



Measuring
Wellbeing
Creating
Change

SOUTH OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN'S

VitalSigns[®]

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Message from the Chair

This is the third Vital Signs report produced by the Community Foundation of the South Okanagan | Similkameen.

The goal of Vital Signs is to highlight bright spots in our communities as well as areas where improvement is needed. It's all about measuring wellbeing and inspiring change.

The Community Foundation is committed to the process of engaging local citizens to build better communities. Sometimes this means collecting and managing endowment funds that provide grants to local charities. Sometimes it means acting as a neutral convenor to bring various parties together to talk about how to create lasting change.

It may also mean that we work to inspire citizens to give something in support of their community. Whether a person gives their time, treasure, or talent is not the issue. Giving something to better your community is the goal.

That's why this year's Vital Signs report features our newest initiative called "3 Things". These are three very simple ideas to help you take action to make a positive difference in your community. We hope you're motivated by our list and create a 3 Things list of your own that is unique to you. You will be hearing more about "3 Things" in the coming year from us.

Imagine if we each used Vital Signs to learn about our communities and then did just 3 Things to make it better. It starts with each of us.



Susan Kelly, President of
the Board of CFSOS



Kim Lyster, Vice President
& Vital Signs Chair

How to Read This Report

Issue Areas

This report covers 11 Issue Areas that should be considered when assessing the overall health and vitality of a community.



Survey Grade

Citizens throughout the RDOS completed the survey measuring 11 issue areas on the following 6 point scale:

- A+ Awesome! Our community is doing great!
- A We're doing well and headed in the right direction.
- B Progress is being made.
- C Some progress is being made, but not quickly enough.
- D Of concern, we need to focus on this.
- F In dire need of immediate corrective action.

The grade shown is the median score from all responses. If the median score received less than 40% of responses then the grade shown is a combination of the two most popular responses ("B+", for example).

Not all respondents completed every question. Survey grades are not intended to be statistically significant, but rather to give a sense of public opinion on a specific issue.

Research Findings

The statistics were collected with the assistance of Community Foundations of Canada and the Centre for the Study of Living Standards. Reliable sources such as Statistics Canada were used with an emphasis on the most current and geographically specific data possible. Note: Where statistics are older than 2011 it is due to limited results available from the 2011 census.

Education is an important determinant of an individual's success in life. High school completion rates and plans for higher education are on the increase. Partnerships between schools, community resources and families assist students who are showing signs of stress, anxiety and mental disabilities.

How we are helping

In 2014 the Community Foundation granted over \$7,000 to the En'owkin Centre to provide traditional land-based learning experiences that feature 5y/6s (Okanagan) Indigenous Aboriginal perspectives, values and practices as part of enhanced curriculum for K-12 learners from public schools and band-operated schools throughout the Okanagan region.

In 2015, the Community Foundation awarded \$48,000 in bursaries and scholarships throughout the region.

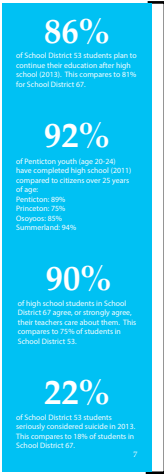
Citizen Feedback

"I have noticed a high number of people have low literacy. More could be done in the area of lining up the right skills with the right jobs. Sad to see such a low university attainment in Penticton and surrounding areas. Happy to see the expansion of Okanagan College, but there needs to be more trades and technical training offered."

"One of the few areas where resources and progress is equal to other areas in BC."



1. Volunteer at your children's school.
2. Visit your local library and borrow a book, audio book, or movie.
3. Expand your horizons! Take a course at Okanagan College.



3 Things

Making communities stronger is hard work. The 3 Things section suggests some easy ways that you can make a difference in your community.

Citizen Feedback

Hundreds of comments were received from citizens throughout the South Okanagan/Similkameen. This section provides a sample of those comments.

Survey Responses

The 2015 Vital Signs survey received more than 1500 responses from residents throughout the region.

