

2018 COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT

Sparwood



Photo: District of Sparwood

APPLIED & INNOVATION
RESEARCH CENTRE Selkirk College



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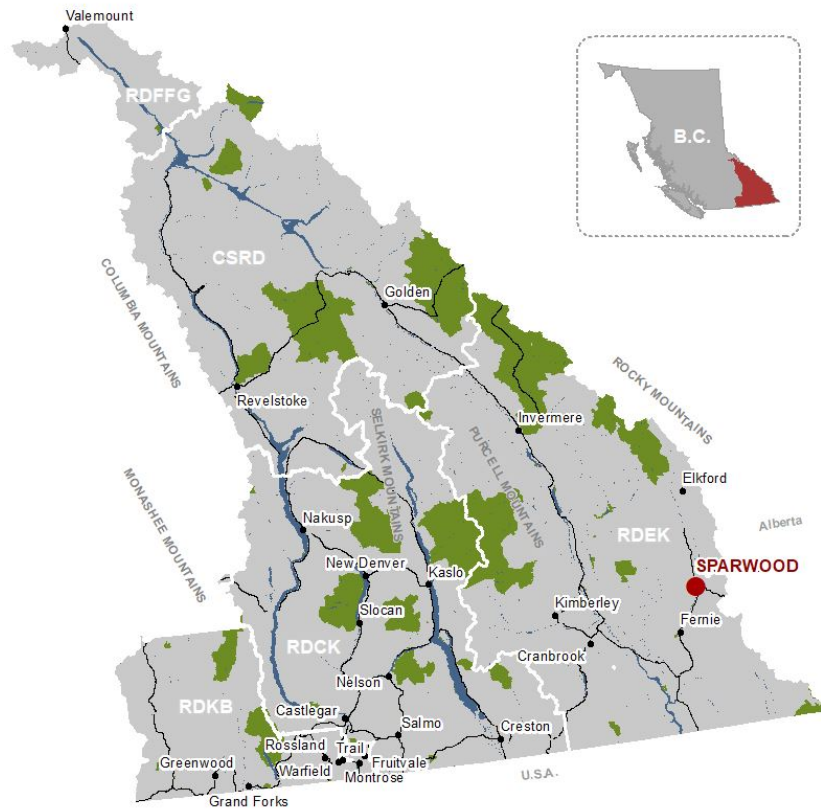
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INTRODUCTION

Sparwood is the home of the Terex Titan – the world’s largest tandem axle dump truck. One of the highest-elevation towns in Canada, the District of Sparwood’s history and economy is supported by the coal mining that takes place on a vast scale on the east side of the Elk Valley. A proud coal mining community, Sparwood has a vision to retain business, attract diversification, and increase visitation. It is strong in community spirit, with a lots of opportunities for outdoor recreation, such as skiing, hiking, fishing, and hunting. See www.sparwood.ca.

This report provides a profile of several indicators of well-being for the community of Sparwood. As part of the State of the Basin program, the RDI has created community-specific reports for all municipalities in the Columbia Basin-Boundary region. The primary goal of the State of the Basin is to provide access to relevant data that is easily accessible to help inform decisions that lead to greater community and regional well-being. The Community Profiles are intended to share community-specific data with local governments and other organizations to help build a better understanding of local conditions and trends, and assist in making evidence-based planning and management decisions. These reports may also be useful for supporting communications with residents, and new resident, business and workforce attraction.



State of the Basin research draws on available data from a variety of sources including federal, provincial, and local governments, crown corporations, and non-profit initiatives. The RDI collects data from open access sources and through custom data requests. Indicators in this report are quantitative, and while quantitative indicators help establish foundational knowledge of well-being, they only tell part of the story. Qualitative information, including the RDI’s subjective well-being research, can further contribute to understanding the well-being of our communities and region. In order to understand geographic trends in indicators, this report compares community data with regional, provincial, and national data where appropriate. The geographic divisions used vary by indicator and depend on the topic being measured. **For additional community and regional comparisons for indicators in this report, please see the [State of the Basin reporting](#).**

For other research reports on Sparwood please see the [RDI’s Communities of the Columbia Basin](#). Statistics Canada also offers a suite of data sets through their [Census Program](#), where you can search by place name and topic, and [Census Mapper](#) provides this data in mapped format. Interior Health has also developed [Community Health Profiles](#) for municipalities across BC, and the [Weather Network](#) offers a variety of weather and climate statistics. [BC Stats](#) and [Local Government Statistics](#) are other online sources of community-specific statistics.

If you have questions or feedback on this Community Profile, please [contact the RDI](#).

LOCATION

Regional District	Regional District of East Kootenay
Coordinates	Longitude is 114°53'34"W Latitude is 49°44'01"N
Elevation	1,120 meters
Municipal Area	198.6 km ²

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population characteristics^{1,2} help planners and local decision makers to evaluate current and future community needs, particularly with respect to service delivery and potential impacts to the local economy.

Total Population

	2006	2011	2016	Percent change 2006 to 2016
Sparwood	3,618	3,667	3,784	4.6%
Regional District of East Kootenay	55,485	56,685	60,439	8.9%
British Columbia	4,113,490	4,400,057	4,648,055	13.0%

Population Projections

	Percent change in population projected 2017 to 2037
Fernie Local Health Area	9%
British Columbia	22%

Age Characteristics

	Sparwood (2016)			British Columbia (2016)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Children (0 to 14 yrs)	375	350	735	355,400	335,985	691,390
Emerging Labour Force (15 to 24 yrs)	205	170	380	280,615	265,930	546,540
Primary Labour Force (25 to 64 yrs)	1,130	1,050	2,175	1,246,670	1,314,475	2,561,145
Seniors (65+ yrs)	245	265	500	395,560	453,425	848,985
Total population	1,950	1,835	3,785	2,278,245	2,369,815	4,648,055
Average age of population (yrs)	38.7	39.7	39.2	41.5	43.1	42.3

FAMILIES & HOUSEHOLDS

Family characteristics¹ such as size and composition of families can help inform social, economic, health, and education programming, as well as planning and development around infrastructure needs.

