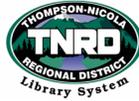




The Region of BC's Best

Thompson-Nicola Regional District



Thompson-Nicola
Film Commission
BRITISH COLUMBIA

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Regional Growth Strategy Report Released

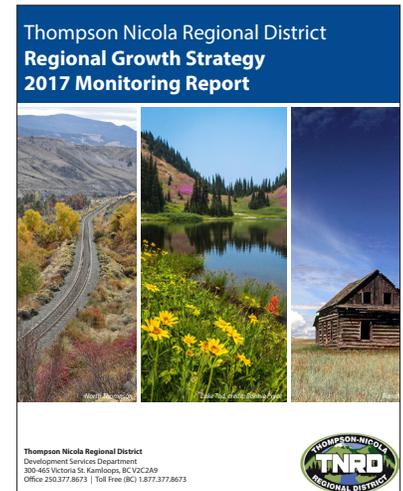
For Immediate Release (March 28/18): The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) is pleased to announce the release of the 2017 Regional Growth Strategy Monitoring Report.

The Regional Growth Strategy is a strategic plan for achieving a socially, economically and environmentally responsible future for the region. Using 2016 census and other recent data, the report informs how we are faring as a region and how our decisions, those of higher governments, and events and trends impact lives in the TNRD.

The report examines 10 indicators — everything from jobs and housing, to agriculture and air quality. Highlights include:

- In the past 5 years housing starts are up 20% in established communities. Kamloops still accommodates the greatest percentage of new housing units (80%), many of which are in multi-family developments.
- More people are driving for longer commute durations to work and/or school while rates of walking, biking, using transit, or carpooling remain stagnant or are declining.
- Economic and employment trends are positive — median income is up and unemployment is down. On the down side the proportion and

- actual number of higher paying resource sector and manufacturing jobs are down since the 2011 Census.
- The Thompson Cariboo Shuswap HSDA reports higher rates of asthma, COPD, and diabetes than B.C. as a whole. The good news is that BMI is decreasing and life expectancy is increasing
- Our agriculture sector continues to gain strength on the basis of higher beef prices and ongoing diversification of cattle/dairy industry. Total farmed land is up and farm income is up — even as the number of individual farms is down.



To read the full report, go to www.tnrd.ca and click on Planning, under Development Services.

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**For more information contact Regina Sadlikova, Director of Development Services:
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The TNRD covers 11 municipalities (Ashcroft, Barriere, Cache Creek, Chase, Clearwater, Clinton, Kamloops, Logan Lake, Lytton, Merritt and Sun Peaks) and 10 Electoral Areas - "A" (Wells Gray Country), "B" (Thompson Headwaters), "E" (Bonaparte Plateau), "I" (Blue Sky Country), "J" (Copper Desert Country), "L" (Grasslands), "M" (Beautiful Nicola Valley - North), "N" (Beautiful Nicola Valley - South), "O" (Lower North Thompson) and "P" (Rivers and the Peaks). The TNRD provides over 120 services including planning and building inspection, solid waste management, emergency preparedness, 9-1-1 services, recreation, utilities, television rebroadcasting, river buoys, transit, tourism, library services and operates a film commission.