



NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION DES DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES

# Draft Community Profile

NORTHERN VILLAGE OF PINEHOUSE, SASKATCHEWAN



**APM-REP-06144-0063**

**OCTOBER 2013**

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**DRAFT**  
**Community Profile**  
**Pinehouse, SK**

**OCTOBER 2013**



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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

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BRIDG	Business Ready Investment Development Gateway
BWER	Boreal West Enterprise Region
CCNI	Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation
CD	Census Division
CLC	Community Liaison Committee
CVMPP	Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process
ERFN	English River First Nation
GDI	Gabriel Dumont Institute
LLRIB	Lac La Ronge Indian Band
MCR	Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region
MCRCHA	Mamawetan Churchill River Region Health Authority
MN-S	Métis Nation - Saskatchewan
NAD	Northern Administration District
NCQ	Northern Career Quest
NHS	National Household Survey
NLSD	Northern Lights School Division #113
NORTEP	Northern Teachers Education Program
NORPAC	Northern Professional Access College
NWMO	Nuclear Waste Management Organization
PBN	Pinehouse Business North
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
ROC	Reclaiming Our Community
SERM	Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management
SIAS	Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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This community profile has been prepared as part of the Northern Village of Pinehouse's ('Pinehouse's) participation in the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) *Learn More* program. This program is offered to communities interested in exploring and potentially hosting the Adaptive Phased Management (APM) Project, the deep geological repository and centre of expertise which is required as part of Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

This document brings together information about the community, its history, its aspirations, and current conditions. The information contained in this report is not an assessment of any kind; instead it is intended to paint a picture of the community as it stands today. Such a picture can be a helpful starting point for community discussions about how future projects might be implemented in the community, and the extent to which a project might contribute to the well-being of the community over the long term, including the APM Project. The APM Project will only be implemented in a community that has reflected upon whether the project will contribute to community well-being and, after a series of detailed studies have been completed to confirm the safety and appropriateness of a site, has expressed an informed willingness to host the project. Over time, communities in the surrounding area will also need to become involved in the learning process.

This profile is organized to describe the characteristics of the community through five different perspectives or 'lenses':

- Human: Skills, knowledge and essential services supporting the well-being of the community;
- Economic: Monetary or financial resources supporting the well-being of the community;
- Infrastructure: Basic physical infrastructure supporting the well-being of the community;
- Social: Social and community activities in which people participate and the resources drawn upon to support well-being;
- Natural environment: Nature and the natural environment important to well-being.

The characteristics of the community are referred to as "assets" throughout the report. This is intended to highlight their importance and pave the way for a broad and holistic discussion of how the community may be affected by the APM Project, or other large projects which the community may consider. This discussion of the characteristics of the community which support community life may also help the community identify other important aspects which should also be considered.

The information and data used to compile this profile was derived from a combination of sources, including:

- Publicly available documents and statistics;
- Data and information provided by the community; and
- Insights derived from discussion with the Community Liaison Committee and through interviews with community members.

Although this profile contains references to other communities within the region, these references are intended only as a means to round out the community profile and provide some context for discussion.

The NWMO *Learn More* program encourages collaboration and shared learning involving the NWMO and the community throughout all stages of reflection and decision-making. NWMO efforts to learn about and understand the community, its aspirations and current conditions will continue throughout the duration of Pinehouse’s involvement in the *Learn More* program.

This profile also includes Statistics Canada census data (collected at 5-year intervals, e.g., 2001, 2006, and 2011 [census and National Household Survey (NHS)<sup>1</sup>). In some cases data are limited by the level of detail available (e.g., data may be rounded<sup>2</sup> or suppressed by Statistics Canada due to small sample sizes), or the type of data collected in a given year. Census data may be limited by the relatively low participation rates in many Aboriginal communities, for various reasons. In some cases, supplementary information is available from other sources, including the engagement activities conducted for the Phase 1 Community Well-being Assessment.



The Global Non-Response Rate for the 2011 NHS “...combines complete non-response (household) and partial non-response (question) into a single rate. The value of the GNR is presented to users. A smaller GNR indicates a lower risk of non-response bias and as a result, lower risk of inaccuracy. The threshold used for estimates' suppression is a GNR of 50% or more.” The 2011 NHS GNR for various geographies considered in the profile are:

- Pinehouse GNR 32.0 %<sup>3</sup>
- Census Division 18 GNR 28.1%<sup>4</sup>
- Canada – GNR 26.1%

<sup>1</sup> Complementing the data collected by the census, the National Household Survey (NHS) is designed to provide information about people in Canada by their demographic, social and economic characteristics as well as provide information about the housing units in which they live. It is a voluntary survey (unlike the mandatory census). It should be noted that data captured in the 2011 NHS may be categorized differently than preceding census years (e.g. 1996, 2001, and 2006). The impact of this is particularly noticeable for data concerning mobility, education, industry, and occupation.

<sup>2</sup> Statistics Canada applies a confidentiality procedure of random rounding to all Census data to avoid the possibility of associating statistical data with any identifiable individual. With this method all data, including totals and margins are randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple of “5” or in some cases “10”. As a result, the sum of a set of data may not add to the total, and percentages, which are calculated on rounded figures, do not necessarily add to 100%. The impact of this procedure is particularly noticeable on small counts. In effect, small numbers may lose their precision, and percentages calculated based on these numbers may not represent the proportion of the population indicated. In such cases, the percentages in a table may add to over and in some instances less than 100%, and the reader is advised to apply a cautionary note when interpreting the findings.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718065&Data=Count&SearchText=Pinehouse&SearchType=Begin&SearchPR=01&A1=All&B1=All&Custom=&TABID=1>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CD&Code1=4718&Data=Count&SearchText=Pinehouse&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&A1=All&B1=All&Custom=>

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## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE

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The Northern Village of Pinehouse (also referred to as ‘Pinehouse Lake’) is located in Northern Saskatchewan and has a predominantly Aboriginal population – primarily Métis, and some First Nations people<sup>5</sup>. The terms ‘Northern Village of Pinehouse’, ‘Pinehouse’, and ‘Pinehouse Lake’ are used in this report, with the ‘Northern Village of Pinehouse’ referring to the municipal government structure or geographic/administrative unit.

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### 2.1 OVERVIEW

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#### 2.1.1 Location

Pinehouse is located at 55°31'N, 106°34' W, approximately 109 kilometres northeast of the Village of Beauval, 48 km north on Saskatchewan Highway 914N (an all-weather gravel road also known as the Key Lake Road<sup>6</sup>) from the junction with Highway 165E in the Churchill River system, shown in Figure 1. Pinehouse is situated on the southwest shore of Pinehouse Lake, one of many lakes on the historic Churchill River system; the River enters the Lake about 20 km north of the northern village.

A map of Northern Saskatchewan, showing additional information and more detail about the area surrounding Pinehouse, is included in Appendix B. Pinehouse is some distance by road from centres such as Île-à-la-Crosse (193 km), La Ronge (216 km), Meadow Lake (258 km), Prince Albert (348 km) and Saskatoon (490 km).



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<sup>5</sup> Statistics Canada. 2012. *Pinehouse, NV, Saskatchewan 2011 Census Profile*. Website. <http://www.census2006.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

<sup>6</sup> The Key Lake Road terminus is shown on maps as the mine site; however, it actually continues on to the McArthur River uranium mine further to the north, although access to this portion of the road is restricted, and is therefore not part of the official highway network.

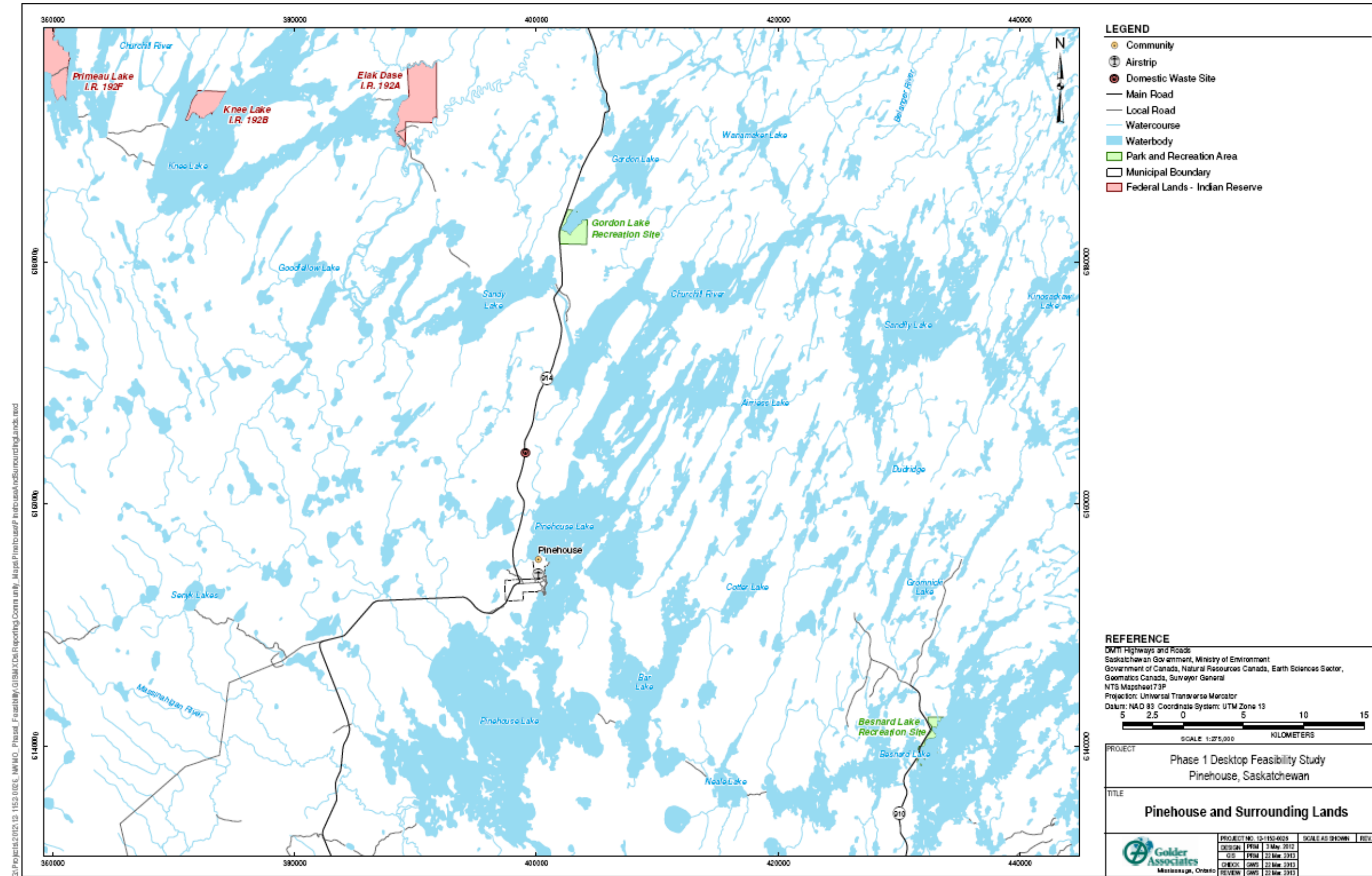


Figure 1: Pinehouse and Surrounding Lands  
 Source: Golder Associates. 2013.



### 2.1.2 Land Size and Uses

The Northern Village of Pinehouse covers approximately 6.84 km<sup>2</sup>,<sup>7</sup> although discussions are underway with the province to add to the land base. It is a community with a rich history in forestry and traditional land uses (described in more detail in Sections 2.4.1 and 2.5.1). Much of the land in the areas surrounding Pinehouse is provincial Crown land, some of which is privately leased. Additional information on land uses is provided in other sections of the profile (e.g., Sections 2.3.1.4 (tourism), 2.4.1.1 (land use), 2.6.1.1 (parks and protected areas), and 2.6.1.2 (natural areas/features of significance).



### 2.1.3 Vision and Strategic Plan

#### 2012 Strategic Planning

The Northern Village of Pinehouse held a community strategic planning session in June 2012 at Muskwa Lake (approximately 40 km east of Pinehouse on Highway 165). At the session, a series of belief statements were articulated based on an updated vision statement and values, as well as goals/strategies for the next 1 to 3 years. Actions, leads, measures and targets were identified for selected goals. Future strategic planning activities require commitment from the ‘Reclaiming Our Community’ forum, and funding<sup>8</sup>.

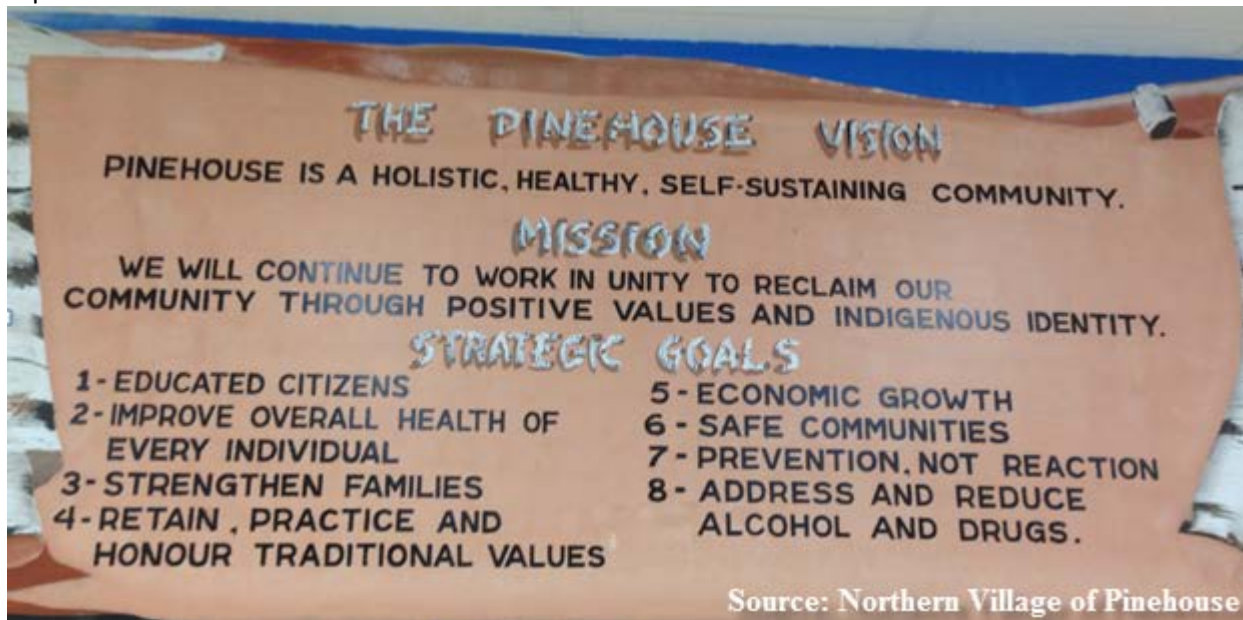
At least one other community strategic planning session was held in October 2010.



<sup>7</sup> Statistics Canada, 2012. Community Profile.

<sup>8</sup> This information was obtained through a discussion with community member October 17, 2012.

Pinehouse's vision, beliefs, and eight strategic goals as identified in the strategic planning process<sup>9</sup> are reproduced here:



*The Pinehouse Vision:* Pinehouse is a holistic, healthy, self-sustaining community.

*Mission:* We will continue to work in unity to reclaim our community through positive values and indigenous identity.

*We Believe:*

- Spirituality nurtured and expressed within our community will make us stronger.
- Our traditional knowledge, as guided by our elders, is essential to our learning and appreciating our Aboriginal identity.
- All levels of leadership should be encouraged and practised with responsibility, accountability, and ownership.
- Quality education and knowledge are life-long and key to our future.
- A healthy family is dependent on making healthy lifestyle choices and taking personal responsibility.
- Our youth are valued, capable and have potential. With proper guidance they will be the collective owners of our future.
- United families will bring community success.
- Positive parenting and community support will help build children's self-esteem and levels of success.

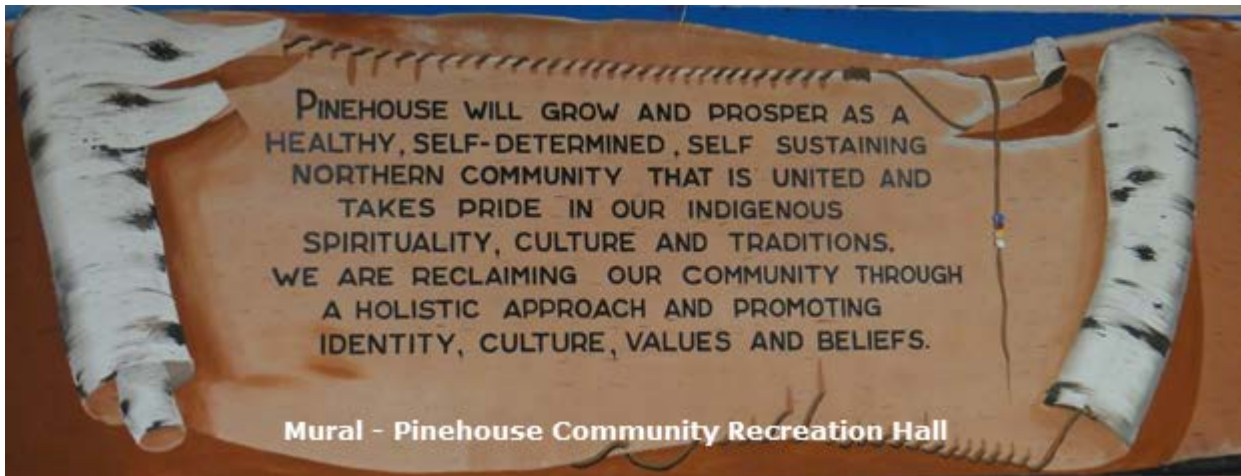
<sup>9</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse. June 2012. *Draft Strategic Plan Report*. Preliminary based on June 18 & 19 2012 Community Planning Session, Muskwa Lake.

*Pinehouse Strategic Goals:*

1. *Educated citizens*
  - Increase number of community members to attend post-secondary
  - Increase number of high school graduates
2. *Improve overall health of every individual*
  - Healing, breaking the cycle of addiction
  - Address and reduce alcohol and drugs
3. *Strengthen families*
  - Encourage parents to spend quality time with children
4. *Retain, practice and honour traditional values*
  - Encourage parents to speak to children in Cree
5. *Economic growth*
  - Increase employment opportunities by creating jobs
  - Increase economic activity and opportunity
6. *Safe communities*
  - Decrease youth in the court system
7. *Prevention, not reaction*
8. *Address and reduce alcohol and drugs*

**Pinehouse Visioning Report 2011**

In 2011, Pinehouse completed a community visioning exercise, which laid the foundation for the 2012 Strategic Planning activities described above:



The Pinehouse Visioning Report addressed a number of subject areas and plans for the future of the Pinehouse community<sup>10</sup>:

<sup>10</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse. Summer 2011. *Pinehouse Visioning Report*. [http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/uploads/7/9/7/4/7974185/pinehouse\\_visioning\\_report\\_2011.pdf](http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/uploads/7/9/7/4/7974185/pinehouse_visioning_report_2011.pdf)

- Social Development
  - Aboriginal Holistic Healing Principle
  - Recovery Lake Program
  - Reclaiming our Community – Circle of Courage
  - Youth Empowerment – Supporting and Encouraging Leadership
- Economic Development
  - Local Economic Overview
  - Traditional Economies – trapping, fishing, wild rice harvesting, tourism
  - Pinehouse Business North – Opportunities Abound
  - Community Business Strategy/Entrepreneurship
- Education
  - Education Snap Shot
  - Early Childhood Development and Parenting
  - Minahik Waskahigan Community School – Collaboration
  - Skill Development – Adult Basic Education, on-the-job training
  - Distance Education
- Recreation
  - Determinants of Physical Health
  - Motivation/Participation
- Traditional Land Considerations
  - Community to Government to Industry Relations
  - Land Use and Occupancy 2010/2011 Pinehouse Map Survey

### Capital Project and Prioritization Report

The Northern Village of Pinehouse has also prepared a Capital Project and Prioritization Report.<sup>11</sup> Community projects were assessed and listed by priority; building, facility, and infrastructure projects were listed in separate priority categories. Future priority projects are also identified in the report. The following priorities were established:

#### *Priority Area: Buildings and Facilities*

- Priority 1: Health Clinic Upgrades and Expansion
- Priority 2: New High School
- Priority 3: Elders Housing and Gathering Centre
- Priority 4: Family Healing Centre
- Priority 5: Official Community Plan and Zoning By-law
- Priority 6: Hockey Area Interior Development
- Priority 7: Youth Centre
- Priority 8: Day-care Facility Upgrade

<sup>11</sup> AECOM. November 2011. *Northern Village of Pinehouse Capital Projects Prioritization Report*. [http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/uploads/7/9/7/4/7974185/aecom\\_capital\\_projects\\_prioritization\\_report\\_2011.pdf](http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/uploads/7/9/7/4/7974185/aecom_capital_projects_prioritization_report_2011.pdf)<sup>12</sup>  
<http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/pinehouse.html>



- Priority 9: Fire Protection
- Priority 10: Adult Education and Training
- Priority 11: Kineepik Métis Local Building (including radio station)
- Priority 12: Municipal Storage and Compound
- Priority 13: School Storage Shed and Compound
- Priority 14: Curling Rink

*Priority Area: Infrastructure*

- Priority 1: Sewage Pumping Station 3 Upgrades
- Priority 2: Water and Sewer Servicing to Parcel U (Key Lake Junction)
- Priority 3: Drainage and Roadway Study
- Priority 4: Lagoon Expansion
- Priority 5: Sewer Infrastructure Assessment Report
- Priority 6: Force Main Upgrades

### **Official Community Plan & Zoning By-Law**

The Northern Village of Pinehouse has initiated development of an official community plan and zoning by-law, which will dictate future planning and development in the municipality<sup>12</sup>.

## **2.2 HUMAN ASSETS**

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### **2.2.1 Human Asset Indicators**

The Human Assets within a community include the skills and knowledge inherent in a community and the ability of a community to provide its residents with access to other skills, knowledge and essential services that are fundamental to maintaining community well-being, quality of life or a desired standard of living. The specific indicators within the Human Assets category include:

- Population Size and Demographics;
- Skills and Labour;
- Education;
- Health and Safety Facilities and Services.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the human well-being of Pinehouse.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/pinehouse.html>

### 2.2.1.1 POPULATION SIZE AND DEMOGRAPHICS

#### Population Size

The community leadership has stated that the current population of Pinehouse is about 1,400. Census data appears to under-report the population and the growth trend, reporting that Pinehouse has a declining population (see Table 1, with a population of 978 recorded in the 2011 census<sup>13</sup>, a decrease of 9.1% from the previous census period. Prior to this, previous census data demonstrated population growth in Pinehouse (1996 to 2006). According to the Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority (MCRCHA), the Pinehouse 'total covered population'<sup>14</sup> was 1,144 people in 2012. This is a difference of an additional 166 people relative to the 2011 census population figure. This number is also consistent with an estimated population in Pinehouse of 1,135 from the 2011 National Household Survey. As such, the declining population trend indicated by census data may not reflect the actual conditions in the community. As shown in Table 1, the population decline reported in 2011 census data for Pinehouse is inconsistent with positive growth trends for Census Division (CD) 18<sup>15</sup> and for Saskatchewan as a whole.

**Table 1: Population Trends 1996 to 2011 – Pinehouse, CD 18 and Saskatchewan**

Community	1996	2001	2006	2011
Pinehouse (Northern Village)	922	1,038 (12.6%)	1,076 (3.7%)	978 (-9.1%) 1,135 <sup>16</sup> (5.5%)
Île -à-la-Crosse (Northern Village)	1,403	1,268 (-9.6%)	1,348 (5.8%)	1,365 (1.8%)
Beauval (Northern Village)	785	843 (7.4%)	806 (-4.4%)	756 (-6.2%)
Census Division 18 (CD 18, Northern Saskatchewan)	31,104	32,029 (+3.0%)	33,919 (+5.9%)	36,557 (+7.8%)
Saskatchewan	990,237	978,933 (-1.1%)	968,157 (-1.1%)	1,033,381 (+6.7%)

Source: Statistics Canada Census Community Profiles, 2001, 2006, 2011. 2011 National Household Survey.

