

SUSTAINABLE HIGHLANDS

2016 Indicators Report

Photo Courtesy of Cathy Reader



How to Use This Report

Start Conversations.

Use the information in this report to talk about the issues behind the data and how these issues are affecting Highlanders.

Take Action.

If you're inspired by what you read, use this report as a starting point for action.

Pass It On.

Share this report, the information in it and your reaction with friends, colleagues and neighbours.

Contact Us.

If you'd like more information, please contact Laura Beckett, Planner at LBeckett@highlands.ca or 250-474-1773.

About "Sustainable Highlands"

"Sustainable Highlands" is the District of Highlands' Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) and vision for a sustainable community. It was originally adopted in 2012 with the purpose of providing a framework to identify what kind of community Highlands residents want in the year 2030 and what needs to happen to now in order to get there. The ICSP forms the community's highest level policy because it is aligned with the OCP. It will guide the Highlands towards its desired and sustainable future, and will inform all planning, policy development and decision-making. The ICSP comprises a description of nine strategy areas, their descriptions of success, indicators for measuring progress, and priority actions that the community can take to become more sustainable. The ICSP can be found on the District's website at <http://highlands.ca/195/Sustainable-Highlands>.

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Buildings & Sites

1. Green Buildings

No development was built to a comprehensive green standard.

Source: District of Highlands

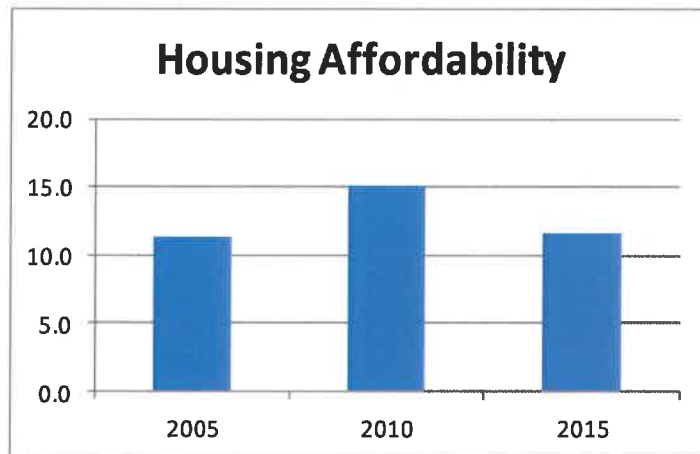
2. Renewable Energy Installations

In Highlands, this primarily means wood stoves. In 2016, there were 4. There were no solar installations.

Source: District of Highlands



Heat Pump
on Munn
Road



3. Housing Affordability

The ratio of housing value to median (before tax) income in 2015 was almost 12 to 1. This means that, on average, a house costs almost 12 times more than a yearly salary. For 2005, it was closer to 11 times, and 2010, just over 15 times.

Source: 2006, 2011, 2016 Census (gives 2005, 2010, 2015 income data respectively), and Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Government Division, Finance Branch, Schedule 704—Taxes and Charges on a Representative House for 2005, 2010, 2015

Economy & Work

Home
Business

1. Unemployment Rate

This was 4.3% in 2016.

Source: 2016 Census

2. Place of Work

8% of the employed Highlands population 15 years of age and older worked at home in 2016. The graph shows that the trend is for less workers to work out of home.

Source: 2006, 2016 Censuses, 2011 National Household Survey

3. Median Income

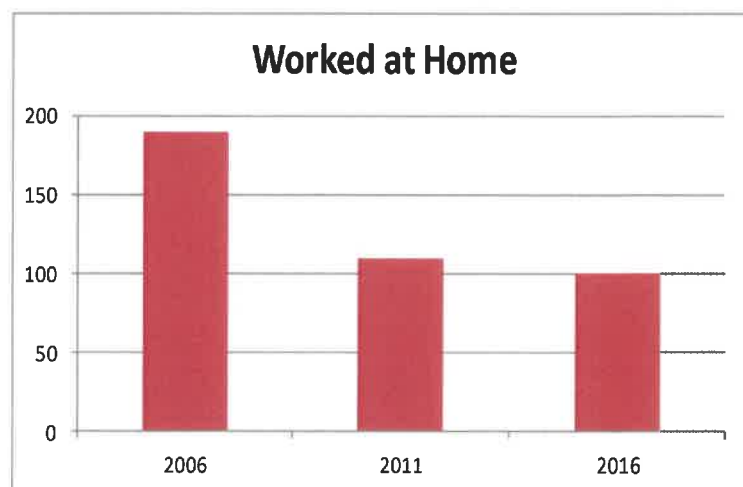
After tax median income in 2015 for Highlanders was \$39,142.

Source: 2016 Census

4. Corporate Finance

In 2016, the ratio of annual reserve contributions to depreciation / replacement costs of municipal assets was 54%.

