

**Northern Alberta Youth  
Program and Service Review**

**October 2008**

**Aylward Research Services**  
*"verus et fidelis semper"*



## Acknowledgements

This report has been made possible through a partnership of

Municipal District of Smoky River

Northern Alberta Development Council



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## Executive Summary

- ⇒ Approximately 41,000 youth between the ages of 10-16 years old reside within the catchment area of the Northern Alberta Development Council.
- ⇒ Northern Alberta assets include 280 community schools, 200 churches, 57 4-H Clubs, 10 Youth Connections offices, 50 Family and Community Services Offices, plus a variety of fee-for-service art, sport, and recreational services, and municipal facilities such as pools, arenas and community centers.
- ⇒ Accessibility to any of the above resources is defined as being within 50km of where the youth resides.
- ⇒ 122 youth program and service providers were surveyed.
- ⇒ The most frequently noted programs and services offered to youth by the survey respondents were career guidance, computer access, volunteer opportunities, and counseling.
- ⇒ The most frequently noted program/service gap for youth was after school programs between the hours of 3:30pm to 6:30pm.
- ⇒ The four most frequently noted barriers to providing youth programs and services identified by the survey respondents were staffing, transportation, funding and facility.
- ⇒ The four most frequently noted solutions to these barriers were community meetings, partnerships, parent/industry involvement, and policy assessment.
- ⇒ It is the opinion of the researcher that the most interfering barrier to providing youth programs and services is differing mandates and lack of communication on resource sharing potential among the service providers.

## Executive Summary



The following recommendations are detailed in this report:

- 1) Communities should conduct an assessment of resources available and streamline duplications to better use the financial and human resources available within the community.
- 2) School boards should design/enhance a ‘community use’ policy for schools and buses after school-hours that prioritize use of these resources to the children in the community.
- 3) The FCSS’s should hold community information meetings outlining mandate, funding availability, and program development/approval process.
- 4) The FCSS’s in partnership with Alberta Education and community partners should consider developing a credit recognition program for high-school students interested in careers directed toward the social, community, and human services.
- 5) Identification of the learning objectives and credit transferability to post-secondary institutions for students developing and supervising youth programs should be tasked to the FCSS’s of 4-6 communities across Northern Alberta as a pilot project.

## The Context of Northern Alberta

Representing 60% of the land mass of Alberta, the Northern region is a key contributor to the prosperity of the Province. With only 9% of the provincial population, the per capita contribution of the NADC Region far exceeds that of the rest of Alberta. The significant and growing economic contribution of Northern Alberta is clearly demonstrated in the report; *Analysis of the Economic Contribution of the Northern Alberta Development Council Region to Alberta and Canada (NADC 2006)*. This report is available at <http://www.nadc.gov.ab.ca/>.

*“Northern Alberta has 100% of Alberta’s mined oil sands development and produces 58% of the oil and 36% of the natural gas in Alberta. In 2005, the region’s mining and energy sector contributed \$27.4 billion to Alberta’s international exports. Ninety percent (90%) of the province’s potentially productive forests are in Northern Alberta.*

*In 2005, the NADC Region exported \$2.5 billion of forest products, accounting for 85% of the province’s total paper and pulp international exports and 78% of Alberta’s wood products. Also, Northern Alberta is the most northern grain producing region in the world and accounts for \$372 million of Alberta’s international agricultural exports, including \$352 million, or 22% of provincial international crop exports, and \$20 million or 5% of international livestock exports.*

*Northern Alberta’s actual contribution is much greater if the employment, value-added processing and investment taking place outside the region as a result of the development of northern resources are taken into account.”*

Northern Alberta is a region rich in natural resources. These resources create jobs that draw labour from all over the world. A portion of this labour is considered transient, yet a large number of the labour pool attracted to Northern Alberta do bring their families, they have a vested interest in the health and well-being of their communities, and they want services for themselves and their families. With over 350,000 residents in Northern Alberta, meeting the demand for services above and beyond “industry” has been a continuing challenge for all service providers. This report focuses on the needs of one distinct group in Northern Alberta – “non-crisis” children aged 10-16 years old.

### **Purpose of the Report**

Primary Purpose: The primary purpose of this report is to collect a listing of programs and services that are currently available or being planned that will affect or include the youth of Northern Alberta between the ages of 10 to 16 years old. The report focuses upon programs, and services that are primarily designed to facilitate youth participation, peer socialization, active community involvement, and or/to build life skills (ie ... non-crisis).

Secondary Purpose: A secondary component of this report summarizes high-school completion and post-secondary transition rates of Northern Alberta youth. Typically associated with ages 17 to 19, these performance outcomes are presented in Section 1.2.

Methodology: A combination of primary and secondary research methods were used in this report. The target group was quantified using school enrollments. Target group gender was compiled from Statistics Canada’s health region populations. Information on research, programs, and services was collected through a web-based service provider survey.



**Part 1 –The Target Group**  
**Youth 10 Years old to 16 Years Old**

## Section 1.1 Target Group Population

How many youth ages 10 years to 16 years old live within the catchment area of the Northern Alberta Development Council? To answer this question two provincial registration systems were cross-referenced – the student identification system and the personal healthcare system. Within the school system the target group coincides with Grade 5 to Grade 11. Table 1 shows student enrollments across grade by school authority type for both Alberta and the Northern Alberta Development Council catchment area.

**Table 1: A Student Population in Alberta**

Type	ECS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <20	12 >20	Total
Public	29,469	28,560	27,903	28,570	28,928	28,984	29,925	31,365	31,536	31,961	35,486	34,925	41,604	2,168	411,384
Sep.	10,239	9,845	9,629	10,076	10,084	10,009	10,311	10,354	10,415	10,349	10,275	10,382	11,386	75	133,429
Franc	724	533	526	497	507	449	458	387	360	324	239	202	186	1	5,393
FN	860	798	698	653	671	659	622	573	553	570	627	384	309	419	8,396
<b>AB Total</b>	<b>40,432</b>	<b>38,938</b>	<b>38,058</b>	<b>39,143</b>	<b>39,519</b>	<b>39,442</b>	<b>40,694</b>	<b>42,106</b>	<b>42,311</b>	<b>42,634</b>	<b>46,000</b>	<b>45,509</b>	<b>53,176</b>	<b>2,244</b>	<b>558,602</b>
Percent	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	10%	<1%	

**Table 1:B Student Population in NADC Region**

Type	ECS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 <20	12 >20	Total
Public	4251	3950	3649	3810	3787	3887	4000	4146	4217	4283	5218	4881	5473	464	56,016
Sep.	1388	1115	1068	1112	1062	1073	1063	1081	1085	1120	989	909	852	1	13,918
Franc	392	310	317	308	311	291	307	252	236	233	186	159	146	1	3,449
FN	208	263	241	234	213	224	193	186	183	175	133	82	63	8	2,406
<b>NADC Total</b>	<b>6239</b>	<b>5638</b>	<b>5275</b>	<b>5464</b>	<b>5373</b>	<b>5475</b>	<b>5563</b>	<b>5665</b>	<b>5721</b>	<b>5811</b>	<b>6526</b>	<b>6031</b>	<b>6534</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>75,789</b>
Percent	8%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%	8%	9%	8%	9%	1%	

Table 1 indicates that Northern Alberta grade distribution does not differ significantly from the Alberta distribution. Also, note that across the grades there is no significant difference in total populations - the range being 7%-10% of total. Using the enrollment data for Grades 5 to 11, a total of 40,792 youth were identified; representing 54% of the total school enrollments identified for Northern Alberta.

Student enrollment data was cross-referenced with age and gender data reported to Statistics Canada by the three Health Authorities that service Northern Alberta – Northern Lights, Peace Country, and Aspen. Table 2 shows the population distribution for each of the health authorities.

<b>Table 2: Health Authority Population Statistics – Northern Alberta</b>									
Age/RHA	Northern Lights			Peace Country			Aspen		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
0 to 4 years	6,120	3,185	2,930	10,100	5,210	4,895	11,440	5,860	5,585
5 to 9 years	5,815	2,990	2,825	9,840	4,990	4,850	12,305	6,370	5,940
10 to 14 years	5,875	3,035	2,840	10,680	5,580	5,100	13,950	7,245	6,700
15 to 19 years	5,880	2,975	2,910	10,505	5,500	5,005	13,445	6,980	6,470
20 to 24 years	6,665	3,550	3,120	10,815	5,630	5,185	10,850	5,660	5,190
25 to 29 years	6,785	3,480	3,300	10,155	5,245	4,910	10,345	5,320	5,020
30 to 34 years	6,240	3,385	2,860	9,955	5,175	4,780	10,850	5,415	5,430
35 to 39 years	5,845	3,105	2,745	9,360	4,785	4,575	11,765	5,980	5,785
40 to 44 years	5,955	3,055	2,900	10,705	5,475	5,230	14,500	7,295	7,200
45 to 49 years	6,270	3,385	2,885	10,480	5,350	5,130	13,995	7,250	6,745
50 to 54 years	5,100	2,940	2,165	8,870	4,595	4,270	12,020	6,345	5,675
55 to 59 years	3,190	1,870	1,320	6,855	3,565	3,285	10,125	5,155	4,970
60 to 64 years	1,605	955	645	4,970	2,545	2,425	7,860	4,085	3,775
65 to 69 years	785	420	360	3,890	2,030	1,855	6,035	3,200	2,835
70 to 74 years	525	255	265	3,115	1,585	1,535	5,090	2,690	2,400
75 to 79 years	325	175	155	2,270	1,110	1,165	3,695	1,890	1,815
80 to 84 years	180	75	105	1,630	740	890	2,485	1,130	1,355
>85 years	140	45	95	1,145	435	710	2,065	710	1,355
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,290</b>	<b>38,875</b>	<b>34,415</b>	<b>135,335</b>	<b>69,540</b>	<b>65,790</b>	<b>172,825</b>	<b>88,575</b>	<b>84,245</b>

Table 2.A shows the target group extracted from the total population chart above. The bottom portion of the table shows there is no significant difference in gender across the target group.