Where respondents live:

Cawston	27	Hedley	27
Kaleden	21	Keremeos	46
Naramata	107	Okanagan Falls	42
Olalla	6	Oliver	229
Osoyoos	79	Penticton	626
Princeton	45	Summerland	158
Other	49		

Demographic profile:

- 70% female; 28% male; 2% didn't answer
- 59% married
- 65% have no dependent children
- 54% over 55 years old
- 32% are between 35-54 years old
- 12% are under 34 years old

The Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen provides support to charities throughout the Regional District of the Okanagan Similkameen (RDOS).

Regional Profile

RDOS Quick Facts:

Geographic Area	10,400 km ²
Total Population	80,742
City of Penticton	32,877
District of Summerland	11,280
Town of Oliver	4,824
Town of Osoyoos	4,845
Town of Princeton	2,724
Village of Keremeos	1,330
Electoral Area A	1,892
Electoral Area B	1,140
Electoral Area C	3,473
Electoral Area D	5,717
Electoral Area E	1,844
Electoral Area F	2,100
Electoral Area G	2,314
Electoral Area H	1,768
Indian Bands	2614



Okanagan Health Service Delivery Area (OHSDA)

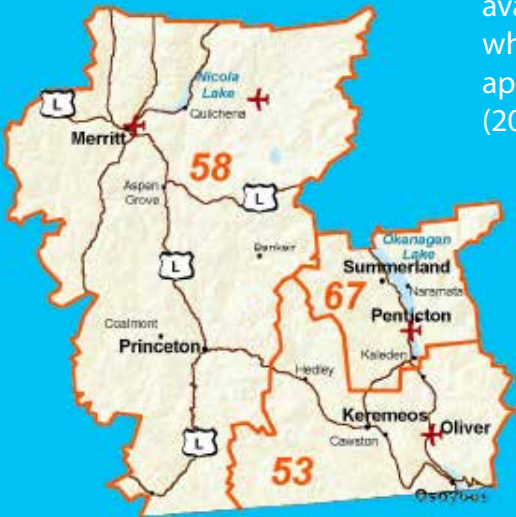
Some statistics are only available for the OHSDA, which has a population of approximately 341,820 people (2011).

School Districts

53, 58, 67

Many of the Learning statistics are available by School District (SD). The number of students in each district is as follows (2014/15):

SD 53	2,400
SD 58	2,419
SD 67	5,757



LEARNING



Carmi Elementary students enjoying a healthy breakfast before school.

Education is an important determinant of an individual's success in life. High school completion rates and plans for higher education are on the increase. Partnerships between schools, community resources and families assist students who are showing signs of stress, anxiety and mental disabilities.

How we are helping

In 2014 the Community Foundation granted over \$7,000 to the En'owkin Centre to provide traditional land-based learning experiences that feature Syilx (Okanagan) Indigenous Aboriginal perspectives, values and practices as part of enhanced curriculum for K-12 learners from public schools and band-operated schools throughout the Okanagan region.

In 2015, the Community Foundation awarded \$48,000 in bursaries and scholarships throughout the region.

Citizen Feedback

"I have noticed a high number of people have low literacy. More could be done in the area of lining up the right skills with the right jobs. Sad to see such a low university attainment in Penticton and surrounding areas. Happy to see the expansion of Okanagan College, but there needs to be more trades and technical training offered."

.....

"We have well educated seniors who are looking for a wide range of courses of interest to them."

1. Volunteer at your children's school.
2. Visit your local library and borrow a book, audio book, or movie.
3. Expand your horizons! Take a course at Okanagan College.



www.cfso.net/3things

86%

of School District 53 students plan to continue their education after high school (2013). This compares to 81% for School District 67.

92%

of Penticton youth (age 20-24) have completed high school (2011) compared to citizens over 25 years of age:
Penticton: 89%
Princeton: 75%
Osoyoos: 85%
Summerland: 94%

90%

of high school students in School District 67 agree, or strongly agree, their teachers care about them. This compares to 75% of students in School District 53.