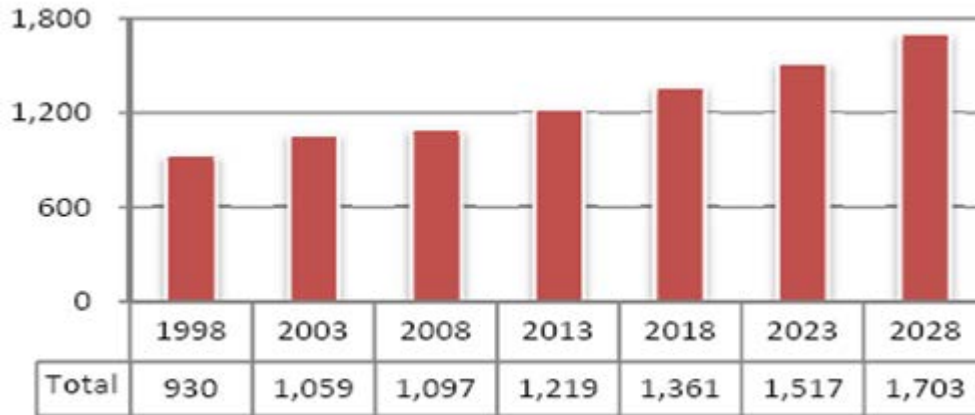
<sup>13</sup> Statistics Canada. 2012. *Pinehouse, NV, Saskatchewan 2011 Census Profile*. Website. <http://www.census2006.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

<sup>14</sup> "Saskatchewan residents who hold a valid Saskatchewan health card and are eligible for provincial health insurance benefits. The data is broken down by health regions, municipalities, age groups and gender" - <http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/covered-population-common-questions>. It is quite possible that there are individuals in Pinehouse without a valid health card.

<sup>15</sup> The Northern Administration District boundaries coincide with Statistics Canada's Census Division 18 (CD 18) boundaries, allowing for ready collection and analysis of regional data that can be compared with both Pinehouse and Saskatchewan as a whole.

<sup>16</sup> The 2011 National Household Survey estimates the population in Pinehouse as 1,135 <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718065&Data=Count&SearchText=Pinehouse&SearchType=Begin&SearchPR=01&A1=All&B1=All&Custom=>

Given the limited employment and other opportunities available for residents of working age, Pinehouse residents seek employment opportunities in the surrounding region, contributing to the trend of out-migration. However, in a 2010 study conducted by the MCRCHA, Pinehouse’s population is still projected to grow by 55% between 2008 and 2028 (see Figure 2 below)<sup>17</sup>.

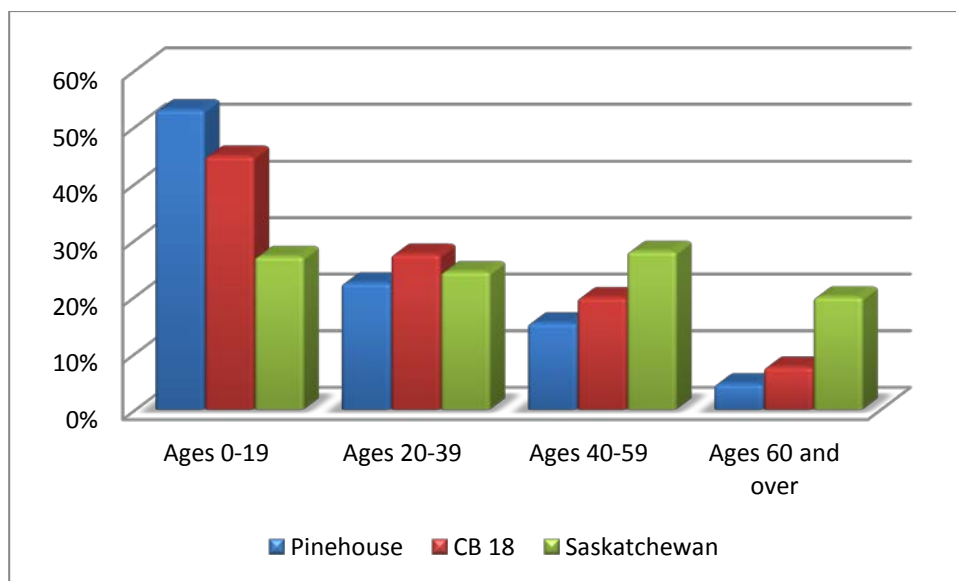


**Figure 2: The Northern Village of Pinehouse Projected Population, 1998-2028.**

Source: Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region Authority. May 2010. MCRHR Facilities and Infrastructure Requirements Strategy 2010.

**Age Structure**

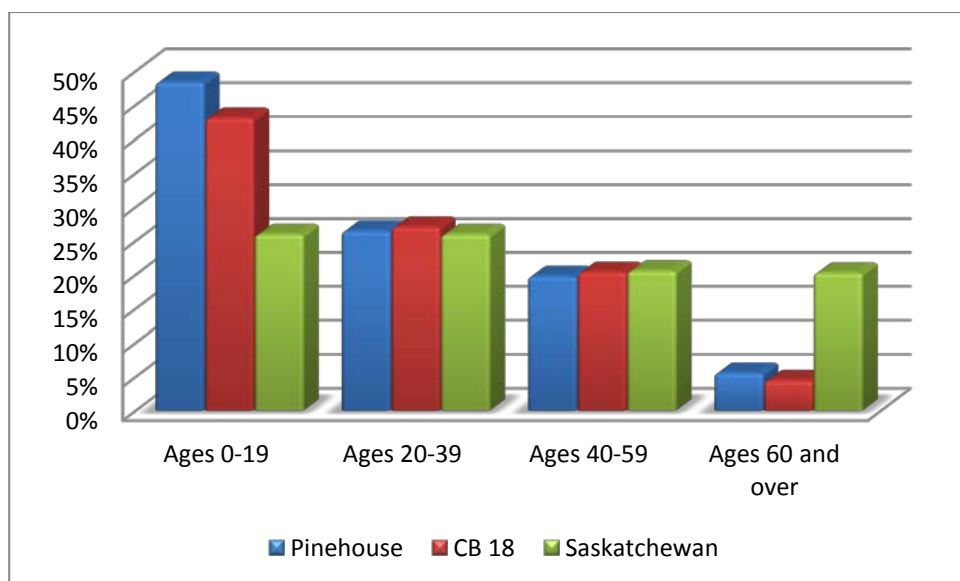
Figure 3 provides a detailed breakdown of population by age in Pinehouse, northern Saskatchewan (CD 18), and Saskatchewan as whole in 2006. Figure 4 provides the same information for 2011.



**Figure 3: Pinehouse Age Structure, 2006**

Source(s): 1) Statistics Canada (2007). *Division No. 18, Saskatchewan 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>;  
 2) *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

<sup>17</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region Authority. May 2010. *MCRHR Facilities and Infrastructure Requirements Strategy 2010*.



**Figure 4: Pinehouse Age Structure, 2011**

Source(s): 1) Statistics Canada (2012). *Division No. 18, Saskatchewan 2011 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>;

2) *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2011 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

The population structure for Pinehouse, CD 18, and Saskatchewan between 2006 and 2011 has remained relatively the same. Pinehouse continues to have a greater proportion of the population between the ages of 0-19 compared to CD 18 and Saskatchewan. Figures 3 and 4 demonstrate that both Pinehouse and CD 18 have a comparatively young population in comparison to Saskatchewan. In 2011, 48.8% of Pinehouse's population was between 0-19 years of age, down slightly from 2006 (53%). In comparison, the population between 0-19 years of age in CD 18 was 43.1%, and 26% in Saskatchewan.

In 2011 62.8% of the population in Pinehouse was 15 years of age and over, compared to 66.3% in CD 18 and 80.9% in Saskatchewan.

### Median Age

Pinehouse had a relatively young overall median age of 18.5 in 2006. However, there was a lower median age of 17.9 years among Aboriginal residents in the same year. These are well below the provincial median age of 38.7 for the same year, and somewhat lower than the median age of 22.9 in CD 18<sup>18</sup>.

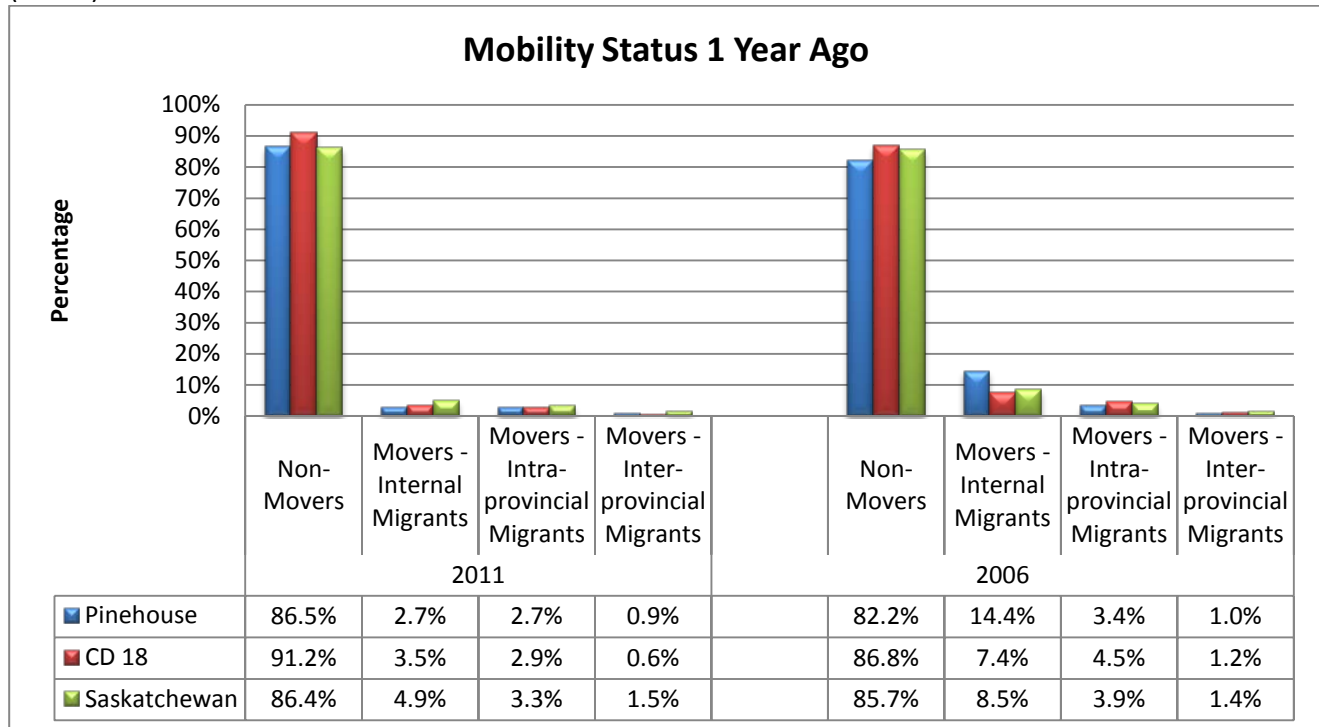
In 2011, the median age in Pinehouse rose slightly to 20.6, while the median age for CD 18 also increased to 23.7, and the median age in Saskatchewan decreased slightly to 38.2.

### Population Mobility

As shown in Figure 5, in 2011 a lower proportion of the population in Pinehouse moved in the last year compared to 2006. Generally, Pinehouse residents were somewhat more likely to have moved in the last year than those in CD18. Residents of Pinehouse were somewhat more likely to have moved in the last five years than those in CD 18, but less likely to move than residents of Saskatchewan as a whole (Figure 6).

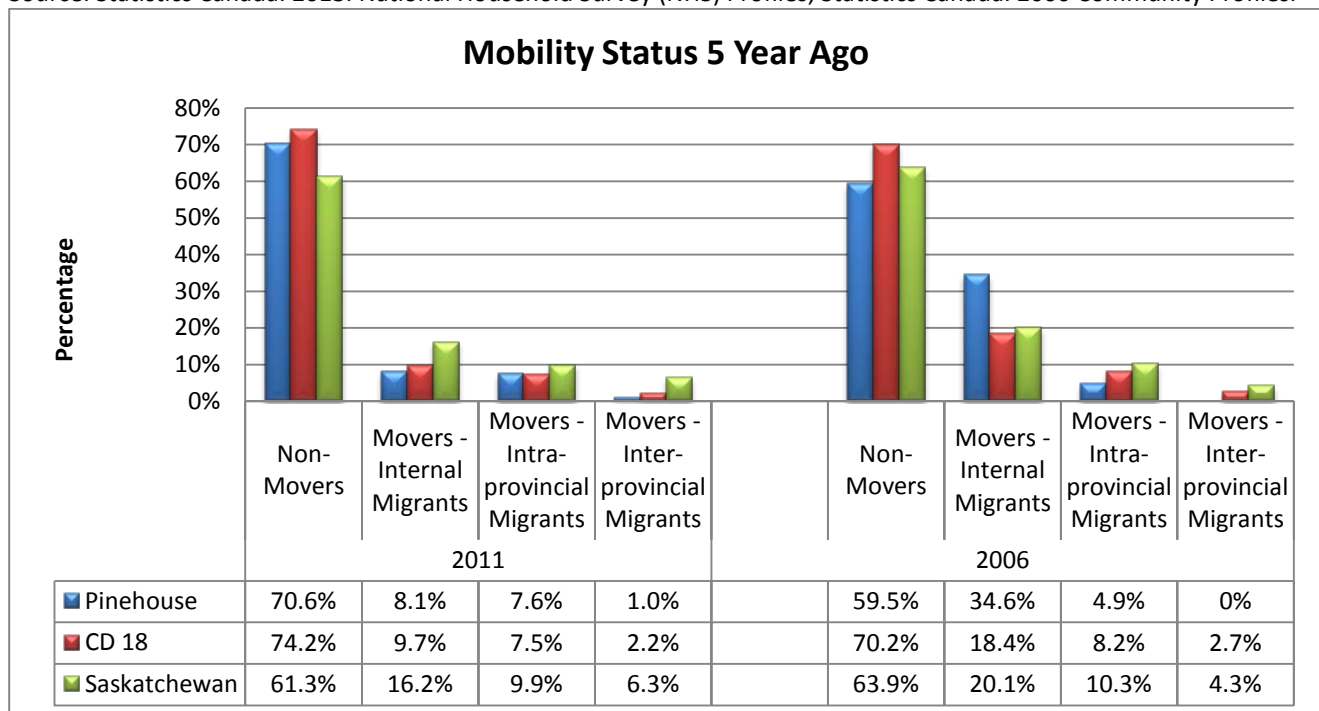
<sup>18</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Community Profiles*

In 2006 approximately 82% of Pinehouse residents lived at the same address one year ago; this was similar to CD 18 (86.8%) or Saskatchewan as a whole (85.7%). The proportion of Pinehouse residents living at the same address as five years ago (59.5%) was lower/less stable than for CD 18 (70.2%) or Saskatchewan as a whole (63.9%).



**Figure 5: Pinehouse Mobility Status 1 Year Ago, 2006, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles; Statistics Canada. 2006 Community Profiles.



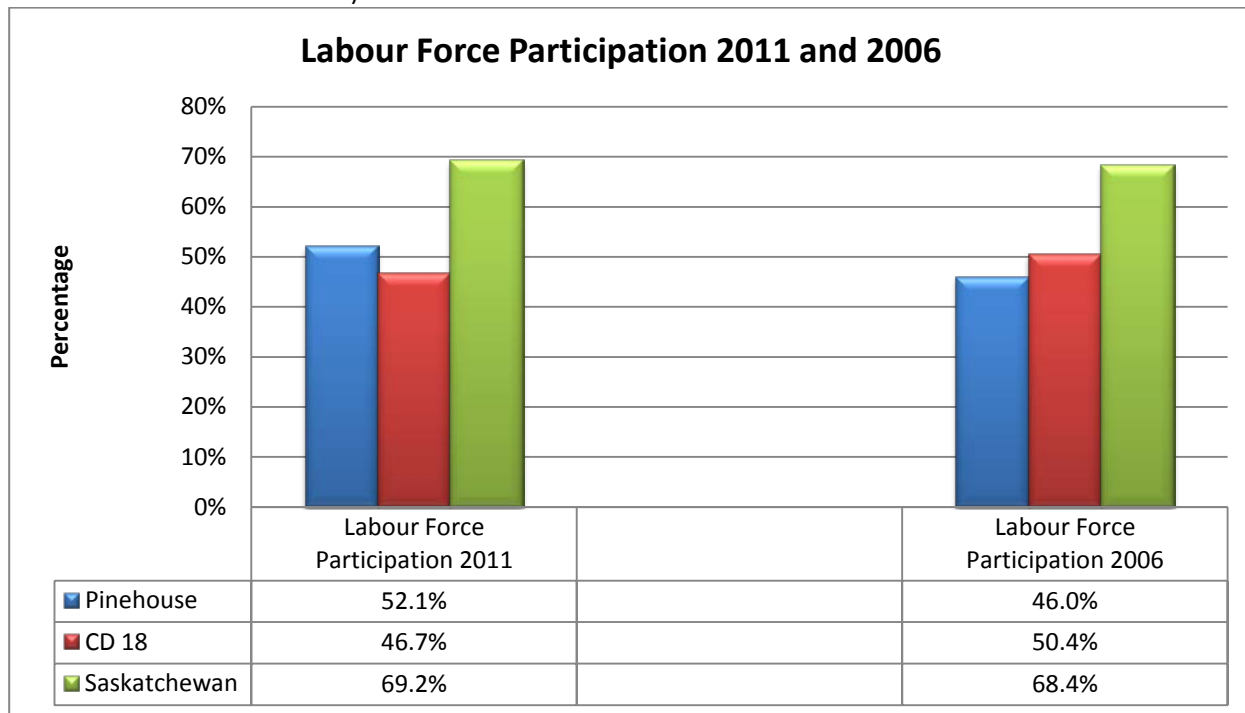
**Figure 6: Pinehouse Mobility Status 5 Years Ago, 2006, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles; Statistics Canada. 2006 Community Profiles.

### 2.2.1.2 SKILLS AND LABOUR

#### Labour Force Participation

Labour force participation rates for Pinehouse are shown in Figure 7. In 2006, Pinehouse had a labour force participation rate of 46.0% (290 of 630), below the 50.4% regional and 68.4% provincial rates<sup>19</sup>. The size of the Pinehouse labour force grew to 370 in 2011, with a participation rate of 52.1% (compared to 46.7% for CD 18, and 69.2% for Saskatchewan)<sup>20</sup>.



**Figure 7: Pinehouse Labour Force Participation Rate, 2011 & 2006**

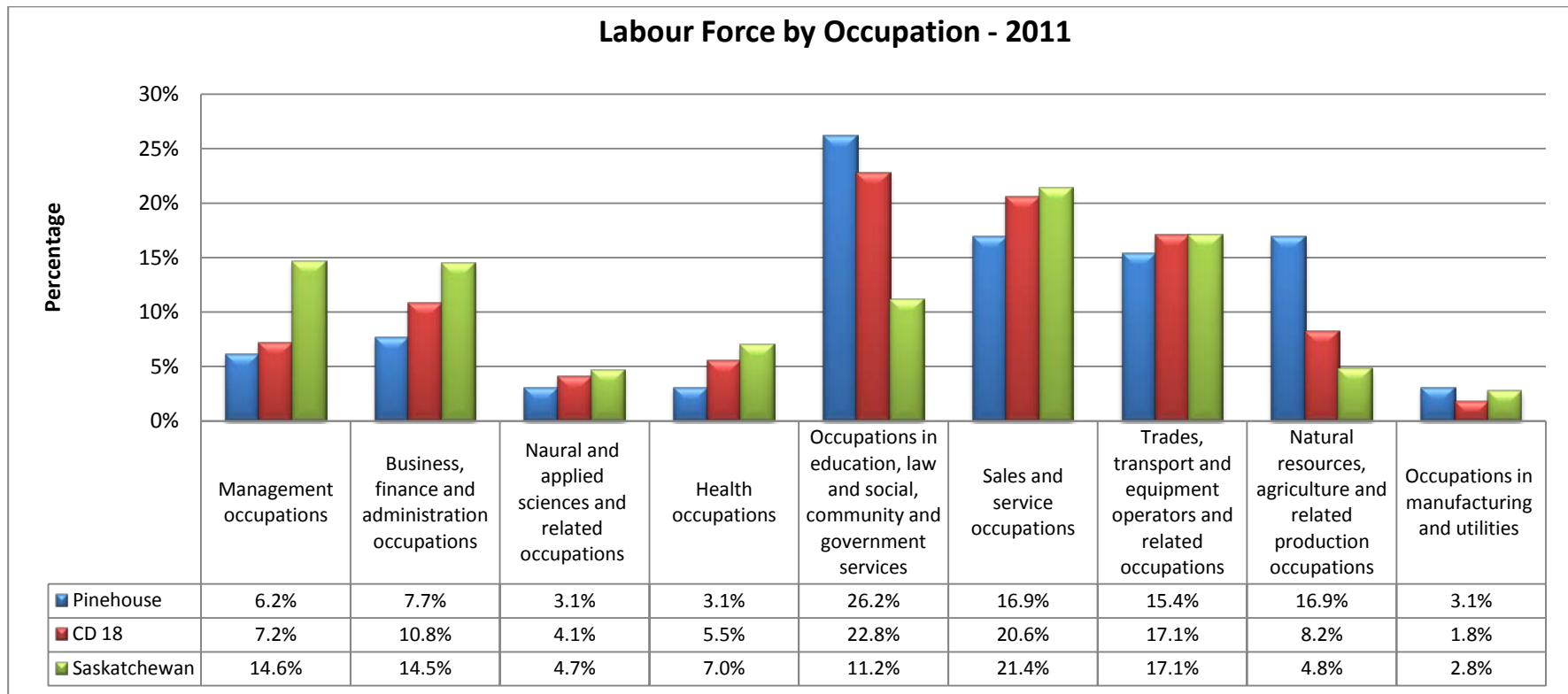
Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles (Participation rate is based on “Total Population aged 15 years and over by Labour Force Status” and the ‘In the Labour Force’ populations).

#### Labour Force by Occupation

It is noted that the Labour Force occupation categories used for the census by Statistics Canada are slightly different between 2006 and 2011. Figure 8 shows the labour force by occupation for 2011 for Pinehouse, CD 18 and Saskatchewan. A greater proportion of the labour force in Pinehouse is employed in natural resources and related occupations (e.g. mining) or education, social, community and government services-related occupations than in CD 18 or Saskatchewan (generally also the case in 2006). Census data for Pinehouse indicates proportionately lower levels of employment in trades and related occupations in 2011 compared to 2006 (Figure 9).

