initiatives in Quality of Life Concerns

Appendix I

The following capsule descriptions of issues and activities are intended to provide a qualitative understanding of current roles and challenges of municipal government. They are part of the social and economic backdrop to the QOL Report, 1999, and illustrate municipal government action to provide a caring community base for the evolution of Canadian society.

Burnaby

Task Force on the Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution of Children and Youth

Burnaby Council established the Task Force on the Sexual Exploitation and Prostitution of Children and Youth in 1997, to develop a strategy to address the sexual exploitation of young people in the sex trade.

The Task Force report provides an overview of the issues facing sexually exploited children and youth, the legal context for prostitution, and services currently available for the target population in Burnaby. The report also provides several recommendations, relating to such matters as:

- developing a community education and awareness campaign
- modifying programs that take place at existing youth venues to strengthen connections with sexually exploited youth
- amending federal legislation in order to: a) help in securing prosecutions against those who sexually exploit children and youth, and b) make young witnesses feel safer and more comfortable with the criminal justice system
- developing a City bylaw to regulate businesses in which children and youth are likely to be sexually exploited
- developing protocols, policies, and procedures for service coordination and integration
- establishing an integrated and coordinated case-management system
  - developing an interconnected regional, provincial, and national tracking system for sexually exploited children and youth
  - establishing a provincial database of services for sexually exploited young people
  - creating new services to fill gaps in the service continuum
  - seeking provincial sponsorship of a study to determine numbers of sexually
  - exploited young people in BC

Council adopted the report's recommendations in the summer of 1998. Implementation is underway.

Community Amenity Bonus Program

In 1997, as part of its Community Amenity Bonus Program, the City of Burnaby introduced zoning bylaw changes that provided density bonuses for developments meeting certain specified criteria. Specifically, under the amendments, certain developments in the city's four town-centre areas could be eligible for additional density in exchange for providing affordable housing, special-needs housing, or other community amenities.

An example of a bonus rezoning is presently occurring in Burnaby's Brentwood Town Centre area. In exchange for additional density for a mixed-use project in the area, the developer has agreed to build four special-needs housing units, which will be provided at no cost to a non-profit society. The developer has also agreed to build, furnish, and equip a child care facility, which will be turned over to the City at no cost.

Child Care Planning Resource Package

To help address information requests, the Burnaby Child Care Resources Group, the City's advisory body on child care matters, decided to prepare a Planning Resource Package. The Package is intended to provide a user-friendly guide for groups and individuals considering starting or funding a child care facility in Burnaby. The Package addresses such questions as:

- what is the current child care situation in Burnaby?
- what do we know about demand for child care in the city?
- what type of funding is available?
- what does this mean for the planning of child care facilities?

London

Kids Count (Partners for Children's Health and Learning)

The Kids Count initiative is a coordinated effort to improve the health and learning opportunities of children and families in London's neighbourhoods. Parents, children, educators and other community resources identify and act on creative ideas for improving their communities and helping their children to be successful.

This effort currently involves 11 neighbourhood groups across London. A volunteer facilitator works with each neighbourhood group to help them focus and organize. Kids Count staff assist when groups need access to resources. Where "extra-neighbourhood" resources are required, the Resource Steering Committee looks for sustainable ways to help support the neighbourhood people. The Resource Steering Committee is composed of the following organizations:

- Local public and Catholic school boards, Human Resources Development Canada, Centre for Health and Well-Being, Children's Aid Society, City of London, Chamber of Commerce, London Investment in Education Council, Housing Authority, Police, Public Library, Health Unit, Ministry of Community and Social Services, St. Joseph's Health Centre, District Health Council and United Way.

The Kids Count initiative also has an evaluation component, which is tracking the longer term health and learning outcomes of children involved in the project neighbourhoods. London's Kids Count initiative won the Peter F. Drucker Award for Canadian Non-profit Innovation in 1997. It is well known for its strengths of bringing people together and helping them to tap into resources that already exist in the community.