Family Characteristics

	Sparwood (2016)	British Columbia (2016)
Average household size	2.3	2.4
Total number of families in private households	1,130	1,311,345
Total couple families	1,010	1,113,405
Couples without children	515	577,790
Couples with children	490	535,610
One child	210	221,065
Two children	215	230,705
Three or more children	65	83,840
Total lone-parent families	120	197,940
Female parent	85	155,670
Male parent	30	42,265
One child	90	125,890
Two children	30	54,900
Three or more children	10	17,145
Total persons not in census families in private households (singles)	610	882,895

Marital Status

	Sparwood (2016)			British Columbia (2016)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total population 15 years+	1,570	1,485	3,060	1,922,840	2,033,825	3,956,665
Married	795	790	1,580	959,690	965,645	1,925,345
Living common law	225	225	450	186,485	185,505	371,985
Single (never married)	370	220	595	582,975	493,110	1,076,085
Separated	35	40	80	45,225	60,475	105,700
Divorced	100	95	195	103,475	160,395	263,870
Widowed	35	120	150	44,990	168,700	213,685

MOBILITY

This indicator measures the movement of people into and out of the community with respect to where they lived five years prior. Non-movers are those who have not moved. Movers include non-migrants and migrants. Non-migrants are persons who did move, but remained in the community. Migrants include those who moved within the province (intraprovincial), as well as those who moved to or from another province (interprovincial), and those who moved to Canada from outside the country (external migrants).¹

	Sparwood (2016)	British Columbia (2016)	Canada (2016)
Non-movers (%)	60.8	57.4	61.8
Movers non-migrants (%)	16.4	21.7	20.7
Intraprovincial migrants (%)	12.5	11.6	10.6
Interprovincial migrants (%)	7.0	3.9	2.5
External migrants (%)	3.3	5.4	4.2

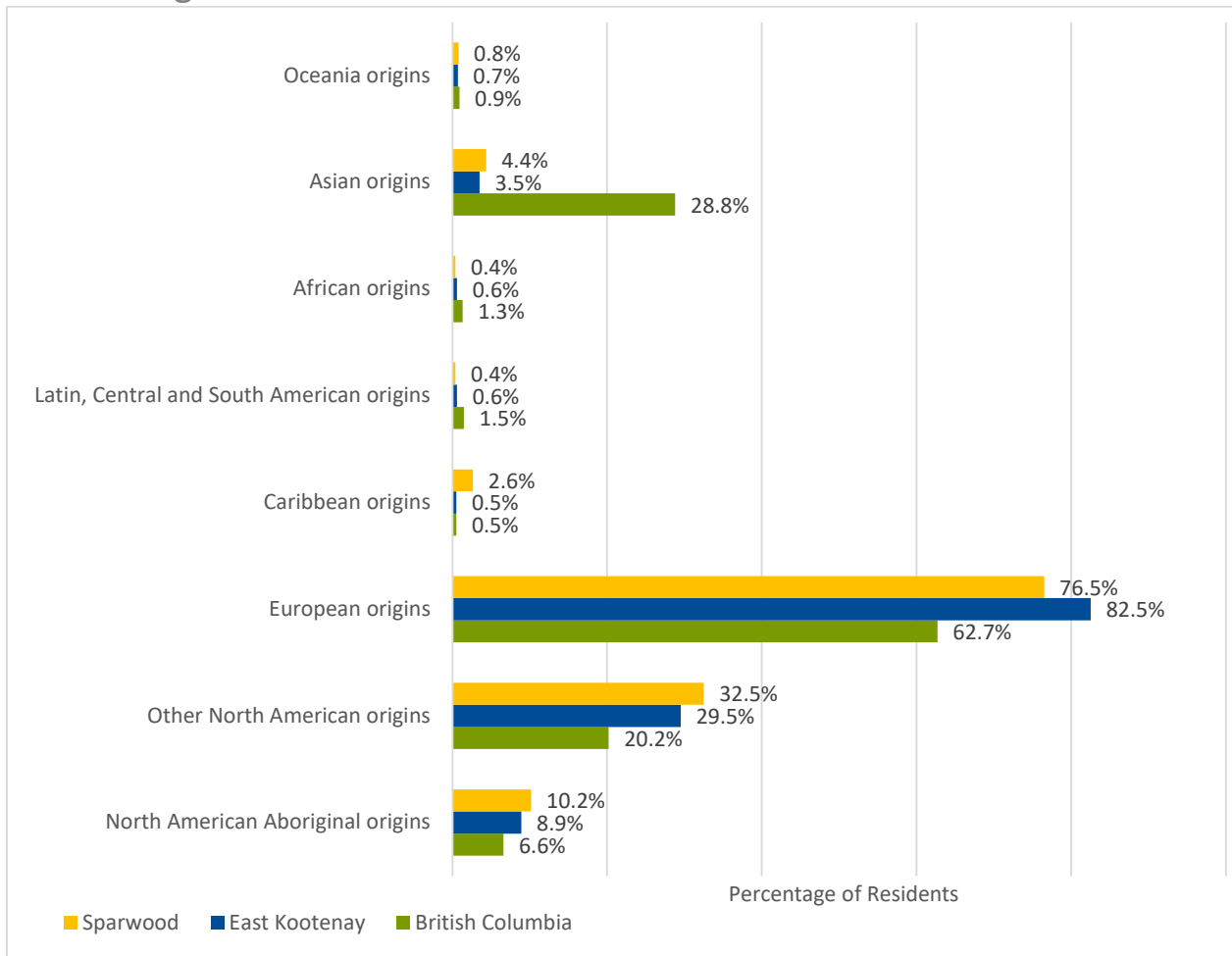
CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