22%

of School District 53 students seriously considered suicide in 2013. This compares to 18% of students in School District 67.

HEALTH & WELLNESS



Survey Grade
B+

Members of the YES Project collaborated with Shaw TV and the Child & Youth Mental Health & Substance Use Collaborative to produce a video addressing youth mental health.

Contrary to survey results, statistical data indicate negative trends for physical health (overweight, obesity and diabetes) and mental health. Every community in our region reported higher incidences of anxiety, depression and diabetes than in 2011. The data suggest that we need to do more to promote and support health and wellness.

How we are helping Citizen Feedback

In 2014 the Community Foundation granted over \$16,000 to the Henning Emergency Clinic of Kindness to help fund the opening of a low-income/no cost dental clinic for low income individuals and families in the South Okanagan Similkameen.

In 2015 the Community Foundation granted \$3,000 to the Food Foresters Society of Canada to transform an un-used, publicly owned property into a gardening eco-space where food bearing plants are planted in a natural woodland area.

“Issues of family breakdown are not considered at either end of the scale: elderly with no family support; young families where both parents have to work and have little support causing stress and family breakdown. The importance of the family structure is not supported.”

• • • • •

“Children’s mental health is grossly under-served in our schools and community.”

1. Make 30-60 minutes of activity a protected priority in your life.
2. Feeling depressed or stressed? Share your feelings with family, friends or professionals.
3. Tackle obesity: start or join a support group.



www.cfso.net/3things

54%

of residents in our health region self-reported as overweight or obese in 2013 compared to 51% in 2012.

35%

of Penticton residents report suffering from depression or anxiety (2013) vs. 34% in 2011.

	2013	2011
Summerland:	33%	31%
Oliver/Osoyoos:	31%	29%
Keremeos:	27%	24%
Princeton:	36%	33%
BC:	25%	24%

13%

of Oliver/Osoyoos residents reported being diabetic in 2013 vs. 12% in 2011.