Street Youth Services

The City of London commissioned a report entitled *An Assessment of Street Youth Needs in London, Ontario,* which was released in January of 1993. The goal of this research and the resulting report was to conduct a needs assessment of London's street youth population and to provide a series of recommendations based on the overall results of the research.

One of the results of this report was the opening of the Youth Action Centre (YAC). The YAC is a resource, information and referral service for street youth and at-risk youth aged 16 to 24 years. This centre is composed of a number of different components, including in-centre programming and activities, street outreach services, and a prevention education program.

These different components allow youth to connect with centre staff both in the community and at the centre. One of the strengths of the YAC is its ability to use core funding to attract community contributions (in the form of in-kind services, donations, grants, placement students and volunteers). In 1997-98 the community contributions to YAC totaled $134,000, more than matching the City's contribution of $100,000. YAC has developed and maintained partnerships with more than 30 of London's services agencies or resources, many of which provide on-site, in-kind resource staff.

The YAC is a current member of The START Guide Group, another innovative street youth initiative. The START Guide is a set of minimum standards for agencies which provide services to street youth. This guide was developed by the agencies themselves, and has been endorsed by London's City Council. The United Way and the City's Department of Community Services use membership in this group as a criterion for funding street youth service providers.

The City has recently commissioned another report that looks at youth in the downtown. A series of recommendations from this report will go to City Council for endorsement in December of 1999.

Winnipeg

Winnipeg Development Agreement, and Neighbourhood Revitalization Program

This example of intergovernmental cooperation and program coordination is having a positive impact on quality of life in Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Development Agreement (WDA) is a five-year, $75 million cost-shared program established by the governments of Canada, Manitoba, and Winnipeg to fund long-term, sustainable economic development in Winnipeg. Its city-wide strategy focuses on three areas: labour force development, strategic and sectoral investment, and the development and security of Winnipeg communities.

Examples of programs and projects funded include:

The Neighbourhood Revitalization Program

The Neighbourhood Revitalization Program is a $4 million sub-program under the Community Development and Security Component of the Winnipeg Development Agreement. The Program capitalizes on partnerships in the coordination of resources using a Neighbourhood Resource model of service delivery. Funded by the City, the Program targets two high-risk neighbourhoods, Spence and Lord Selkirk, for the establishment of resource centres. Fundamental to the program has been community involvement in the identification of neighbourhood issues in the planning and implementation process. City staff, in partnership with the Spence and Lord Selkirk Neighbourhood Councils, have developed strategies for each neighbourhood. The Councils are neighbourhood committee made up of homeowners, tenants, landlords, business owners, and cultural representatives from the neighbourhood and vicinity. Issues chosen to be worked on are housing, safety, employment, and neighbourhood image.

The Resource Centres, staffed by an interdisciplinary team of City employees, serve as a focal point of access to information, services and assistance customized to the needs of local residents and businesses. City Departments currently involved include: Social Services, Community Services (Environmental Health, Library, Recreation), Property Development, Police, Fire and Ambulance.

The Resource Centre in the Spence Area (Magnus Eliason Recreation Centre) celebrated its grand opening October 2,1998, and the Lord Selkirk Neighbourhood Centre is in the development phase. An example of services and programs offered in the Spence Area Centre include: Job Finding Clubs, Employment Readiness Groups, TERF (Training and Employment Resources for Females), Healthy Start for Mom and Me (prenatal program for low-income, at-risk teens), N.A. (Narcotics Anonymous Recovery Group), Nobody's Perfect Parenting Program, Recreation Services (youth drop-in), jazz dance lessons, karate, basketball, powwow, Homework/Reading Circle, and Men's Support Parenting Group.

Employment Equity

Funding has been provided for a pilot project that will enhance recreation service employment opportunities for city Aboriginal youth. The project was a joint proposal from the Centre for Aboriginal Human Resource Development (CAHRD) and the City's Community Services Department.