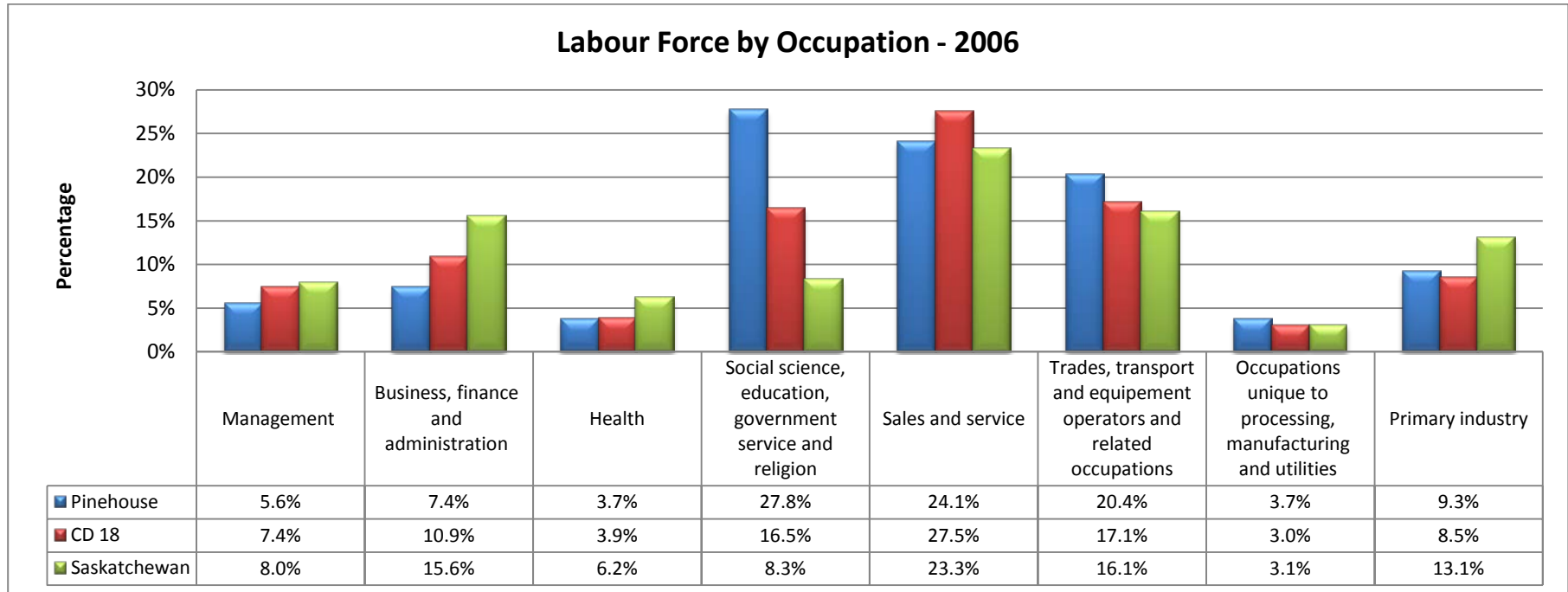
<sup>19</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E> 2011 Census data (National Household Survey) to be released June 26, 2013.

<sup>20</sup> Statistics Canada. 2013. Pinehouse, NV, Saskatchewan (Code 4718065) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 26, 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 21, 2013).



**Figure 8: Pinehouse Labour Force by Occupation, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles. Notes: All occupation categories in Pinehouse are shown in the figure. Both CD 18 and Saskatchewan have members of the labour force in additional occupations; as such the percentages do not add to 100%.



**Figure 9: Pinehouse Labour Force by Occupation, 2006**

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profile, 2006, Pinehouse. Both CD 18 and Saskatchewan have members of the labour force in additional occupations; as such the percentages do not add to 100%.



### Labour Force by Industry

Employment opportunities for Pinehouse residents are limited, particularly for those without a high school certificate or higher. A small percentage of the Pinehouse labour force is employed in local industries with a greater proportion of residents employed in seasonal or unpaid work. Given the community's remote location, seasonal opportunities are predominantly focused on a limited commercial fishery (15 licences in 2012), some trapping (in 2011, \$26,335 in furs were harvested in Fur Block N-11 in the Pinehouse area)<sup>21</sup>, guiding/outfitting, forest fire-fighting, and mining. There are additional limited employment opportunities for tourism, forestry and mining in the surrounding region; however, these positions in some cases require skilled labourers.

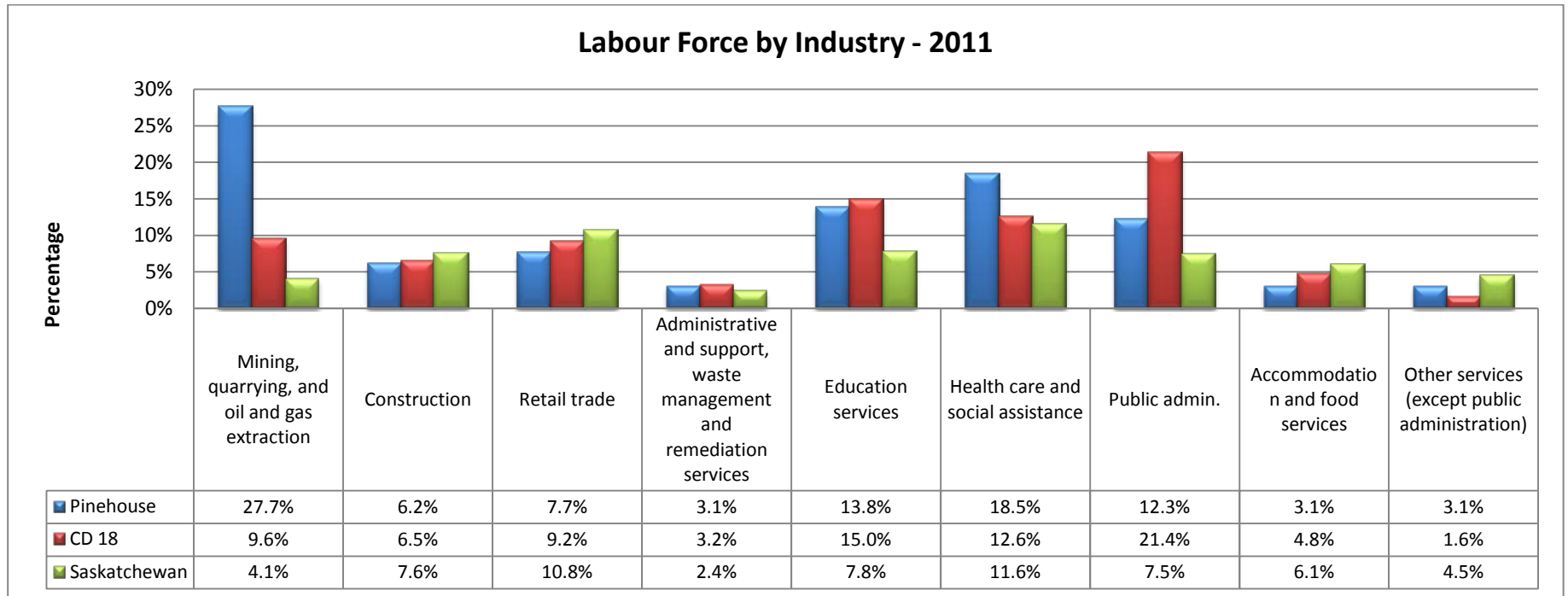
It is noted that the Labour Force industry categories used by Statistics Canada are slightly different between 2006 and 2011. As shown in Figure 10, in 2011 a greater proportion of the labour force in Pinehouse were employed in mining (quarrying, oil and gas extraction) and health care/social assistance than the labour force for CD 18 or Saskatchewan. Relatively fewer worked in retail, construction, or accommodation/food service industries.

As shown in Figure 11, the largest occupation by industry in Pinehouse (2006) was 'Educational Services', which employed 60 people (22.2%). The next largest were 'Agricultural and Resource Based' (which includes mining - 45 people/16.7%), and 'Health Care and Social Services' (40 people/14.8 %). Proportionately more of the labour force worked in construction in 2006 than in 2011; and in greater proportions than in CD 18 and Saskatchewan as a whole.

Section 2.3.1.3 (below) describes business activity in Pinehouse in further detail, as does Section 3.6 on a regional basis.

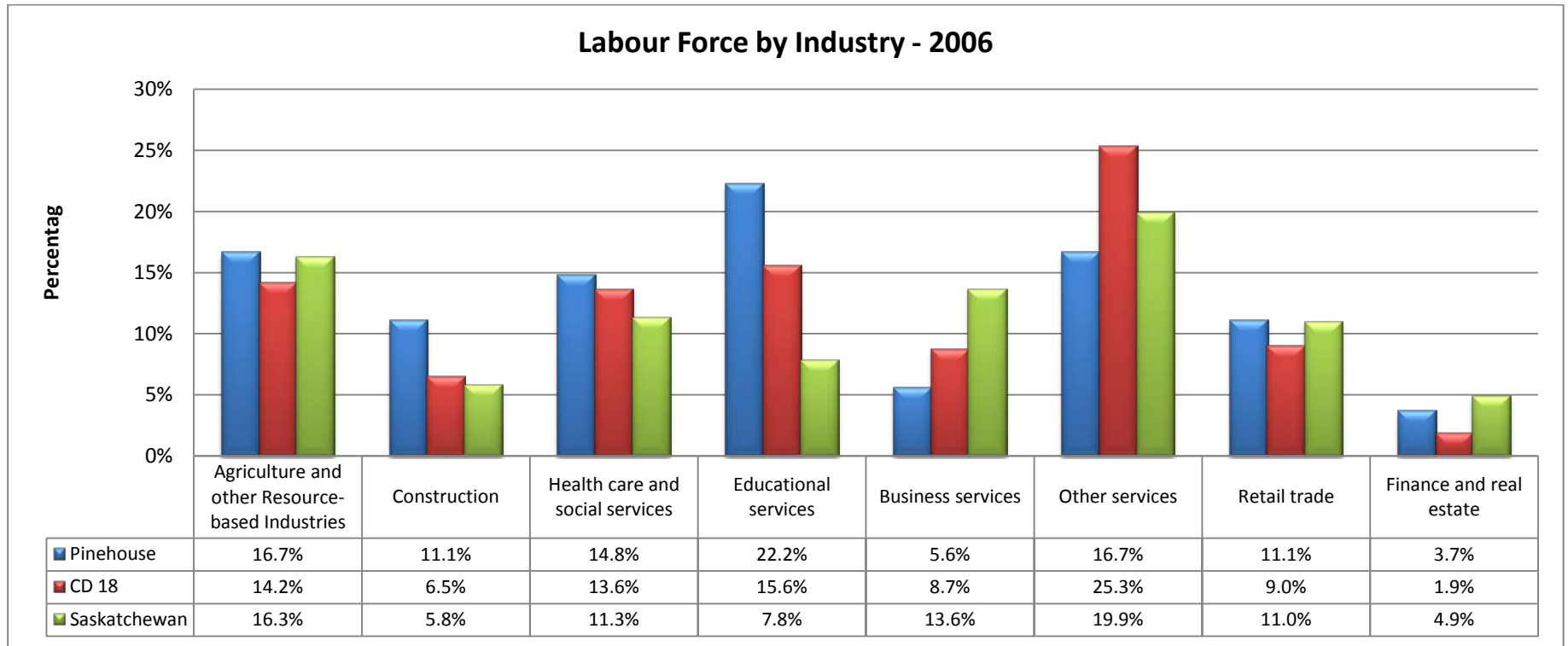
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<sup>21</sup> Koback, L. January 2012. *Saskatchewan Wild Fur Harvest and Cash Values 2010-2011*. Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment, Fish and Wildlife Branch. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



**Figure 10: Pinehouse Labour Force by Industry, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles. Both CD 18 and Saskatchewan have members of the labour force in additional industries; as such the percentages do not add to 100%.



**Figure 11: Pinehouse Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profile, 2006, Pinehouse. Both CD 18 and Saskatchewan have members of the labour force in additional industries; as such the percentages do not add to 100%.

### 2.2.1.3 EDUCATION

#### Educational Attainment

Figures 12 and 13 provide an overview of educational attainment (age 15 years and over) for Pinehouse in 2011 and 2006. In 2011, while education levels have increased, levels of attainment in Pinehouse remained lower than for CD 18 and the province (although the percentage of Pinehouse residents with a high school diploma/equivalent (23.2%) was greater than for CD 18 (18.7%)). The majority of Pinehouse residents over age 15 did not possess a certificate, diploma or degree in 2011 (60.6%) or 2006 (70.6%).

#### Pinehouse School Facilities

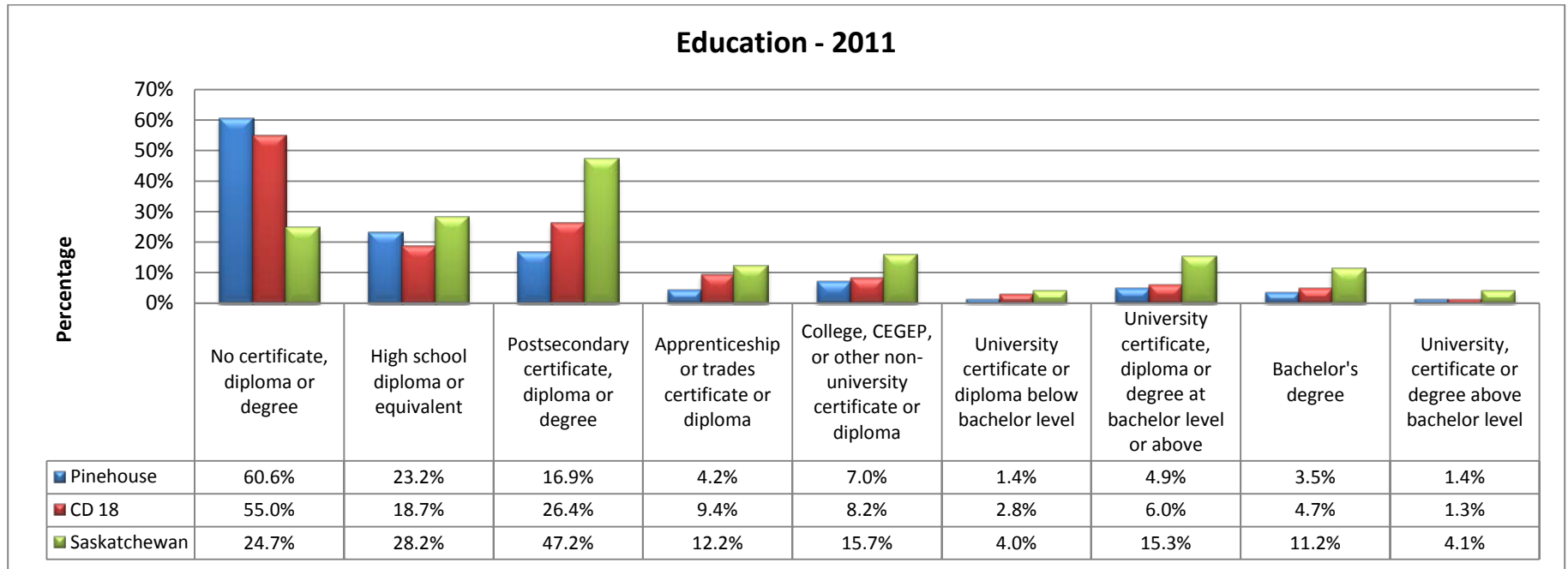
Part of the Northern Lights School Division #113, the Minahik Waskahigan Community School in Pinehouse offers Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. As of September 30, 2012, a total of 440 students were enrolled the school<sup>22</sup>. The school also employs approximately 30 teachers and 10 paraprofessional staff<sup>23</sup>. The school is housed in two buildings – the elementary and high schools. A new high school building has been identified as a priority, as has a school storage shed and compound. The Aboriginal Head Start program also operates in Pinehouse (Annie Johnstone Awasis Centre). Pinehouse has identified a new high school building as a priority need.<sup>24</sup>



<sup>22</sup> Northern Lights School Division #113, information obtained from the Northern Lights Division #113 in May 2013.

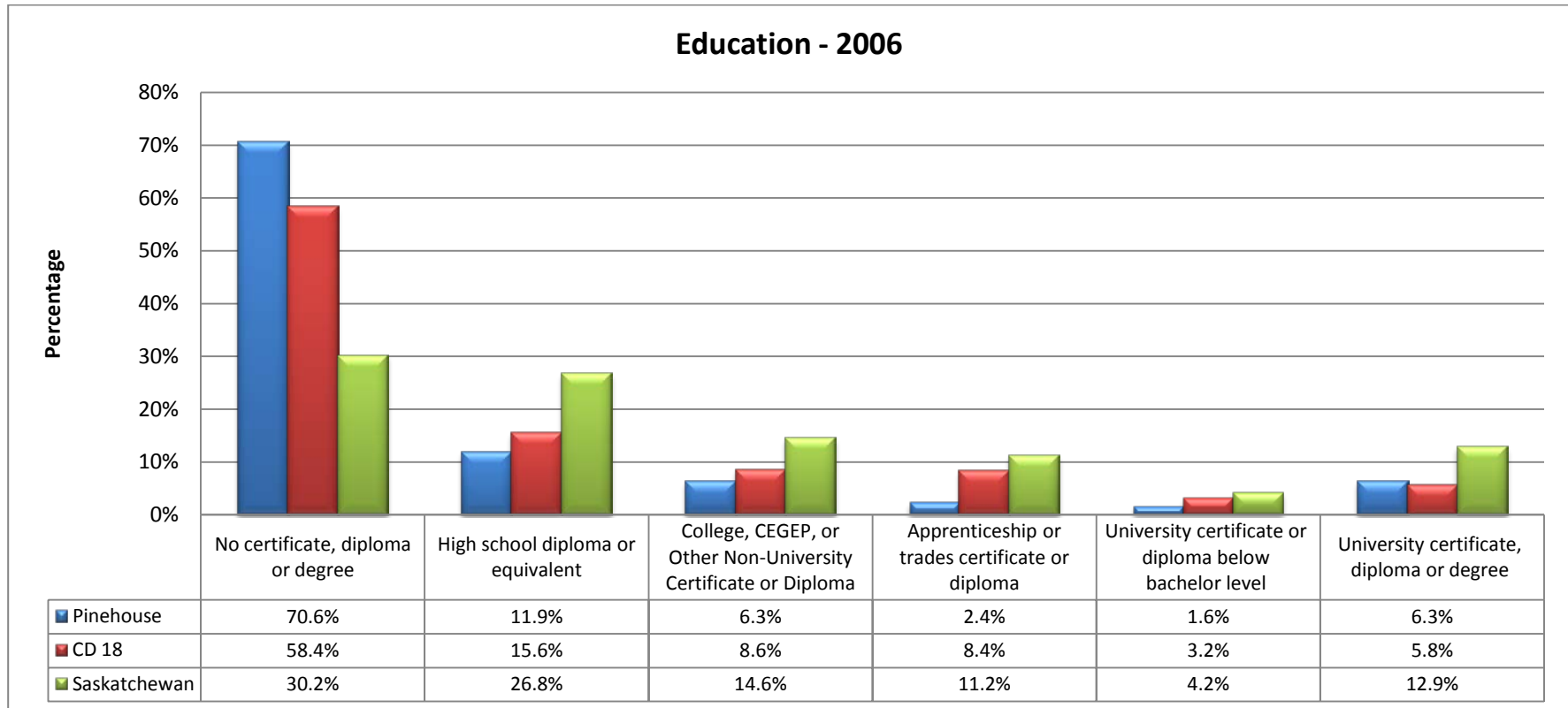
<sup>23</sup> <http://www.nlsd113.com/schoolscommunities/>.

<sup>24</sup> AECOM. November 2011. *Northern Village of Pinehouse Capital Projects Prioritization Report*.



**Figure 12: Pinehouse Educational Attainment, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles.



**Figure 13: Pinehouse Educational Attainment, 2006**

Statistics Canada 2006 Community Profiles.

### Enrollment at Minahik Waskahigan School

Table 2 illustrates Pinehouse students' enrollment at the Minahik Waskahigan School from 2008 – 2012. Student enrollment for the Northern Lights School Division #113 (NLSD) are also shown for the same period. School enrollment trends in Pinehouse and NLSD show overall pattern of fluctuation since 2008. However, it should be noted that the enrollment trends are not consistent between Minahik Waskahigan School and NLSD.

**Table 2: Pinehouse School Enrollment 2008-2012**

Enrollment	Pinehouse		Northern Lights School Division #113	
	Number (No.)	Percent Change (%)	Number (No.)	Percent Change (%)
<b>2012</b>	440	4.5%	4071	-4.7%
<b>2011</b>	421	-7.2%	4276	5.1%
<b>2010</b>	454	11.2%	4067	-0.5%
<b>2009</b>	408	-10.9%	4091	-1.2%
<b>2008</b>	458	N/A	4397	N/A

Source: Northern Lights School Division #113, information obtained from the Northern Lights Division #113 in May 2013

### Adult-Continuing Education and Skills Training

Continuing education and skills training courses are offered to community members in Pinehouse, which operate independently from the Minahik Waskahigan Community School. In May 2013, there were three independent education courses being offered in Pinehouse<sup>25</sup>:

1. *Adult Basic Education- Adult 12 –24* community members enrolled in this program to complete their grade 12 education. The program also offers a Native Studies course that incorporates teachings of the community's 'Medicine Wheel – Holistic Learning Model' - as part of the course curriculum.
2. *Pinehouse Lake Essential Skills Program* –32 community members enrolled (May 2013) in this 5-week course that offers students the opportunity to garner an assortment of valuable workplace skills, including:
  - Communication, time management, conflict resolution, Healthy Relationships, Healthy Lifestyles);
  - Literacy skills (maps, document literacy, resume/cover letters, job search, reading work place signs);
  - Numeracy skills (basic math, graphs, budgeting, income tax, using credit properly, pay stubs);
  - Industry Overview (Uranium Industry Fundamentals, Mine tour, Construction Industry, Camps, Heavy Equipment Industry);
  - Safety Tickets (Aerial Work Platform, First Aid/CPR, WHMIS, Transportation of Dangerous Goods, Fall Protection, CSE/R, Ladder Safety, Fire Safety, SCOT); and
  - Industry Related Practice (Heavy Equipment Operation, Mobile Power Equipment, Construction).

<sup>25</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse. May 2013. Adult Basic Education- Adult 12. Information about the courses and current enrollment.

3. *Employability Skills Program* – This basic literacy program was first offered in 2012 – established in partnership between the Northern Village of Pinehouse, Gary Tinker Federation, and the Neil Squire Society. In May 2013, the program was being accessed by 7 community members.

In total, there were 63 community members accessing continuing education and skills based training courses in Pinehouse in May 2013. Starting in the summer of 2013, a course *Women in Trades* started, which will be geared towards skills training for women looking to get involved in the trades industry.

### Post-Secondary Education Options

There are several post-secondary education options available in the region surrounding Pinehouse.

- The Gabriel Dumont Institute (GDI) was formed in 1980 as a non-profit organization, servicing the educational and cultural needs of Saskatchewan’s Métis and non-status Indian populations. GDI is the education branch of the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan and works in partnership, offering fully accredited course/programs, through many of the province’s educational institutions, such as the University of Regina, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, as well as numerous local/regional colleges, and Service Canada<sup>26</sup>. The curriculum offered through GDI’s programs and/or service is geared towards being Métis-specific. GDI has several training and employment services locations across Northern Saskatchewan in communities such as La Ronge, Beauval, Île-à-la-Crosse, and La Loche. GDI Training and Employment service are also offered in larger municipalities in Saskatchewan, including Meadow Lake, North Battleford, Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina.
- Northlands College (which operates a full campus in La Ronge, and offers some courses in northern Saskatchewan communities such as Beauval, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche and Pinehouse)<sup>27</sup>
- The University of Saskatchewan and University of Regina offer an off-campus Arts and Social Science program through Northlands College in Beauval, Buffalo Narrows, La Loche and Pinehouse<sup>28</sup>.
- Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST) operates campuses in Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina, and Saskatoon. Distance education courses and programs are also offered<sup>29</sup>.
- Programs offered by the Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission Office<sup>30, 31</sup>
- Northern Teachers Education Program/Northern Professional Access College (NORTEP/NORPAC)<sup>32</sup>
- First Nations University of Canada (campuses in Regina, Saskatoon and Prince Albert , with some courses offered in the communities)<sup>33</sup>

The Cameco North Scholarship is available to Pinehouse students seeking post-secondary education. Figure 14 below illustrates that number and amount of scholarships awarded to Pinehouse students from 2004 -2011.