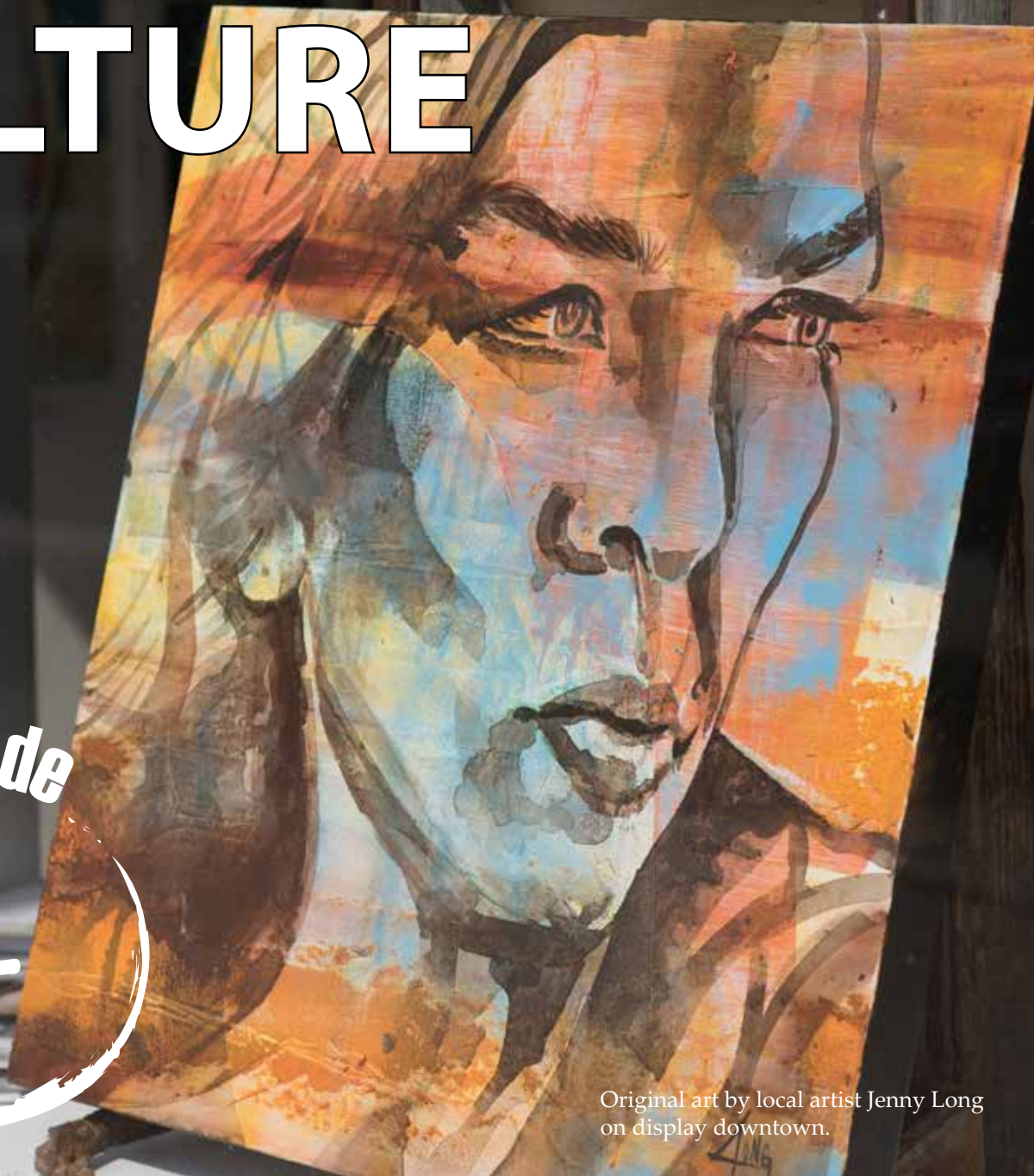
	2013	2011
Summerland:	9%	8%
Penticton:	9%	8%
Keremeos:	11%	9%
Princeton:	11%	10%
BC:	8%	8%

16%

of residents in our health region reported as being smokers in 2013 compared to 21% in 2011. The BC average has actually increased from 14% in 2011 to 16% in 2013.

ARTS & CULTURE

Survey Grade
A-



Original art by local artist Jenny Long
on display downtown.

Local citizens feel strongly that arts & culture activities are plentiful in our region, but that there are cost barriers to these activities for lower income families and children. The future success of our region's museums, art galleries, and libraries is dependent on local citizens continuing to enjoy their services even with competition from on-line sources.

How we are helping Citizen Feedback

In 2015 the Community Foundation provided a grant to the SS Sicamous Marine Heritage Society to repair the SS Naramata, the last remaining steam tug boat in the interior of BC.

The SS Naramata played an important part in the history of the Okanagan Valley and in shaping the local economy. Once the steam tug is repaired the ship can be returned to water and will be properly preserved for future generations.

"The area offers plenty of options especially in summer months. More activities in the winter should be encouraged. More engagement with aboriginal people and their culture should continue."



"Costs are often too high for our youth/ schools/ under privileged to attend arts and cultural performances."



www.cfso.net/3things

1. Make a point of purchasing the work of a local artist.
2. Sign up for an art class or something creative you always wanted to try.
3. Attend free outdoor concerts in your community.

13,000

of visits to the Penticton Museum in 2014 compared to 20,100 visits in 2012. 2014 visits for other museums:

Summerland	2,331
Oliver	855
Osoyoos	1,899
Keremeos	253
Princeton	2,400

9,521

of visits to the Penticton Art Gallery in 2014 vs. 9,753 in 2013. The Osoyoos Art Gallery reported 5,015 visitors in 2014 vs. 4,030 in 2013. The Summerland Art Gallery reported 2,964 in 2014 vs. 2,597 in 2013.