Neeginan Project

The North Main and Aboriginal communities received funding of up to $700,000 to complete the Neeginan Medicine Wheel Plaza and Neeginan Park at Main Street and Higgins Avenue. The WDA is also providing and additional $50,000 for the North Main initiative to attract business investors and to encourage revitalization. The Neeginan ("Our Place" in Cree) project is part of the North Main revitalization initiative focused on revitalizing the North Main area in Winnipeg. The Neeginan initiative will contribute greatly a positive future for both the Aboriginal community and the Main Street area. The Neeginan project includes a Round House, sweat lodge, art gallery and other amenities. It is planned as an Aboriginal cultural and spiritual centre, and will be a meeting place for

people of all cultures. Development of the North Main area through increased business investment is expected to significantly add to the economic, physical and social improvement of the neighbourhood. This project is in the development phase.

URBAN SAFETY

- *COUNTERACTION*
  This program is designed to be an entertaining, informative and digital-age approach to providing businesses with crime prevention information (on CD-ROM). Counter Action has quickly become a focal point for virtually everything related to business crime avoidance, from thwarting shoplifting and internal pilfering to avoiding robberies. Since its inception, more than 900 businesses, with a total of over 8,000 employees, have received Counter Action training. The program runs in concert with a database created to provide businesses with current crime-related information.

- *THE CIRCUS AND MAGIC CAMP PROJECT*
  This unique program works a quiet magic of its own at-risk inner-city youth. Professionals teach the young participants how to juggle, perform and do circus tricks. In the process, the students learn something invaluable – self-esteem. The program helps participants build strong and healthy bonds with their peers, steering them away from crime. The program ran last summer at the Freight House, and organizers and community members said it has had a real impact on the lives of the youth and the community.

- *CHOICES YOUTH PROGRAM*
  The Choices Youth Program started in January 1997 and brings several components together to offer a myriad of opportunities to at-risk youth and their families. The intent is to help people build lives and make positive decisions through instruction areas such as anger management and conflict resolution. This program has helped numerous youth involved in gangs to leave that life behind and to become active in more productive ways. The program involves the Winnipeg Police, the City's Community Services Department, MacDonald Youth Services, Boys and Girls Clubs, Human Resources Development Canada, Winnipeg Child Guidance Clinic, Community and Youth Corrections and Winnipeg School Division #1.

  The City is currently looking at WDA proposals regarding housing initiatives, focused on addressing the problems associated with decaying housing in the inner city.

Regional Municipality of Peel

The Region Municipality of Peel is located west of the City of Toronto and is made up of three municipalities; Brampton, Mississauga and the Town of Caledon. The Region has experienced tremendous growth over the past ten years, almost three times the national average growth rate. The growth and development, both residential and business, results from persons migrating to Peel from other areas of Canada and from other countries for employment and family reasons. Peel has become a highly multi-cultural community that requires specialized services for language instruction, settlement and integration and culturally appropriate social and health services. Peel residents benefit from a strong economy, and the diversity of languages, cultures and skills. However, Peel is experiencing many problems due to rapid growth, which are affecting the quality of life of its residents.

The Region has a higher percentage of children less than 15 years than the rest of Canada and yet is not able to provide the necessary social and health services to respond to the needs of this population. Peel does not get the same funding on a per capita basis from the Province of Ontario for social and mental health services for children and families, in part because funding arrangements have not adapted to this growth. The Region of Peel's public and separate School Boards educate a total 184,000 children and youth, 20% of whom are taught in portable structures due to lack of adequate accommodation.

In addition, the Region has a growing seniors population and long term care is a concern. Peel currently has one of the lowest beds per capita ratios in the province.

This rate of growth also strains the transportation systems for those living and working in the community and those coming into Peel for employment.