Culture is multi-faceted and dynamic, embracing several aspects that describe and shape our way of life. Language, ethnic origin, and Aboriginal identity are a few indicators that provide insight into a community's cultural diversity.¹

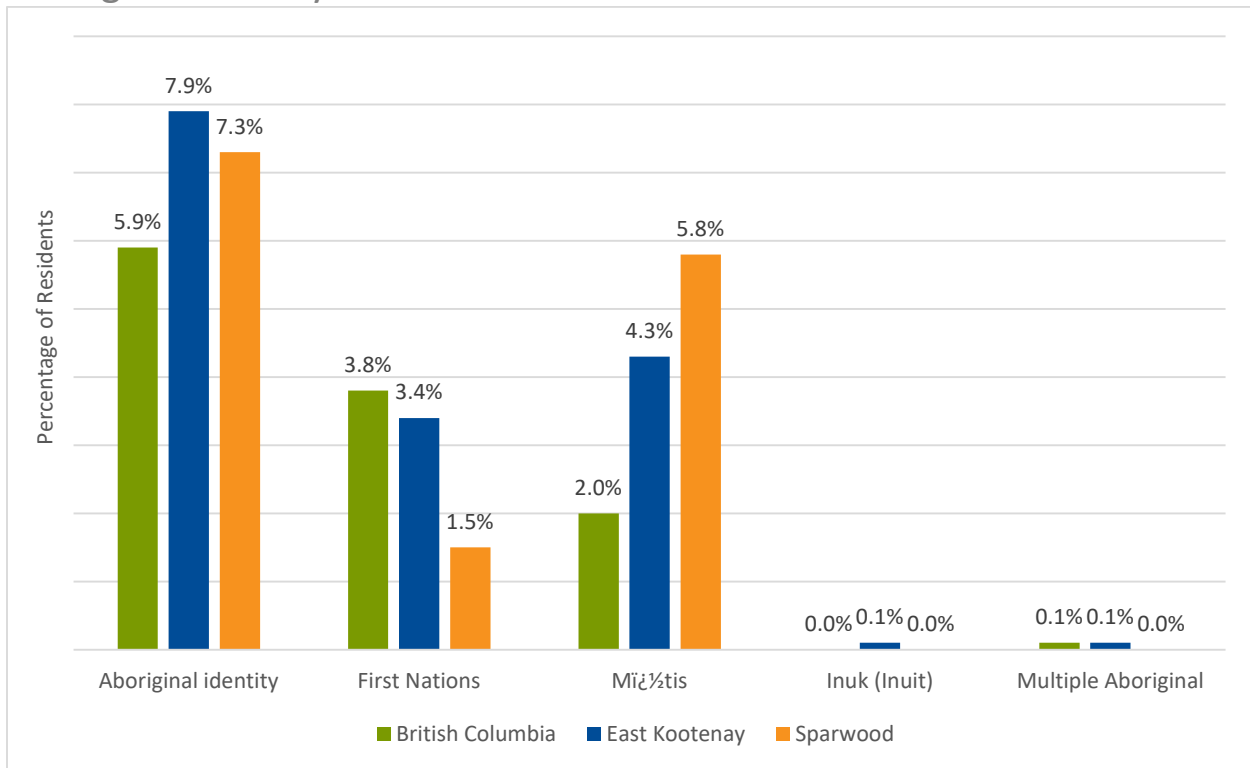
Language Spoken Most Often at Home

	Sparwood (2016)	East Kootenay (2016)	British Columbia (2016)
English (%)	96.6	97.8	83.2
French (%)	1.8	0.6	0.4
Non-official languages (%)	1.6	1.6	16.4

Ethnic Origin



Aboriginal Identity



INFRASTRUCTURE

Infrastructure is the physical foundation for community well-being. Water, sewer, utilities, roads, and waste management are all critical for a functioning healthy municipality.

Water Services

Provider	District of Sparwood
Average per capita demand (2015)³	934 litres
Annual residential water rate (2018)	\$232.24

* For comparison, average per capita demand for BC is 494 litres (2016)⁴

Sewer Services

Provider	District of Sparwood
Type of treatment	Secondary
Annual sewer rate (2018) (residential)	\$303.60
Annual sewer rate (2018) (industrial/commercial/institutional)	varies depending on use

Service Providers

Electric power	BC Hydro
Natural gas	Fortis BC
Telecommunications⁵	Telus, Shaw, Xplornet, Bell, Rogers, Tough Country Communications, Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation

Landfill & Waste Management

Landfill location	Central Subregion Landfill
Regional District waste disposal rate (2016)⁶	561 kg/person/year
Type of service	Curbside garbage, recycling drop off, yard waste drop off

* For comparison, average per capita waste disposal rate for BC is 472 kg/person/year (2016)⁶

Traffic Volumes

Station location ⁷	Annual Average Daily Traffic	Monthly Average Daily Traffic	Monthly Average Daily Traffic
	(number of vehicles)	January	July
Route 3, 2.0 km West of the BC/Alberta Border, Crowsnest Pass (P-36-1EW)	4,708	3,396	7,169

BC Transit

Sparwood is serviced by BC Transit's Elk Valley Transit System. This system includes one fixed-route, extending from Elkford to Sparwood to Fernie. There is also the Elkford/Cranbrook Health Connections route which provides transportation to non-emergency medical appointments through a partnership between Kootenay East Regional Hospital District, RDEK, and BC Transit.