<b>Table 2.A Health Regions - Target Group</b>			
Age Range	Male	Female	<b>Total</b>
10 to 14 years	15,860	14,640	<b>30,500</b>
15 to 19 years	15,455	14,385	<b>29,840</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,315</b>	<b>29,025</b>	<b>60,340</b>
Percent	52%	48%	

As noted in Table 2A, the health regions show 60,340 youth between the ages of 10 and 19 years old. To cross reference health region data with school enrollments relevant to the target group, two sources of variance need to be extracted. First, the Aspen Health Region extends beyond the boundaries of the Northern Alberta Development Council. Second, the age groupings for the health regions encompass 17, 18, and 19 year olds. Table 3 shows the estimated number of the target group for the health regions when these two sources of variance are accounted for.

**Table 3: Variance Extracted - Health Region Population Data**

Variance Factor #1)	Aspen Health extends beyond the boundaries of NADC. ~65% of the target group resides within the NADC boundary. Age Range 10-19 years - Aspen Health Region Total = 27,395 $27,395 \times (.65) = 17,807$ Aspen RHA  <u>Revised Working Total for All Health Regions = 50,752</u>
Variance Factor #2)	RHA data also includes 17, 18, & 19 olds ~20% ( Grade 12 plus youth not in highschool) $50,752 \times (.20) = 10,150$
<b>Health Regions Target Group Population: 40,602</b>	

The average of the total school enrollments for the target group (40,792) and the health population data for the target group (40,602) is 40,697. There are approximately **40,697 youth between the ages of 10 years old and 16 old years within the catchment area of the Northern Alberta Development Council.**

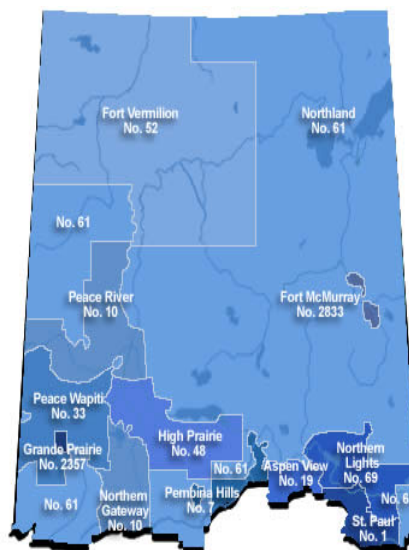
Tables 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D show target group school enrollments across the school authorities that service Northern Alberta. This information can be used to cross reference the target group with geographic spread across the catchment area of the Northern Alberta Development Council.

**Northern Alberta  
Public School Authorities**

- Aspen View Regional Division No. 19
- Fort Vermilion School Division No. 52
- Fort McMurray Public School District No. 2833
- Grande Prairie Public School District No. 2357
- High Prairie School Division No. 48
- Northland School Division No. 61
- Northern Gateway Regional Division No. 10
- Northern Lights School Division No. 69
- Peace Wapiti School Division No. 33
- Peace River School Division No. 10
- Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7
- St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1

56,016 Total Students Enrolled  
30,632 = Grades 5 to 11

*Note: 8 Métis Settlement Schools included*

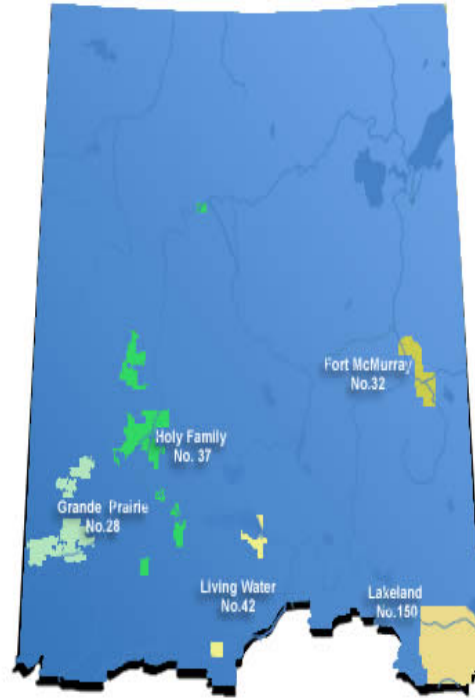


<b>Table 4:A Target Group – Public School Enrollments – NADC Region 10 Year Olds to 16 Year Olds</b>									
<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent of Total NADC Target Group</b>
Aspen View	236	291	281	267	265	331	264	<b>1935</b>	<b>5%</b>
Fort Vermillion	270	287	278	251	262	324	214	<b>1886</b>	<b>5%</b>
Fort McMurray	356	349	346	342	404	452	438	<b>2687</b>	<b>7%</b>
Grande Prairie	445	468	484	511	450	528	462	<b>3348</b>	<b>8%</b>
High Prairie	250	238	273	276	324	351	310	<b>2022</b>	<b>5%</b>
Northland	251	242	229	248	185	180	161	<b>1496</b>	<b>4%</b>
Northern Gateway	419	397	444	436	433	521	452	<b>3102</b>	<b>8%</b>
Northern Lights	421	421	457	450	515	528	519	<b>3311</b>	<b>8%</b>
Peace Wapiti	390	384	451	441	477	503	508	<b>3154</b>	<b>8%</b>
Peace River	240	234	224	268	274	304	279	<b>1823</b>	<b>4%</b>
Pembina Hills	300	352	310	385	364	872	968	<b>3551</b>	<b>9%</b>
St. Paul	309	337	369	342	330	324	306	<b>2317</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Total Public</b>	<b>3887</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>4146</b>	<b>4217</b>	<b>4283</b>	<b>5218</b>	<b>4881</b>	<b>30632</b>	<b>75%</b>

**Northern Alberta  
Separate School Authorities**

Fort McMurray Catholic School District No. 32  
 Grande Prairie Separate School District No. 28  
 Holy Family Catholic Regional Division No. 37  
 Lakeland Separate School District No. 150  
 Living Water Catholic Regional Division No. 42

13,918 Total Students Enrolled  
 7,320 = Grades 5 to 11



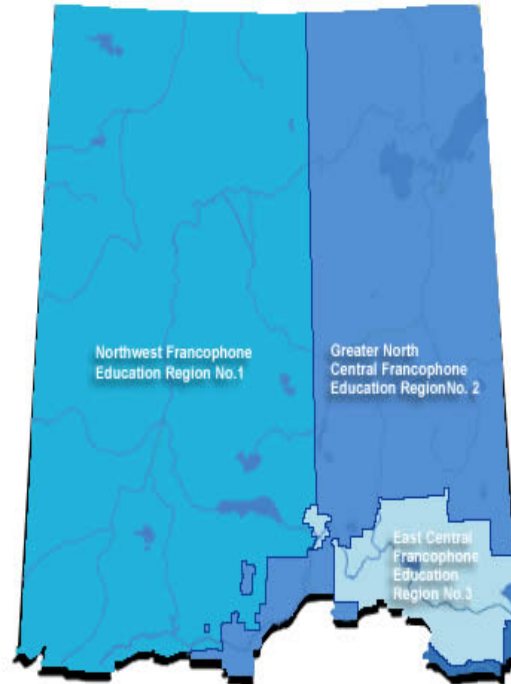
**Table 4:B Target Group – Separate School Enrollments – NADC Region  
10 Year Olds to 16 Year Olds**

School District/Grade	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total	Percent of Total NADC Target Group
Fort McM. Catholic	300	309	308	298	313	300	276	<b>2104</b>	<b>5%</b>
Grande Prairie Separate	298	290	263	258	298	258	269	<b>1934</b>	<b>5%</b>
Holy Family Catholic	177	180	186	204	189	146	140	<b>1222</b>	<b>3%</b>
Lakeland Separate	181	163	170	177	169	173	126	<b>1159</b>	<b>3%</b>
Living Water Catholic	117	121	154	148	151	112	98	<b>901</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1073</b>	<b>1063</b>	<b>1081</b>	<b>1085</b>	<b>1120</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>7320</b>	<b>18%</b>

**Northern Alberta  
Francophone School Authorities**

Greater North Central Francophone Region No. 2  
 East Central Francophone Region No. 3  
 Northwest Francophone Education Region No. 1

3,449 Total Students Enrolled  
 1,664 – Grades 5 to 11

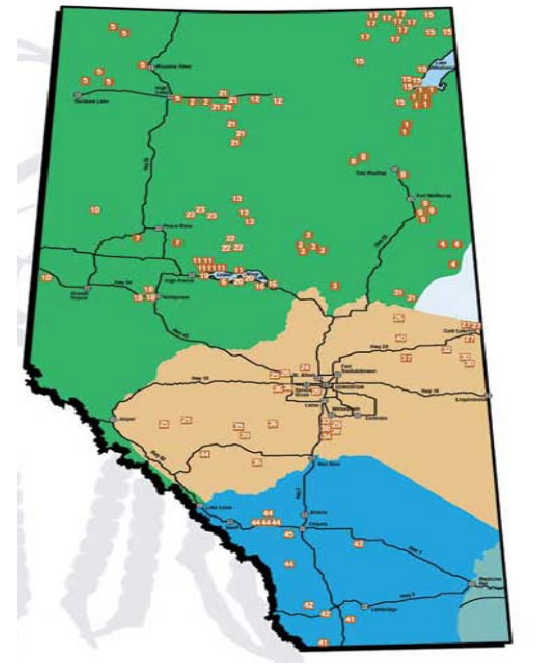


<b>Table 4:C Target Group – Francophone School Enrollments - NADC Region 10 Year Olds to 16 Year Olds</b>									
<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent of Total NADC Target Group</b>
Greater North Francophone	215	224	184	175	169	138	114	<b>1219</b>	<b>3%</b>
East Central Francophone	45	57	37	41	47	36	23	<b>286</b>	<b>1%</b>
Northwest Francophone	31	26	31	20	17	12	22	<b>159</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>1664</b>	<b>4%</b>