<sup>26</sup> Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research. (n.d.). Website: <http://www.gdins.org/node/126>

<sup>27</sup> <http://www.northlandscollege.sk.ca/>

<sup>28</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. 2012. Communities. Boreal West Enterprise Region. Website. <http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/images/PDF/Community%20Profiles/Boreal%20West/Boreal%20West%20Enterprise%20Region.pdf>

<sup>29</sup> Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology. Website. <http://www.siastr.sk.ca/about/index.shtml>

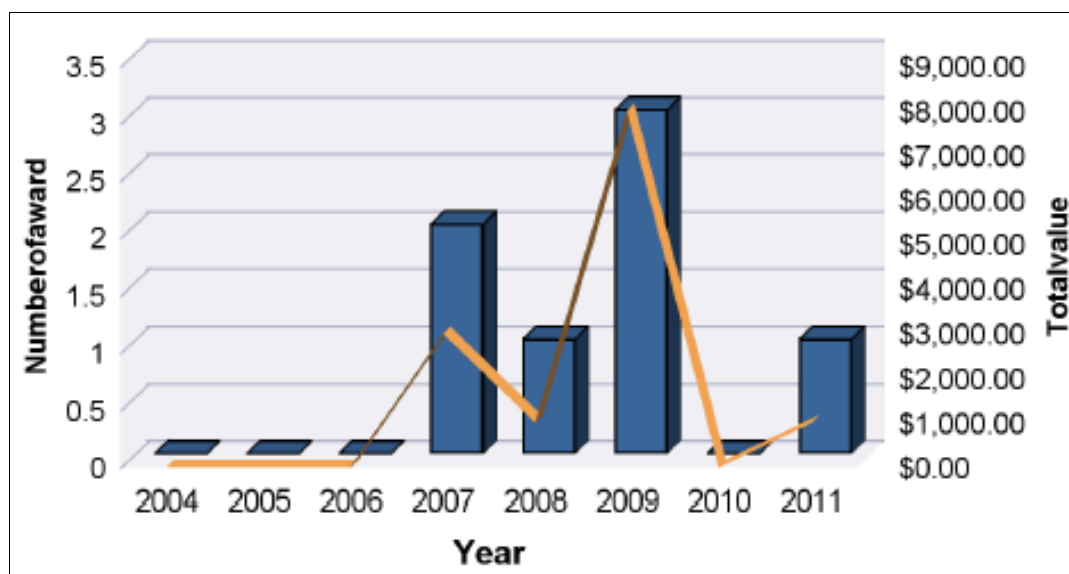
<sup>30</sup> <http://www.saskapprenticeship.ca/>

<sup>31</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. 2012. Communities. Churchill West Enterprise Region. Website. <http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/images/PDF/Community%20Profiles/Churchill%20River/Churchill%20River%20Enterprise%20Region.pdf>

<sup>32</sup> <http://nortep-norpac.webs.com/>

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.fnuniv.ca/>





**Figure 14: Cameco Northern Scholarship - Awarded in Pinehouse**

Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

### Northern Career Quest

In March of 2008, a four-year federally funded training program - Northern Career Quest (NCQ) - was initiated across Northern Saskatchewan. Designed for Aboriginal people in Prince Albert and Northern Saskatchewan to receive training in the resource sector, the goal of the program was to train 1500 people and provide 750 people with guaranteed jobs at the end of four years. The program was more successful than originally anticipated, with 2542 individuals trained and 1326 finding immediate employment after graduation. The federally funded portions of the program ended in March 2012, with other elements wrapping up in June 2012 (Provincial/Industry funded aspects)<sup>34</sup>. In Pinehouse, 81 individuals were trained, and 46 were working, as a direct result of NCQ in spring 2012. In January 2013, the governments of Saskatchewan and Canada announced an additional \$9.4 million in funding for Northern Career Quest over a two-year period, for training of approximately 800 First Nation and Métis people in Northern Saskatchewan in high-demand fields such as mining technicians, heavy equipment operators, welders and office administrators.

### Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation

The Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation (CCNI) is a not-for-profit subsidiary of the University of Saskatchewan and is wholly funded by the Government of Saskatchewan. The CCNI issued an initial call for research proposals (July 2012), offering a total of \$500,000.00 for five to 30 projects. This initial call was part of a pilot program of research proposals that is hoped will be extended to a twice annual call for research proposals with increased levels of funding. Projects to be funded can be focused in the areas of<sup>35</sup>:

- Nuclear medicine
- How to make and use materials using nuclear techniques
- Nuclear energy
- Public engagement related to nuclear science

<sup>34</sup> Opportunity North. Spring 2012. Northern Saskatchewan's Business and Industry Magazine; Volume 19, Issue 2. Pg. 12-13.

<sup>35</sup> Wiebe, G. 2012. Seeking Nuclear Leadership. Published in the Saskatoon Homepage, July 4, 2012. Website: [www.SaskatoonHomepage.ca](http://www.SaskatoonHomepage.ca).

This mission of the CCNI is to become a global leader in the nuclear industry as related to research, development, and training<sup>36</sup>.

#### 2.2.1.4 HEALTH AND SAFETY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

A number of health and safety facilities are located in the community:

##### Health Services

- Pinehouse Community Health Center
- Pharmacy
- Dental Clinic (located within the Minahik Elementary School)
- Kids First North

The Pinehouse Community Health Center offers a variety of services and programs, including<sup>37</sup>:

- Home care
- Addiction Services
- Mental Health
- Public Health
- Physicians (visiting clinic two days per week)
- Telehealth
- Primary Health Care Services
- “Making the Links” medical students (six weeks per year) from the University of Saskatchewan
  - Diabetes awareness, sexual health, alcohol, mental health, community garden projects were undertaken in 2012



Pinehouse is within the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region, which released an Infrastructure Strategy in 2010<sup>38</sup>. Part of this strategy includes a phased upgrading of the Pinehouse Community Health Center. More detailed information on the services and facilities offered by the MCRRHA are provided in its annual report.<sup>39</sup> Additional health and safety facilities accessible to Pinehouse residents are located outside the community. These include the La Ronge Health Centre, and Nikinan - a regional long-term care facility, both 216 km away by road in La Ronge.

The closest acute care regional hospital services are in La Ronge, with Prince Albert, Meadow Lake, and Saskatoon serving as the larger regional centres.

There is no ambulance service located in Pinehouse; the nearest is located in Beauval. In the vast majority of cases, residents requiring emergency care outside the community are medevaced by aircraft.

<sup>36</sup> Wiebe, G. 2012. Seeking Nuclear Leadership. Published in the Saskatoon Homepage, July 4, 2012. Website: [www.SaskatoonHomepage.ca](http://www.SaskatoonHomepage.ca).

<sup>37</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. May 2010. MCRHR Facilities and Infrastructure Requirements Strategy 2010.

<sup>38</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. June 2010. *Pinehouse Health Center Evaluation - Assessment of Space Adequacy and Functionality and 4-Phase Master Space Plan*. Prepared by croft planning + design. And Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. May 2010. *Facilities and Infrastructure Requirements Strategy 2010*.

<sup>39</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. 2012. *Annual Report 2011-2012*.

<http://www.mcrrha.sk.ca/media/files/MCRHR%202011-12%20Annual%20Report%20-%20med%20size.pdf>

### Policing

There is an RCMP detachment in Pinehouse, serviced by four officers<sup>40</sup>.

### Fire Protection

Pinehouse has a Volunteer Fire Department, and a First Responders Volunteer Program.



## 2.2.2 Summary of Human Assets

### 2.2.2.1 PRIORITIES AND KEY ISSUES

A number of priorities and key issues have been identified for the Human Asset category for Pinehouse:

- Pinehouse representatives have indicated that the population of Pinehouse is currently approximately 1,400 people. The MCCRHA reported a population of at least 1,144 in 2012; the National Household Survey estimated the population as 1,135 in 2011. Census data indicates that the population in Pinehouse declined by 9.1% to 978 between 2006 and 2011, following periods of population growth. During the same period, the population in CD 18 and Saskatchewan as a whole was growing. The MCCRHA predicts that Pinehouse's population will grow by 55% between 2008 and 2028, from 1097 to 1703.
- In 2011, Pinehouse had a much larger proportion of the population aged 0-19 (48.8%) than either CD 18 (43.1%) or Saskatchewan as a whole (26%). However, the percentage of the population aged 0-19 in Pinehouse still declined moderately from the 2006 figure of 53%. In 2011, the median age in Pinehouse rose slightly to 20.6, compared to 23.7 for CD 18 and 38.2 for the province as a whole.
- This relatively young and growing population presents challenges in terms of employment, housing and the provision of programs and services in the community and potential opportunities within northern development opportunities in the mining industry, both currently and in the future.
- In 2011 a lower proportion of the population in Pinehouse moved in the last year compared to 2006. Pinehouse residents were somewhat more likely to have moved in the last year than those in CD18. Residents of Pinehouse were somewhat more likely to have moved in the last five years than those in CD 18, but less likely to move than residents of Saskatchewan as a whole.
- The labour force participation rate increased in 2011 compared to 2006 (from 46.0% to 52.1%), higher than the 2011 rate for CD 18 (46.7%) but lower than for Saskatchewan (69.2%). The size of the labour force in Pinehouse increased from 290 in 2006 to 370 in 2011.
- In 2006, the levels of educational attainment for Pinehouse residents was lower than for CD 18, and even more so than for Saskatchewan as a whole. In 2011, while education levels increased, Pinehouse levels of attainment remained lower than for CD 18 and the province (although the percentage of Pinehouse residents with a high school diploma/equivalent (23.2%) was greater than for CD 18 (18.6%)).
- Education is a priority, including replacing the high school facility.
- Limited health and safety services are available in Pinehouse.

<sup>40</sup> This information was obtained during discussion in the community October 2012.

### 2.2.2.2 COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

Pinehouse continues to plan for the future, and has completed or is involved in visioning and strategic planning activities to identify goals and objectives, and the specific actions needed to achieve them (see Section 2.1.3 for additional detail). These include improvements to community facilities and infrastructure (e.g., a phased upgrading of the community health centre is planned; a new high school has been identified as a priority), health and safety services (e.g. improved fire protection), education/training, economic development and community programs. The 'Reclaiming Our Community' initiative (see Section 2.5.1.4 below) provides a forum for coordination of the activities of a number of organizations delivering a range of programs and services in Pinehouse.

### 2.2.2.3 CAPABILITIES AND CAPACITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY



While census data indicate a declining population, the community reports a substantially larger and growing population. The population is relatively young, and levels of educational attainment and labour force participation are relatively low (although both are improving over time). Younger community members and families often have to leave the community to find housing, or to pursue educational or employment opportunities. This relatively young population presents challenges in terms of employment, housing and the provision of programs and services in the community, both currently and in the future.

In terms of health and safety, capacity in Pinehouse is limited with respect to the availability of health facilities and services, and emergency response (e.g. ambulance, fire protection) in the community.

## 2.3 ECONOMIC ASSETS

### 2.3.1 Economic Asset Indicators

The Economic Assets within a community include the monetary or financial related resources that people use to achieve their livelihood objectives. It includes cash or equivalents to individuals and/or the community, and availability of financial and economic resources that allow residents to manage their finances and wealth. Specific indicators within the Economic Assets category include:

- employment;
- income;
- business activity;
- tourism;
- economic development services; and
- governance and municipal finances.

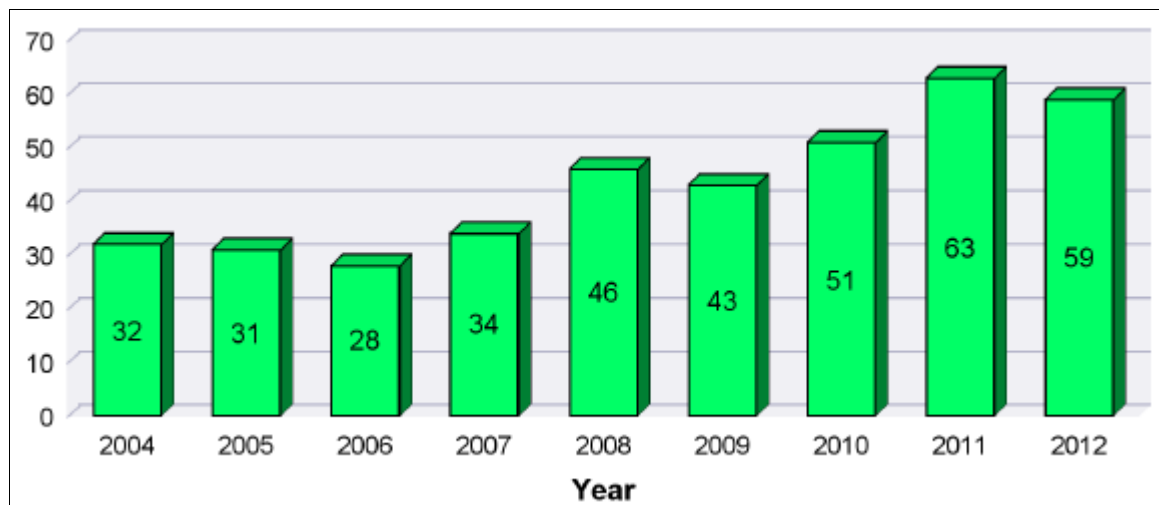
These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the economic well-being of Pinehouse.

**2.3.1.1 EMPLOYMENT**

Pinehouse is a community with employment challenges, including limited employment options, low levels of formal education and training, and high levels of unemployment. The limited opportunities for employment are attributed to the community’s relatively remote location. Forestry activity is now diminished in the area, although mining still provides significant employment opportunities for residents of both the community and the region.

The largest employment category in Pinehouse in 2006 was educational services (see Figure 6 above). Seasonal employment opportunities exist and provide residents a source of income. These include fishing (including a small commercial fishery), some trapping, guiding/outfitting, fire-fighting and mining – activities that are predominantly outside of the community. There are several uranium mining operations north of Pinehouse, including the Key Lake mill and McArthur River mine, and a number of Pinehouse residents are employed directly or work with contractors providing services to these and other mines. A proportion of the Pinehouse labour force that is employed works outside the community (e.g., for the uranium mines [directly or indirectly], or provincial government departments).

Figure 8 below shows the number of Pinehouse residents employed by Cameco at their Key Lake and McArthur River mines over the past nine years.



**Figure 15: Pinehouse Employment at Key Lake and McArthur River**  
 Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

A major challenge to employment is the high percentage of residents without a high school certificate or equivalent (see Figure 12 above). Seasonal or full-time employment opportunities, particularly those in mining, require skilled labour, excluding many of those without a high school certificate or additional training/education. Pinehouse has a relatively low level of formal education compared to the region and the province as a whole. As a result, in combination with a lack of opportunities in the community, Pinehouse also has an elevated level of unemployment. The recent Collaboration Agreement with industry (December 2012) includes opportunities to address post-secondary trades training and other initiatives that should assist in this regard. Table 3 shows unemployment rates in Pinehouse from 1996 through 2011. The unemployment rate in Pinehouse was 22.4% in 2006, slightly higher than northern Saskatchewan as a whole, and more than four times the provincial average of 5.6%. In 2011, the unemployment rate of 17.6% was similar to CD 18 (17.9%) but still much higher than Saskatchewan (5.9%); however, this is lower than the 2006 unemployment rate of 22.4%.

**Table 3: Unemployment Rate in Pinehouse, 1996-2011**

Unemployment	Pinehouse	CD 18	Saskatchewan
1996	28.8%	17.7%	7.2%
2001	32.8%	24.2%	6.3%
2006	22.4%	20.2%	5.6%
2011	17.6%	17.9%	5.9%

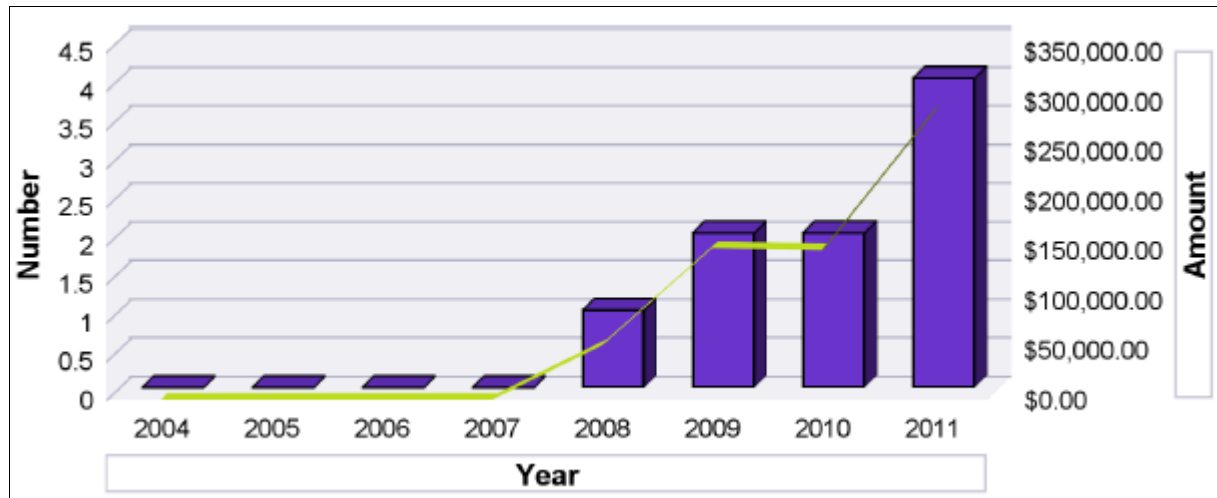
Source: Statistics Canada. (2007). 1996, 2001 and 2006 Community Profiles. Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) 2011 Profiles.

Figures 16, 17, & 18 below illustrate the number of alternative employment programs offered to Pinehouse residents at Key Lake and McArthur River uranium operations (2004-2011). The number of Pinehouse residents is captured using the (purple) bar graphics, whereas the value/amount of these positions is captured using the (green) line graphic.

The alternative employment programs include:

- Apprenticeships;
- Northern Summer Student Employment; and
- Work Placement/Co-op Programs.

Figure 16 illustrates the number of Pinehouse residents taking part in the apprenticeship program at the Key Lake and McArthur River mine operations during the period 2004-2011.

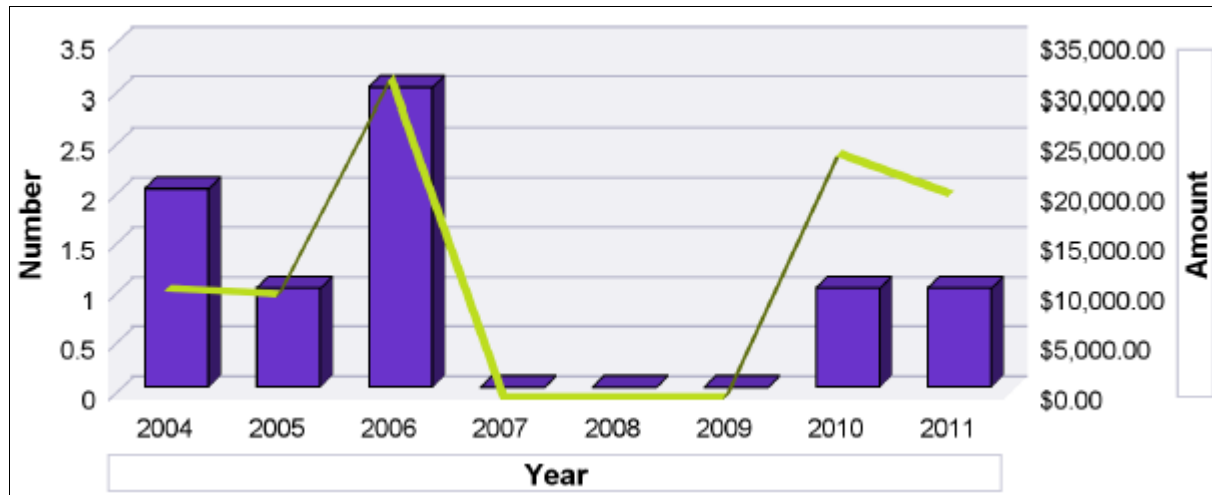


**Figure 16: Pinehouse Apprenticeships at Key Lake and McArthur River**

Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

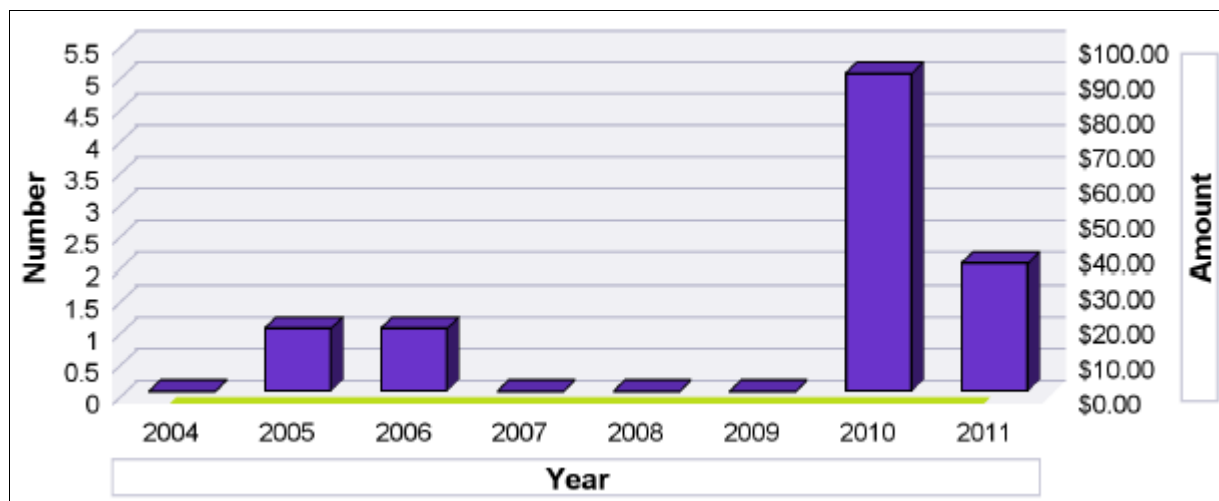
Figure 17 outlines the number of Pinehouse summer students employed at Key Lake and McArthur River mine operations from 2004 to 2011.





**Figure 17: Pinehouse Northern Summer Student Employment at Key Lake and McArthur River**  
 Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

Work placement and co-op programs are also available to Pinehouse residents at the Key Lake and McArthur River mines. As shown in Figure 18 below, these positions are unpaid.



**Figure 18: Pinehouse Work Placements/Co-op Program at Key Lake and McArthur River**  
 Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

### 2.3.1.2 INCOME

#### Pinehouse Income Characteristics

Table 4 provides an overview of Pinehouse’s income characteristics in 2000, 2005 and 2010. Over that period, median income in Pinehouse has remained significantly lower than for the province, but similar to that for CD 18 as a whole. The proportion of earnings as a percentage of income has increased, while income from government transfers and ‘other money’ has declined. In 2010, the median income of Pinehouse residents (persons over the age of 15 with an income) was \$17,144 (compared to \$17,066 in CD 18, and \$31,408 in Saskatchewan as a whole). Overall, 26% of income received in Pinehouse came from government transfers, whereas in CD 18 it was 22.5% and Saskatchewan, 11.5%. A total of 1.9% income came from other sources in Pinehouse, compared to 1.5% for CD 18, and 1.8% for Saskatchewan.

Between 1981 and 2006, the average and median household incomes in Northern Saskatchewan decreased approximately 14%. During this same time period, the average and median household incomes in the Province increased approximately 11%.<sup>41</sup>

**Table 4: Pinehouse Income Characteristics, 2000 - 2010**

Income Characteristics	2010			2005 <sup>42</sup>			2000 <sup>43</sup>		
	Pinehouse	CD 18	Sask	Pinehouse	CD 18	Sask	Pinehouse	CD 18	Sask
<b>Persons 15 years of age and over with income (counts)</b>	640	22,145	776,145	540	20,420	728,960	495	18,910	722,760
<b>Median income (persons 15 years and over [\$])</b>	\$17,144	\$17,066	\$31,408	\$15,344	\$13,600	\$23,755	\$13,472	\$12,270	\$19,636
<b>Composition of total income</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Earnings - % of income	72.2%	76.0%	86.6%	68.2%	71.7%	73.9%	68.0%	70.2%	73.6%
Government transfers - % of income	26.0%	22.5%	11.5%	28.3%	23.1%	12.8%	30.2%	25.2%	14.7%
Other Money - % of income	1.9%	1.5%	1.8%	3.1%	5.2%	13.3%	1.7%	4.6%	11.7%

Source: Statistics Canada. 2001 and 2006 Community Profiles. Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) 2011 Profiles.