Source: District of Highlands





Education & Leisure

1. Park Availability

In 2016, Highlands had 1,451 hectares of parkland or 0.7 of a hectare per person.

Source: District of Highlands

2. Education Attainment

In 2016, 64% of adult Highlanders possessed some form of post-secondary education.

Source: 2016 Census



3. Trail Length

Total length of all trails was 42.7 km.

Source: District of Highlands

Twinflower Park



Food



1. Community Gardens

There were no community gardens in 2016.

Source: District of Highlands

2. Highlands Market

The Highlands Market was not held in 2016.

Source: District of Highlands

3. Highlands Farms

204.379 hectares were classified as farmland.

Source: BC Assessment

Highland Cattle



Learning garden at local daycare

Sample of Highlands' produce at Community Hall Grand Opening





Energy is one source of greenhouse gas emissions. Unfortunately, measuring energy and emissions has been difficult, inconsistent, incomplete and far from perfect. The data and graphs for both the Energy and Emissions indicators use as their source the Provincial Inventory (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/data/provincial-inventory>), which replaces the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory. Unfortunately, this data will not be consistent with data used for the 2012 and 2014 Indicator Reports. This is the best that can be done right now and fortunately over time emissions accounting will improve.

1. Energy Use—2016

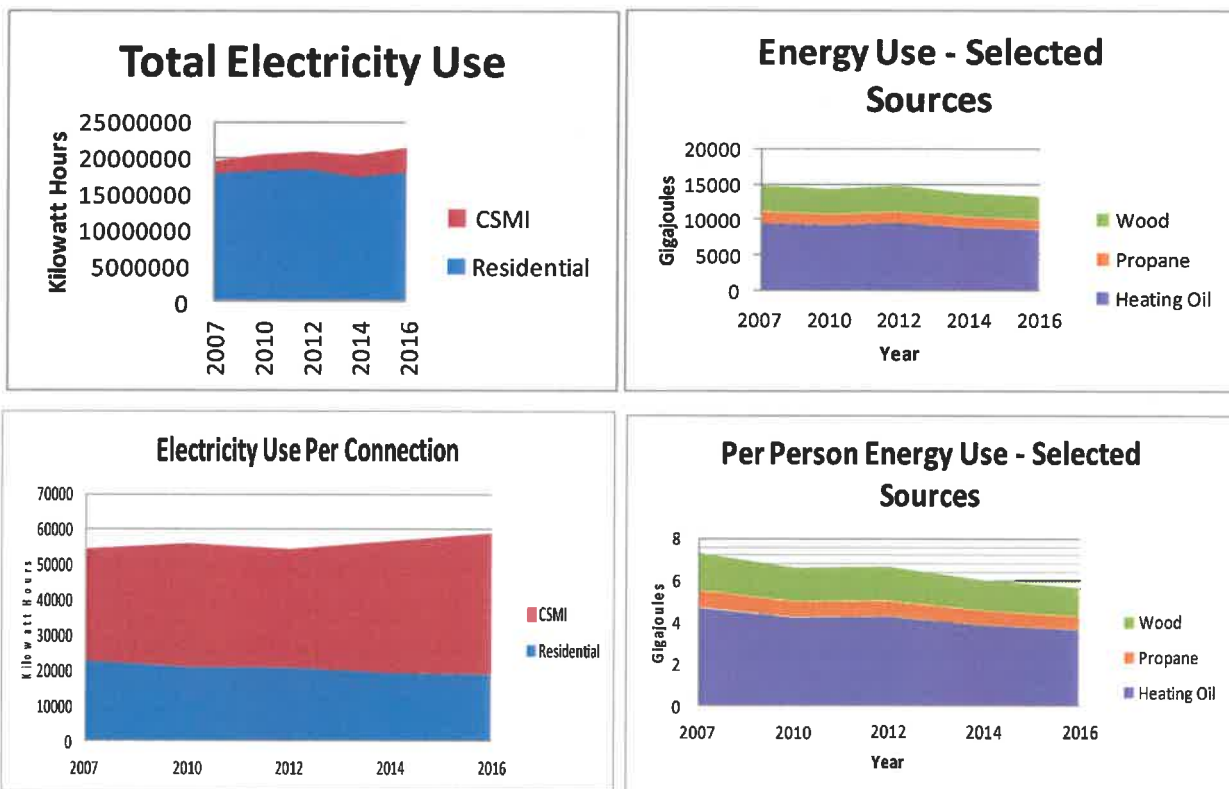
BC Hydro residential customers used 17,898,841 kilowatts of electricity. BC Hydro commercial and small/medium industrial (CSMI) customers used 3,502,107 kilowatts of electricity. It is estimated that Highlanders consumed: 8,515 gigajoules (GJ) of heating oil, 1,469 GJ of propane, and 3,271 GJ of wood.