HOUSING

Housing stock, diversity, availability, and costs are an important basic foundation to a functioning and affordable community. Several indicators related to housing are included in this community profile.^{1,8}

Dwellings by Structure

	Sparwood (2016)	British Columbia (2016)
Total number of occupied private dwellings	1,655	1,881,970
Single-detached house	845	830,660
Apartment in a building that has 5 or more storeys	0	177,830
Other attached dwelling	440	824,190
Semi-detached house	110	830,660
Row house	100	147,830
Apartment or flat in duplex	0	230,075
Apartment in a building that has fewer than 5 storeys	225	385,140
Other single-attached house	5	3,755
Moveable dwelling	365	49,290

Dwellings by Period of Construction

	Sparwood (2016)	British Columbia (2016)
Total number of occupied private dwellings	1,650	1,881,970
1960 or before	140	267,560
1961 to 1980	825	559,485
1981 to 1990	285	289,565
1991 to 2000	100	331,865
2001 to 2005	55	125,335
2006 to 2010	115	171,945
2011 to 2016	130	136,210
Private dwellings in need of major repairs	5.1%	6.3%

Residential Property Values

	Sparwood (2018)	Columbia Basin-Boundary (2018)
Number of single family dwellings	826	45,145
\$0 to \$99,999	0%	2.0%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	1.0%	17.9%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	51.1%	31.3%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	34.4%	23.0%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	10.9%	13.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	2.5%	5.6%
\$600,000 and over	0.1%	6.7%
Median value of dwelling	\$297,400	\$295,600

* For comparison, the median value of dwellings for BC is \$500,874¹

Household Occupation

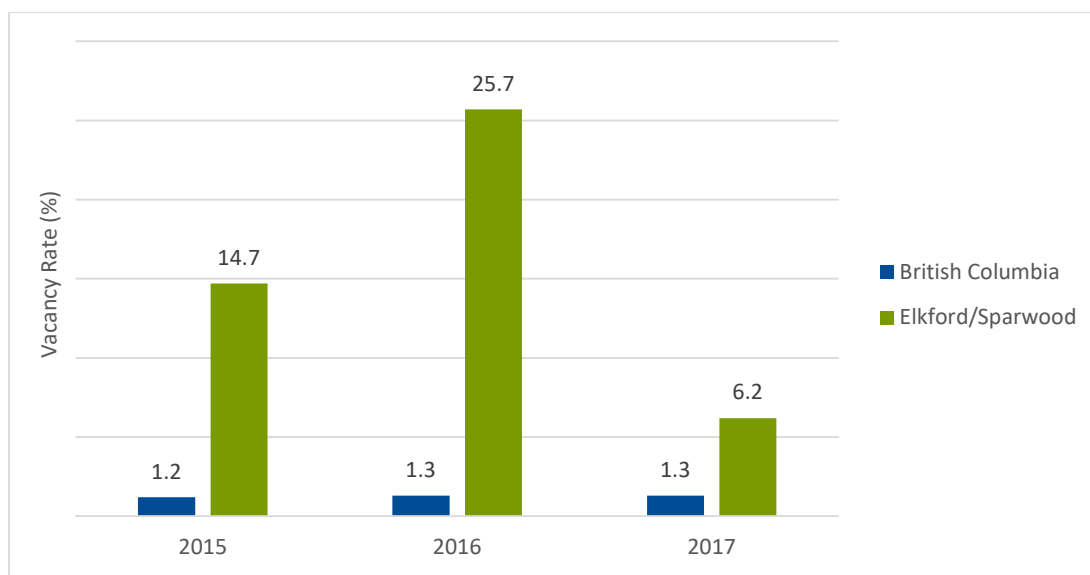
	Sparwood (2016)	East Kootenay (2016)	British Columbia (2016)
Private dwellings occupied by usual residents (%)	78	76	91
Private households who are owners (%)	74.8	78	68
Private households who are renters (%)	25.2	21.9	31.8

Housing Affordability

When more than 30% of a household's income is spent on shelter costs, the housing is deemed unaffordable. Shelter costs include electricity, oil, gas, wood, or other fuels, water and other municipal services, mortgage payments, property taxes, condominium fees, and rent. In Sparwood, 9% of owner households and 35% of tenant households are spending more than 30% of their income on shelter related costs. For BC, the percentages are 21% of owner households and 43% of tenant households.

Vacancy Rates

Vacancy rates⁹ are an important indicator of the availability of affordable housing. A balanced vacancy rate is 3%.



INCOME

Income is a substantial determinant of personal well-being and income levels reflect economic opportunity.

Household Income

Before-tax household income ¹	Sparwood (2015)		British Columbia (2015)		Canada (2015)	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under \$5,000	5	0.3	43,415	2.3	228,790	1.6
\$5,000 to \$9,999	10	0.6	27,140	1.4	200,315	1.4
\$10,000 to \$14,999	30	1.8	55,745	3.0	374,575	2.7
\$15,000 to \$19,999	65	3.9	77,565	4.1	565,940	4.0
\$20,000 to \$29,999	115	7.0	151,680	8.1	1,141,510	8.1
\$30,000 to \$39,999	95	5.8	156,475	8.3	1,210,080	8.6
\$40,000 to \$49,999	90	5.5	152,635	8.1	1,174,435	8.3
\$50,000 to \$59,999	85	5.2	143,475	7.6	1,097,345	7.8
\$60,000 to \$79,999	120	7.3	255,195	13.6	1,934,735	13.7
\$80,000 to \$99,999	175	10.6	210,770	11.2	1,582,420	11.2
\$100,00 to \$124,999	305	18.5	198,140	10.5	1,470,255	10.4
\$125,000 to \$149,999	205	12.4	138,420	7.4	1,016,245	7.2
\$150,000 and over	355	21.5	271,290	14.4	2,075,425	14.7
Median	\$103,538		\$69,995		\$70,336	
Average	\$103,466		\$90,354		\$92,764	