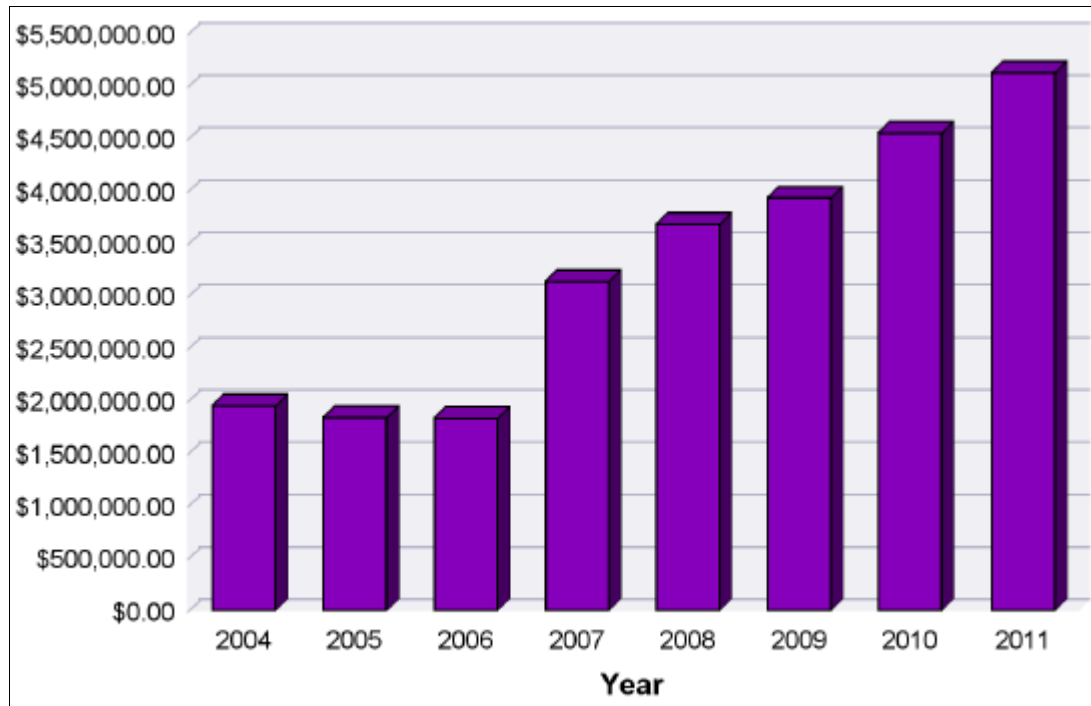
Figure 19 illustrates the total amount of wages earned by Pinehouse residents working at the Key Lake and McArthur River mines from 2004 to 2011. In 2011 (based on 63 people working at the mine) the average wage of a Pinehouse resident working at the Key Lake or McArthur River mines would equal \$81,373.42.

<sup>41</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report. Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

<sup>42</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Saskatchewan (Code4718065)* (table). *2006 Community Profiles*. 2006 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 92-591-XWE. Ottawa. Released March 13, 2007. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 6, 2012).

<sup>43</sup> <http://www12.statcan.ca/english/Profil01/CP01/Details/Page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718065&Geo2=PR&Code2=47&Data=Count&SearchText=Pinehouse&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=>





**Figure 19: Pinehouse Wages at Key Lake and McArthur River**

Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

### 2.3.1.3 BUSINESS ACTIVITY

#### Pinehouse Business North

Pinehouse Business North (PBN), the economic development arm of the Northern Village of Pinehouse, was established in 2007 and has offices in Pinehouse and Saskatoon<sup>44</sup>. A new PBN board of directors was established in December 2011<sup>45</sup>:

- Mike Natomagan (also Mayor, and President of Kineepik Métis Local)
- Julie Wriston (Chief Executive Officer)
- Vern Bachiu
- Leon Botham
- Carolanne Inglis-McQuay
- Conrad Misponas (Pinehouse Councillor)
- Joey McCallum
- Dominic Tinker

PBN is now registered as a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP), with 99.99% of shares owned by the Northern Village of Pinehouse. For a three-year period beginning in 2010, Pinehouse will be engaged in the Business Ready Investment Development Gateway (BRIDG) program<sup>46</sup>. Through the development of a Business Charter

<sup>44</sup> <http://pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/> Pinehouse Business North. 2012. *Pinehouse Business North – Sustaining Growth*. Presentation to the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada.

[http://www.afa.ca/conference/2012/files/Workshop\\_J\\_Pinehouse.pdf](http://www.afa.ca/conference/2012/files/Workshop_J_Pinehouse.pdf)

<sup>45</sup> Pinehouse Business North. 2012. *Sustaining Growth – Pinehouse Business North*. Presentation to the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association Conference.

<sup>46</sup> [http://www.bridg.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=6](http://www.bridg.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=6)

in 2010, PBN has defined the roles and responsibilities of the leadership, board, and management of the Northern Village and the development corporation. Areas such as accountability, reporting, dispute resolution, and investment opportunities are some aspects that will be looked at and implemented.

Since its inception, PBN has grossed over \$15 million in revenue (not including joint ventures), and in 2012 PBN employed more than 80 local residents<sup>47</sup>. PBN is a Northern Preferred Supplier for Cameco mine sites, and provides services for road construction and maintenance, brush clearing, carpentry, high-pressure washing, building construction, sandblasting, renovations, painting and siding. PBN has been involved in other various local and regional economic activities, including tourism, forestry, road construction and maintenance, house construction and renovations, brush clearing, fishing, beautification projects, and other community initiatives. Development of local capacity, including local youth, is a priority. Contractor procurement totals secured from Cameco by PBN or PBN joint ventures in the period 2005-2012 are shown in Figure 20, which shows that over \$26 million in revenues have been generated since 2005. Additional information on PBN can be found at <http://pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/>.

Year	Company	Total Revenue	Community Own %	Community Ownership
2005	Pinehouse Business North	\$0.00	100.00%	\$0.00
2006	Pinehouse Business North	\$0.00	100.00%	\$0.00
2007	Pinehouse Business North	\$789,148.14	100.00%	\$789,148.14
2008	PBN-SasCal JV	\$256,050.08	51.00%	\$130,585.54
2008	Pinehouse Business North	\$2,866,969.92	100.00%	\$2,866,969.92
2009	PBN-SasCal JV	\$2,908,275.32	51.00%	\$1,483,220.41
2009	Pinehouse Business North	\$2,054,023.79	100.00%	\$2,054,023.79
2010	PBN-SasCal JV	\$760,851.87	51.00%	\$388,034.35
2010	PBN - Syl's Joint Venture	\$1,014,806.89	51.00%	\$517,551.51
2010	Pinehouse Business North	\$1,530,314.03	100.00%	\$1,530,314.03
2011	PBN-SasCal JV	\$2,689,777.90	51.00%	\$1,371,786.73
2011	PBN - Syl's Joint Venture	\$0.00	51.00%	\$0.00
2011	Pinehouse Business North	\$3,132,610.26	100.00%	\$3,132,610.26
2012	PBN-Nuna Contracting JV	\$13,532,504.00	51.00%	\$6,901,577.04
2012	PBN-SasCal JV	\$915,979.00	51.00%	\$467,149.29
2012	PBN - Syl's Joint Venture	\$0.00	51.00%	\$0.00
2012	Pinehouse Business North	\$4,437,601.49	100.00%	\$4,437,601.49
<b>Sum:</b>		<b>\$36,888,912.49</b>		<b>\$26,070,572.51</b>

**Figure 20: Pinehouse Business North Contractor Procurement Totals (2005-2012)**

Source: Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013

<sup>47</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse. December 13, 2012. *Pinehouse Signs Historic Agreement with Cameco Corporation and AREVA Resources Canada*. Media Release.

### Pinehouse Business Activity

The following is a list of local businesses that employ Pinehouse residents:

- Snake Lake Construction Ltd
- Kamkota Lodge<sup>48</sup>
- Pinehouse Business North
- Minahik Café and Gas Bar
- Pinehouse Lake Cooperative Limited
- Cameco Corporation
- Commercial fishing (currently approximately 15 licences)



There are also several public sector employers in Pinehouse:

- Northern Village of Pinehouse
- A number of Saskatchewan provincial ministries
- Minahik Waskahigan Elementary and High Schools
- Pinehouse Health Clinic
- Magloire Teen Infant Care Centre
- Annie Johnstone Awasis Centre (Aboriginal Head Start program for children aged 3-4)

The Northern Village of Pinehouse and the Kineepik Métis Local Inc. signed a Collaboration Agreement with the companies active in the region's uranium industry (Cameco Corporation and AREVA Resources Canada) in December 2012<sup>49</sup>. The purpose of the Agreement is to establish:

- (a) The principles and framework for a long-term working relationship between the companies and Pinehouse with respect to the companies' operations, building upon existing programming;
- (b) The basis upon which the companies will continue their operations in a way that is mutually beneficial to Kineepik and to Cameco / AREVA, recognizing the importance of the environment and Kineepik's traditional use of the Traditional Territory;
- (c) A framework built around the Four Pillars (Community Investment; Workforce Development; Business Development; Community Engagement and Environmental Stewardship) for:
  - (i) Identifying specific community investments by Cameco and AREVA;
  - (ii) Development of Pinehouse's workforce through education, training and employment opportunities;
  - (iii) Outlining commitments by Cameco and AREVA to assist Pinehouse with building long term sustainable businesses with the capacity to deliver services to the operations;
  - (iv) Addressing means to enhance community engagement plans and protocols in respect of the operations; and
  - (v) Establishing commitments for addressing potential environmental issues associated with the operations; and
- (d) The basis on which Pinehouse will support the companies' operations.

Prior to the Collaboration Agreement, there was ongoing employment and contracting/servicing at the uranium mines through Pinehouse Business North and Snake Lake Construction. A small commercial fishery

<sup>48</sup> Kamkota Lodge is owned and operated by a family from Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan; there are seasonal workers from Pinehouse employed at the lodge.

<sup>49</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse, Kineepik Métis Local Inc., Cameco Corporation and AREVA Resources Canada Inc. December 12, 2012. Collaboration Agreement.

(approximately 15 licences) continues, and a viable market is being sought. Major employers continue to be in the health, education and social services fields.

Banking services are not available in Pinehouse. However, an Automatic Banking Machine (ATM) is available.

### 2.3.1.4 TOURISM

A background report prepared in 2000 as part of the Pinehouse – Dipper Integrated Forest Management Land Use Planning process<sup>50</sup> identified a number of tourist locations and sites in the planning area. Pinehouse does have a small commercial hotel/apartment unit in the community; however, there are no other formal tourism facilities in the Northern Village itself. Pinehouse is a service center (e.g., gas, groceries, restaurant, vehicle repair) for a number of remote tourist lodges and for the area along the Key Lake Road/Highway 914 (Pinehouse is the only community along the road) that is used by campers and other recreationists. Commercial lodges /outfitters in the Pinehouse area include:

- Churchill River Wilderness Camps Bear and Fish Camp (Sandy Lake, west of Key Lake Road)<sup>51</sup>
- Complex Lake Lodge (northeast of Patuanak, east of Porter Lake, and west of the Key Lake Road)<sup>52</sup>
- Cree Lake Lodge (fly-in lodge on Cree Lake)<sup>53</sup>
- Cup Lake Adventures (north of Pinehouse, southeast of Porter Lake, and west of the Key Lake Road)<sup>54</sup>
- Golden Wally Outfitters<sup>55</sup> on Dipper Lake to the north-west of Pinehouse, operated by an ERFN member (accessible by boat from Patuanak).
- Holt Lake Lodge (north of Pinehouse, east of Porter Lake, and west of the Key Lake Road)<sup>56</sup>
- Kamkota Lodge<sup>57</sup> (at the mouth of the Churchill River on Pinehouse Lake, approximately 20 km north of Pinehouse)
- Mawdsley Lake Fishing Lodge (located north of the Churchill River, near the ERFN Dene Cultural Camp on the Key Lake road (56°47'45"N 106°07'20"W) approximately 160 km north of Pinehouse)<sup>58</sup>

The Gordon Lake Recreation Site (a provincial facility) is located approximately 30 km north of Pinehouse on the Key Lake Road. In addition, there are a number of private camps/cabins located along the Key Lake Road north of Pinehouse. These are often on lands leased from the province by individuals who live elsewhere in Saskatchewan, or Alberta/other parts of Canada. In addition, Pinehouse residents utilize several community camps, and a number of individual family camps, that are located outside the village along lakes and rivers in the area (see Section 2.4.1.1, below).

### 2.3.1.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Pinehouse Business North is the economic development arm for the Northern Village of Pinehouse. A range of economic development support services are available to Pinehouse Business North, residents and businesses from regional, Aboriginal, provincial and federal sources, including:

- Clarence Campeau Development Fund

<sup>50</sup> Saskatchewan Environment & Resource Management. February 2000. *Draft Background Information Document: Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Land Use Plan*. Pinehouse, Saskatchewan.

<sup>51</sup> <http://www.phonepages.ca/SK/Sandy-Lake/Churchill-River-Wilderness-Camp-b12563318-Images-i7106>

<sup>52</sup> <http://www.complexlake.com/map.htm>

<sup>53</sup> [http://www.creelakelodge.com/about\\_us.htm](http://www.creelakelodge.com/about_us.htm)

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.fishingbug.com/cuplake/>

<sup>55</sup> <http://www.fishingbug.com/goldenwally/>

<sup>56</sup> <http://www.holtlakelodge.com/>

<sup>57</sup> <http://www.kamkotalodge.com/contact.php>

<sup>58</sup> <http://www.mawdsleylakefishinglodge.com/>

- The SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation (SMEDCO)<sup>59</sup>
- Federal (e.g., Beaver River Community Futures Development Corporation<sup>60</sup>, or through AANDC and other departments/agencies e.g., the Aboriginal Business Service Network<sup>61</sup>) and provincial programs offered to Metis and northerners (e.g. Northern Development Fund<sup>62</sup>, Enterprise Saskatchewan<sup>63</sup>)
- The First Nations and Metis Fund<sup>64</sup>
- Regional initiatives such as the Boreal West Enterprise Region and the Northern Economic Summit (see Section 3.6.1)

### 2.3.1.6 GOVERNANCE AND MUNICIPAL FINANCES

#### Northern Village of Pinehouse

The Northern Village of Pinehouse Council meetings are held bi-weekly, generally on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month<sup>65</sup>. Details on the Pinehouse Mayor and Council (elected September 19, 2012), and staff are provided in Table 5 below.

**Table 5: Northern Village of Pinehouse Governance/Administration**

Organization	Position	Name
Northern Village of Pinehouse Mayor and Council	Mayor	Mike Natomagan
	Deputy Mayor	Greg Ross
	Council	Caroline Misponas
	Council	Conrad Misponas
	Council	Betty Ann Durocher
Northern Village of Pinehouse Staff/Administration/	Manager/Project Manager	Sean Welcher
	Social Development	Ida Ratt-Natomagan
	Social Development	Glen McCallum
	Administrator	Martine Smith
	Elder	Emile Natomagan

Source: Pinehouse Business North. (2010). Website, retrieved May 2012.

[http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1)

<sup>59</sup> <http://www.smedco.ca/>

<sup>60</sup> <http://www.beaverriver.ca/about.html>

<sup>61</sup> <http://www.canadabusiness.ca/eng/page/2689/>

<sup>62</sup> <http://www.fnmr.gov.sk.ca/ndf>

<sup>63</sup> <http://www.enterprisesaskatchewan.ca/programs%20services>

<sup>64</sup> <http://www.fnmf.ca/>

<sup>65</sup> Government of Saskatchewan. 2012. *Municipal Directory*. Website. <http://www.municipal.gov.sk.ca/Programs-Services/Municipal-Directory-pdf>



The Northern Village of Pinehouse has been the recipient of donations from Cameco on behalf of their Key Lake and McArthur River mining operations. These donations have been used by Pinehouse to fund community infrastructure and other capital improvement projects, such as the improvements to the community arena in 2007 and community beautification initiatives.<sup>66</sup>

The December 2012 Collaboration Agreement with industry will provide the Northern Village of Pinehouse with additional community investment in addition to other benefits including training, business development and employment.

### **Kineepik Métis Local**

In Pinehouse, Kineepik Métis Local #9 is led by an elected Board of Directors, including President Mike Natomagan, Vice-President Gary Tinker, Secretary-Treasurer Conrad Misponas, directors Alex Ross and Dominic Tinker, and Executive Director Vince Natomagan. Pinehouse is located in the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan's Métis Northern Region III (see the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B); Glen McCallum of Pinehouse was elected Region III area director in a September 8, 2012 election. The Métis Nation - Saskatchewan represents the Métis of the province.

## **2.3.2 Summary of Economic Assets**

### **2.3.2.1 PRIORITIES AND KEY ISSUES**

The following priorities and key issues have been identified for the 'Economic Assets' category in Pinehouse:

- Pinehouse is a community with employment challenges, including limited employment options in the community, low levels of formal education/training, and high levels of unemployment.
- Historically, Pinehouse's unemployment rate has been greater even than that for CD 18, and much greater than that for the province as a whole. In 2011, the unemployment rate of 17.6% was similar to CD 18 (17.9%) but still much higher than Saskatchewan (5.9%). In 2006, the unemployment rate in Pinehouse was 22.4%.
- In 2010, the median income of Pinehouse residents (persons over the age of 15 with an income) was similar to that for CD 18, but substantially lower than the figure for Saskatchewan as a whole. Between 2000 and 2010, median income in Pinehouse has remained significantly lower than for the province, but similar to that for CD 18 as a whole. The proportion of earnings as a percentage of income has increased, while income from government transfers and 'other money' has declined.

<sup>66</sup> Cameco CSR Community Profiles – Pinehouse – February 1, 2013



- In comparison with Saskatchewan as a whole, Pinehouse has a population that is younger, less educated, experiencing higher unemployment rates, and lower household incomes. However, conditions improved in 2011 for most indicators, but still lag behind the rest of the province.
- Pinehouse Business North, the Village's economic development arm, has established a new Board of Directors and is participating in the BRIDG program to improve accountability, reporting, dispute resolution and investment planning.
- Tourism opportunities are limited in the region by lack of accommodations and support services. As the only community on the Key Lake Road/Highway 914, Pinehouse provides basic services to tourists/campers travelling north to commercial, private or public camps.
- Pinehouse continues to explore economic development services available to the Northern Village, Pinehouse Business North, and local businesses/entrepreneurs from regional, Aboriginal, provincial and federal sources, including:
  - Clarence Campeau Development Fund
  - the SaskMétis Economic Development Corporation
  - Federal and provincial programs offered to Metis and northerners
  - The First Nations and Metis Fund
  - Regional initiatives such as the Boreal West Enterprise Region and the Northern Economic Summit
- Pinehouse completed a Collaboration Agreement with the uranium industry (i.e., Cameco Corporation and AREVA Resources Canada) in December 2012, which will have significant direct and indirect economic benefits for individual residents, the Northern Village, and Pinehouse Business North.
- There are ongoing economic challenges for funding community, service and infrastructure needs.

#### 2.3.2.2 COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

Pinehouse's vision statement reflects the community's aspirations with respect to economic development: "Pinehouse is a holistic, healthy, self-sustaining community. We will continue to work in unity to reclaim our community through positive values and indigenous identity." Pinehouse has undertaken visioning and strategic planning activities to identify goals and objectives, and the specific actions needed to achieve them (see Section 2.1.3 for additional detail). These include education/training and economic development. The provision of additional training/education opportunities for residents of all ages, and availability of employment or business opportunities that allow people to remain in/return to Pinehouse are priorities.

#### 2.3.2.3 CAPABILITIES AND CAPACITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Currently, Pinehouse is facing challenges with respect to economic development, and is active on a number of fronts, for example through a revitalized Pinehouse Business North, the Collaboration Agreement with industry, participation in regional fora such as New North, and improved opportunities for education and training for residents. The relative geographic isolation of the community limits economic development opportunities.

## 2.4 INFRASTRUCTURE

### 2.4.1 Infrastructure Indicators

The infrastructure within a community includes the physical assets needed to support livelihoods and the tools or equipment that people use to function more productively. Infrastructure is a public good and improved access to it increases community well-being, human health and quality of life. The specific indicators include:

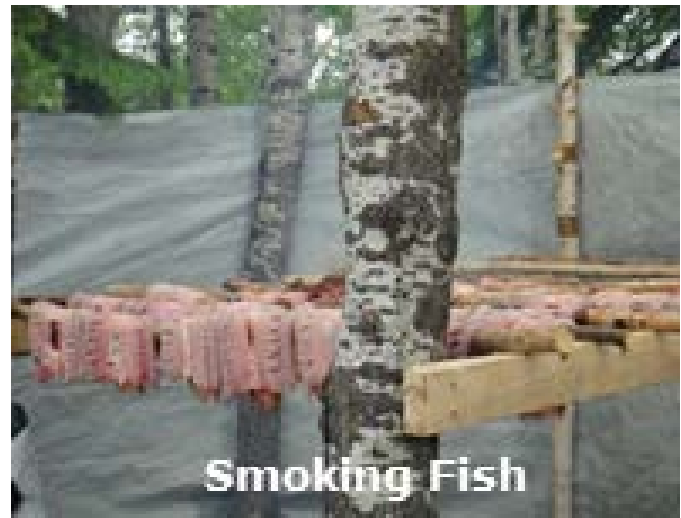
- Land Use;
- Housing;
- Community Infrastructure and Services; and
- Transportation Infrastructure.

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the physical well-being of Pinehouse.

#### 2.4.1.1 LAND USE

As noted above, the Northern Village of Pinehouse covers approximately 6.84 km<sup>2</sup>, although discussions are underway with the province to add to the land base. A variety of uses exist throughout the lands surrounding the Northern Village of Pinehouse (much of which is Crown land) and the lands traditionally used by community members (see Table 6, and also Section 2.5.1.2 below).

A process to develop the Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan was initiated by the Province in 2000 with an ecological description of the planning area. Pinehouse is located near the mid-eastern boundary of the original study area, shown in Figure 21 below. A Traditional use study was published in 2003. In 2010, Saskatchewan Environment noted that it planned to initiate the final review of the Pinehouse Dipper plan<sup>67</sup>. The Plan itself has not been prepared in draft or finalized.



<sup>67</sup> <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/adx/asp/adxGetMedia.aspx?DocID=5d995ef8-7bb4-440d-8e8f-56b02f862363&MedialD=3222&Filename=Environment+Plan+2010-11.pdf&l=English>.