\$5.09

in BC Gaming grants per capita to Arts organizations in Penticton vs. \$5.49 per capita in 2012. 2014 grants per capita for other communities:

Summerland	\$7.13
Osoyoos	\$4.70
Keremeos	\$7.51
Princeton	\$3.67

7.6%

decline in visits to the Okanagan Regional Library branches within the region from 2012 to 2014. Total visits to the Penticton Library declined 6.7% during the same time.

BELONGING & LEADERSHIP

Survey Grade
B-

Canadian National Institute for the Blind staff member Lorena Ordonez assists Vivek Patel at cookie making.

Feeling a sense of belonging to a community, culture or cause is an important human need. The health of a community is enhanced when citizens feel connected to each other and to their community. This sense of belonging encourages people to contribute to the well-being of others, to volunteer, and to be more welcoming of newcomers.

How we are helping Citizen Feedback

In 2015 the Community Foundation granted \$5,000 to Recreation Penticton to create Radar, a youth diversity program that aims to create a sense of belonging for youth of all identities, while providing a positive space for them to explore their individuality, meet other like-minded youth and have access to resources and mentors. The program includes social activities and out trips, facilitated discussion topics such as individual empowerment, acceptance and healthy relationships.

“We are a culturally diverse community where the Aboriginal and Punjabi and “mainstream” sub communities rarely interact meaningfully... there’s no real sense of hostility. Just distance.”

• • • • •

“Grass roots projects need support so that they can include marginalized or vulnerable community members, which enriches our community and gives people alternatives to social service systems.”

1. Take muffins to a new neighbour to welcome them.
2. Volunteer with the Local Immigration Partnership to welcome new immigrants.
3. Volunteer to help coordinate an upcoming local event like the BC Winter Games.



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51%

of Summerland residents voted in the 2014 municipal election vs. 36% in 2011.

	2014	2011
Penticton	31%	34%
Oliver	34%	44%
Osoyoos	35%	40%
Keremeos	48%	50%

This compares to 61% of Canadians who voted in the 2011 federal election.

\$350

is the median charitable donation for Penticton residents in 2013 compared to \$320 in 2011 and \$400 for BC as a whole.

95%

of the Okanagan residents (age 12 and over) reported being satisfied, or very satisfied, with life in 2014. This is an increase from 91% in 2012.

43%

of School District 53 students feel they are (quite a bit/very much) a part of their community. This compares to 38% of students for School District 67.

SAFETY



Survey Grade
A-

Al Todd and Ellen Tanner from
Penticton Search & Rescue practice
Swiftwater Rescue throw-bag
techniques on the Penticton Channel.

Crime rates in our region are lower than the national average and have been declining for years, but feeling safe in your home and your community involves more than just statistics. Our sense of safety is also influenced by how well we know our neighbours and how involved we are in our community.

How we are helping Citizen Feedback

In 2014 the Community Foundation granted \$3,000 to Oliver Search and Rescue towards the construction of the storage facility which houses their equipment and provides space for training volunteers.

In 2015 the Community Foundation granted \$2,000 to Penticton Search & Rescue for the purchase of an AED (automated external defibrillator) for use in the response vehicles and rescue boat.

“I am surprised when I hear about some of the violent crime which occurs in our region. I believe there is a drug problem, and a lack of helping those with mental illness which may contribute to this. ”

• • • • •

“Small town living means everyone knows everyone, and that usually leads to a safer community, and is a major factor in why retirees move here...”



www.cfso.net/3things

1. Take a CPR course.
2. Replace the batteries in your smoke detectors.
3. Organize a regular “stroll patrol” to visit with neighbours and increase evening activity in your area.

12

violent crimes per 1000 people in Penticton in 2014 compared to 24 violent crimes per 1000 in 2011.

	2014	2011
Oliver	13	13
Keremeos	15	22
Kelowna	12	12

26

property crimes per 1000 people in Summerland in 2014 (28 in 2011).