Source of Income

Source of Income ¹⁰ (2015)	Sparwood	British Columbia	Canada
Employment income (% taxfilers)	84.0	77.4	75.8
Self-employment income (% taxfilers)	9.1	17.8	15.6
Investment income (% taxfilers)	41.7	40.2	35.4
Employment insurance (% taxfilers)	15.0	11.5	13.8
Old Age Security / Net Federal Supplement (% taxfilers)	21.9	26.3	25.5
Canada Pension Plan/Quebec Pension Plan (% taxfilers)	31.0	32.6	32.4
Canada Child Tax Benefit (% taxfilers)	28.3	22.1	24.4
Workers compensation (% taxfilers)	4.8	4.2	3.5
Social assistance (% taxfilers)	3.2	6.6	9.2
Private pensions (% taxfilers)	18.7	21.6	21.2
RRSPs (% taxfilers)	2.1	2.7	2.4
Other income (% taxfilers)	22.5	27.8	26.0

Low Income Measure

The Low Income Measure (LIM) is a commonly-used indicator of poverty.¹¹ It is a fixed percentage (50%) of median adjusted household income, where “adjusted” means that household needs are taken into account. A family is considered to have low income when their income is below the LIM for their family type and size. According to 2015 taxfiler data, 8% of people in Sparwood are considered to be low income. The provincial average is 15%.

LABOUR FORCE

Class of Worker & Occupation

	# Employees	%	# Self-employed	%	Occupation	#	%
Sparwood (2016)¹	1,980	94	125	6	Management	175	8
					Business, finance & admin	245	12
					Natural & applied sciences	110	5
					Health	100	5
					Education, law & social, community & government	140	7
					Art, culture, recreation & sport	25	1
					Sales & service	385	18
					Trades, transport & equipment operators and related	685	33
					Natural resources, agriculture & related production	180	9
					Manufacturing & utilities	60	3

Regional District of East Kootenay (2016)¹	27,430	87	4,220	13	Management	3,510	11
					Business, finance & admin	3,685	12
					Natural & applied sciences	1,480	5
					Health	2,085	7
					Education, law & social, community & government	2,895	9
					Art, culture, recreation & sport	720	2
					Sales & service	7,475	24
					Trades, transport & equipment operators and related	7,155	23
					Natural resources, agriculture & related production	1,700	5
					Manufacturing & utilities	950	3
British Columbia (2016)¹	2,084,470	86	343,395	14	Management	275,000	11
					Business, finance & admin	368,940	15
					Natural & applied sciences	161,520	7
					Health	162,865	7
					Education, law & social, community & government	269,255	11
					Art, culture, recreation & sport	93,100	4
					Sales & service	595,225	25
					Trades, transport & equipment operators and related	360,970	15
					Natural resources, agriculture & related production	64,235	3
					Manufacturing & utilities	76,745	3

Labour Force by Industry

Industry ¹ (2016)	Sparwood %	British Columbia %	Canada %
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1	3	2
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	34	1	1
Utilities	0	1	1
Construction	7	8	7
Manufacturing	3	6	9
Wholesale trade	6	3	4
Retail trade	9	12	12
Transportation and warehousing	3	5	5

Information and cultural industries	0	3	2
Finance and insurance	2	4	4
Real estate and rental and leasing	1	2	2
Professional, scientific and technical services	1	8	7
Management of companies and enterprises	0	0	0
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	3	4	4
Educational services	4	7	7
Health care and social assistance	8	11	12
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2	2	2
Accommodation and food services	8	9	7
Other services (except public administration)	4	5	4
Public administration	4	5	6

Place of Work

Place ¹ (2016)	Sparwood		British Columbia		Canada	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Worked at home	25	1	1,96,510	9	1,272,285	7
Worked outside Canada	0	0	16,040	1	78,815	0
No fixed workplace address	160	8	326,180	14	1,987,260	12
Worked at usual place	1,800	91	1,766,965	77	13,891,675	81

Commute to Work

Commute Duration ¹ (2016)	Sparwood %	British Columbia %
Less than 15 minutes	50.8	28.8
15 to 29 minutes	18.1	32.9
30 to 44 minutes	16.1	20.3
45 to 59 minutes	7.1	8.8
60 minutes or more	7.7	9.1

Unemployment

Unemployment rates are a strong indicator of economic health. Unemployment rates based on the 2016 Census are shown.¹ [Labour Force Survey](#) data is available at a regional scale and is updated more frequently.

	Total	Male	Female
Sparwood	6.4	6.5	5.6
Regional District of East Kootenay	7.6	9.1	5.8
British Columbia	6.7	7.1	6.3