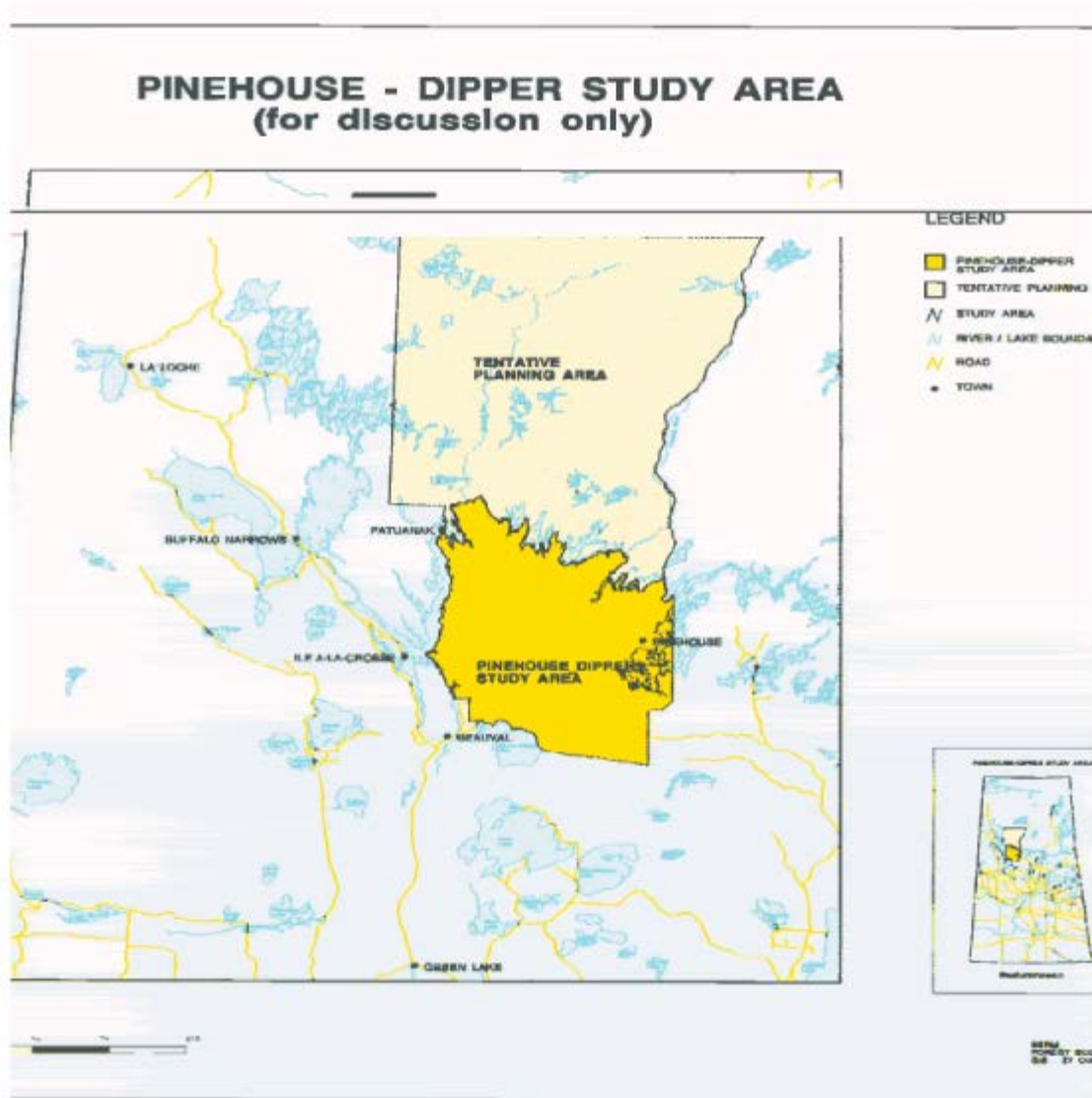


Figure 21: Original Proposed Pinehouse-Dipper Land Use Study Area<sup>68</sup>

<sup>68</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. February 2000. *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan Background Information Document*.

Table 6: Pinehouse-Dipper Study Area Land Uses

Pinehouse-Dipper Study Area Land Uses <sup>69</sup>	
Land Use	Description
<b>Forestry</b>	Once an important economic driver, there are now limited operations/opportunities.
<b>Non-Forest Products</b>	Mushrooms, moss, blueberries, medicinal plants, and decorative floral products.
<b>Hunting</b>	Occurs years round. Big game species: Moose, Woodland Caribou, White-tailed Deer, and Black Bear. Small Game species: Grouse, Willow Ptarmigan, waterfowl, Snowshoe Hare.
<b>Trapping</b>	Occurs generally between November – April. Beaver, Coyote, Fisher, Fox, Lynx, Marten, Mink, Muskrat, Otter, Squirrel, Weasel, Wolf, and Wolverine.
<b>Fisheries (commercial and sport)</b>	Commercial fishing on large lakes – Walleye, Northern Pike, Whitefish. Sport fishing occurs in lakes and rivers. The most sought after species are Walleye, Northern Pike and Lake Trout. There are approximately 15 commercial fishing licences held by Pinehouse residents, and efforts are underway to establish a commercial market.
<b>Wild Rice Production</b>	Active in the region.
<b>Recreation</b>	Canoeing, camping, angling, hunting, hiking, bird/wildlife watching
<b>Tourism</b>	Local Festivals, Recreation.
<b>Outfitting</b>	Hunting, fishing, recreation.
<b>Mineral Exploration and Mining</b>	Active in the region (see Section 3.6.3 below).
<b>Critical Habitat (Wildlife and Fisheries)</b>	Protection of fish and fish habitat including spawning and rearing areas.

<sup>69</sup> Information in part from Saskatchewan Resource and Environmental Management. February 2000. *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan Background Information Document*.

### Pinehouse Traditional Land Use

Pinehouse has been involved in a number of studies examining current and traditional land use in the area. These include studies conducted since the 1980s by Terry Tobias (a renowned expert on Indigenous use and occupancy mapping)<sup>70</sup>, the Pinehouse Dipper Traditional Use study<sup>71</sup>, and studies related to the proposed Millenium mine/Key Lake expansion (InterGroup Consultants Ltd. 2010)<sup>72</sup>. The most recent land use and occupancy work led by Tobias is expected to be complete in 2013, and will include over 38,000 data points and contributions from 122 traditional land users<sup>73</sup>. The community is selective in sharing findings and maps related to these studies, reviewing the need on a case-by-case basis. Terry Tobias has noted two essential conclusions about Traditional Land Use in Pinehouse:

- 1) “the health of the traditional-food economy (also known as ‘bush economy’, ‘income-in-kind economy’, ‘country food’) is absolutely vital to the well-being of Pinehouse residents”; and,
- 2) “the importance of the traditional-food economy is ALWAYS understated, even totally ignored, in northern-village economic profiles and planning documents”<sup>74</sup>.



Source: Northern Village of Pinehouse



Pinehouse residents have a strong reliance on their traditional informal economy or ‘income-in-kind’ of hunting, trapping, and fishing. These activities (including the collection of medicinal plants/herbs, berries, and wild rice) have long been a part of the Pinehouse community as a means of providing sustenance and earning an income<sup>75</sup>. Practice of these traditional and/or ‘income-in-kind’ activities are still prevalent today as a vital part of the Pinehouse economy and survival of its residents.

The Kineepik Métis Local’s 2011 Use and Occupancy Map Survey ‘Hodgepodge Map’ (all categories) (Figure 22, below) shows community resource use in the Pinehouse area.

<sup>70</sup> In addition to a land use and occupancy project conducted with Pinehouse in 2011 - 2013, Terry Tobias has been conducting research in the area since the 1980s (e.g., Tobias, Terry and James Kay. 1994. *The Bush Harvest in Pinehouse, Saskatchewan*. Arctic. Vol. 47 No. 3, p. 207-221; Tobias, T. undated (1987+). 9. *Stereotyped Village Economies and the Pinehouse Harvest Research*.) as have other researchers (e.g. McNab 1992). <http://terrytobiasassociates.com>.

<sup>71</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. April 2003. *Final Report - Pinehouse Dipper Traditional Use Study*.

<sup>72</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. November 2010. *Traditional Land Use Considerations for the Millenium Mine and Key Lake Extension Projects; Pinehouse*. Submitted to Cameco Corporation and the Village of Pinehouse Saskatchewan.

<sup>73</sup> This information was obtained during discussion in the community October 2012.

<sup>74</sup> Quote from Terry Tobias email communication to the Northern Village of Pinehouse.

<sup>75</sup> Tobias, T. 1993. *Traditional Ecological Knowledge: Concepts & Cases*; Chapter 9. *Stereotyped Village Economies and Pinehouse Harvest Research*. P. 87. Website: <http://connection.ebscohost.com/c/book-chapters/50299704/chapter-9-stereotyped-village-economies-pinehouse-harvest-research>





### 2.4.1.2 HOUSING

A range of housing types are available in Pinehouse, although there is a need for additional housing stock in the community. As shown in Table 7, in 2006 there were 267 private dwellings<sup>76</sup> in the community; approximately 1/3 were owned, and 2/3 were rented<sup>77</sup>. In 2011, the number of private dwellings in the community increased to 282, and the rate of home ownership increased to almost 1/2. The Saskatchewan Housing Corporation owns many of the rental units in Pinehouse. Overall, the majority of housing, regardless of type, was constructed in the period following 1986. During the 1990's, Beaver River Housing (Saskatchewan Housing) began to introduce family housing units to the community<sup>78</sup> and continues to own and maintain over fifty dwellings<sup>79</sup>. Changes to the Saskatchewan Housing criteria for rent subsidies are expected in summer of 2013, and may present difficulties to Pinehouse residents.

**Table 7: Overview of Pinehouse Dwelling Characteristics, 2001 to 2011**

Dwelling Characteristics	2011	2006	2001
<b>Total private dwellings</b>	282	267	251
<b>Number of owned dwellings<sup>80</sup></b>	115 (46.9%)	85 (35.4%)	95 (41.3%)
<b>Number of rented dwellings</b>	125 (51.0%)	160 (66.6%)	140 (60.9%)
<b>Dwellings requiring major repair*</b>	50 (20.4%)	68.8%	Not Collected in 2001
<b>Number of dwellings constructed within last 20 years<sup>81</sup></b>	120	150	65 (constructed between 1991 and 2001)
<b>Number of dwellings constructed more than 20 years ago</b>	120	90	165 (constructed before 1991)

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles 2011, 2006, 2001. 2011 National Household Survey. \*as a percent (%) of total occupied private dwellings

<sup>76</sup> Statistics Canada Plain Language Definition – Total Private Dwellings: “A separate set of living quarters designed for or converted for human habitation in which a person or group of persons reside or could reside. In addition, a private dwelling must have a source of heat or power and must be an enclosed space that provides shelter from the elements, as evidenced by complete and enclosed walls and roof, and by doors and windows that provide protection from wind, rain and snow.” Website: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718065&Geo2=CD&Code2=4718&Data=Count&SearchText=pinehouse&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=&TABID=1>

<sup>77</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www.census2006.com/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E> 2011 Census data (National Household Survey) to be released August 14, 2013.

<sup>78</sup> Pinehouse Business North. 2010. Website, retrieved May 2012. [http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1)

<sup>79</sup> MCRCHA, Community Health Action Plan: Appendix Two – Pinehouse Lake Community Profile.

<sup>80</sup> Calculations for owned/rented and construction are based on a subset of ‘total private dwellings’ for all three census years (245 in 2011, 240 in 2006, and 230 in 2001).

<sup>81</sup> The reported years of construction vary between 2001, 2006 and 2011.

As indicated in Table 8, single-family houses constituted 77.1% of the community's housing stock in 2011, an increase from 68.8% in 2006. Other housing types include semi-detached homes, rowhouses, other dwellings and apartment, duplex structures<sup>82</sup>. New housing units were created between 2006 and 2011<sup>83</sup>; however, given the deteriorated state of the existing housing stock, the growing population and the large number of people per household in Pinehouse, this is not unexpected.

Table 8 indicates that in 1996, Pinehouse did not have any row houses or apartment-duplexes; in 2006, row houses made up 12.5% and remained the same in 2011. The percent of semi-detached houses also grew from 5.1% to 12.5% between 1996 and 2011. Between 1996 and 2006, the percent of single-detached houses decreased from 87.1% to 68.8%. However, between 2006 and 2011, the percent of single detached houses increased to 77.1%.

**Table 8: Pinehouse Dwellings by Type (1996, 2006, 2011)**

Dwelling # and Type	2011	2006	1996
<b>Single-detached houses - as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	77.1%	68.8%	87.1%
<b>Semi-detached houses - as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	12.5%	8.3%	5.1%
<b>Row houses - as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	12.5%	12.5%	0%
<b>Apartments, duplex - as a % of total occupied private dwellings</b>	0.0%	4.2%	0%

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles, 1996, 2006, and 2011

The Northern Village of Pinehouse and Pinehouse Business North are participating in the 'Transitional Housing Initiative' under the province's Summit Action Fund. \$500,000 in funding has been received; the total project cost is \$1.7 million, for 10 units annually, under an ownership model<sup>84</sup>. "Pinehouse Business North Development Inc. and the Northern Village of Pinehouse will work together to create a revolving trust fund in Pinehouse Lake to develop 10 homes for low- to moderate-income residents on an annual basis. The Summit Action Fund will provide the necessary start-up funding to develop and maintain this initiative, which will result in the responsibility for affordable housing development being transferred to the local level. This partnership between the Province, Municipality, and the private sector will also incorporate local labour and 'sweat equity', where those benefitting from the program will also contribute to the construction of their home and all homes built that year. This is a model that will provide lessons to municipalities across the Province, specifically those with limited housing markets, to empower communities in need.<sup>85</sup>" The first five units were completed in August 2013. In 2009, seniors housing units were constructed using \$300,000 in funding from the federal and provincial governments.<sup>86</sup> The project is owned and operated by the Village of Pinehouse.

<sup>82</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www.census2006.com/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

<sup>83</sup> Statistics Canada. 2012. *Pinehouse, NV, Saskatchewan 2011 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

<sup>84</sup> <http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/Intake2-SAF.pdf> and <http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/transitional-housing.pdf>

<sup>85</sup> <http://www.socialservices.gov.sk.ca/transitional-housing.pdf>

<sup>86</sup> <http://www.nationtalk.ca/modules/news/article.php?storyid=24631> News Release - October 16, 2009

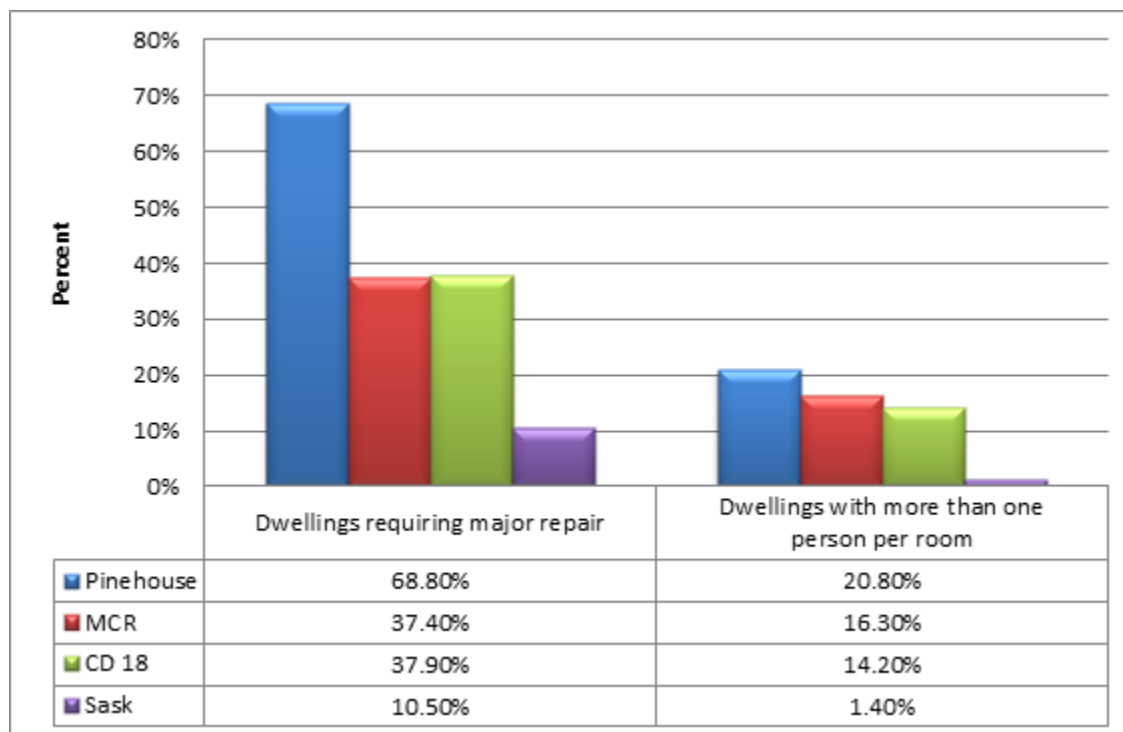


In 2006, the average value of an owned dwelling in Pinehouse was \$89,849.00, compared to \$98,022.00 for CD 18 and \$132,111.00 for Saskatchewan<sup>87</sup>.



**Housing Overlooking Pinehouse Lake**

Figure 23 provides a comparison of dwellings requiring major repair as well as dwellings with more than one person per room for Pinehouse, Mamawetan Churchill Region (MCR), Northern Saskatchewan (CD 18), and Saskatchewan. In 2006, almost 70% of Pinehouse dwellings required major repairs, compared to approximately 40% of dwellings in MCR and CD 18, and 10% of dwellings in Saskatchewan. The proportion of homes requiring major repair declined between 2006 and 2011 (20.4%). Further, in 2006 Pinehouse had approximately 21% of dwellings with more than one person per room, somewhat higher than in the MCR and northern Saskatchewan, but much higher than the figure of 1.4% of dwellings in Saskatchewan.



**Figure 23: Pinehouse Housing Comparison 2006**

Source: Population Health Unit 2012 (based on Statistics Canada Community Profile 2006; chart regenerated by DPRA)

<sup>87</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Saskatchewan (Code4718065) (table). 2006 Community Profiles. 2006 Census.* Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 92-591-XWE. Ottawa. Released March 13, 2007.

<http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

### Average Household Size

Availability of housing is an issue in Pinehouse, as reported in discussions with local residents, the state of repair of the existing housing stock, and as indicated by average household size in both 2011 and 2006. Table 9 shows that household size is higher in Pinehouse than in either CD 18 or Saskatchewan as a whole. Overall, the average household size in Pinehouse decreased between 2006 and 2011. However, the average household size for CD 18 and Saskatchewan has remained relatively constant<sup>88</sup>:

**Table 9: Average Household Size in Pinehouse, 2006 and 2011**

Community	Average Household Size	
	2011	2006
Northern Village of Pinehouse	4.0	4.5
CD 18	3.7	3.7
Saskatchewan	2.5	2.4

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles, 2006 and 2011.

#### 2.4.1.3 MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

The Northern Village of Pinehouse provides the following municipal infrastructure and services:

- Water treatment station and distribution
- Sewage collection and lagoon
- Landfill (located north of Pinehouse on the Key Lake Road; remaining lifespan uncertain<sup>89</sup>)
- Cemetery

The Northern Village of Pinehouse has also prepared a Capital Project and Prioritization Report (see Section 2.1.3, above)<sup>90</sup>. Relevant physical asset priorities include elders housing and a gathering centre; a family healing centre; sewage collection and lagoon improvements; water and sewage servicing to municipal lands that could be developed.



<sup>88</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan 2006 Community Profile* <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/details/Page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718065&Geo2=PR&Code2=47&Data=Count&SearchText=Pinehouse&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=>

<sup>89</sup> This information was obtained during discussions in the community October 2012.

<sup>90</sup> AECOM. November 2011. *Northern Village of Pinehouse Capital Projects Prioritization Report*.



Telephone service is provided by Saskatchewan Telecommunications; electricity is provided by Saskatchewan Power Corporation; fuel oil is supplied (and delivered twice per month) by Federated Cooperatives located in Prince Albert. A few homes are also heated by propane<sup>91</sup>.

In addition to the above services, high speed Internet and cellular telephone services are also available in the Northern Village of Pinehouse<sup>92</sup>.

#### 2.4.1.4 TRANSPORTATION

The Northern Village of Pinehouse is linked to Highway 165 by the all-weather gravel surface Key Lake Road (Highway 914). Highway 914 actually continues beyond the Key Lake mill site<sup>93</sup> to the McArthur River uranium mine further to the north, although access to this portion of the road is restricted, and it is not part of the official highway network. The Saskatchewan Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure is proposing to construct an all-weather road between the existing access roads to the McArthur River and the Cigar Lake mine sites to provide a more efficient route for trucks to access mines (including the proposed Millenium mine) and the mill at Key Lake<sup>94</sup>. The section of Highway 165 west of Beauval is paved; from Lac La Plonge east to the junction of Highway 2, Highway 165 is an all-weather gravel surface. From Beauval the road network extends in all directions to other communities.

The Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure operates a 3000 ft. treated gravel airstrip in Pinehouse, with approximately 1600 estimated annual aircraft movements<sup>95</sup>. The airport is unmanned, and is not serviced by scheduled flights – only charters or private aircraft. The nearest airports offering scheduled flight services are in Saskatoon and Prince Albert.

There is no rail or bus service to Pinehouse. The nearest rail terminals are located in Meadow Lake and Prince Albert.



## 2.4.2 Summary of Infrastructure

### 2.4.2.1 PRIORITIES AND KEY ISSUES

The following priorities and key issues have been identified:

- The Northern Village of Pinehouse is in discussions with the Province to increase its limited land base; this would facilitate additional infrastructure such as housing.
- The surrounding area is largely Crown Land. Pinehouse has been involved in a number of studies examining current and traditional land use in the area since the 1980s. The most recent land use and occupancy work is expected to be complete in 2013. The protection and enhancement of the natural environment surrounding Pinehouse is integral to community well-being, as many residents still have

<sup>91</sup> MCRRHA, Community Health Action Plan: Appendix Two – Pinehouse Lake Community Profile.

<sup>92</sup> Northern Business Directory. 2012. Pinehouse. Website.

<http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/images/PDF/Community%20Profiles/Boreal%20West/Pinehouse.pdf>

<sup>93</sup> <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/ea2010-009>

<sup>94</sup> <http://www.ceaa.gc.ca/050/details-eng.cfm?evaluation=57731>

<sup>95</sup> Government of Saskatchewan. 2007. Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure. Website, retrieved May 2012. <http://www.highways.gov.sk.ca/northernairport-map/>

active ties to the land for traditional activities, spiritual and recreational uses. A limited commercial fishery is active in the community.

- The improvement of existing housing stock, and building new homes is an ongoing priority in Pinehouse, as it is in many Aboriginal/northern communities in Saskatchewan. 2006 census data indicate that Pinehouse fares more poorly than the rest of northern Saskatchewan and with the province as a whole in terms of the percentage of dwellings requiring major repair, dwellings with more than one person/room, and average household size. Elders housing has been identified as a priority. Partnerships such as participation in the 'Transitional Housing Initiative' with the province will contribute to addressing the shortage of housing.
- Pinehouse has identified a number of improvements for municipal infrastructure and services in its Capital and Prioritization report (see Section 2.1.3 above), including sewage pumping station upgrades, provision of services to additional lands, and lagoon expansion.
- With respect to transportation, Highway 914/the Key Lake Road is an all-weather gravel surface; conditions can decline substantially with wet weather or in winter with snow and ice.

#### 2.4.2.2 COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

Pinehouse has undertaken visioning and strategic planning activities to identify goals and objectives, and the specific actions needed to achieve them (see Section 2.1.3 for additional detail). These include additional housing stock, and improvements to community facilities and infrastructure (e.g. water and sewage improvements). Environmental quality is very important to the community, and any development that may occur in the future will need to reflect this.

#### 2.4.2.3 CAPABILITIES AND CAPACITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

Pinehouse has identified the need for improvement to community infrastructure including water and sewage systems, improvements to existing housing, and development of new housing stock. The all-weather, gravel-surfaced Key Lake Road, the only vehicular access into the community, can present difficult access under conditions of inclement weather. While there is a gravel airstrip in the community, it is not serviced by scheduled flights. There is no rail or bus service to Pinehouse.

## 2.5 SOCIAL ASSETS

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### 2.5.1 Social Asset Indicators

The Social Assets within a community include the social and community activities in which people participate and the resources that they draw upon in pursuit of their livelihood objectives. These activities and resources create networks within and between communities, enhance cohesion, and generate trusting relationships and community pride. The specific indicators within the Social Assets category include:

- Diversity of Population;
- Cultural Heritage Resources;
- Community Facilities and Programs;
- Social Services and Organizations

These indicators are described in this section, within the context of the Social well-being of Pinehouse.

### 2.5.1.1 DIVERSITY OF POPULATION

#### Aboriginal Identity

The Northern Village of Pinehouse identifies predominately as an Aboriginal Community, as shown in Table 10<sup>96</sup>.

**Table 10: Pinehouse Aboriginal Identity, 2006 and 2011**

	2006	2011
<b>Total Population</b>	1, 075	1,135
<b>Aboriginal Identity Population*</b>	1,045 (97%)	1,070 <sup>97</sup> (94%)
<b>Non-Aboriginal Identity Population</b>	35 (3%)	60 (6%)

Source: Statistics Canada. (2007). Community Profiles 2006; Statistics Canada 2011 National Household Survey Community Profiles.