**Northern Alberta – 22 First Nations Schools**

- Beaver Lake Education Authority
- Bigstone Cree Education Authority
- Chipewyan Prairie First Nation
- Dene Tha' Band
- Driftpile Band
- Frog Lake Band
- Heart Lake Band
- Horse Lake First Nation
- Kehewin Band
- Little Red River Board of Education (3)
- Loon River First Nation
- Saddle Lake Education Authority(2)
- Sturgeon Lake First Nation
- Sucker Creek First Nation
- Swan River First Nation
- Tallcree Band (2)
- Whitefish Lake Education Authority
- Whitefish Lake First Nations
- Woodland Cree First Nation

2,406 Total Students Enrolled  
1,176 = Grades 5 to 11



**Table 4:D Target Group – First Nation School Enrollments - NADC Region  
10 Year Olds to 16 Year Olds**

School District/Grade	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total	Percent of Total NADC Target Group
Beaver Lake	4	10	8	7	8	0	0	<b>37</b>	<1%
Bigstone	24	18	0	0	0	0	0	<b>42</b>	<1%
Chipewyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<1%
Dene Tha'	21	19	13	23	37	0	0	<b>113</b>	<1%
Driftpile	7	4	4	5	2	0	0	<b>22</b>	<1%
Frog Lake	16	21	22	16	16	16	14	<b>121</b>	<1%
Heart Lake	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	<b>9</b>	<1%
Horse Lake	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<1%
Kehewin	26	28	28	21	22	22	10	<b>157</b>	<1%
Little Red River	42	16	30	32	25	28	12	<b>185</b>	<1%
Loon River	8	10	13	11	7	0	0	<b>49</b>	<1%
Saddle Lake	32	24	28	27	26	25	16	<b>178</b>	<1%
Sturgeon Lake	8	14	8	8	5	13	6	<b>62</b>	<1%
Sucker Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<1%
Swan River	0	0	3	6	4	8	14	<b>35</b>	<1%
Tallcree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<1%
Whitefish EA	11	5	9	9	8	0	0	<b>42</b>	<1%
Whitefish FN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	<1%
Woodland	20	20	20	18	15	21	10	<b>124</b>	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1176</b>	<b>3%</b>



School Achievement: Alberta Education provides a standardized test to all students in Grades 3, 6, and 9 as a means to measure and monitor the success of student learning in core subjects. In 2006/07 there were 714 schools in Alberta that delivered the Grade 6 Math and Language Arts provincial achievement tests. Information about achievement test outcomes is provided to schools, school authorities, parents, and the public, so that they may know how well students in their schools are meeting provincial expectations.

Due to the critical assessment of the utility of these tests by teachers and school administrators, Table 5 presents a snapshot of the outcomes for 34 schools in Northern Alberta that delivered the Grade 6 exams. As indicated more than 70% of the selected schools ranked lower than the provincial overall rating. Of particular interest is the number of students per school who took the exams and failed. The outcomes on Table 5 are significantly varied across the schools. Yet a quick review indicates there are pools of students in Northern Alberta experiencing great difficulty with these achievements tests. Note that schools are not individually identified. Readers interested in further details regarding achievement test outcomes are directed to the full-report noted in the resources used for this report.

*The results (of achievement tests) tell us nothing about the multitude of variables that affect learning, such as class size, teaching resources, teaching strategies, teaching styles, socioeconomic conditions or the physical, social, psychological, emotional and intellectual state of the student.*

*Achievement tests- School improvement or statistics with sorcery?  
Michael Podlosky – Alberta Teacher's Association - Newsletter*

**Table 5: Northern Alberta Student Achievement Tests - Grade 6**

NADC Region	Enrollment	Rank /714	Achievement Test Results 2007				
			Language Average	Math Average	Percent Failed	Percent Not Written	Overall Rating /10
Athabasca / Slave Lake Area							
1	51	707	57	43	47	7	0.7
2	29	162	70	64	58	9	7.3
3	24	213	67	59	7	0	7.0
4	20	593	55	48	20	7	4.4
5	24	617	65	62	19	4	4.1
6	29	543	60	51	16	13	4.9
Fort McMurray Area							
1	23	710	43	40	70	23	0.1
2	65	87	73	73	3	5	7.9
3	52	480	63	55	14	7	5.4
4	42	688	57	47	38	8	2.3
5	47	110	77	74	4	2	7.7
6	50	493	64	53	14	2	5.3
Grande Prairie Area							
1	58	531	61	60	14	0	5.0
2	59	213	66	62	8	2	7.0
3	54	531	62	59	19	3	5.0
4	67	531	63	64	18	7	5.0
5	69	433	64	60	12	12	5.7
6	65	493	65	62	16	5	5.3
High Level Area							
1	26	653	61	56	23	5	3.4
2	29	466	63	62	14	0	5.5
3	17	87	76	74	1	0	7.9
4	23	194	67	70	4	2	7.1
Peace River Area							
1	53	396	64	63	12	7	5.9
2	15	690	48	38	25	23	2.2
3	50	433	66	63	11	4	5.7
4	23	299	65	63	5	9	6.5
5	41	676	53	46	34	0.7	2.8
6	53	382	69	64	7	4	6.0
St Paul / Bonnyville Area							
1	57	630	63	54	20	2	3.9
2	40	493	66	66	12	10	5.3
3	20	336	68	67	9	6	6.3
4	28	311	72	75	10	5	6.4
5	36	493	65	66	17	2	5.3
6	46	452	70	64	17	7	5.6
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>44</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6.0</b>

## Section 1.2: Northern Alberta: High-school Achievement

### **High School Completion and Post-secondary Transitions:**

Academic achievement is frequently associated with future success and contributing to one's community. The following tables show the academic achievement levels of senior youth in Northern Alberta. Each table provides the provincial average performance for comparison. In 2006/07 there were 288 high-schools in Alberta that delivered provincial diploma exams. Table 6 presents the high-school diploma exam outcomes for selected schools across Northern Alberta.

<b>Table 6: Northern Alberta School Ratings – High School Diploma Exams</b>							
NADC Region	Enrollment	Rank /288	Achievement Test Results				
			Diploma Exams Average	Percent Failed	Graduation Rate	Delayed Advancement	Overall Rating /10
<b>Athabasca / Slave Lake Area</b>							
1	23	195	64	18	91	44	5.5
2	184	191	65	16	75	34	5.6
3	137	271	59	28	57	54	2.8
4	109	253	57	31	78	22	4.1
5	31	285	50	46	56	70	0.0
6	15	282	55	33	64	66	1.0
<b>Fort McMurray Area</b>							
1	334	169	66	15	75	38	5.9
2	186	251	65	16	54	58	4.2
3	222	46	70	10	86	17	7.5
<b>Grande Prairie Area</b>							
1	468	226	64	18	67	46	4.9
2	71	231	69	7	58	66	4.8
3	114	235	60	23	79	27	4.7
4	90	214	63	18	71	42	5.1
5	46	184	64	20	73	25	5.7
6	196	203	61	23	75	23	5.4
<b>High Level Area</b>							
1	44	178	64	17	81	28	5.8
2	54	178	69	5	87	43	5.8
3	37	246	61	31	88	24	4.4
<b>Peace River Area</b>							
1	73	226	64	19	68	36	4.9
2	80	212	62	22	74	18	5.2
3	64	242	59	25	75	32	4.6
4	18	235	65	15	72	28	4.7
5	121	203	65	18	71	56	5.4
6	16	261	58	32	94	10	3.7
<b>St Paul / Bonnyville Area</b>							
1	81	57	68	9	84	11	7.3
2	112	184	63	19	84	13	5.7
3	33	195	63	24	83	29	5.5
4	177	100	69	8	74	29	6.4
5	52	108	65	13	82	15	6.6
6	80	231	65	15	77	42	4.8
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>142</b>		<b>66%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>6.0</b>

Table 7 shows high school completion rates within three years or five years of starting Grade 10. Assuming a student is on track and completes the required number of credits each year the student can complete high-school within three years of starting Grade 10. The school system does allow for course load decreases thus extending the expected completion date up to five years of starting Grade 10.

<b>Table 7 : Percent of High School Completions Within 3 Yrs &amp; 5 Yrs of Starting Grade 10 - NADC Region</b>								
<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>3YR</b>	<b>5YR</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>3YR</b>	<b>5YR</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>3YR</b>	<b>5YR</b>
Aspen View	71	82	Northern Lights	65	77	Northwest Francophone	93	100
Fort Vermillion	53	68	Peace Wapiti	71	78	Fort McM. Catholic	75	77
Fort McMurray	70	80	Peace River	62	76	Grande Prairie Separate	73	83
Grande Prairie	58	67	Pembina Hills	69	76	Holy Family Catholic	61	79
High Prairie	63	77	St. Paul	61	79	Lakeland Separate	72	80
Northland	23	56	Greater North Francophone	74	81	Living Water Catholic	63	69
Northern Gateway	70	77	East Central Francophone	67	96	<b>Provincial</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>79%</b>

Table 8 shows high-school diploma examination participation rates for students in Northern Alberta. These rates are calculated by tracking Grade 10 students for three years. Obtaining credit in two diploma examination courses (Language Arts and Social Studies) is a requirement for high-school graduation in Alberta. However, to proceed to postsecondary, students typically require four areas of competency - Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

<b>Table 8 : Percent of High School Students Writing 4 or More Diploma Exams 2001 &amp; 2006</b>								
<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2006</b>
Aspen View	44	50	Northern Lights	42	41	Northwest Francophone	50	87
Fort Vermillion	31	26	Peace Wapiti	47	45	Fort McM. Catholic	41	46
Fort McMurray	40	45	Peace River	45	46	Grande Prairie Separate	58	65
Grande Prairie	35	44	Pembina Hills	48	61	Holy Family Catholic	41	40
High Prairie	41	41	St. Paul	45	35	Lakeland Separate	46	60
Northland	4	2	Greater North Francophone	62	69	Living Water Catholic	37	38
Northern Gateway	43	46	East Central Francophone	58	54	<b>Provincial</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>54%</b>

The annual dropout rate tracks students aged 14 to 18 for one year. Those who are not registered in the education system (K-12 school, post-secondary institution or apprenticeship program in Alberta) in the subsequent year or have not completed high-school are included in the dropout rate. The annual return rate is the percentage of students who dropped out and then returned to the education system (K-12 school, post-secondary institution or apprenticeship program in Alberta) within a year after dropping out. Table 9 shows the drop out and return rates for students in Northern Alberta.