Labour Force Replacement Ratio

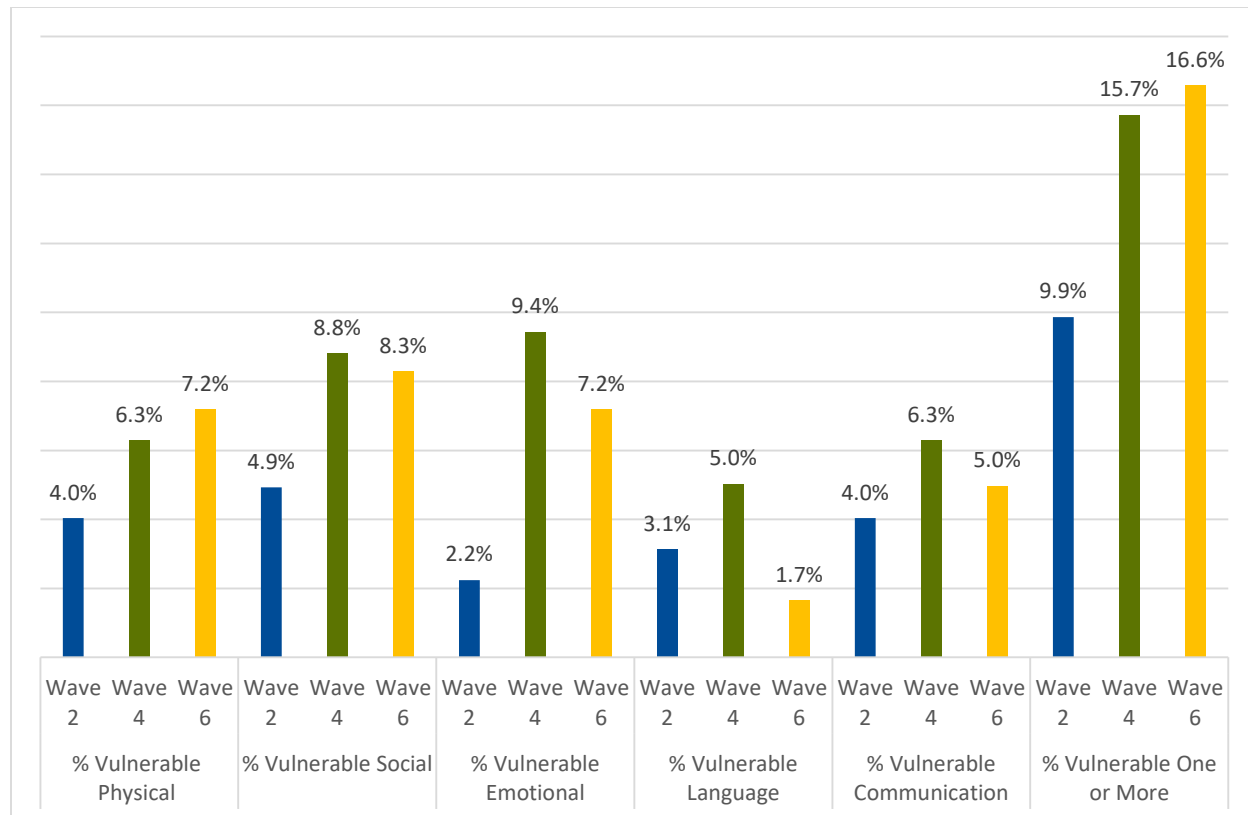
The Labour Force Replacement Ratio is a measure of the ratio of the number of people aged zero to 14 in 2016 who will be entering the workforce to the working population aged 50 to 64 who will be leaving the workforce in the next 15 years. A ratio of 1.0 means the child and retiree populations are the same. The higher the ratio, the greater the young people there are relative to potential retirees. A ratio of less than 1.0 means an area is unable to maintain the current labour force with local replacement workers. The ratio is calculated using the Census 2016 data.¹

Labour Force Replacement Ratio (2016)	
Sparwood	0.86
Regional District of East Kootenay	0.66
British Columbia	0.67

EDUCATION

Early Development Instrument

The early years are crucial in influencing a range of health and social outcomes. Research shows that many challenges in adults, including mental health and criminality, have their roots in early childhood. The Early Development Instrument (EDI) assesses the developmental readiness of children with an aim of identifying vulnerabilities. Vulnerability is reported by the percentage of children who are vulnerable on one or more scales as well as for each scale (physical, social, emotional, language, communication). Data is collected in “waves”; each wave is data from consecutive school years. EDI scores are available at the school district and neighborhood level.¹² The chart below shows the percentage of children vulnerable on each of the scales and vulnerable on one or more scales for the Sparwood - Elkford neighborhood for Wave 2 (2004-2007), Wave 4 (2009-2011), and Wave 6 (2013-2016). For comparison, provincial data for Wave 6 shows that 29% of children are vulnerable on one or more scales.



Public School Enrollment

Sparwood is in the Southeast Kootenay School District (#5). Student enrollment¹³ measures the number of all adults and school-age persons who are enrolled in public schools and working towards graduation. Enrollment trends provide information about changes in the school-age population and is valuable for forecasting and planning.

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Total student enrolment	5,259	5,260	5,276	5,396	5,474
Elementary student enrolment	2,947	3,041	3,090	3,195	3,241
Secondary school enrolment	2,287	2,195	2,169	2,188	2,215
Aboriginal students	893	916	917	964	988
English Language Learners	24	25	30	43	60
French Immersion	436	447	458	495	517
Non-residents	70	77	71	61	58

* Differences between total and elementary and secondary enrollments due to a small number of Graduated Adults.