	2014	2011
Keremeos	56	46
Oliver/Osoyoos	63	39
Penticton	71	71

64

per 100,000 people is the overall Crime Severity Index (2014) in the South Okanagan compared to 66.7 nationally and 91.6 provincially. This measures both the # and severity of crimes and is down 45% from 1998.

37.7

per 100,000 people is the overall Violent Crime Severity Index (2014) in the South Okanagan which is below the national (65.2) and provincial (96.8) averages. This is also 29.5% lower than 2013 and 47.5% lower than 1998.

GETTING AROUND

Survey Grade
B+

Accessible and affordable transit is an important component of social infrastructure, particularly where it meets the needs of individuals with limited mobility. Citizens also expect good sidewalks, crossing roads, and paths to make walking safe and easy. Charities and volunteers continue to provide transportation to our most vulnerable citizens.

How we are helping

In 2015 the Community Foundation gave a grant to the Canadian Red Cross Society to install automatic doors at their equipment lending centre in Oliver. Having automatic doors allows those who are in need of medical supplies to easily access the equipment they need.

In 2015, the Foundation granted \$500 to Highway to Healing in Oliver to help with start up expenses. The charity provides financial assistance to families with needing to travel for sick children.



www.cfso.net/3things

Citizen Feedback

“We have improved our levels of access - bus services are always going to be a challenge to maintain as they depend upon usage to justify routes. The bike lanes have helped - we are still a car based community though.”

• • • • •
“The bus that goes from Princeton to Penticton once or twice a week is a great benefit to those who use it. It does not replace my need for a car. I do not expect public transport to be able to meet my needs.”

1. Drive an elderly neighbour to an appointment.
2. Use a fitness app to track your steps. Set a goal and achieve it!
3. Instead of driving, walk or bike to your next appointment.

418,366

rides on conventional bus service in Penticton & Naramata in 2014, down from 430,000 in 2012/13.

	2014	2012/13
Summerland	8,346	11,903
Osoyoos	6,029	5,839
Similkameen	9,302	8,193

16,478

handyDART and Paratransit rides in Summerland and Penticton in 2014, up from 12,601 in 2012 and 10,500 in 2011. Osoyoos recorded 816 rides in 2014.

45%

of School District 67 students often get to school by walking, biking or skateboarding compared to 30% of students in School District 53.

395

kilometres across 29 road cycling routes are now a provincially designated region-wide cycling network. This is the first of its kind in BC and brings better maintenance and signage on designated routes.

ENVIRONMENT

Survey Grade
B+

Wild horses are a common sight throughout the South Okanagan Similkameen.

Our region continues to be one of Canada’s most endangered eco-systems. Long term trends suggest the local climate is slowly getting warmer while the region experiences significant drought, even with an abundance of lakes. Residents are concerned about a decline in use of agricultural lands for food production as well as our level of preparedness to cope with climatic uncertainty.

How we are helping Citizen Feedback

In 2015 the Community Foundation provided a grant to the Okanagan Similkameen Stewardship Society so they could purchase a work truck to promote and continue their environmental stewardship, conservation and restoration throughout the region.

The Foundation also provided a grant to the Food Foresters Society (FFS) to develop Penticton’s first Community Food Forest, a step towards establishing regional food security using sustainable methods.

“Preserving the Agricultural Land Reserve is paramount if we are to be able to grow local food... young farmers can no longer afford to buy food growing land.”

• • • • •

“We live in a beautiful location and I think this is an area where we need leadership. These issues are too easily brushed aside in favour of development. Let’s preserve and protect what we have before it is too late.”

1. Shop for locally grown food in stores and markets.
2. Organize neighbours to improve water conservation as a team.
3. Learn more about our unique ecosystem by attending the Meadowlark Festival.



www.cfso.net/3things

23,800

tonnes of waste was deposited in the Penticton/Keremeos landfills in 2014 compared to 23,475 tonnes in 2013. Osoyoos was virtually unchanged with 4,305 tonnes in 2014 compared to 4,293 tonnes in 2013.