<b>Table 9 : Percent of Students Dropping Out of / Returning to School</b>								
<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>DROP</b>	<b>RTN</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>DROP</b>	<b>RTN</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>DROP</b>	<b>RTN</b>
Aspen View	4	17	Northern Lights	6	22	Northwest Francophone	0	0
Fort Vermillion	11	12	Peace Wapiti	5	17	Fort McM. Catholic	4	34
Fort McMurray	5	21	Peace River	8	22	Grande Prairie Separate	4	28
Grande Prairie	9	22	Pembina Hills	9	23	Holy Family Catholic	6	38
High Prairie	7	21	St. Paul	5	36	Lakeland Separate	3	43
Northland	19	26	Greater North Francophone	5	21	Living Water Catholic	7	10
Northern Gateway	6	11	East Central Francophone	.4	0	<b>Provincial</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>21%</b>

High-school to post-secondary transition rates are calculated by tracking Grade 10 students for four and six years, then determining the percentages that have enrolled in an Alberta post-secondary institution or apprenticeship program.

Table 10 shows the transition rates for students in Northern Alberta.

<b>Table 10: Transition to Postsecondary – Percent – Northern Alberta</b>								
<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>4YR</b>	<b>6YR</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>4YR</b>	<b>6YR</b>	<b>School District/Grade</b>	<b>4YR</b>	<b>6YR</b>
Aspen View	46	63	Northern Lights	45	62	Northwest Francophone	19	86
Fort Vermillion	23	39	Peace Wapiti	39	52	Fort McM. Catholic	50	63
Fort McMurray	46	60	Peace River	35	57	Grande Prairie Separate	48	64
Grande Prairie	32	53	Pembina Hills	37	54	Holy Family Catholic	39	61
High Prairie	41	54	St. Paul	47	65	Lakeland Separate	42	65
Northland	17	45	Greater North Francophone	40	66	Living Water Catholic	26	41
Northern Gateway	35	45	East Central Francophone	46	75	<b>Provincial</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>60%</b>

## Part 2 – Survey of Youth Service Providers

## Section 2.1 Service Provider Survey Results:

Using a URL survey invitation system, 122 service providers were sent an email invitation to provide input into the *Northern Alberta Youth - Research, Programs, and Services Review* (see Appendix A). Tracking distribution and responses rates, 106 of the sent surveys were opened by the receiver. Sixteen e-invitations remained unopened after initial and two follow-up reminders requesting input were sent. Twelve respondents declined to participate. A total of 80 responses were submitted; resulting in a response rate of 66% (12 declines included). A copy of the survey along with the participant list is available in Appendix A. This section presents a summary of the responses received for each question. Other than correcting typos, survey text is presented verbatim.

### Question # 1: Service Provider Category:

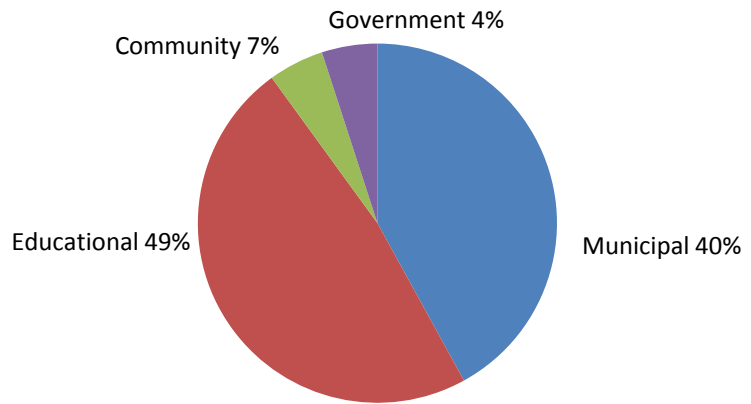
#### 122 Surveys Distributed - Northern Alberta Youth Service Providers 80 Respondents

Group	Sent	Completed	Declined	Unopened	NR
Educational	65	33	7	6	19
Community	6	5	0	0	1
Municipal – FCSS	46	27	4	10	5
Government	5	3	1	0	1
	<b>122</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	

**Response Rate = 80/122 ( 66%)**



**Figure 1: Completed Surveys - Northern Youth - Research, Programs, and Services N=68**



**Question #2:** Does your organization offer services and/or programs to the target group in your community?

<b>Yes</b>	58/68		84.38%
<b>No</b>	10/68	15.62%	



**Question #3.** Of the services and programs listed in the matrix below please select all that are offered by your organization:

	Education Yes of 33 Respondents	Community Yes of 5 Respondents	Municipal Yes of 27 Respondents	Government Yes of 3 Respondents	Overall Yes
Career	13	4	22	1	59%
Employment	12	4	21	1	56%
Volunteer	12	0	27	2	60%
Sports	24	0	11	0	51%
Transportation	9	0	7	0	24%
Before-school Care	4	0	0	0	6%
After-school Care	6	0	1	0	10%
Boys/Girls Clubs	5	0	7	0	18%
Youth Center	0	0	10	0	15%
Computer Access	27	3	10	0	59%
Counselling	16	1	22	0	57%

**Question #4:** Are there other programs / services offered by your organization to the target group that are not listed in the above matrix?

If yes - please list / describe: 28 Responses

Category	Comments
MUNICIPAL	Youth agency liaison support, Youth agency community development, Youth advocacy
MUNICIPAL	We are a Community Leisure Centre - although the Town as a whole does offer more of the above services. We deliver and facilitate Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture. At the moment space for delivering programs is an issue. However, we do try to collaborate with the schools on after-school programming, evening programming and specific spring and summertime activities. (i.e. use of gym and sports fields)
EDUCATION	FCSS comes into the school environment and offers a variety of programs as part of the health curriculum.
EDUCATION	Speech and Language Occupational Therapy
MUNICIPAL	Babysitter Safety, Home Alone Safely, Self Discovery camp for young girls
EDUCATION	We are very fortunate in that our community is very active and knowledgeable of the partnerships the FCSS can create. Most of our offerings are in partnership with community groups and schools.
MUNICIPAL	Our services are offered through partnerships with community groups. We do not deliver directly to youth.
EDUCATION	Student Social club
EDUCATION	Dance Classes - Charge for students Music Lessons - Charge for students A number of service providers (dance, music, soccer, etc ...) use our facility to offer after school activities. The students pay the service provider. We charge a fee to use the facility. The funds raised go into a general pool for school improvements and special events.
EDUCATION	Music club Chess Club
EDUCATION	Student Leaders
EDUCATION	Student Council
EDUCATION	Homework club - though very few students use it. Most students are bussed and have to leave school as soon as classes are over.
EDUCATION	Homework Club - organized by older students
EDUCATION	Student Activity Club - organized by students with teachers volunteering to supervise (shared among all staff)
EDUCATION	Homework Club - 2 days week. Very contained and monitored by rotating teachers. Student Social club - limited to school hour access unless coordinated with Administration.
MUNICIPAL	Youth council.
MUNICIPAL	Information and Referral regarding all the categories above. Seniors services, including Home Support. Community awareness and engagement activities. Roots of Empathy program offered in schools. Summer programs for kids.
MUNICIPAL	Summer Day Camps, Baby Sitting Course, Chicks in Charge- Girls' Support & empowerment group- in school program Cool Camp- Camp that promotes Safe Sex, abstinence, and healthy relationships. in school program Why Try- in school program Girls Circle/ Boys Council- Pull out school program Roots of Empathy- in school program Grades 5 and 7.

MUNICIPAL	Youth Committee - work on special community projects making a positive difference.
MUNICIPAL	Mental Health - Success Coach - Together We're Better Project PAUSE (placing accountability upon a student's education) program for students in grades 5 or 6 who are experiencing difficulties at school. Breakfast program offered throughout the school.
EDUCATION	We work on a "stop bullying" campaign in one of our schools with a teen mentorship program that is going well. We offer babysitting courses to youth over the age of 12 at all three schools We do income tax preparation for youth that need that service.
EDUCATION	RAP, outdoor, environment and Green, Technology clubs
MUNICIPAL	We offer a grant program that supports a number of the services mentioned above - Youth centre, after school care, before school care; however we do not offer the programs as direct service.
COMMUNITY	Entrepreneurship
COMMUNITY	Small Business Loans
MUNICIPAL	Youth Council, Leadership. Board Development for Youth, Anger Management for Teens
MUNICIPAL	Girls Night Out Program for ages 10 to 14 years. Once a week program in the evening offers recreational based programs.

**Question #5:** Of the services and programs listed in Question #3 are there any that you would like to offer but currently do not?