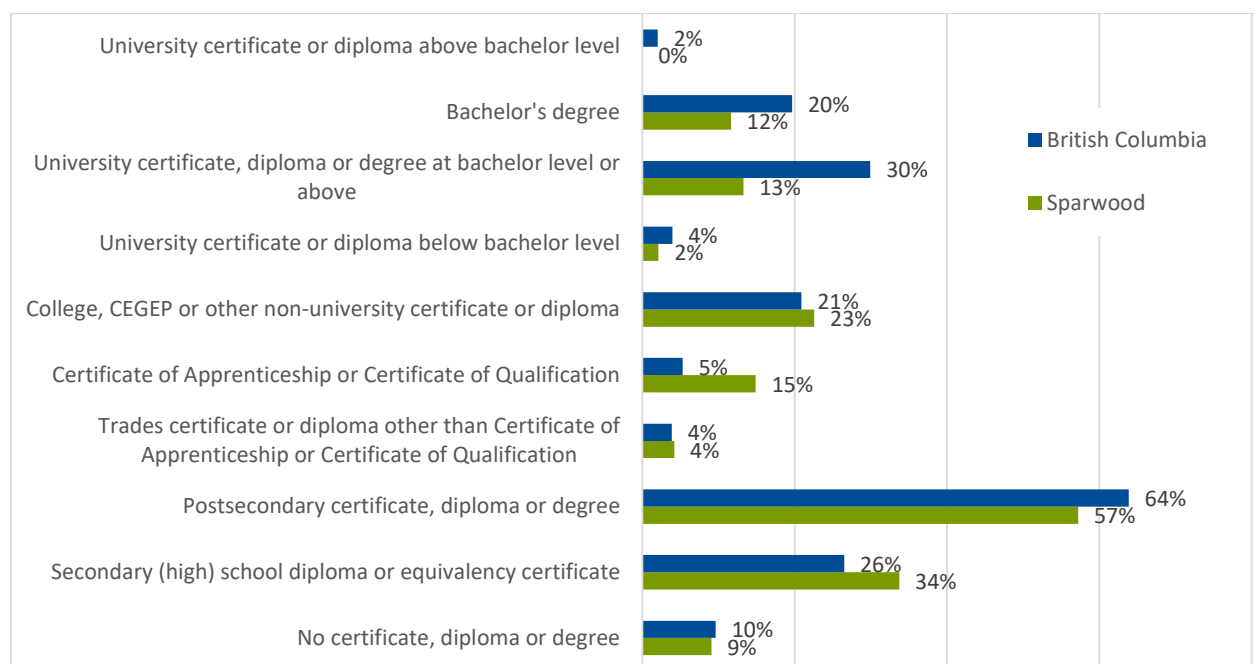
High School Completion

High school completion rates indicate how successful our families, schools, and communities are in supporting youth in achieving graduation. This indicator measures the proportion of students who graduate within six years of the first time they enroll in grade 8.¹³ High school graduation is generally a minimum education level for most employment and a foundation for positive workplace conditions and future employment success and well-being.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	5-year average
Southeast Kootenay (SD 5)	76.9%	79.4%	77.7%	77.4%	77.5%	77.8%
All BC Public Schools	81.8%	83.6%	84.2%	83.9%	83.6%	83.4%

Educational Attainment

Education levels are highly correlated with social determinants of health such as income, employment security, and socio-economic opportunity. This indicator measures the highest level of attainment of people aged 25 to 64 years.¹



QUALITY OF LIFE & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Life Expectancy

Life expectancy is a widely used indicator of population health. This indicator reports on the number of years a person is expected to live based on mortality statistics for a Local Health Area (LHA).¹⁴ The average from 2011 to 2015 was analysed. The Fernie LHA has a life expectancy of 81.1 years. The BC life expectancy is 82.6 years.

Crime Severity Index

Crime rates are a common indicator of public safety. The police reported Crime Severity Index (CSI) includes all Criminal Code violations including traffic, as well as drug violations and all Federal Statutes.¹⁵ The CSI reports on the percent change in crime severity from year to year. A negative number means a decrease in the volume and severity of crime, while a positive number means an increase from one year to the next. The change from 2016 to 2017 for Sparwood is 7.3, while the CSI for BC is -5.1 between the last two years of data.

Voter Turnout

Voter turnout is an indicator of the health of a democracy, and can be seen as a reflection of civic mindedness and citizen engagement. This indicator measures the percentage of eligible voters who voted in local government elections for 2008, 2011, 2014 and 2018.¹⁶

	2008	2011	2014	2018
Sparwood	25%	34%	35%	42%
Columbia Basin-Boundary average	51%	45%	41%	51%

Charitable Donations

Charitable donations¹⁷ play a role in improving well-being by providing support to a variety of initiatives. Charitable giving reflects a capacity to give, and is tied to the economy, where people may give more or less depending on their financial situation and the state of the economy.

Location (2015)	Total # taxfilers	Total charitable donors	Percent charitable donors	Total charitable donations (\$'000)	Median donation	Median income
Sparwood	3,120	710	22.8%	\$690	\$150	\$90,250
East Kootenay	46,110	9,440	20.5%	\$12,605	\$280	\$60,930
British Columbia	3,488,250	699,780	20.1%	\$1,448,625	\$430	\$58,010
Canada	26,186,760	5,495,900	21.0%	\$9,132,170	\$300	\$58,600

Public Library Usage

Libraries play an important role in the vibrancy of a community, as libraries are often a gathering place for residents where a diversity of programs and services are offered. Library statistics¹⁸ are useful for providing an indication of the health and capacity of these facilities in serving community needs and interests.

Indicator (2017)	Sparwood Public Library	Average all libraries in Columbia Basin-Boundary
Population served	4,727	6,995
Total active cardholders as % of population served	26.4%	41.3%
Attendance at children's and young adult programs	1,570	3,320
Total employees, FTE	3.2	3.8
Volunteer hours worked	150	1,254
Number of in-person visits	16,000	42,805
Total visits per capita	4.4	8.4
Average hours open per week	44.0	38.5
Total local government support	\$212,699	\$239,789
Local government support per capita	\$45.00	\$35.10
Total other revenue	\$29,145	\$40,102

BUSINESS

Business Formations

Business formations measures the number of incorporations per year¹⁹, and is an indicator of the overall business climate, providing a sense of an expanding or contracting economy.

Year	Sparwood	East Kootenay	British Columbia
2013	2	221	32,225
2014	4	252	34,951
2015	4	236	37,934
2016	2	262	43,556
2017	7	247	46,247

Total Building Permits

This indicator measures the value of building permits issued annually by a defined region.²⁰ Building permits and housing starts are well-accepted indicators of economic performance.