Initiatives

- A Woman Abuse Protocol has been developed by a collaborative group of 30 agencies serving women and their children who have or are experiencing violence. The protocol coordinates agencies to ensure one intake process, a seamless referral system, properly trained staff, and consistent information from the justice system

- The Region has an interagency coalition on homelessness and a high-level political task force to address the issue of homelessness. Regional government has taken the lead and has partnered with local community groups and agencies to provide an outreach program and this year an "out of the cold" shelter. Plans are in place to invest more resources into a number of services and approaches to deal with the various levels of homelessness.

- The Trillium Health Centre in Mississauga recently opened a sexual assault and domestic violence centre, named Chantel's Place. Certified sexual assault nurse examiners collect necessary evidence. Specially trained doctors and social workers provide the appropriate medical care and counseling. Services are available to individuals 12 and older and potentially will serve younger victims in the future.

- Peel Regional Police has a specialized child abuse team that provides expertise and sensitivity to child victims. A state of the art studio for videotaping the investigative interviews of child victims and witnesses is utilized.

- A one stop shopping place for all social and subsidized housing in Peel is available – the Peel Access to Housing, Coordinated Access System. A person or family needs to make only one application for subsidized housing and will be placed on the list for all of the various housing projects, cooperatives and the Peel Living and Peel Housing Authorities.

- One of the Region's long-term care facilities, Sheridan Villa, operated by Regional Social Services has implemented an innovative horticultural program for improving the quality of life for residents with Alzheimer's and dementia. A small, crowded greenhouse will soon be replaced with a completely enclosed outdoor garden in which residents can walk in safety and security while getting the sights, smells and sounds of nature and doing their part to maintain it.

Windsor

Healthy Community Initiative

For the past five years, the City of Windsor Social Services Department has been involved in introducing the Healthy Community Concept and Initiatives to the Windsor Area. The community vision of creating and maintaining safe, caring, and diverse neighbourhoods gave impetus to the Healthy Community movement in the City. That resulted in the establishment of two important local programs – Ready-Set-Go, and Project Work and Learn.

Ready-Set-Go, a neighbourhood program, arose from a healthy community interagency partnership that promotes not only the meeting of children's basic needs, but also a community that nurtures, supports, and educates children so that they will be able to sustain a healthy community for generations to come.

The goal of the program is to support parents and families with young children from birth to six years of age in Windsor's downtown core area. This area has been identified as a community at risk because of a poor socio-economic base, a high percentage of sole lone-parents, and a higher rate of crime than other city neighbourhoods.

The objectives are to:

- provide opportunities for parents to celebrate parenting
- promote healthier parent child relationships
- seek and value the voices of all parents from all cultures
- create a caring neighbourhood for children and parents
- inform parents about community resources for children from birth to six years of age
- provide ongoing educational training opportunities for the Coalition members

In support of the program, City Council approved $20,000 in funding and the use of a city-owned house. Subsequently, the federal government also approved funding in the amount of $220,000 per year for at least the next two years, at which time further funding will be reviewed.

In its first month of service to the community, commencing November 1, 1998, Ready-Set-Go is working directly with eight families and sixteen children. Strengthening these families during the earliest years of their children's development will improve the children's physical and emotional well-being and their intellectual capacity.

Project Work and Learn

Based on the Healthy Community model, the City of Windsor Social Services Department has conceived a Personal and Family Strengthening Continuum that involves a number of steps to engage social assistance recipients in a confidence- and competence-building strategy, beginning at the neighbourhood level involving volunteer activities and ending in the community with job placement. Because social assistance recipients vary substantially in their degree of job readiness, a personal and family strengthening continuum is essential for providing a staged approach to support the individuals' paths to independence.

The Personal and Family Strengthening Continuum sets goals at each step and specifies activities for participants to engage in so as to achieve those goals. These activities are provided through various programs offered by the Department, as well as within the community. One such program is Project Work and Learn.