In 2011, 94% of the population identified as Aboriginal people; of these 65.8% were Métis, and 34.5% were First Nations. In 2006, 97% of Pinehouse's population identified as Aboriginal people. This compares to 85.7% in CD 18, and 14.8% of the population in Saskatchewan as a whole in 2006; and 86.9% in CD 18, and 15.6% of the population in Saskatchewan as a whole in 2011. Of these, 80% characterized themselves as Métis, 17% identified as 'North American Indian', and 19% as 'Registered Indian'<sup>98</sup>. Approximately 3% of the population were non-Aboriginal, a significant decrease from 2001. Between 2001 and 2006, the proportion of Aboriginal residents reported in Pinehouse increased from 80% to 97%<sup>99</sup>.

Census data from 2001 and 2006 indicate that there were no foreign-born or visible minority residents in Pinehouse in either of those years. In 2011, the visible minority population in Pinehouse was less than 1%.

<sup>96</sup> Included in the Aboriginal identity population are those persons who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, North American Indian, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian, as defined by the Indian Act of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation. 2011 Census data (National Household Survey) to be released August 14, 2013.

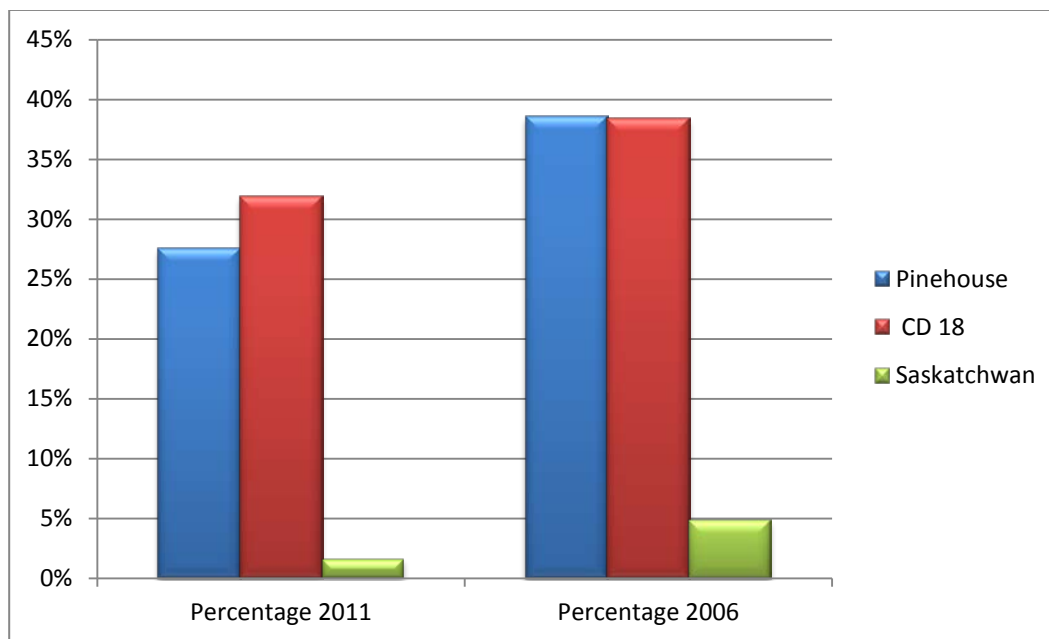
<sup>97</sup> Including 705 Métis Identity (65.8%) and 370 First Nations Identity (34.5%); Statistics Canada. 2013. Pinehouse, NV, Saskatchewan (Code 4718065) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 26, 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 21, 2013).

<sup>98</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Saskatchewan (Code4718065) (table). Aboriginal Population Profile*. 2006 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 92-594-XWE. Ottawa. Released January 15, 2008. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-594/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed February 18, 2013). Many of the same individuals would be counted as 'North American Indian' and 'Registered Indian' in different census questions.

<sup>99</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan. 2006 Community Profiles*. Website. <http://www.recensement2006.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

### Language

As shown in Figure 24, in 2011, 27.5% of Pinehouse residents spoke an Aboriginal Language at home (recorded by Stats Can as Cree, n.o.s.). This is slightly less than CD 18 (31.9%). Saskatchewan data showed that less than 2% of the province speaks an Aboriginal dialect at home.<sup>100</sup> The proportion of the population speaking an Aboriginal language at home declined between 2006 and 2011 in Pinehouse, CD18 and Saskatchewan as a whole<sup>101</sup>. In 2001, 84.6% of the people in Pinehouse reported a non-official language (presumably Cree for most) as their language first learned and understood.



**Figure 24: Aboriginal Language Spoken at Home - Pinehouse, CD 18, Sask., 2006 and 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles, 2006 and 2011

### 2.5.1.2 CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES

#### Traditional and Cultural Activities

Pinehouse residents continue a variety of traditional and cultural activities (documented in a variety of studies [e.g., Tobias 1987, 1994; InterGroup Consultants 2010] and in Section 2.4.1.1, above), including:

- Hunting, fishing, trapping
- Plant gathering (wild rice, traditional medicines, berry picking)

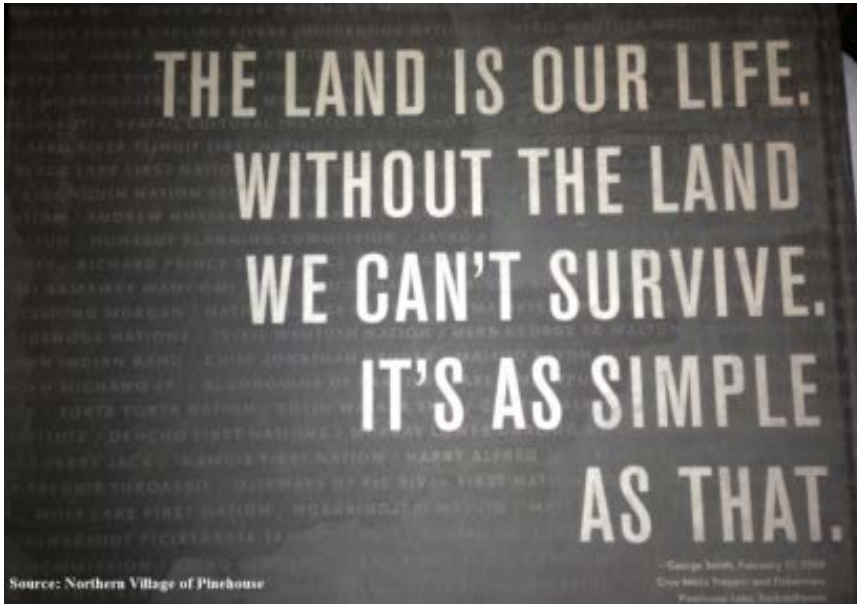


<sup>100</sup> Statistics Canada Community Profile, 2011. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718065&Geo2=PR&Code2=47&Data=Count&SearchText=Pinehouse&SearchType=Begin&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=>

<sup>101</sup> Note: The language indicators used by Statistics Canada differ for each of 2001, 2006 and 2011, and are not directly comparable. In 2011 Census results language is recorded as Detailed Mother Tongue and identifies Cree within the *Non-Official Language* category. Statistics Canada - 2006 Language Most Often Spoken at Home is captured as *Non-Official Languages*; in 2001, the related category is Language(s) First Learned and Understood and is captured as *Other Languages*. These differences in counting methods may account for the significance of variation between 2001 and 2011 census numbers.



Today, the cultural heritage in Pinehouse is still active and present, and preserved by a variety of means. For example, Pinehouse Lake is recognized as a location of ceremonial and burial sites as well as traditional canoe routes. Trapping cabins and St. Dominic’s Roman Catholic Church are symbols of cultural heritage in the community. Further, artefacts, stories, and literature are preserved in the public library, as well as individually/independently by many local residents.



Source: Northern Village of Pinehouse

Source: Pinehouse Trapper and Fisherman, Elder George Smith (February 17, 2009)

Cultural camps for youth as well as an annual regional Elders Gathering (initiated in 2011) help to educate citizens and preserve the traditional ways and cultural heritage of the Pinehouse Métis community.

The Northern Village of Pinehouse is primarily a Métis-Cree community<sup>102</sup>. Ancestry of Pinehouse residents can be traced to the Northern Métis and Cree people who inhabited the region, largely trapper and traders of French-Canadian and English and Scottish ancestry<sup>103</sup>. Today, trapping is a continued tradition in the community/region of Pinehouse.

In 1899 the first European missionary visited Pinehouse Lake (originally named Snake Lake<sup>104</sup>), when the area was primarily Chipewyan (Dene); however a smallpox epidemic in the late 1800s decimated the population. Pinehouse was first settled in the 1920s and 1930s, primarily by Métis and Cree from the Souris River area of the Churchill River (approximately 20 km north of Pinehouse), as well as French and German people<sup>105</sup>. A brief overview of Pinehouse’s history is provided below<sup>106</sup>:



Source: <http://www.jkcc.com/trader.htm>

Ron Clancy (left back row) with Souris River trappers Mathias Iron, Tom Natomagan, Johnny Durocher, J.B. LaRiviere Front Row (l-r) Napoleon Natomagan, E. Natomagan

<sup>102</sup> Intergroup Consultants Ltd. November 2010. *Traditional Land Use Considerations for the Millenium Mine and Key Lake Extension Projects; Pinehouse*. Submitted to Cameco Corporation and the Village of Pinehouse.

<sup>103</sup> Popova, T. 2011. *Internship Project Northern Entrepreneurship Case Study in Pinehouse*. University of Saskatchewan; International Centre of Northern Governance and Development.

<sup>104</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. (February, 2000). *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan Background Information Report*.

<sup>105</sup> Pinehouse Business North. 2010. Website, retrieved May 2012.

[http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1) and Belcourt 2000 <http://www.usask.ca/education/ccstu/pdfs/wild%20rice.pdf>

- 1935: arrival of Tom Natomagan (Métis)
- 1939: people in the region decided to form a village
- 1944: the Roman Catholic Church established a mission in the community
- 1948: the first school house was constructed (prior to that time, children were sent to Beauval or Île-à-la-Crosse)
- 1960s: a government housing program was initiated
- 1978: Pinehouse was linked to communities to the south by connection to the all-weather road, constructed as part of the Key Lake Mine access
- 1970s/80s: Uranium discoveries, Key Lake mine opened
- 1980's: sewer and water connections introduced into the community

### Heritage Resource/Archaeological Sites

The Initial Screening report (Golder Associates, 2011) identified 33 heritage resource/archeological sites in the Pinehouse area. These are generally along the Churchill River and Highway 914/Key Lake Road. The sites are considered to be heritage resources and protected as property of the Provincial Crown under the *Heritage Property Act*. Twenty-three heritage resource sites were also identified (mainly in the Churchill River area) during the Key Lake Road construction between 1960 and 1980<sup>107</sup>. The Hudson's Bay Company operated the Souris River Post from 1875 to 1939. The post was located at the northern edge of Pinehouse Lake about 2 km west of the Belanger River (previously known as the Souris River). After the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Souris River Post reached an approximate population of 100 people. However, during the 1920s and 1930s the residents of this settlement relocated in Pinehouse.<sup>108</sup>

Another cultural heritage resource is the Churchill River itself. This was a significant waterway during pre-contact, from as early as 10,000 years ago. From 1775 to the mid-1930s the Churchill River supported trading posts operated by both the English and French voyageurs. The Churchill River was nominated as a potential Canadian Heritage River in 1993; as of August 2013, it remains a candidate but had not been designated<sup>109</sup>. The map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B shows the Churchill River flowing generally from west to east across the area.



<sup>106</sup> Pinehouse Business North. (2010). Website, retrieved May 2012.

[http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1](http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1)

<sup>107</sup> Golder and Associates. February 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel - Northern Village of Pinehouse, Saskatchewan. Submitted to Nuclear Waste Management Organization.

<sup>108</sup> To be confirmed with community representatives.

<sup>109</sup> <http://www.tpcs.gov.sk.ca/Conserving> (accessed August 30, 2012).

### 2.5.1.3 COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

Table 11 summarizes some of the facilities and programs available to Northern Village of Pinehouse residents.

**Table 11: Pinehouse Facilities and Programs**

Facilities & Programs	
Minahik Waskahigan Elementary and High Schools	Northern Village Office and Recreation Hall
Community Health Facility	Minahik Waskahigan Ski Club
Teen Infant Centre	Cultural Camps
Hockey Arena (natural ice surface enclosed)	Wellness Centre
Trails (hiking/cross country skiing/snowshoeing)	Annual Youth Conference
St. Dominic’s Roman Catholic Church	Picnic Area
Evangelical church services are held weekly in the community recreation hall <sup>110</sup>	Community Radio Station CFNK 89.9
Canoe routes/Canoe Club	Running Club

Source: Pinehouse Saskatoon Health Presentation. 2009. *Social and Economic Balance to Creating Community Wellness, A Presentation Prepared for Business Ready Investment Development Gateway.*

The recent Capital Project and Prioritization Report noted the need for an elders gathering centre, a family healing centre, completion of the hockey rink interior, a youth centre, Kineepik Métis Local Building (including facilities for the community radio station), and a curling rink<sup>111</sup>.



Source: Northern Village of Pinehouse

<sup>110</sup> Although a church building has been under construction for several years near the airport.

<sup>111</sup> AECOM. November 2011. *Northern Village of Pinehouse Capital Projects Prioritization Report.* <sup>112</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse – Reclaiming our Community. Presentation of June 2012.



### 2.5.1.4 SOCIAL SERVICES & ORGANIZATIONS



Source: Reclaiming Our Community

Social development in the Northern Village of Pinehouse is coordinated under the umbrella of 'Reclaiming our Community' (ROC, an initiative approximately 30 years old, formerly called the Interagency). When the Pinehouse community became connected to the rest of the province by Highway 918/ Key Lake Road in the late 1970s, new economic opportunities and increased access to other communities brought with it social issues for Pinehouse residents, including drug and alcohol

abuse. Pinehouse openly acknowledges the low points of the 1970s and is proud of the success they have achieved in rebuilding the community. The ROC initiative is focused on eradicating such social problems from the community through recreation, education, awareness, prevention, and traditional/cultural teachings. Pinehouse is also utilizing the Medicine Wheel as a model or tool for individual and community healing, to reclaim Aboriginal identity, culture, and values.

The following list demonstrates the multiple community initiatives/ programs/ campaigns ongoing in the Pinehouse community<sup>112</sup>:

- Reclaiming our Community monthly meeting (formerly 'Interagency'), with bi-weekly check-in meetings
- Recovery Lake project
- Intervention meetings with Pinehouse youth
- Strategic planning
- Prevention meetings every Monday
- 5 community elders on staff to provide assistance to families in need
- Cultural Camps (Minahik Waskahigan School)
- Youth Leadership Group at the school
- School Community Council
- Circle of Courage program
- Community beautifying project
- 3<sup>rd</sup> annual regional Elders Gathering (2013)
- National Addictions Awareness Week
- National Addictions Walk
- Cop Shop 2011
- Beaver River regional housing (Province of Saskatchewan)
- Police Board
- 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) walk



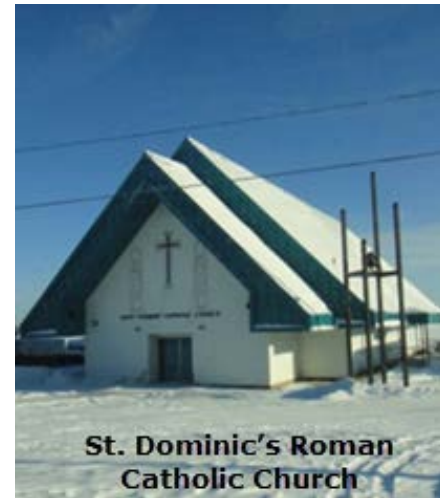
Annie Johnstone Awasis Centre

<sup>112</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse – Reclaiming our Community. Presentation of June 2012.

In addition, residents have access to other social services, including child care and affordable rental housing for seniors. The 2011 Capital Project and Prioritization Report noted the need for additional elders housing and an elders gathering centre, and upgrades to the day-care facility<sup>113</sup>.

Numerous interagency partnerships have been formed and are helping promote and support the ROC initiative. The following agencies participate in the ROC initiative<sup>114</sup>:

- Northern Village of Pinehouse
- Minahik Waskahigan School
- Pinehouse Health Centre
- Magloire Child Care Centre
- Teen Infant Centre
- Wellness Centre
- Kids First North
- Annie Johnstone Awasis Centre Aboriginal Head Start
- Pinehouse Co-op
- Recreation
- Ministry of Environment
- Junior Mayor and Council
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Victim Services
- Traumatic Events Response Team



Pinehouse's ROC initiative is seen as a model for other northern communities, with presentations being made throughout northern Saskatchewan.

Media and communication services also help to strengthen the social ties within the community, providing information from within the community and at a regional scale. Some of these media and services include:

- Pinehouse Business North/Northern Village of Pinehouse website ([www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca](http://www.pinehousebusinessnorth.ca));
- The La Ronge Northerner – weekly regional newspaper;
- Prince Albert Grand Tribune – First Nations newspaper serving 12 member First Nations in 28 communities;
- Northern Pride – weekly paper serving northwest Saskatchewan ([www.northernprideml](http://www.northernprideml));
- Aboriginal Spirit of Saskatchewan – monthly Aboriginal newsmagazine focussing on northern Saskatchewan (a Northern Pride publication [www.aboriginalspirit.net](http://www.aboriginalspirit.net) )
- CFNK-FM 89.9 (Pinehouse Radio) – local radio station, with daily morning local broadcast in Pinehouse via Minahik Achimown/Pinehouse Communication Society is now streaming live on the [www.pinehouselake.ca](http://www.pinehouselake.ca) website. Current hours are 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Outside of these hours Missinipi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC Radio) is patched through. The station broadcasts older country/rock music, and community events in the Cree language. Programming expansions are planned.
- CBC Radio 1 CBKJ-FM 94.1

<sup>113</sup> AECOM. November 2011. *Northern Village of Pinehouse Capital Projects Prioritization Report*. [http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/uploads/7/9/7/4/7974185/aecom\\_capital\\_projects\\_prioritization\\_report\\_2011.pdf](http://www.planningforgrowthnorthsk.com/uploads/7/9/7/4/7974185/aecom_capital_projects_prioritization_report_2011.pdf)<sup>114</sup>

Northern Village of Pinehouse – Reclaiming our Community. June 2012.

<sup>114</sup> Northern Village of Pinehouse – Reclaiming our Community. June 2012.

## 2.5.2 Summary of Social Assets

### 2.5.2.1 PRIORITIES AND KEY ISSUES

The priorities and key issues related to the 'Social Assets' category include:

- Continued success with maintenance/enhancement of the use of the Cree language, particularly amongst the younger population. The proportion of the population speaking an Aboriginal language at home is significantly greater in Pinehouse than elsewhere in northern Saskatchewan or the Province as a whole.



- Ongoing support for a range of cultural activities in the community and the surrounding area (e.g. cultural camps, regional elders gatherings)
- Identification and protection of socially / culturally important areas in and around the community
- Maintaining and enhancing residents knowledge of /participation in traditional activities and practices, while balancing a modern lifestyle including wage employment in the community or out-of-town. The high cost of hunting, fishing and related activities is an ongoing challenge, limiting the participation of some residents.
- The maintenance or replacement of existing community and recreation facilities (e.g. completion of arena) or development of new facilities to meet identified needs (e.g., family healing centre, curling rink, youth centre, elders gathering centre)
- Continuing the effective coordination of social development organizations and initiatives under the umbrella of the 'Reclaiming Our Community' initiative
- Enhancing resilience and recovery from substance abuse, which peaked in the 1970s but continues to be a challenge in Pinehouse to this day

### 2.5.2.2 COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

Pinehouse's vision statement reflects their emphasis on social and cultural values: "Pinehouse is a holistic, healthy, self-sustaining community. We will continue to work in unity to reclaim our community through positive values and indigenous identity." The community has completed or is involved in visioning and strategic planning activities to identify goals and objectives, and the specific actions needed to achieve them (see Section 2.1.3 for additional detail). These include improvements to community facilities and programs. The 'Reclaiming Our Community' initiative (see Section 2.5.1.4 above) provides a forum for coordination of the activities of a number of organizations delivering a range of programs and services in Pinehouse, and for the achievement of a variety of community goals with respect to enhanced community well-being on a number of

fronts. Pinehouse is also utilizing the Medicine Wheel as a model or tool for individual and community healing, to reclaim Aboriginal identity, culture, and values.

### 2.5.2.3 CAPABILITIES AND CAPACITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY



Pinehouse has a number of identified gaps with respect to community and recreation facilities and programs for residents of all ages in the community, as identified in several plans and analyses. However, the community continues to work diligently on the cultural initiatives related to language, encouragement of participation in traditional activities on the land, cultural camps, and the annual elders gathering. The 'Reclaiming our Community' initiative continues to demonstrate success with a partnership approach to the coordination of existing and development of new health and

social services and programs in Pinehouse. This includes using the Medicine Wheel as a tool for individual and community healing, and to reclaim Aboriginal identity, culture, and values. There are active community programs to address issues with substance abuse and crime.

## 2.6 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

### 2.6.1 Natural Environment Indicators

The natural environment or natural assets within a community include the stock of natural resources from which livelihoods are derived, intangible public goods (e.g. air quality and biodiversity), and resources that are "used" by people (e.g. water, trees, land, fish and wildlife). These contribute to overall quality of life. The specific indicators include:

- Parks and Protected Areas; and
- Natural Areas/Features of Significance.



### 2.6.1.1 PARKS & PROTECTED AREAS



There are two parks located close to Pinehouse, as shown in Figure 18 (in addition, the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B shows the location of other parks and protected areas in the larger region). To the north on the Key Lake Road (27 km) is the Gordon Lake Recreation Site (3.7 km<sup>2</sup>); to the southeast (35 km on Highway 165) is the Besnard Lake Recreational Site (1.5 km<sup>2</sup>)<sup>115</sup>. In addition, a number of small/informal recreation /camp areas, private camps, and commercial lodges are located along the Key Lake Road (see Section 2.3.1.4, above).

The Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Plan (Saskatchewan Environment, February 2012) discusses several proposals for protected areas to the north of Pinehouse (including the Geikie River recreation site (9,000 ha) and the Foster Lakes Ecological Reserve (23,000 ha); in addition, much of the Highrock Lake and Foster Lakes shoreline is noted as a 'Sensitive Zone')<sup>116</sup>. In July 2013 the Pink Lake Representative Area Ecological Reserve, located approximately 140 kilometres northeast of Pinehouse, became Saskatchewan's largest provincially-designated protected area of approximately 3,660 km<sup>2</sup><sup>117</sup>. There are no other known wildlife or nature reserves in the Pinehouse area.

### 2.6.1.2 NATURAL AREAS/FEATURES OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Northern Village of Pinehouse is situated on the southwest shoreline of Pinehouse Lake. The lakes and rivers in the area are still used extensively by local residents to fish (commercially, and for subsistence and recreation), trap (approximately \$23,335 worth of furs were trapped in 2011 in Fur Block N-11 in the Pinehouse area; see Figure 25 below)<sup>118</sup>, and hunt. Community camps, and individual family camps, are located on the lakes and rivers surrounding Pinehouse (see Section 2.4.1.1, above).



<sup>115</sup> Golder and Associates. February 2011. *Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel - Northern Village of Pinehouse, Saskatchewan*. Submitted to Nuclear Waste Management Organization. Figure 2.1.