245

millimeters of precipitation have fallen in the Penticton area as of September 2015, far below 390 mm for 2014 and the long term average of 351 millimeters. (from 2001-2014).

9.8

degrees Celsius was the average temperature in 2014, slightly above the average of 9.2 degrees Celsius for 2001-2014. The average temperature from 1971 to 2000 was 9.2 degrees Celsius.

502

average litres per capita of daily water usage in Penticton in 2013. This is a reduction from 519 litres in 2012 and 589 litres per capita in 2009.

GETTING STARTED

Survey Grade
B-

In 2015 Michael Peeman received a bursary from the South Okanagan First Nations Education Fund to become an electrician.

The smaller communities in our region have higher levels of ethnic diversity while there is consensus among citizens that starting a new life in our region is difficult, either as an immigrant or a young person. Making our communities more accessible to newcomers is an important step in ensuring the health and vibrancy of our region.

How we are helping

In 2015 the Community Foundation gave a grant to the South Okanagan Seniors Wellness Society to bring seniors and young parents together so seniors can teach young parents their favourite recipes.

In addition to kitchen training, the program will provide seniors with a sense of purpose and an opportunity to better understand youth, while also helping young parents develop skills to get a better start in their journey as parents.

Citizen Feedback

“Federal program changes have challenged organizations to respond to the needs of immigrants. Employment for youth is still challenging and quality child care remains hard to afford for some families. The YES initiative is an important part of changing the culture and conversation about youth.”

• • • • •
“It’s pleasant to raise a family in a smaller town, but opportunities for young folks are somewhat limited.”



www.cfso.net/3things

1. Donate baby items to a young mother in need.
2. Take dinner over to your new neighbors and start a conversation.
3. Offer to help a newcomer find their way in the community.

11%

of Cawston residents speak a language other than English at home (2011).

Oliver	6.3%
Osoyoos	4.4%
Penticton	3.2%
Keremeos	2.3%
Princeton	0.8%

7.8%

of Osoyoos residents were classified as a Visible Minority in 2011, an increase from 1.1% from 2001. Other communities showed a decline in the number of Visible Minorities.

	2011	2001
Summerland	2.8%	3.7%
Penticton	5.8%	5.2%
Princeton	0.8%	1.2%

25%

of net population growth in the South Okanagan is attributed to newcomer Canadians.

15

the number of years it can take for newcomer Canadians to become economically and socially integrated into the community.

HOUSING

Survey Grade
D+

An abandoned home in disrepair waits for a new development to be built.

Statistical research and citizen feedback both suggest that housing is a difficult challenge in our region with low vacancy rates, high cost of home ownership, and a low number of affordable housing units in each community. There is a critical shortage of emergency shelter options in the region for youth under 18 years of age.

How we are helping

In 2014 the Community Foundation provided a \$1,000 grant to Meals on Wheels, a local group of dedicated volunteers who service Penticton, Naramata, Kaleden, and Okanagan Falls.

They deliver an average of more than 600 hot meals to their clients each month, providing a service that is essential to helping clients live independently in their own homes. Without being supplied nourishing meals at home, clients would be forced to move to care facilities.



www.cfso.net/3things

Citizen Feedback

“We need more available housing in line with the low income of some residents. Many of us can afford higher housing costs which drive up the prices of homes and rentals.”

• • • • •

“Housing is a very basic need and if people do not have access to safe and affordable housing then all other opportunities to take part in community is impacted. Take a page from other communities that adopted the focus of “housing first” when addressing poverty issues.”

1. Volunteer to help build low income housing.
2. Where regulations allow, create an affordable rental suite in your basement.
3. Help a neighbour to make small repairs to their home.

2.9%

rental vacancy rate in Penticton in 2014 compared to a 3.3% vacancy rate in 2013 and 5% in 2012. Summerland’s vacancy rate was 9.4% (2014) and 6.3% (2013) vs. 2.4% for BC (2014) and 3.5% (2013).

1001

women stayed in emergency housing in Penticton in 2014 along with 186 children (3558 bed stays). There were 71 bed stays for women and children in Oliver & Osoyoos and 11 stays for women in Keremeos.