If yes - please list: 39 responses

Category	Comments
MUNICIPAL	Youth outreach
MUNICIPAL	Please see # 4 "space is an issue"...The Town does have plans to build a new Recreation Facility. Although we are in the early stages of planning we would anticipate being able to have a youth centre (with trained programming staff), enhance our after-school programming through delivery in a new community hall and aquatic centre, and co-operate with clubs/associations on other activities. Transportation or 'ease of access' is an issue in our community but is being addressed at an administrative and regional level (i.e. grants)
EDUCATION	Career Day, other than oilfield careers
EDUCATION	Boys/Girls Clubs
EDUCATION	Boys/Girls Club
EDUCATION	Before and after school care
EDUCATION	After-school programs
EDUCATION	After school activities / boys and girl clubs
EDUCATION	Would like to offer after-school programs but need facility / volunteers / to help set-up
MUNICIPAL	Transportation
MUNICIPAL	We can offer all services and more but we need community groups to actually deliver the service to the target group.
EDUCATION	Getting the students to / from home after school hours is difficult
MUNICIPAL	Would to offer some of them but we do have volunteers who can oversee.
EDUCATION	Yes. Coordinated transportation supported by the school board for after-school activities.
EDUCATION	We can not offer any after-school activities due to limits with staff and funds.

EDUCATION	We are very limited in what we can offer to children after school hours as the teachers are busy planning lessons / grading etc .. and do not have the time to supervise / create a whole list of extra-curricular programs. Sports teams are coordinated through community groups and are not free to students.
EDUCATION	Would like to make school accessible to community groups who could provide above services.
EDUCATION	Can't offer anything outside of "curriculum" and school owned activities.
EDUCATION	A boys and girls club so students can have "safe" free time using the resources of the school.
EDUCATION	Transportation, an after school club, programs "non-school" focused.
EDUCATION	Would like to have school used by community after hours but difficult to get logistics approved through head offices.
EDUCATION	We can not offer access to the school after hours as we do not have the ability to supervise / cost of supplies and resources.
EDUCATION	Would to offer all of them!
EDUCATION	We would like to able to offer a scheduled transportation service that is supported by the School board / Community partners for students that want to stay after school and be involved in activities. As it is now, many students can not participate in offerings due to lack of ride home if they miss their bus.
EDUCATION	We would like to offer after-school access but we do not have the staff, time, or resources to provide. It is a shame that the school has all this stuff (gym, computers, books, etc ) but can not afford to offer the community anything outside regular hours.
EDUCATION	We have talked about providing space for daycare but we could not responsible for staffing it.
EDUCATION	Would like to offer transportation to kids involved in after-school activities; especially during the colder months.
MUNICIPAL	Would like to see more of all above
MUNICIPAL	We would like to offer more the community after school hours, any collection of the above would be good, but we do not have the manpower or funds.
MUNICIPAL	After-school care
MUNICIPAL	We are currently working to get a before an after school care program started for September 2009, as well as other child care programs in town. Would like to have a more wide-reaching youth centre.
MUNICIPAL	Before/After School Care Youth Center Volunteer
GOVERNMENT	No
EDUCATION	Employment and Career
MUNICIPAL	Youth Centre
MUNICIPAL	Youth Centre Youth worker - for after school activities
EDUCATION	NO
MUNICIPAL	- we'd like to offer more for the 9 to 12 age group - after school programs.
EDUCATION	Anger Management



**Question # 6:** Has your organization identified any barriers in offering these services/programs to the target group in your community?

If yes, please list / describe: 49 responses

Category	Comments
EDUCATION	lack of parental support; lack of student interest; - students involved in after-school employment and unable to participate in other activities
MUNICIPAL	The community is very supportive, especially FCSS
MUNICIPAL	Space, lack of cooperation - or willingness to at least talk - with the local school district. In essence, a totally inefficient system where the schools, municipal recreation, and sport organizations go along blindly doing their own thing because 'that is the way it has always been'
EDUCATION	Transportation for after school activities is limited
EDUCATION	Community demand offered by the Grande Prairie Catholic School District
MUNICIPAL	Yes -sustainable funding.
MUNICIPAL	Funding and facility
MUNICIPAL	Need access to facilities and volunteers to run programs. Getting the home is also a problem
MUNICIPAL	Facility to host programs. Transportation services. Staff / volunteers to oversee
MUNICIPAL	Having more time to recruit volunteers and training on behalf of the community groups we work with
MUNICIPAL	Volunteers and transportation are huge barriers to creating programs for youth
MUNICIPAL	We do (not) offer these services directly. We work with community groups who ask for funds to offer the services to youth
MUNICIPAL	Cost of vehicles, finding volunteer drivers
MUNICIPAL	Applications from community to get programs started.
MUNICIPAL	Getting the schools on board to incorporate our services into the school day
EDUCATION	We can not offer access to the school after classes - staff not available, do have resources to cover over-time of staff, resources, school bus is scheduled for pick-up right after classes end.
EDUCATION	Busses are on a very tight schedule.
EDUCATION	Staff Time and money. Janitorial and security services. Also, school needs to rent out space to other community groups just to keep within budget.
EDUCATION	Right now our 'after hours" transportation option available is by the goodness of a few teachers and parents. As an administrator I am always fearful of having such a huge expectation placed upon our staff / parent volunteers. the school board is reluctant to address this issue other than "not recommended" yet they "blindly" accept that someone in the community is helping.
EDUCATION	staff, volunteers, transportation, money for supplies ...
EDUCATION	we do(not) have enough money to hire "after-school" coordinators. Also transportation would be a very real issue once the winter weather locks in ...even for the students who live within blocks of the school.

EDUCATION	Time to work with community, limitations on use of staff time for extra-curricular involvements above and beyond current work-loads. Very few Student leaders, mentors, community volunteers... and of course money!
EDUCATION	Coordinating Transport has proven challenging. Right we have a parent / community volunteer system that is being questioned because of insurance issues and fear of accidents, etc..
MUNICIPAL	Staff time, volunteers to oversee "after-school" funds to make sure service is equipped, most of the students are bussed ... participating in after school activities is very unlikely for most students unless there is a "whole" answer that also considers transportation
MUNICIPAL	Finding adults who can volunteer to create / supervise after-school access. Most of the parents of the students who would benefit most from such a service are working until 5 - 6pm. and hence can't volunteer.
MUNICIPAL	Finding people who will take ownership of developing programs that the school could partner on. Money for art supplies, basketballs, travel .. etc ...
EDUCATION	Staff time, funds, policies that contradict community access to school resources
EDUCATION	For before school care our teachers share early-arrival to let children in the school. This is done on a volunteer basis. We have had teachers met children as early as 7:00am to accommodate mom/dad work schedules.
EDUCATION	Staff time, funds, travel costs ...
EDUCATION	Because alot of the children live on rural roads, they can not get to/fro from the school even if they wanted to stay after hours.
EDUCATION	Education system is very prohibitive regarding offering access to schools and buses outside of the "system". Makes it very difficult of local schools to partner with community when legislation is very "liability - risk management focused".
EDUCATION	Transportation to and from events at our school is impossible. We are in a very rural setting and all students are bussed. We are only able to open it up for sports if parents are willing to drive and help supervise the students. We have a small staff and we cannot possible offer any extra programs without community volunteers.
EDUCATION	Coordinating the staff time to ensure all hours are covered and children have supervision.
EDUCATION	Use of school buses outside of school hours has become very restrictive - expense wise and liability insurance. And more and more parents are becoming reluctant to car pool other kids.
MUNICIPAL	transportation costs
MUNICIPAL	Finding facilities, organization to spearhead. we have some funds to help develop but we can not provide the manpower.
EDUCATION	It is very challenging to offer any services after-school hours. Teachers are working long hours even after classes are released.
MUNICIPAL	Staff time, costs, and community of volunteers
MUNICIPAL	Obviously, lack of funding is always an issue, but besides that, little willingness of residents to volunteer or participate makes activities and workshops impossible. Communication is always a challenge: what is the best way to communicate effectively? to the people that need it most? We do not have a database of families in need, so when someone does want to help, i have nowhere to direct them.
MUNICIPAL	Our community is lacking the infrastructure and funding of these projects
MUNICIPAL	Recruitment Issues for youth participants
MUNICIPAL	\$\$\$\$\$\$
MUNICIPAL	Funding and a physical space We have attempted a few things but the youth themselves tell us they don't want adults organizing their activities - they just want to hang out and do their own thing. How can we offer programs when they don't want us involved? We also don't have the staff and volunteers are already overwhelmed and burnt out - or are hesitant to work with this age group of kids as it is a challenge.

MUNICIPAL	- staffing and resources (funding) are the current barriers, however we are looking at ways around these - creative approaches :)
MUNICIPAL	Effective marketing Understanding youth needs and how to relate to them Transportation Dealing with the immigrant population and cultural issues
MUNICIPAL	Distance between community centers and isolation
MUNICIPAL	Yes, transportation from rural areas into the Youth Centre and youth programs. The schools originally was not participating in encouraging youth to attend... now they are encouraging them and announcing the Youth Council meeting dates and programs on their intercom.
MUNICIPAL	Lack of an appropriate space. Lack of funding.



**Question # 7- If yes to Question # 6 - Has your organization identified potential solutions to the above barriers within your community?**

If yes - please list / describe: 40 Responses

Category	Comments
EDUCATION	Ongoing recruitment and encouragement to youth for before/after school activities and leadership opportunities. Positive feedback to students currently involved in before/after school activities.
MUNICIPAL	We work collaboratively with all stakeholders to increase the services required for the youth in our community. We have been very successful in supporting the development of a number of new initiatives like the Stepping Stones Youth Home Advisory Committee, The Youth Interagency Meeting and the development of youth agency partnerships, just to name a few!
MUNICIPAL	Yup, wait 10 years until people see the light (personal opinion)  We do have 'some' success. One school principal is extremely cooperative and is engaged enough to approach us with ideas. We also have some sports organizations with very good coaches and administrators, but they often work on a volunteer basis, so their ability to give time to 'sport system building' is limited. There is also a will to have a youth representative on council. However, so far that idea has not come to fruition.
EDUCATION	Not really.
EDUCATION	Community "keep it simple' meeting to help find solutions - schools, community action groups, and health region could partner
MUNICIPAL	Need community input.. especially from parents of target group.
MUNICIPAL	More community groups applying for service funds
MUNICIPAL	Community information sessions might help. Outlining how we can help interested groups in getting services going. Facilitate community partnerships.
MUNICIPAL	Perhaps a few floating buses after the regular drop-off to accommodate kids in after school activities.
EDUCATION	After-school care is an issue for parents. It is not my job to babysit while they are work.
EDUCATION	More money for cost of operating school. . . perhaps then we could consider working with non-profit groups to help provide after school clubs.