Project Work and Learn focuses on lone-parents and intensifies the usage of municipal child care centres as the means to increase social development, not only for children but also their parents. By engaging the parents to learn transferable skills in a nurturing environment that encompasses positive caregiver role models, the whole family is strengthened in a way that will better enable those parents not only to obtain employment but also to sustain it.

City of Toronto

Increasingly, municipalities are responding to public concerns over a broad range of issues that directly influence the quality of life in their communities. These issues include increasing levels of urban poverty and homelessness, rising difficulties in the provision of responsive emergency care services, reduced access to health care and social supports, and mounting fears of escalating youth violence.

The new City of Toronto has an interest in the quality of life of all its residents. It established a number of issue-specific task forces and committees to develop strategies and action plans to address priorities for the new City. These include the Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force, the Children and Youth Committee, the Seniors Task Force, the Task Force on Community Safety, the Task Force on Community Access and Equity, and the Environmental Task Force.

Mayor's Homelessness Action Task Force

The Mayor of Toronto established the Homelessness Action Task Force in January 1998 in response to public concern about the growth of homelessness in Toronto. The Task Force was chaired by the President of the United Way of Greater Toronto, Dr. Anne Golden, and consisted of a representative from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, from Dixon Hall (a community-based multi-service centre), and from the Monarch Development Corporation (a private housing developer). The Task Force consulted with key stakeholders from the housing and emergency hostel sectors, local and provincial government, community-based social service providers, local planning organizations and information centres, the public health and broader health care sector, and the community.

The Task Force had a mandate to develop both short-term proposals for emergency services and long-term solutions for health and mental health services, housing support, housing supply and housing affordability. To do so, the Task Force undertook an analysis each of these issue areas, conducting targeted research, identifying respective problems, reviewing current services and programs, identifying service gaps and recommending changes. The Task Force released a final report, *Taking Responsibility for Homelessness: An Action Plan for Toronto,* in January 1999.

The report outlines the complexity of homelessness, identifies the major barriers that prevent effective solutions, and recommends actions to eliminate these barriers. The action plan calls for each order of government, as well as the private and community-based, to sectors to take responsibility for addressing homelessness. The 105 recommendations of the Task Force include actions to simplify and coordinate the service system, to implement specific strategies for high-risk subgroups vulnerable to homelessness, to introduce prevention strategies, to develop a comprehensive health strategy for homeless people, to address the supportive housing needs of vulnerable populations, and to strengthen opportunities for developing affordable housing.

Over the next few months, Toronto Council will review the recommendations and make final decisions on approved action steps.

Task Force on Community Safety

At its inaugural meeting in 1998, Toronto Council established a Task Force on Community Safety in response to public fears about crime. The Task Force was co-chaired by Councillors Rob Davis and Brad Duguid, and drew representation from the police, school boards, neighbourhood crime prevention groups, business, agencies working to prevent family violence, ethno-specific and multicultural agencies, organizations working with at-zrisk children and youth, youth-led organizations, and organizations serving people with disabilities.

The Task Force undertook extensive consultation with over 1,000 Toronto organizations and citizens. The consultation processes included a community safety survey distributed to over 6,500 individuals and community organizations throughout the city, interviews with city councillors, 20 public meetings across the city, presentations to the Task Force from local and international experts in the field of crime prevention and on corporate best practices, and a conference in November 1998, "Community Spirit Equals Community Safety", which brought together 250 Toronto residents to share ideas and to comment on the draft recommendations.

From these consultations, the Task Force heard about community concerns regarding crime in the city, it reviewed existing and potential community safety resources, and it identified ideas and priorities for action and possible partnerships. The final report of the Task Force, Toronto, *My City. Safe City.*, was released in February 1999, presenting 35 recommendations for action. The recommendations focused on strengthening neighbourhoods, investing in children, youth and families, strengthening policing and justice through community action, improving information and coordination, and making it happen through implementation, evaluation and monitoring.

Toronto Council recently adopted the recommendations of the Task Force. Council agreed that safety must be a high priority in the City's strategic plan, and it established a committee to implement the recommendations.