\$437,042

the average price of a single family home in Penticton in June 2015 compared to \$349,653 in June 2013, representing an increase of 25% and a return to 2011 pricing levels.

32

Number of affordable housing units per thousand people in Keremeos compared to:

Summerland	18
Penticton	14
Oliver	13
Osoyoos	11
Princeton	11

GAP BETWEEN RICH & POOR



Survey Grade
D+

Poverty and homelessness are evident throughout our region.

Poverty rates, single-parent incomes, food bank usage and other measures all indicate a growing issue in our region with the gap between rich and poor. Communities suffer when the gap continues to widen because connection between citizens declines. Struggling families have difficulty participating in the community in meaningful ways.

How we are helping

In 2015 the Community Foundation granted \$11,500 to the Summerland Food Bank to purchase a step-in cooler for storage of non-frozen perishable items such as eggs, butter, processed meats and fresh vegetables.

In 2015 the Foundation granted \$6,000 to the Salvation Army's Community Garden project which teaches gardening as a means to grow food and develop mental and physical wellbeing.

Citizen Feedback

"The food bank has become a given. It was supposed to be a short term response to changing economic situations but has instead become the defacto resource/response to poverty and food scarcity."

.....
"Pursuing living wage jobs needs to happen here. Many municipalities have passed living wage ordinances. Municipalities can help by: providing space to grow community gardens, free bus passes, access to low cost activities."



www.cfso.net/3things

1. Offer food hampers to poor or homeless residents of our town.
2. Help lobby governments to legislate a living wage.
3. Hand out warm mittens, socks, blankets to the homeless during cold months.

14.8%

the overall, after tax, poverty rate (LIM) in Penticton in 2013 up from 14.1% in 2008 and down from 14.9% in 2012. The 2013 rate is 9.6% below the provincial average of 16.4%.

\$34,160

Penticton's median, after-tax income in single-parent families, up \$1,350 from 2010, but below the BC average of \$37,180

14,865

Use of the Penticton Food Bank in 2014 vs. 14,376 in 2013. This equals 2.2 visits per capita in 2014.

	2014	per capita
Keremeos	139	9.5 visits
Oliver	285	16.9 visits
Osoyoos	93	52 visits
Summerland	558	20 visits

21.9%

After-tax poverty rate for children (0-17 years) in Penticton in 2013. This is down from 22.7% in 2010 and higher than the rate for BC of 20.4%.

WORK



Survey Grade
D+

Small businesses add flavour
to our communities.



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATIONS
OF CANADA
all for community.

SOUTH OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN'S
VitalSigns®

 **COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
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Vital Signs® is a community check-up conducted by community foundations across Canada that measures the vitality of our communities, identifies significant trends, and shares opportunities for action in areas critical to quality of life.

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Vital Signs® Project Team

Susan Kelly - President, CFSOS
Kim Lyster - Vice President, Committee Chair, CFSOS
Craig Dunbar - Director, CFSOS
Doug McPherson - Director, CFSOS

CFSOS Staff

Aaron McRann - Executive Director
Sarah Trudeau - Regional Development Coordinator
Kelly Helfrich - Administrator

Research Network

Cindy Lindsey - Program Director
Community Foundations of Canada
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This report presents a highlight of findings.
For in-depth results contact our office at 250-493-9311.

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Community Leadership Team

Tanya Behardien - Executive Director
Penticton & District Community Resources Society
John Devitt - Executive Director
Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce
Ryan Foster - President
Food Foresters Society of Canada
Wendy Hyer - Superintendent
School District 67
Dr. Gerry Karr - retired physician
Donna Lomas - Regional Dean
Okanagan College
Bill Newell - Chief Administrative Officer
Regional District of the Okanagan Similkameen
Colleen Pennington - Economic Development Officer
City of Penticton
Jane Shaak - Executive Director
Okanagan School of the Arts, Shatford Centre