2. Energy Use per Capita—2016

The average BC Hydro residential customer used 18,880 kilowatts, while the average BC Hydro commercial/small medium industrial customer used 40,254 kilowatts of electricity. It is estimated that the average Highlander used 3.6 GJ of heating oil, 0.7 GJ of propane, and 1.4 GJ of wood.

3. Energy Use by Category Type

The information required for this indicator has been discontinued.





Emissions

Source: Provincial Inventory <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/data/provincial-inventory>

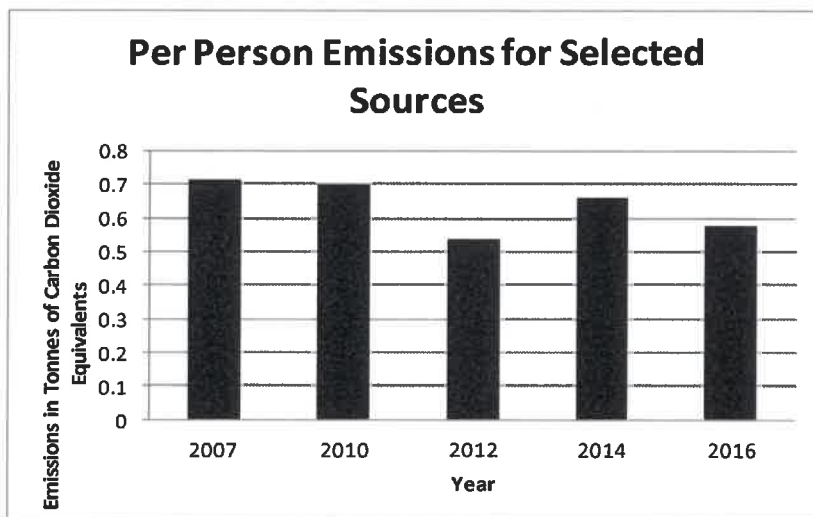
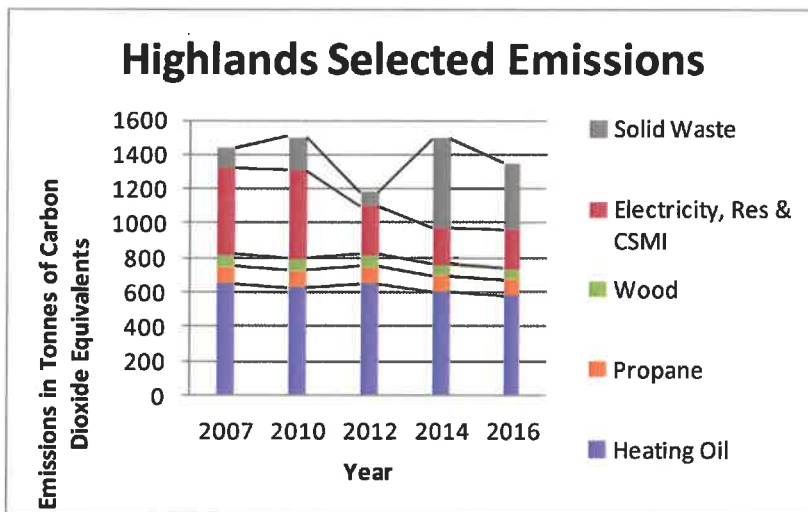
4. "Selected" GHG Emissions in Highlands

In 2016, totalling ONLY emission data for solid waste, electricity use, and estimates for wood/propane/heating oil as heating sources, the amount of emissions created in Highlands was 1,351 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents.

5. "Selected" GHG Emissions Per Highlander

That translates to about 0.61 tonne of emissions per person for those sources for 2016.

Both graphs show comparable data for the years 2007, 2010, 2012 and 2014. "CSMI" stands for commercial and small medium industrial users.



RELATIONSHIP TO OCP REDUCTION TARGETS

In the OCP (table in Chapter 5, excerpt below), Highlands committed to reducing its 2020 community emissions to 9% less than what they were in 2007. The Highlands Selected Emissions graph above shows a 6% reduction between 2007 and 2016 for the few emission sources on the graph.

Jurisdiction	Type	Reduction Targets				
		% Emission Reduction over 2007 Emissions by Year...				
		...2012	...2016	...2020	...2030	...2050
Province of BC	Total	6%	18%	33%	75%	80%
Highlands	Per Capita			20%	35%	82%
	Total			9%	26%	80%



Healthy Community

1. MSP Requirement Rate

On average, each Highlands received almost 18 medical services, which is similar to 2012 and 2014 when the amount was 19.