Environmental Task Force

The Environmental Task Force was established in March 1998 to respond to the city's environmental challenges. The Task Force is chaired by City Councillor Jack Layton. Membership includes representatives from city council, academic institutes, staff and students of school boards, senior staff from the City's Works and Emergency Services, the provincial Ministry of Environment, the Toronto and Regional Conservation Authority and the Toronto Environmental Alliance/Toronto Atmospheric Fund.

As part of its mandate, the Task Force will make recommendations on the legislative, managerial and political structures required to ensure that environmental considerations are part of the foundation of the corporation and community foundation. The Task Force will review existing information (relevant reports, policies, programs, practices and bylaws) or conduct research, if required, on environmental and related health conditions. Citizens and key stakeholders will participate in the development of the Plan. The Task Force will build on existing environmental knowledge, experience and on work already done by the former seven municipalities that comprise the new City and by the community-based sector. Some of the proposed work areas are: sustainable transportation, sustainable energy use, green space/nature and water action, green economic development, and education/awareness and communication.

Toronto Council expects the Task Force to create a comprehensive Environmental Plan for the new City of Toronto. The Plan will provide general policy directions and specific strategies to make Toronto a leader in environmental action and will include measurable targets for environmental quality and performance. It will reflect best practices as well as internationally recognized standards that can be implemented within the city. The Environmental Plan will also serve as the basis for the environmental elements of the City's Official and Strategic Plans.

The Environmental Task Force has recently released a discussion document, *Towards Advanced Environmental Decision Making in the City of Toronto,* which suggests how environmental issues should be addressed within the new City government.

Seniors' Task Force

In March 1998 the Seniors' Task Force was established. Its mandate is to develop appropriate structures to advise Toronto Council on issues affecting seniors and to involve seniors in this process, to ensure that policies, programs and services developed and delivered by the City meet the needs of seniors, to value the involvement of seniors in the life of the City, to identify a role for the City in the International Year of Older Persons in 1999, and to provide a process for rationalization of all previous municipal seniors' committees in the former seven municipalities that amalgamated to become the new City of Toronto. The Task Force is chaired by City Councillor Anne Johnston, and is composed of city councillors and senior citizens representing the six amalgamated geographic areas of the new City.

The Task Force consulted with seniors, representatives of senior organizations and associations, and agencies serving seniors across Toronto. Approximately 39 consultations were held, hearing from over 1,000 key stakeholders, including several simultaneously translated workshops with a number of linguistic communities (Chinese, Italian, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish and Tamil). In addition, dedicated telephone and fax lines, as well as e-mail access and general mailings, were available to Toronto's senior residents who wished to voice their concerns to the new City.

A number of issues have been raised by Toronto's seniors that require attention: access to information, health and health service needs of seniors, accessible transportation, affordable housing, funding of seniors' services, and program user fees. The final report of the Task Force is expected in the next few months, with recommendations for action to address seniors' needs.

Task Force on Community Access and Equity

Toronto Council established the Task Force on Community Access and Equity in March 1998 to identify the necessary policies, structural functions, program priorities and evaluation processes with which the City can strengthen civil society. The Task Force addressed the needs of those facing barriers to full participation in the life of the community: women, ethno-racial and linguistic communities, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgendered persons, immigrants, refugees, and various faith communities. The Task Force investigated how to strengthen community involvement and public participation in the decision-making processes of the municipality, particularly for equity-seeking communities; how to continue linking and partnering with other institutions and agencies, as well as with the community, in initiatives supporting access and equity; how to ensure that the

contributions, interests and needs of all sectors of Toronto's diverse population are reflected in the City's mission, operation and service delivery; and how to continue the City's leadership in the community as a model employer with a workforce that reflects the diversity of its residents and that follows fair and equitable employment practices.