EDUCATION	Access to and use of school buses to facilitate even offering after-school programs needs to be addressed within the educational system. Parent Council could create a petition to the Ministry for "community use" of school buses. Of course, this would require clarification of costs, insurance, safety etc .. but at least the issue would be on the table.
EDUCATION	I am tired of school staff being expected to offer solutions to everything! We are hired to do a job .. teach! If the community really needs to find solutions to after-school youth needs the onus should be placed on the municipality that takes tax dollars from all of us for these very services. Also, parents have to take a lead in owning their responsibility to their kids. If parents don't want to volunteer their time to help with issue.. why should I stress about their needs outside of what I am paid to do?
EDUCATION	Would be possible for community providers to partner with school but again our "giving" is maxed with the human resources we currently have.
EDUCATION	Perhaps the school system could create an "approved" community use policy for access to school buses.
MUNICIPAL	Community youth center that works in partnership with schools. A transportation plan that works in partnership with after-school activities.
EDUCATION	Invite FCSS to our school to talk to teachers/ parents about solutions.
EDUCATION	Perhaps more connection with the FCSS in our region. We know they do great work and are more than willing to help design an answer. We just don't have after school activities as priority on any given day.
EDUCATION	Give school administrators ability to really work with families to find out the needs of the children after school hours and how we could be part of the answer.
EDUCATION	More coordination with FCSS to create local solutions to these issues. School Boards need to advocate for "local needs" and be willing to consider community solutions.
EDUCATION	If another community group wanted to set up services (costs, staff) schools could be a partner.
MUNICIPAL	Volunteers - community drivers, supervisors, program developers. I think the community needs to get all of us together to talk about how we can fix this barrier
EDUCATION	Actually let the leaders of the rural schools embrace their communities so they can attend community planning sessions with resources to contribute. I am frequently asked for permission to use a school bus for a "daycare trip" a senior outing to go shopping etc .. but my hands are tied by the policy makers in "Edmonton" (who have a wonderful public transit system and numerous boys and girls clubs ,youth centers .. etc ..) The overall policies don't match the reality of trying to lead a small school in a small community.
EDUCATION	Time for teachers/administrators to connect with other service providers in the community. give them an opportunity to potentially share ideas and resources. As it is right now we are 24/7 just delivering lessons/marketing/and organizing school initiated activities (concerts, sports day, etc..).
EDUCATION	Currently our school is open after hours for children to use resources within the school such as the library and computer room. Our staff rotate their own time to ensure an adult is always available. Many times our staff end up driving children home once they close the building to go home themselves. Difficult to provide structured programs that require adult organizing.
MUNICIPAL	Maybe community transport system. .
EDUCATION	We have a user group fee for transportation. We car pool when we cannot afford a bus.
MUNICIPAL	More people wanting to develop / offer their time to the community
EDUCATION	The community has to provide the services. Our staff are already committed to numerous after-school activities that are designed through the school.
MUNICIPAL	A community meeting to come up with a plan to offer after-school care services to all children. Invite Schools, parents, and FCSS. Maybe even industry to sponsor or offer money ..

MUNICIPAL	Applying for grants will help with certain projects. Asking people specifically to help will increase the number of volunteers. Continuing to post signs and do mail outs with the same logo and names visible will help with recognition. Talking with other service providers and community groups will give me a better idea of who needs help.
MUNICIPAL	The FCSS position was vacant in our community for several years (+/- 8 yrs)
EDUCATION	no identified solutions
EDUCATION	We fundraise and the Legion has made donations, but it often still is a struggle.
MUNICIPAL	Activities done through the school seem to be the most successful. It provides a captive audience in a safe environment. Transportation is an issue, always, although we do have a community van that can be used if need be and it is a sanctioned activity.
EDUCATION	More use of FCSSs, and Family enhancement coordinators
MUNICIPAL	We will be looking at partnering with other agencies to offer the programs.
MUNICIPAL	Purchase bus tickets for clients who need them Working with other agencies to come up with collaborative solutions Sharing best practices
MUNICIPAL	Some.... provide a van service to the rural areas so youth can attend the programs.
MUNICIPAL	Provision of a Youth Centre, After School Care area in the Recreation Centre - currently, a recreation facility expansion program is in the works.



**Question # 8:** Has your organization conducted / or planning to conduct any research studies relevant to the needs of the target group in your community?

<b>Yes</b>		13.11%
<b>No</b>		86.89%



**Question #9:** If yes to Question #8 - Would your organization be willing to share findings/purpose with other service providers in Northern Alberta?

<b>Yes</b>		100%
<b>No</b>		0.00%

Note: Contact information for sharing of research and reports is available in the *List of Participants* in Appendix A.



## Section 2.2 Barriers and Solutions Identified:

Reviewing the survey responses from the 68 participants in the *Northern Youth – Research, Programs, and Services Review* it becomes evident that the majority of service providers are aware of the needs of the target group and would like to be able to offer more supports in their community. Overall the educational and municipal service providers offer the vast majority of the programs and services currently available to the target group. Calculated from Question #6 (49 responses) of the survey, Table 11 lists the top four barriers identified in providing more programs and services to the target group.

<b>Table 11 Barriers Identified by Survey Participants</b>		
<b>Barrier</b>	<b># References</b>	<b>% Identified</b>
1) Staff / Volunteers	41	84%
2) Transportation	37	76%
3) Funding	34	69%
4) Access to Facility	32	65%

The top two barriers (staffing and transportation) identified to providing programs and services to the target group were equally identified across educational and municipal service providers. Interestingly, barrier # 3 - funding was more frequently noted by educational providers; while barrier # 4 – facility, was more frequently noted by municipal service providers.

The majority (82%) of the above respondents also offered suggestions on how the barriers could be addressed. Calculated from Question #7 (40 responses) of the survey, the top four solutions to these barriers are presented in Table 12.

<b>Table 12 Solutions Identified by Survey Participants</b>		
<b>Solution</b>	<b># References</b>	<b>% Identified</b>
1) Community Meeting	33	83%
2) Partnerships	25	70%
3) Parent /Industry Involvement	18	55%
4) Policy Assessment	16	40%

**Section 2.3 Researcher Comments and Recommendations:**

Reviewing the feedback received from survey respondents there is an evident communication and resource sharing gap among the service providers relative to “non-crisis” and “non-curricular” program and service planning for the target group.

As indicated by the comments in Question #4 of the survey, the most frequently noted gap in services to the target group is after school programs and services. The time frame gap in program and service offerings for the target group is from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. This two hour gap typically reflects the difference between school hours and parent working hours

Collectively the resources needed to create and deliver after school programs together are within each community’s reach. It is the opinion of the researcher that the greatest barrier to providing programs and services to the target group (especially after-school care) is the division of resources among differing mandates and operational budgets. Based upon the barriers and solutions indentified by the survey respondents, the following recommendations are offered to assist communities in sharing available resources on behalf of the target group.

Recommendation #1) Youth program and service providers should assess their offerings relative to all other offerings within their community. The assessment should identify duplications with a willingness to streamline and enhance each other.

Recommendation #2: Youth programs and services available in any given community are reflection of the resources available. For example, across the North there is a wide diversity in infrastructure. Some communities have youth centers; most do not. Some communities have public pools; most do not. The target group (10 -16 year olds) is limited in its ability to access resources outside of a radius of ~50km. Hence, for example, the youth of High Level are not impacted (positively or negatively) by the youth services available in Peace River, Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray, or Cold Lake. Appendix B presents a listing of the regional assets collectively available to the communities in Northern Alberta.

Throughout Northern Alberta there are two assets that are universally accessible to the target group. These are the community school and school buses. The community school can serve as a central point for programs and services that extend beyond the purpose of “curriculum”. While school buses can serve as the transposition provider. School boards should design/enhance a ‘community use’ policy for schools and buses after school-hours that prioritize use of these resources to the children in the community.

The key point being that the school system makes these resources accessible. The costing for program development, operations, and human resources can be incorporated into a separate funding stream through the FCSS and /or other community sponsors.

Recommendation#3: The FCSS's should hold community information meetings (preferably in a local school) outlining mandate, funding availability, and program development/approval process. Senior decision makers of educational, government, community should be invited and actively involved in these meetings to facilitate policy advocacy and the development of resource sharing among front-line service providers.

Recommendation #4: To address the volunteer/staffing issues for youth after-school programming the school boards should work with the FCSS to design a credit recognition incentive for senior students to design/supervise after-school programs for the target group. This concept is similar to the well known Registered Apprentice Program (RAP) which offers the student the opportunity to earn credits in the educational system while learning a trade "on the job". Upon graduation, students can transfer experience and learning credits toward an industry recognized college level apprenticeship training program.

In 2008, the Community Futures of Grande Prairie & Region successfully partnered with Alberta Education to incorporate Entrepreneurship as a credit option for senior students. Made possible through pilot project funding from the Northern Alberta Development Council, in 2009 the Entrepreneurship program is being expanded in partnership with other Community Futures in Northern Alberta. As this program evolves, the student ultimately should be able to transfer experience and credits toward a Business type credential at a post-secondary institution.

The FCSS's in partnership with Alberta Education should consider developing a similar type of programming for senior students interested in careers directed toward the social services. Currently, the high school credit system acknowledges experience and hours in the social services under the generic cluster "Volunteer". To attract students that will invest time into developing youth programs and providing the man hours for supervision, the FCSS and the high-school system

should create a credit learning model that ultimately can be transferred for recognition into post-secondary programs such as Social Work, Early Childhood and Education.