Source: *Medical Services Plan*

2. Unlawful Incidents

The West Shore RCMP detachment reported total of 355 criminal code violations (including traffic) for 2016 for all the communities they serve. By comparison, this number was 417 in 2012 and 310 in 2014. This is for all communities

Source: *Statistics Canada table 35-10-0184-01, Incident-based crime statistics, by detailed violations, police services in BC*



3. Local Events

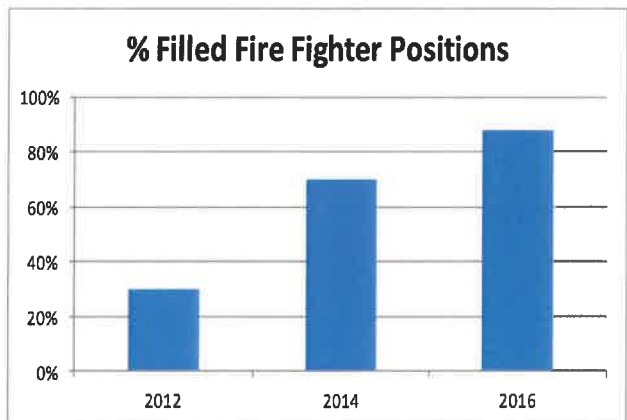
In 2016 approximately 18 events were held in the Highlands: coffee houses, annual events such as the HDCA's Easter Egg Hunt, the Fire Department's Halloween Fireworks and Bonfire, the end of summer picnic and the winter craft fair. The HDCA hosted several events including a speaker series and community clean-up.

Source: *District of Highlands*

4. Population Changes

The 2016 Census for Highlands population was 2,225.

Source: *2016 Census*



5. Safety Service Personnel

The vacancy rate for volunteer fire fighter position was 12%, meaning 88% of fire fighter positions are filled.

Source: *District of Highlands*

Land Use & Natural Areas



1. Impervious Surfaces

As of 2016, impervious surfaces (defined in this report as roads) accounted for 111 hectares or 3% of the total land area.

Source: *District of Highlands*

2. Build Out

In 2016, the percentage of properties having a single family dwelling on it was 80%.

Source: *District of Highlands OCP and 2016 Census*



Transportation & Mobility

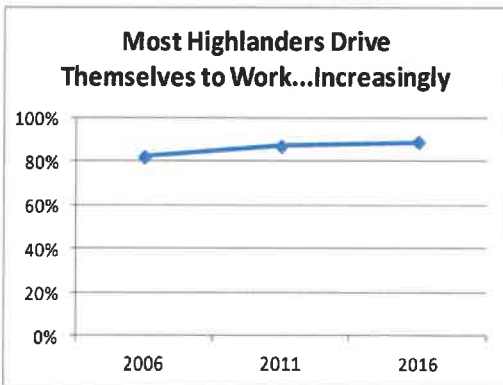
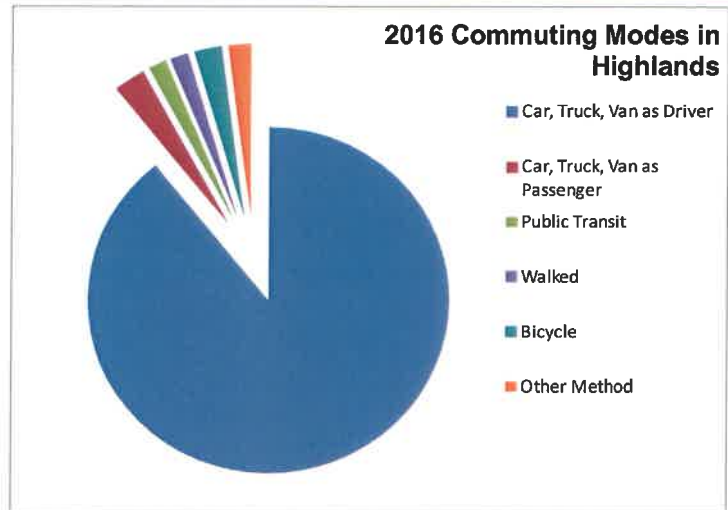
1. Registered Vehicles

2016 Information regarding number of registered vehicles for Highlands was not available.

2. Commuting Mode

For 2016, 11% of Highlanders used alternative forms of transportation such as bike, public transit, and carpooling to get to work. This is less than what it was in 2011 (13%) and in 2006 (18%).

Source: 2006, 2016 Censuses, 2011 National Household



3. Transit Use

On-demand commuter shuttle operates in Highlands that connects with route 47 Goldstream Meadows/Downtown. In 2016, there were a total of 266 riders.

Source: BC Transit

Water & Waste Systems



1. Material Use

In 2016 for Highlands, 833 tonnes of waste was recorded at Hartland Landfill.

Source: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/climate-change/data/provincial-inventory>