The Task Force is chaired by City Councillor Joe Mihevc and co-chaired by Gloria Fallick and Sylvia Maracle, both with extensive experience in the community-based sector. Members of the Task Force include representation from City Council, community-based sector and the community. The work of the Task Force included reviewing all submissions to the former provincially established Toronto Transition Team on access and equity, conducting an inventory of access/equity policies, programs, resources, activities and achievements from all the former seven municipalities within the Toronto region, identifying best practices, and establishing benchmarks on effective access/equity programs. The Task Force conducted almost 60 consultations at various stages of its work, received over 50 briefs, submissions and/or presentations, and received 16 studies or reports from senior staff of the City.

The Task Force released its draft report, *Diversity Our Strength, Access and Equity Our Goal,* in January 1999. The report made 80 recommendations related to proposed access and equity structures or committees for the new City, Aboriginal self-determination, disability access, advocacy and partnership, civic appointments, participation and communications, services and planning, employment and leadership, employee consultation, complaints, the building and supporting of economic and community capacity, monitoring and evaluation, and organizational structure and resources. Presentations are now being made to the Community Councils of Toronto Council and to the community, and appropriate responses are being sought from the community and from within the City corporation. A final report is to be released by the Task Force in the next several months.

Children and Youth Advocate/Children and Youth Action Committee

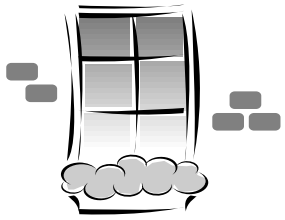
In January 1998 Toronto Council established the position of Children and Youth Advocate and created the Children and Youth Action Committee. Council also committed to implementing a children's strategy based on the 35 recommendations in the 1997 report of the Metro Task Force on Services to Young Children and Families, *The First Duty*.

City Councillor Olivia Chow holds the position of Advocate and chairs the Children and Youth Action Committee. The Advocate and Committee have monitored child and youth issues in the city, raised public awareness of child and youth needs, and started to develop a plan to improve children's health and well-being. Activities over the past year have included the development of an annual report card on the status of children (scheduled for release in May 1999), the establishment of the Children's Advocate Award for Best Practices (includes $5000 prize for a program or organization that is selected as a leader and innovator in providing services to children and families), the establishment of a Youth Council, the development of a Youth Profile, the securing of City funding for a squeegee diversion strategy and the initiation and management of the Civic Rights of Passage project, aimed at empowering youth to participate in issues that affect them.

Most importantly, a Toronto Children's Charter has been adopted by City Council. The Charter speaks to the entitlements of children, including a standard of living adequate to ensure healthy physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development, well-being, and a good quality of life; the right to be served by governments that acknowledge their responsibility to improve the health and well-being of children and that work cooperatively to ensure adequate and equitable funding for children's programs; and the right to be protected from physical, psychological, and sexual abuse, both in and out of the home.

In addition to these initiatives, the new City of Toronto is creating its collective vision through the development of its Official Plan. Preliminary work on the Official Plan has recognized that the quality of life enjoyed in the City of Toronto requires nurturing and reinvestment on the part of both the public and the private sectors. Reinvesting in the City's quality of life will be an organizing theme of the new Official Plan. The sustaining of an enhanced quality of life requires improved economic competitiveness, which influences rising prosperity and, in turn, promotes reinvestment in the community, the environment and the economy. The final result is an enhanced quality of life for Toronto's communities. The role of the Official Plan is to launch this cycle by setting objectives, identifying opportunities, and fostering reinvestment in the community, environment and economy. The Plan will address social, economic and environmental objectives for reinvestment, and will give direction to Council in its capital budget deliberations.

The new Official Plan will also need to build bridges to neighbouring communities. The City understands the need for a healthy regional economy and a more sustainable plan for accommodating expansion of the urbanized region. Toronto's Official Plan must address the new regional context in which it plans for investment, physical and social change.



The FCM Quality of Life
Reporting System

Quality of Life Report (QOL)

Members of Quality of Life
Technical Team

Appendix II

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