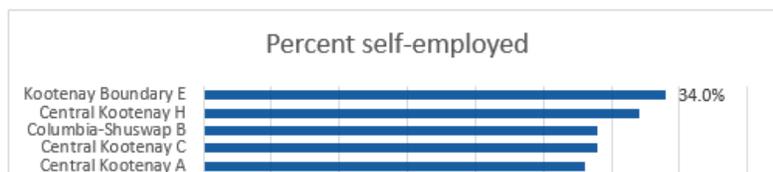
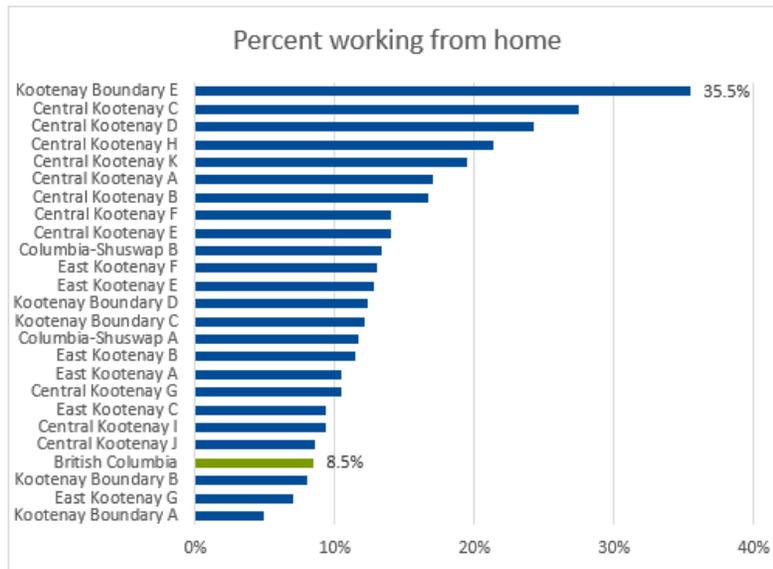
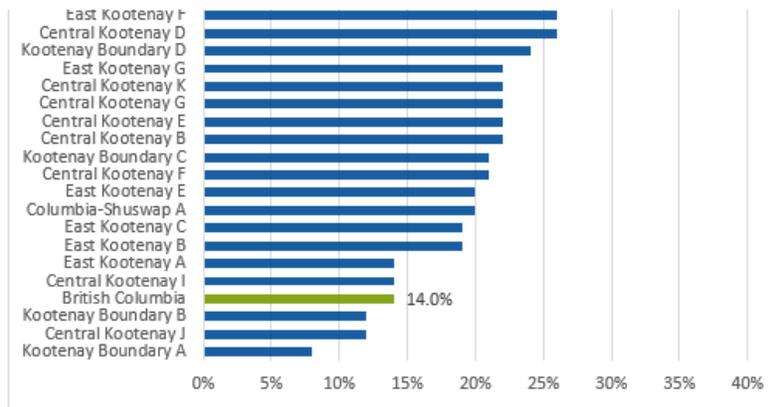




The Impact of Rural Living on the Labour Force - Electoral Area Community Profiles Now Available

How does rural living impact the labour force? The Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute (RDI) recently completed [community profiles](#) for each of the electoral areas in the Columbia Basin-Boundary region, including data related to the labour force. This research shows that most rural areas in the Columbia Basin-Boundary region have a higher percentage of self-employed workers than the provincial average of 14%. The same is true for the percent of people working from home. Most electoral areas in the Columbia Basin-Boundary region are above the provincial average of 8.5%. Kootenay Boundary Electoral Area E is the highest with 35.5% of the employed population working from home. (See graphs below).





The labour force is also affected by population demographics. Labour shortages are an issue [across Canada](#), in large part due to the baby-boomer generation beginning to age out of the workforce. This is true for all of the electoral areas in our region as well. Each community profile contains a labour force replacement rate. This is an estimate of the number of people who will be entering versus leaving the workforce in the next 15 years. Data from each community varies slightly, but all electoral areas in the Columbia Basin-Boundary region have a labour force replacement rate of less than 1.0, indicating that the size of the current labour force is unlikely to be maintained solely with local replacement workers. See specific data for each electoral area community profile [here](#).

Rural areas experience unique challenges and opportunities—the labour force is just one element. The RDI’s series of Community Profiles is intended to share area-specific data with local governments and other organizations to help build a better understanding of local conditions and trends to assist in making evidence-based planning and management decisions.

These reports may also be useful for supporting communications with current residents, prospective residents, and for business and workforce attraction. The community profiles contain a wide variety of data related to demographics, infrastructure, housing, income, education, civic engagement, businesses, local government and environment. Click [here](#) to see your community's profile.

Community profiles are part of the State of the Basin initiative. To find out more visit: <http://www.cbrdi.ca/Research/State-of-the-Basin>

Webinar: Navigating Online Climate Data Sources

On February 27 at 10 a.m. PT/11 a.m. MT, join a free webinar about the various climate data sources available for the Columbia Basin and how to use them. This webinar will be useful for anyone who needs to use climate data to inform technical and/or policy analysis and decision making. Nelson-based climate scientist Mel Reasoner will provide a practical overview of the [Columbia Basin Climate Source](#), the [Climate Atlas of Canada](#) and [ClimateData.ca](#). [Click here to register and join](#).

Asset Management Training Opportunity for Basin-Boundary Local Governments

The Selkirk Geospatial Research Centre (SGRC) is one of 18 partner organizations from across the country selected by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to deliver asset management training, including group learning and hands-on training, to Canadian communities. The SGRC is seeking 10-15 staff from 5-10 municipalities to participate in cohort-based training. They will co-develop the curriculum with project participants. For more information, please contact Ian Parfitt at iparfitt@selkirk.ca

New Research on Building a Gender Diverse Mining Workforce in the Columbia Basin-Boundary Region

Our region's mining industry is a significant economic driver for BC and Canada. New research analyses the barriers facing women who wish to enter the region's mining workforce and explores ways to remove the barriers in order to create more opportunities for women in mining. [Learn more.](#)



Selkirk College RDI Focus is a monthly e-blast highlighting stories of well-being in our region. You are receiving this email because you have attended an RDI event or have subscribed to receive updates on the RDI.

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