Year	Sparwood (\$'000)	British Columbia (\$'000)
2013	\$3,952	\$9,976,104
2014	\$10,001	\$11,076,715
2015	\$7,294	\$13,125,233
2016	\$563	\$13,255,024
2017	\$4,038	\$15,710,782

Building Permits by Type

Type ²⁰	Sparwood (2017)	British Columbia (2017)
Residential (\$'000)	\$2,929	\$11,498,362
Commercial (\$'000)	\$576	\$2,439,623
Industrial (\$'000)	\$385	\$658,482
Institutional and Government (\$'000)	\$148	\$1,114,315
Residential (total number of units)	7	44,105

Visitor Centre Statistics

Visitor Centre Statistics²¹ are a common indicator of tourism, an economic sector for many communities.

Year	Total Visitors Sparwood Visitor Centre	Change from previous year Sparwood	Change for all visitor centres in BC
2013	54,652	53.8%	-5.0%
2014	62,369	14.1%	2.3%
2015	48,565	-22.1%	2.9%
2016	54,319	11.8%	-1.2%
2017	63,203	16.4%	-0.5%

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local governments are required to submit data annually to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, including annual reports and financial statements.²² Municipal revenues and expenses, and taxes on a representative house, provide an indication of a local government's capacity, financial needs and priorities, and costs to residents.

Municipal Revenues

	Sparwood (2017)	% of Total Revenue
Total Own Purpose Taxation and Grants in Lieu	\$6,931,713	61.4%
Sale of Services	\$3,431,201	30.4%
Transfers from Federal Governments	\$53,220	0.5%
Transfers from Provincial Governments	\$1,292,147	11.5%
Transfers from Regional and Other Governments	\$309,922	2.7%
Investment Income	\$230,565	2.0%
Income from Government Business Enterprise	\$0	0.0%
Developer Contributions	\$0	0.0%
Disposition of Assets	(\$1,392,220)	-12.3%
Other Revenue	\$425,975	3.8%
Total Revenue	\$11,282,523	

Municipal Expenses

	Sparwood (2017)	% of Total Expenses
General Government	\$1,240,824	11.1%
Protective Services	\$847,590	7.6%
Solid Waste Management and Recycling	\$402,844	3.6%
Health, Social Services and Housing	\$98,073	0.9%
Development Services	\$857,302	7.6%
Transportation and Transit	\$1,595,513	14.2%
Parks, Recreation and Culture	\$2,419,871	21.6%
Water Services	\$686,147	6.1%
Sewer Services	\$578,764	5.2%
Other Services	\$0	0.0%
Amortization	\$2,493,573	22.2%
Other Adjustments	\$0	0.0%
Total Expenses	\$11,220,501	

Taxes & Charges on a Representative House

	Sparwood (2018)
House value	\$230,199
School	\$497
General Municipal Total	\$898
Regional District	\$196
Hospital	\$35
BCA, MFA, and other	\$74
Total Residential Variable Rate Taxes	\$1,699
Total Residential Parcel Taxes	\$89
Total Residential User Fees	\$742
Total Residential Property Taxes and Charges	\$2,530

* A representative house is based on the assessment and occurrence of single family residential properties, and does not include vacant properties, multi-family, strata, etc.

ENVIRONMENT

The environment is a foundation for many aspects of well-being. Parks and protected areas help to safeguard wild spaces and species, and provide opportunity for residents and visitors to recreate and connect with nature. Weather and climate conditions and trends help us understand the context in which a community operates, and climate projections can help with forecasting and adaptive planning.

Parks & Protected Areas

Sparwood has 15 provincial parks and protected areas within a 40 kilometer radius of the municipality. It also has at least 4 local parks and greenspaces within its boundaries.

Provincial Parks & Protected Areas^{23,24}	Beauvais Lake Prov. Park Beehive Natural Area Black Creek Heritage Rangeland Bob Creek Wildland Prov. Park Crownsnest Park Don Getty Wildland Prov. Park Elk Valley Park Elko Park	Height of the Rockies Park Morrisey Park Mount Fernie Park Oldman Dam Prov. Rec. Area Plateau Mountain Eco. Reserve Top of The World Park Upper Bob Creek Eco. Reserve
Local Greenspaces²⁵	Central Park Cypress Park Lions and Heritage Park Juniper Park	

Weather & Climate

Weather and climate data is based on the Government of Canada's climate normals and averages for the Sparwood station.²⁶

	January	July
Daily average (°C)	-6.5	15.8
Daily maximum (°C)	-2.2	23.8
Daily minimum (°C)	-10.7	7.7
Extreme maximum (°C)	11.9 (2005)	34.9 (2002)
Extreme minimum (°C)	-37.9 (1998)	0 (1982)
Rainfall (mm)	17.3	46.8
Snowfall (cm)	50.4	0.0
Extreme daily rainfall (mm)	27.8 (1984)	27.2 (1990)
Extreme daily snowfall (cm)	24.0 (2004)	0 (1980)
Extreme snow depth (cm)	56 (1997)	0 (1981)

Modeled Climate Data – History & Projections

Climate data was modeled across the Columbia Basin-Boundary for a 10x10 km grid. The figures below show median values from results of 12 climate models for each time period and for low carbon and high carbon emission scenarios for the grid closest to Sparwood.²⁷ Low carbon scenarios assume global greenhouse gas emissions are drastically reduced from current levels, while high carbon scenarios assume greenhouse gas emissions continue increasing at current rates.

Variable	Recent Past (1951 - 1980)	Near Future (2021 - 2050)		Far Future (2051 - 2080)	
		Low Carbon	High Carbon	Low Carbon	High Carbon
Annual mean temperature	3.0 °C	4.8 °C	5.2 °C	5.9 °C	7.1 °C
Annual total precipitation	611 mm	639 mm	621 mm	639 mm	659 mm

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