Recommendation #5: Identification of the learning objectives and credit transferability to post-secondary institutions for students developing and supervising youth programs should be tasked to the FCSS's of 4-6 communities across Northern Alberta. The cost of this developmental phase could be covered through a collective partnership with stakeholder sponsors in each community (i.e. schools, parent groups, post-secondary, industry etc ...), the Northern Alberta Development Council, and Alberta Education.

## Appendix A

### **Attached email template to introduce survey request:**

Could you please direct the following research request to the appropriate person within your organization.

On behalf of *Smoky River - Family and Community Support Services*, Aylward Research Services has been contracted to conduct a review of "non-crisis" programs and services available to youth (age = 10 years old to 16 years old) throughout Northern Alberta.

The purpose of the review is to identify current offerings available to the target group and challenges experienced in providing / accessing these services / programs. The information gathered will be considered in future planning and advocacy on behalf the target group in Northern Alberta.

The findings from this survey will be incorporated into a public report which will be available to all participants. **Survey participants will be listed in an appendix of the report; however individual responses will not be identified.** If you wish to respond but do not want your name included on the list of participants in the final report please check the "Do Not Track" button before you submit the survey. If you agree to complete this survey, please proceed to the web page using this link: [SURVEYURL]

**Note: If you are responding to this survey on behalf of a school district, the survey is relative to "outside of classroom" services that occur on-site at the school - such as after-school programs. Could you please forward the research request to all Principals / Vice Principals within your school district.**

Thank you!

Mary Joan Aylward - Aylward Research Services  
Grande Prairie, Alberta  
780-832-5936 (voice) 780-814-5713 (fax)



**Status: Sent: 122 Completed:68 Declined:12 Reponses:80 RR=65.57**

**1. Organization Type**

- Educational
  Community
  Municipal
  Government
  Other

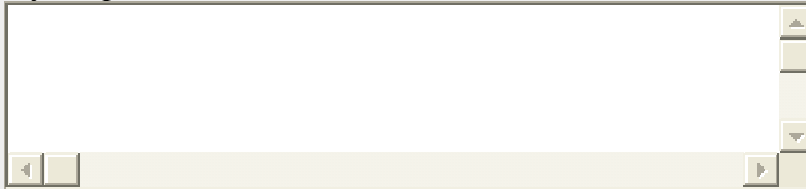
**2. Does your organization offer services and/or programs to the target group in your community?**  Yes  No

**3. Of the services and programs listed in the matrix below please select all that are offered by your organization:**

	Yes	No
Career	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Before-school Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
After-school Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boys/Girls Clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computer Access	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counselling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

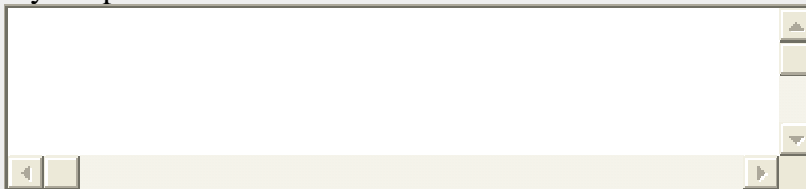
**4. Are there other programs / services offered by your organization to the target group that are not listed in the above matrix?**

If yes - please list / describe:

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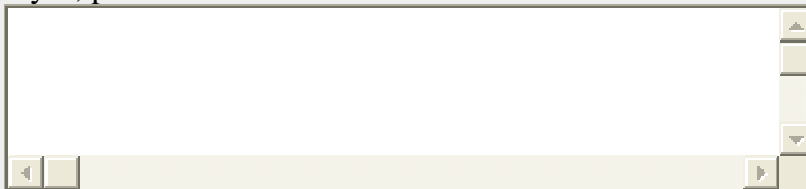
**5. Of the services and programs listed in Question #3 are there any that you would like to offer but currently do not?**

If yes - please list /describe:

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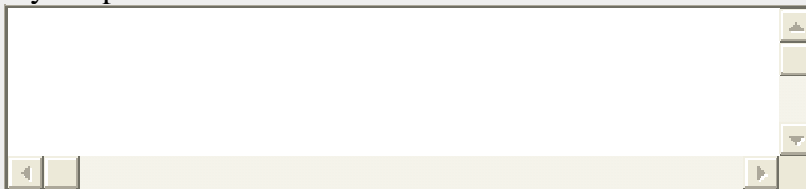
**6. Has your organization identified any barriers in offering the services / programs to the target group in your community?**

If yes, please list /describe:

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**7. If yes to Question # 6: Has your organization identified potential solutions to the above barriers within your community?**

If yes - please list / describe:

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8. Has your organization conducted / or planning to conduct any research studies relevant to the needs of the target group in your community?

Yes  No

9. If yes to Question #8: Would your organization be willing to share findings / purpose with other service providers in Northern Alberta?

Yes  No

10. If yes to Question #8 and Question #9: Please provide a brief description of research findings / purpose.

11. Do you give permission to reference your research findings and/or research intentions in the report associated with this survey?

Yes  No

Do Not Track

Submit

**Thank-you for Your Input!**

*Northern Alberta Youth - Research, Programs, and Services Review*

Will be posted for public access on November 30, 2008

[srfcss@telus.net](mailto:srfcss@telus.net)

For More Information Contact:  
Ms. Penny Fox - Director  
Smoky River FCSS  
Box 420, Falher AB T0H 1M0  
Phone 780-837-2220

**List of Participants**  
**Permission Granted**  
 22 of 68 Respondents = 32%

<b>Survey ID #</b>	<b>Survey Respondent</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Research</b>
<a href="#">view (id: 80)</a>	Carole Bouchard	Wood Buffalo	carole.bouchard@woodbuffalo.ab.ca	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 79)</a>	Leslie Cage	Peace Wapiti School District	lesliecage@pwsd76.ab.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 71)</a>	Susan Thomson	Valhalla School	skthom@telus.net	
<a href="#">view (id: 76)</a>	Unknown	Northland School District	central.office@northland61.ab.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 75)</a>	Unknown	Grande Prairie Public School District	gppsd@gppsd.ab.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 73)</a>	Lenny Richer	Town of Slave Lake	lenny@slavelake.ca	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 70)</a>	Unknown	St. Paul Education Regional Division	st_paul@sperd.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 52)</a>	Unknown	Northern Gateway	learn@ngrd.ab.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 26)</a>	Unknown	Town of Sexsmith	tosfcss@sexsmith.ca	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 25)</a>	Unknown	Town of Wembley	admin@wembley.ca	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 24)</a>	Trina Parker	Municipal District of Greenview	trina@mdgreenview.ab.ca	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 18)</a>	Charlene Ungstad	Grande Prairie Public School District	charlene.ungstad@gppsd.ab.ca	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 17)</a>	Unknown	Aspen View School District	Rochester@asperview.org	
<a href="#">view (id: 16)</a>	Donelda Laing	City of Grande Prairie	dlaing@cityofgp.com	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 15)</a>	Unknown	St. Paul Education Regional Division	st_paul@sperd.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 14)</a>	Penny Fox	Smoky River	srfcss@telus.net	
<a href="#">view (id: 13)</a>	Unknown	Aspen View School District	tcs@asperview.org	
<a href="#">view (id: 12)</a>	Tanya Bell	Town of Peace River	tbell@peaceriver.net	
<a href="#">view (id: 11)</a>	Holly Sorgen	Community Futures	office@cfogfp.com	
<a href="#">view (id: 7)</a>	Mike Osborne	Community Futures	info@cfnwa.ab.ca	
<a href="#">view (id: 6)</a>	Unknown	Town of Barrhead	fcssbar@telusplanet.net	Yes
<a href="#">view (id: 5)</a>	Kelly Smith	Town of Grande Cache	kelly.smith@grandecache.ca	Yes

**1) Alberta Community Development Officers:**

*The extent to which members of a community can effectively work together to develop and sustain relationships, collectively identify and solve problems, make collective decisions, and collaborate effectively to identify goals and get work done, is the foundation of community capacity. There are many elements which contribute to the capacity of a community to be a successful, healthy, vibrant and sustainable place. Communities must be able to engage local resources, communicate effectively, come together and collectively agree on a common vision and strategic agenda for action. Also, there are many other areas within the community that could be enhanced including effective proposal writing, strategic thinking, marketing, organizational governance, and more.*

Alberta Community Development - 2008

Alberta Community Development Officers are available as a free resource to all communities. For further information, please contact the nearest office.

**St. Paul**

3rd Floor, Provincial Building  
5025-49 Avenue, Box 318  
St. Paul, Alberta  
T0A 3A4  
Phone: 780-645-6353  
Fax: 780-645-4760

**Grande Prairie**

Room 1301, Provincial Building  
10320 - 99 Street  
Grande Prairie, Alberta  
T8V 6J4  
Phone: 780-538-5644  
Fax: 780-538-5617

**High Prairie**

Provincial Building  
5226-53 Avenue, Box 1078  
High Prairie, Alberta  
T0G 1E0  
Phone: 780-523-6536  
Fax: 780-523-6538

**Peace River**

Bag 900 - 11  
9621 - 96 Avenue  
Peace River, Alberta  
T8S 1T4  
Phone: 780-624-6295  
Fax: 780-624-6228

## 2) Community Facility Enhancement Program – Annual Funding – ~\$38Mon

The Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) provides financial assistance to build, repair, renovate or otherwise improve Alberta’s network of family and community-use facilities.

### **Applicants:**

- Community non-profit groups
- Community organizations that are not registered may have a sponsor apply on their behalf
- Social Services Sector, and Regional Children’s Authorities
- Municipalities
- First Nations and Métis Settlements

The CFEP application form can be downloaded and printed. Applications can be made any time throughout the year.

Grant Guidelines      [http://albertalotteryfund.ca/pdf/alf/CFEP\\_guidelines.pdf](http://albertalotteryfund.ca/pdf/alf/CFEP_guidelines.pdf)

Application              <http://albertalotteryfund.ca/pdf/alf/CFEP.pdf>

### **For further Information contact:**

Community Facility Enhancement Program  
Alberta Culture and Community Spirit  
50 Corriveau Avenue,  
St. Albert, AB T8N 3T5      Tel: 1-800-642-3855      Fax: (780) 447-8903

**3) Schools:** There are more than 280 schools in Northern Alberta. These schools represent a collection of Public, Separate, Francophone, and First Nations, that spread across the entire Northern region. Some of these schools are small with few resources while others are fully equipped with gymnasiums, stages, music rooms, libraries, computers, and laboratories. The school system also has access to transportation services. As a focal service to the target group (school-aged youth), the school system is one of the best links to providing programs and services in a community. However, to fully utilize this link the whole community (parents, youth, industry, etc ..) needs to participate in developing and delivering programs and services.

**4) Churches / Religious Services:** An often overlooked but important resource in any community is the church. Northern Alberta has more than 200 churches across a variety of denominations. Like schools, churches vary in size and resources, yet they too have the distinct advantage of being a community focal point that can potentially be a venue for programs and services offered to the target group. Yet, also, like the schools, in order for this resource to be fully utilized the whole community (parents, youth, industry, etc ..) needs to participate in developing and delivering programs and services.

**Northern Alberta  
Communities with Churches / Religious Services**

**This list is incomplete  
Lists below are intended to show the community resources potentially  
available to the target group**

Assumption	Fairview	Jean Cote	Rainbow
Athabasca	Falher	John D'or	Lake
Atikameg	Faust	Prairie	Rio Grande
Beaverlodge	Fort Chipewyan	Joussard	Rycroft
Berwyn	Fort McMurray	Keg River	Saddle Lake
Bezanson	Fort Vermilion	Kinuso	Saint Isidore
Bonanza	Fox Lake	Lac La Biche	Sandy Lake
Bonnyville	Garden River	Little Buffalo	Sexsmith
Boyle	Gift Lake	Loon Lake	Silver Valley
Cadotte Lake	Girouxville	Manning	Slave Lake
Calling Lake	Grande Prairie	Marie Reine	Smith
Chipewyan Lake	Grimshaw	McLennan	Spirit River
Cold Lake	Grouard	Meander	St. Paul
Crooked Creek	Guy	River	Sturgeon
Desmarais	Hawk Hills	Nampa	Lake
Donnelly	High Level	Paddle Prairie	Sucker Creek
Driftpile	High Prairie	Peace River	Tallcree
Duncan First	Hines Creek	Peavine	Tangent
Nations	Horse Lake	Peerless Lake	Trout Lake
Eaglesham	Hythe	Rainbow	Valleyview
East Prairie		Lake	Wabasca
Eleske		Rio Grande	Wanham
		Rycroft	Whitecourt
		Saddle Lake	Whitelaw

Includes: Catholic, Anglican, United, Baptist, and Salvation Army Churches



**5) 4-H Clubs:** Designed to give youth the power to create and deliver their own programs, the 4-H model is “best practices” in action. Youth driven with resources and mentoring committed by the community, 1000’s of these youth clubs have been established across Canada.

To get started, there are 35 standard programs (ranging from business set-up, to photography, to livestock handling, to web design) available for youth to implement within their community. Youth are also offered the opportunity to create new programs that are modeled for replication and made available to all youth across Canada. In 4-H, youth run the show. 4-H clubs typically meet once a month as a large group (in schools, churches, youth centers, barns ..) , where youth of all ages take on different leadership roles to make decisions, organize peer training, and coordinate social & community events. In Alberta, there are over 400 of these clubs, 57 of which are located in Northern Alberta.

**Leila Hickman**

4-H Specialist - Northeast  
Tel 780-853-8115 Fax 780-853-4776  
[leila.hickman@gov.ab.ca](mailto:leila.hickman@gov.ab.ca)

**Jocelyn McKinnon**

4-H Specialist - Northwest  
Tel 780-674-8250 Fax 780-674-8309  
[jocelyn.mckinnon@gov.ab.ca](mailto:jocelyn.mckinnon@gov.ab.ca)

**Stacy Murray**

4-H Specialist - Peace  
Tel 780-835-7537 Fax 780-835-3600  
[stacy.murray@gov.ab.ca](mailto:stacy.murray@gov.ab.ca)

**6) Youth Connections:** Youth Connections is a program designed for young Albertans, age 16 to 24, who are unemployed or under-employed, have left school early or have not continued on to post-secondary education. Though targeted to older youth, Youth Connections does provide career guidance for youth still in school. Youth Connections Offices are located at 38 sites across Alberta, 10 of which are located in Northern Alberta. Each office provides services to youth within a regional radius.

#### Youth Connection – Location Offices

Bonnyville	5502 - 54 Street	Phone: (780) 826-6045
Cold Lake	Outreach in schools only.	Phone: (780) 812-8666
Fairview	10316 - 109 Street	Phone: (780) 834-7980
Fort McMurray	201, 10011 Franklin Avenue	Phone: (780) 791-7520
Grande Prairie	104, 9817 - 101 Avenue	Phone: (780) 532-0156
High Level	10901 - 93 Street	Phone: (780) 926-6607
Peace River	10032 - 100 Street	Phone: (780) 618-2820
High Prairie	5526 - 53 Avenue	Phone: (780) 523-6794
Slave Lake	101 Main Street South	Phone: (780) 849-1979
Whitecourt	P.O. Box 10045	Phone: (888) 349-6990

**7) Family and Community Support Services:** FCSS is an 80/20 funding partnership between the Government of Alberta and participating municipalities and Métis Settlements. In 2007 a total of 305 municipalities and Métis Settlements, organized within 200 FCSS offices, were providing services throughout Alberta. Over 99% of Alberta's people reside in communities served by FCSS Programs. **In Northern Alberta there are over 50 location offices** delivering FCSS services. In 2006 over \$97M was spent on providing FCSS services in the province. \$11.8M of these funds was spent in Northern Alberta. Almost 50% of this funding was spent supporting children, youth, and families.

Provincial FCSS Region	Funding	Municipal Contribution	Over Contribution	Other Revenues	Total Expenditures
NADC - Northwest	\$3,509,968	\$842,561	\$950,907	\$266,818	\$5,570,254
NADC - Northeast	\$3,268,456	\$815,348	\$288,018	\$1,535,272	\$5,907,094
Provincial	\$63,115,745	\$15,736,721	\$10,931,305	\$7,937,181	\$97,720,953

The following list shows the potential programs and services available through an FCSS office. The last column indicates the number of each service/program available in the Province of the 200 offices/programs available. The array of programs and services available in any given community through an FCSS is dependent upon the number of staff of the FCSS office, accessibility to resources, funding, and community partnerships.

## Family and Community Services – Program and Services Options

<b><u>Level 1 Service and Program Options</u></b>	<b><u>Total Funding</u></b>	<b><u># Provincial</u></b>
Early Child Development/Support (0-6)	\$3,579,180	119
Pre-Adolescent Development/Support (7- 12)	\$10,182,379	90
Youth Development/Support (13-17)	\$6,788,578	140
Child Development/Support (0-17)	\$11,469,958	146
Counselling	\$9,610,497	74
Information/Referral/Public Information	\$3,601,641	133
Outreach	\$21,497,758	161
Community Planning/Development	\$14,843,920	132
Volunteers	\$3,368,957	123
Transportation	\$1,021,827	25
Workshops, Conferences, Conventions	\$451,126	65
Training, Seminars, Courses	\$796,079	64
Program Administration	\$10,509,052	166

<b><u>Level 2 Service and Program Options</u></b>	<b><u>Total Funding</u></b>	<b><u># of Provincial</u></b>
Early Intervention Projects	\$12,152,445	87
Out-of-School Care	\$10,166,416	44
Home Support, Home Help, Handiman, etc.	\$9,422,562	83
Short-Term Crisis Intervention and Support	\$8,016,076	64
Seniors - Assistance/Self-Help Programs	\$5,780,327	99
Parenting/Family Life Education and Development Programs	\$5,132,193	101
Studies, Research, Surveys, Community Assessment	\$4,601,207	74
Community Centers - Drop In, Family, Youth, Distress	\$2,971,533	49
Prevention of Family Violence	\$2,632,889	46
Family School Liaison Worker/Program	\$2,541,504	59
Boys and Girls Clubs C	\$2,156,594	22
Youth - Assistance/Self-Help Programs	\$1,947,302	74
Cross-Cultural, Immigrant, Newcomer Support	\$1,741,926	24
Volunteer Recruitment, Training, Placement	\$1,440,994	70
Aboriginal/Métis Programs, Services	\$1,395,270	14
Life Skills Programs, Self-Esteem (e.g., QUEST)	\$1,095,452	74

## Northern Alberta

### Family and Community Services – Contact List

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## **Appendix B - Resources**

*Analysis of the Economic Contribution of the Northern Alberta Development Council Region to Alberta and Canada (NADC 2006).*

<http://www.nadc.gov.ab.ca/>

*Student Population by Grade, School, and Authority, Alberta 2007/2008 School Year.* Information Services Branch, Alberta Education ,(2008).

*Health Region Populations by Age Group and Gender - Census Canada 2006.* Statistics Canada (2008). <http://www.statcan.ca/>

*Report Card on Alberta's Elementary Schools: 2008 Edition.* Cowley, P. & Easton, S. The Frazer Institute. February 2008.

[http://www.fraserinstitute.org/Commerce.Web/product\\_files/](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/Commerce.Web/product_files/)

*Report Card on Alberta's High-Schools: 2008 Edition.* Cowley, P. & Easton, S. The Frazer Institute. February 2008.

[http://www.fraserinstitute.org/Commerce.Web/product\\_files/](http://www.fraserinstitute.org/Commerce.Web/product_files/)