<sup>116</sup> Saskatchewan Environment. February 2012. *Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Plan*. <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/misinipiy> . P. 12

<sup>117</sup> <http://www.gov.sk.ca/news?newsId=ce66ce19-df12-4732-bceb-f6b9c7252b86>

<sup>118</sup> Koback, L. January 2012. *Saskatchewan Wild Fur Harvest and Cash Values 2010-2011*. Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment, Fish and Wildlife Branch. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/adx/asp/adxGetMedia.aspx?DocID=083e5504-a5fc-4f6a-b46d-c72352c03dd6&MedialD=c41293db-45fb-4de2-bb8a-79ce8f30a97f&Filename=Saskatchewan+Wild+Fur+Harvest+and+Cash+Values+2010-11.pdf&I=English>

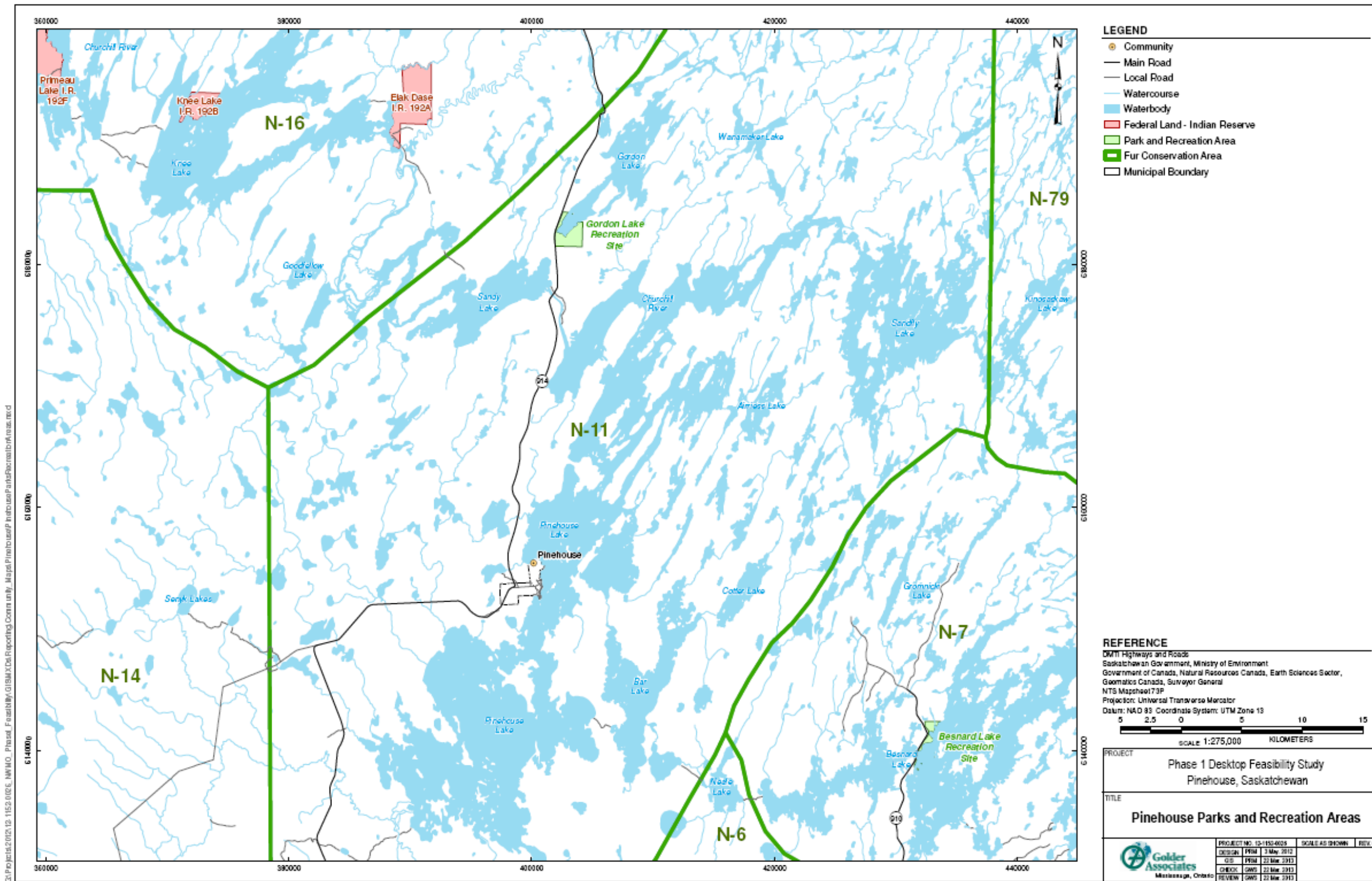


Figure 25: Pinehouse Parks and Recreation Areas

Source: Golder Associates. 2013.

### Churchill River

The Churchill River enters Pinehouse Lake approximately 20 km north of Pinehouse. The Churchill River and local lakes/streams have been used extensively throughout history by Aboriginal people, and later Voyageurs during the fur trade. Numerous fur trading outposts were once established along the banks of the Churchill River<sup>119</sup>. Nominated as a potential Canadian Heritage River in 1993; as of August 2013, it remains a candidate but has not been designated<sup>120</sup>. The Churchill River continues to play an important role in Pinehouse's activities on the land. The Churchill was a significant trade route to western Canada, and 11 of Saskatchewan's largest lakes are part of the Churchill River. The map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B shows the Churchill River flowing from Alberta in the west, east across Saskatchewan through Pinehouse Lake and eastward to Hudson Bay.

To the east, in the Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Planning Area, the Churchill River Sensitive Zone has been established (a 5 km zone on either side and along the length of the river in the planning area). The Plan states: "Given its historical importance to the Province of Saskatchewan and the significant role it continues to play, preparation of a comprehensive plan for this corridor is contemplated. The province will actively seek engagement and cooperation from others...in future planning and management affecting the Churchill River...The Churchill River corridor would benefit from a systematic approach to management. It is a whole connected ecosystem and a comprehensive planning approach is needed along its length so that future land use decisions are coordinated. Until such time as a comprehensive land use plan is prepared for the Churchill River corridor, the list of permitted uses in the Sensitive Zone will be limited to uses existing as of the date of approval of this plan as well as traditional uses as shown in Appendix 4."<sup>121</sup>

### Representative Areas Network

The Representative Areas Network (RAN) program is Saskatchewan's initiative to set aside representative natural areas throughout the province that preserve unique and special features. The new and proposed protected areas noted above (Section 2.6.1.1) in the Misinipiy Planning Area (which may overlap with the northeastern portion of Pinehouse's area) could be part of the RAN.



### Ecoregions

#### Mid-Boreal Upland Ecoregion

Pinehouse is located in the Mid-Boreal Upland ecoregion, as shown in Figure 26, and summarized below<sup>122</sup>. The Churchill River Upland ecoregion is located to the northwest.

<sup>119</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. (February 2000). *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan. Background Information Document*

<sup>120</sup> <http://www.tpcs.gov.sk.ca/Conserving> (accessed August 30, 2012).

<sup>121</sup> Saskatchewan Environment. February 2012. *Misinipiy Integrated Land Use Plan*. <http://www.environment.gov.sk.ca/misinipiy> . P. 39

<sup>122</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. February 2000. *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan. Background Information Document*; and <http://ecozones.ca/english/region/139.html>



The physical landscape of the Mid-Boreal Upland ecoregion is made distinctive by the glacial ridge and swale pattern left behind in the underlying bedrock as a result of the recessive direction of the last glaciations<sup>123</sup>.

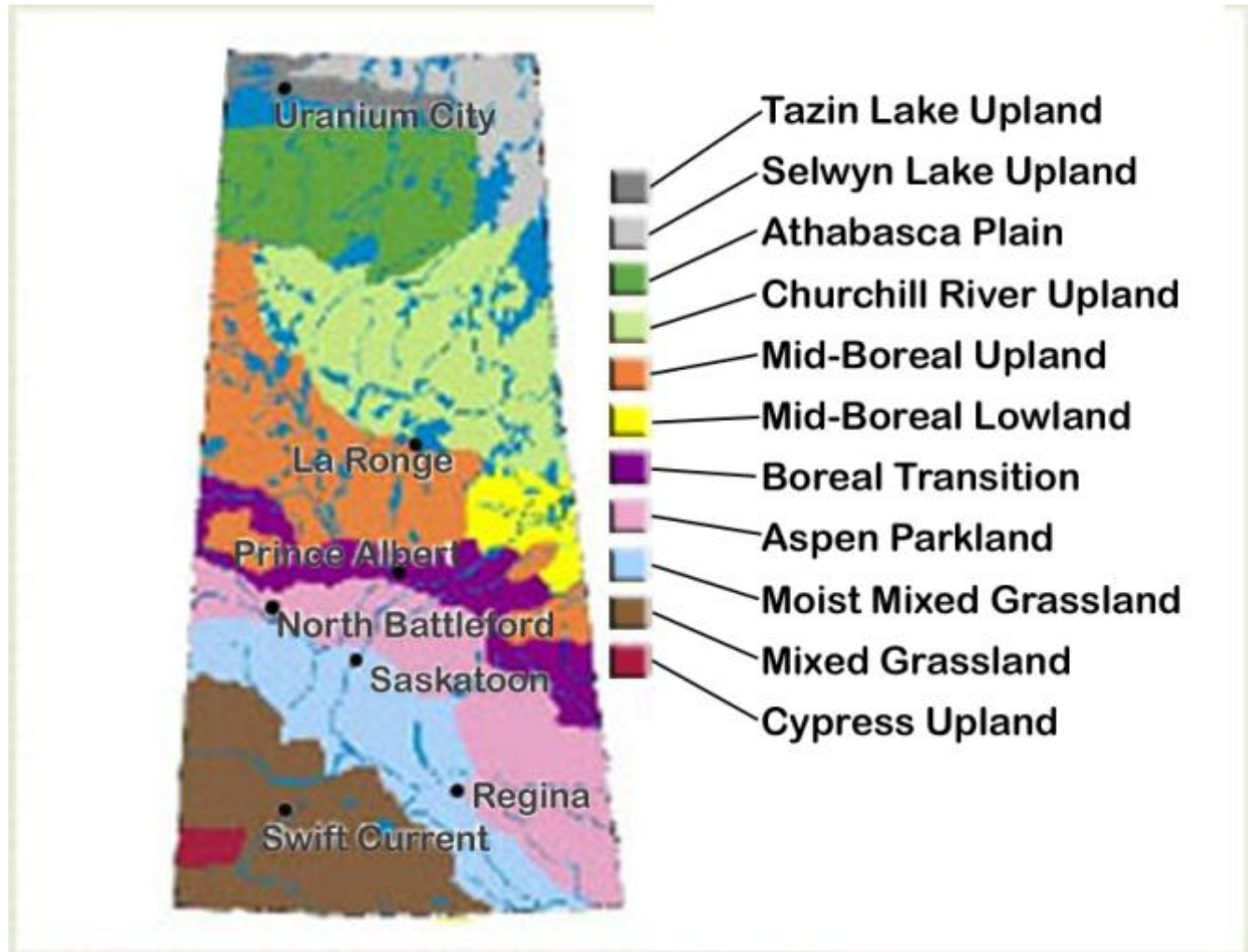


Figure 26: Ecoregions of Saskatchewan (University of Saskatchewan)<sup>124</sup>

The Mid-Boreal Upland Ecoregion experiences a cooler and drier climate than eco-regions located to the south but is warmer and wetter than the Boreal Shield Ecoregion to the north. The mean annual temperature is 0.3°C.

The Mid-Boreal Upland ecoregion has eight major forest vegetation groups: Aspen, Jack Pine, White Spruce, Mixedwood, Black Spruce-Jack Pine, Black Spruce, peatlands, and boreal wetlands.

Wildlife includes Moose, Black Bear, Woodland Caribou, White-tailed Deer, Muskrat, Beaver, Gray Wolf, Otter, Snowshoe Hare, and Chipmunk. Environment Canada has proposed a Recovery Strategy for the Boreal Caribou

<sup>123</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. February 2000. *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan. Background Information Document*

<sup>124</sup> University of Saskatchewan  
[http://www.usask.ca/biology/rareplants\\_sk/root/htm/en/ecoregion.php?pageimage=/biology/rareplants\\_sk/root/images/ecoregion.jpg&pagetitle=ecoregion.jpg&alttag=Ecoregions%20of%20Saskatchewan&titledtag=Ecoregions%20of%20Saskatchewan%20](http://www.usask.ca/biology/rareplants_sk/root/htm/en/ecoregion.php?pageimage=/biology/rareplants_sk/root/images/ecoregion.jpg&pagetitle=ecoregion.jpg&alttag=Ecoregions%20of%20Saskatchewan&titledtag=Ecoregions%20of%20Saskatchewan%20)

Population of the Woodland Caribou (relevant to northern Saskatchewan)<sup>125</sup>. In the Strategy, critical habitat is not identified in northern Saskatchewan's Boreal Shield range (SK1). The high fire, very low anthropogenic disturbance estimates for northern Saskatchewan, and the lack of population data (numbers and trends) were identified as unique challenges with respect to understanding the status of woodland caribou in northern Saskatchewan. Natural fire events are common throughout the Mid-Boreal Upland ecoregion, generally occurring every 50 to 100 years and characterized as very large, high intensity, and stand-replacing.

Windthrow and blowdown are also a common disturbance in the Mid-Boreal Upland ecoregion. These events are generally associated with intense localized winds created by windstorms and twisters/tornados<sup>126</sup>.

## 2.6.2 Summary of Natural Environment

### 2.6.2.1 PRIORITIES AND KEY ISSUES

Priorities and key issues related to the natural environment include:

- Maintaining, if not improving, environmental quality in Pinehouse and the surrounding area, to support current and future traditional (including hunting, trapping, fishing, wild rice harvesting, collection of berries and plants, recreation, spiritual practices) and community uses (e.g. recreation, commercial fishery). The use and occupancy study to be completed in 2013 will contribute to this goal. There is concern that there is not as much wildlife or fish as there once were; trapping and fishing are less viable commercially.
- Protecting the integrity of the natural environment, particularly areas of value for community use. Typically these are not formally designated parks or protected areas.

### 2.6.2.2 COMMUNITY ASPIRATIONS

The integrity of the natural environment is highly valued by Pinehouse, as it is a source of sustenance, spiritual growth, and linkages between the past and the present. The community sees the need to balance traditional values and activities with the quality of life that can be associated with employment, quality housing, and access to recreation, health and social services in the community. Pinehouse's vision statement reflects this: "Pinehouse is a holistic, healthy, self-sustaining community. We will continue to work in unity to reclaim our community through positive values and indigenous identity." The Pinehouse visioning and strategic planning exercises provide insights into the related values, goals and objectives of the community.

### 2.6.2.3 CAPABILITIES AND CAPACITIES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

The natural environment surrounding Pinehouse is a significant community asset, a source of sustenance, spiritual growth, and linkages between the past and the present. The land, water, fish and wildlife support current and future traditional and other community uses.

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<sup>125</sup> [http://www.registrep-sararegistry.gc.ca/document/default\\_e.cfm?documentID=2253](http://www.registrep-sararegistry.gc.ca/document/default_e.cfm?documentID=2253)

<sup>126</sup> Saskatchewan Environment and Resource Management. February 2000. *Pinehouse-Dipper Integrated Forest Land Use Plan. Background Information Document*

## 2.7 UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS

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### 2.7.1 Community Character

Pinehouse is an Aboriginal community in Northern Saskatchewan, with most residents being Métis of Cree ancestry. There are also a significant number of First Nations people living in the village. Geographically, Pinehouse is relatively isolated –its nearest neighbour, Beauval is 109 km to the southwest by road. There are a limited range of facilities and services in the community. The natural environment and traditional activities on the land and water continue to be very important. The community has faced significant social, cultural and economic changes in a relatively short period since the 1970s when road access came with the development of uranium mines in the region. Pinehouse continues its efforts to address challenges related to housing, education, employment, health and social services, and substance abuse. The community has a number of cultural initiatives related to language, encouragement of participation in traditional activities on the land, cultural camps, and the annual elders gathering.

A number of initiatives in Pinehouse are contributing to a sense of opportunity moving forward. These include the:

- Ongoing strategic planning by Mayor and Council
- Visioning process completed in 2011
- Reclaiming our Community (Interagency) initiative
- Pinehouse Business North – has historically demonstrated some success, and appears to be undergoing strategic revitalization
- Relatively young population (also a challenge)
- Increasing success with education and training of youth and adults
- Collaboration Agreement with Cameco and AREVA (December 2012)

Pinehouse leaders often speak with pride about overcoming many challenges in the community since the late 1970s, when, in its own words, the community “hit rock bottom”<sup>127</sup>. These relate to alcohol and substance abuse, violence, suicide, poor housing, access to health and social services, and the legacy of the residential school system. Pinehouse is a resilient community, striving to its vision in northern Saskatchewan. In particular, the ‘Reclaiming Our Community’ (Interagency) initiative is viewed as a great success that is being emulated in other northern Saskatchewan communities.

At a regional level, partnerships such as New North, the Northern Economic Summit, Northern Saskatchewan Environmental Quality Committee, and the Northern Leaders Table (and Action Plan) provide opportunities for collective action that will contribute to improved well-being in northern Saskatchewan.

### 2.7.2 Environmental Values

As noted above, the natural environment and traditional activities on the land and water continue to be very important to Pinehouse residents. They are a source of sustenance, spiritual growth, and linkages between the past and the present in this Aboriginal community.

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<sup>127</sup> Pinehouse Business North. 2012. *Sustaining Growth – Pinehouse Business North*. Presentation to the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association Conference.

### 2.7.3 Community Goals

See Section 2.1.3, which provides insight with respect to Pinehouse's vision and strategic planning process, including eight strategic goals identified in 2012.

### 2.7.4 Community Action Plans To Date And Expected

The following is a list of community action plans, strategic plans, and assessments, which have been undertaken or are expected to take place in the Northern Village of Pinehouse:

- Development of an official community plan/zoning by-law
- Community Strategic Planning Session/Draft report, June 2012
- Northern Village of Pinehouse Capital Projects Prioritization Report, 2011
- Visioning report, Summer, 2011
- Minahik Waskahigan High School Facility Evaluation, September 2011
- Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region Facilities and Infrastructure Requirements Strategy, 2010
- Pinehouse Community Profile and Community Health Action Plan, Fall 2001

Most of these are described in Section 2.1.3, above.

## 3.0 REGIONAL PROFILE

### 3.1 OVERVIEW

The definition of the regional context of a community is subjective. The regional boundaries of a community are defined differently by various entities. For the purposes of this Community Profile, the regional context is left undefined, as further dialogue with community members and surrounding communities is required to better understand the broader regional context. Pinehouse is located in the Northern Administration District/Census Division (CD) 18. Statistics are readily available for CD 18; for this reason and for the purposes of the profile, they will be used only for the purpose of setting context and comparison.

#### 3.1.1 Northern Administration District

Pinehouse is located in Saskatchewan's Northern Administration District (NAD), as shown in the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B. In general, the NAD is a resource-rich part of northern Saskatchewan. However, limited infrastructure, lower education, limited health and social services and the large number of isolated and remote communities provide many challenges for the area. The NAD has approximately 36,500 residents living in 45 communities, including municipalities (northern hamlets, northern villages and towns), First Nations reserves, settlements, and sometimes a combination of each. The NAD covers approximately 50% of Saskatchewan's land area, yet contains less than 4% of its population<sup>128</sup>.

It is noted that the NAD boundaries coincide with Statistics Canada's CD 18 boundaries (see Figure 27, below), allowing for ready collection and analysis of regional data that can be compared with both Pinehouse and Saskatchewan as a whole. Statistics Canada reported in the 2011 census that CD 18 covered 269,996.55 km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>129</sup>

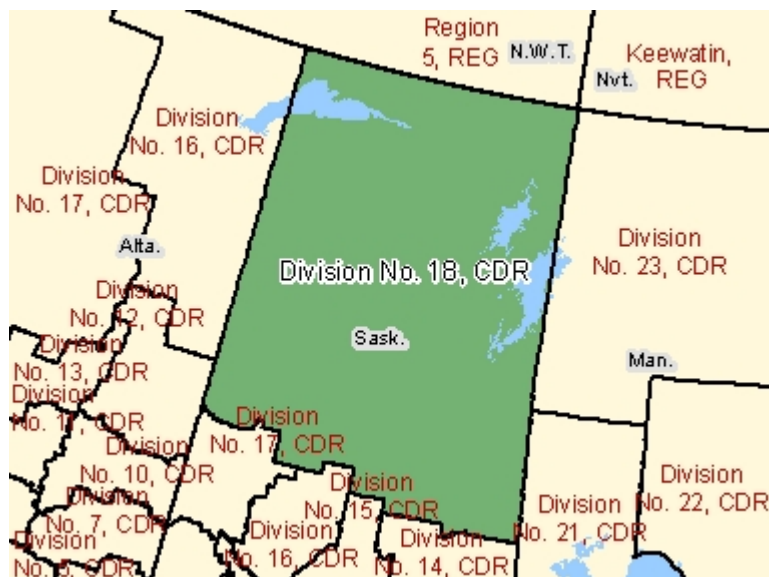


Figure 27: Census Division 18, Statistics Canada<sup>130</sup>

<sup>128</sup> <http://www.fnmr.gov.sk.ca/nad>

<sup>129</sup> <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Lang=E&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718814&Geo2=CD&Code2=4718&Data=Count&SearchText=Wapach&SearchType=Contains&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=&TABID=1>

### 3.1.2 Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region

The three northern Saskatchewan health authorities (Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region, Athabasca Health Authority, Keewatin Yatthe Health Region – see Figure 28, below) together comprise an area similar to (but not identical to) the NAD and CD 18. Almost half of the growing population lives on-reserve; over 85% of the population identify as Aboriginal (22% Métis, 62% First Nations – predominately Cree and Dene), compared to less than 15% in the province as a whole<sup>131</sup>. The *Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report (2011)* is discussed in Section 3.7, below.

Pinehouse is located in the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region (MCRHR). Additional information on the services and facilities offered by the MCRHR are provided in its annual report, which identifies a number of challenges to the delivery of health services in the region, discusses the status of various determinants of health and health status indicators, and identifies emerging issues<sup>132</sup>.



Figure 28: Northern Saskatchewan Health Authority Boundaries

<sup>130</sup> [http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page\\_Map-Carte.cfm?Lang=E&Tab=3&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718814&Geo2=CD&Code2=4718&Data=Count&SearchText=Wapach&SearchType=Contains&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=&TABID=1](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page_Map-Carte.cfm?Lang=E&Tab=3&Geo1=CSD&Code1=4718814&Geo2=CD&Code2=4718&Data=Count&SearchText=Wapach&SearchType=Contains&SearchPR=01&B1=All&Custom=&TABID=1)

<sup>131</sup> Irvine et al. 2011. *Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report*. Prepared for the Athabasca Health Authority, Keewatin Yatthe Health Region, and Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. Population Health Unit, La Ronge, Saskatchewan. [http://www.populationhealthunit.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=86:northern-saskatchewan-health-indicators-report-2011-release&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=65](http://www.populationhealthunit.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=86:northern-saskatchewan-health-indicators-report-2011-release&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=65)

<sup>132</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. 2012. *Annual Report 2011-2012*. <http://www.mcrrha.sk.ca/media/files/MCRHR%202011-12%20Annual%20Report%20-%20med%20size.pdf>



### 3.1.3 Expenditures – Where do Residents Obtain Goods and Services?

Pinehouse is located centrally in the southern half of the NAD. The nearest community, which offers limited additional services, is Beauval. It is located approximately 109 kilometres to the southwest (48 km south/south-west on Saskatchewan Highway 914N to the junction with Highway 165E, and approximately 60 km west to Beauval).

La Ronge (216 km from Pinehouse) also offers accommodation, banking, retail, medical, legal and business services<sup>133</sup>, and it is reported that Pinehouse residents may go to the east rather than the west in this regard. In the southwestern region of the NAD, Île-à-la-Crosse and Buffalo Narrows provide commercial services such as accommodations, banking, retail, medical, legal as well as other business services<sup>134</sup>. As shown on the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B, each of these communities are located on (or near) the Highway 155 corridor, a north-south highway connecting many communities in the southwestern region of the NAD to larger centres such as Meadow Lake (258 km), Prince Albert (348 km), and Saskatoon (490 km). These communities are shown on the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B.

### 3.1.4 Maps

The following maps provide insight into various points of interest, social and economic considerations (transportation and electrical power generation /transmission), and natural resources in Northern Saskatchewan. In addition, a map of Northern Saskatchewan included as Appendix B highlights a number of features relevant to this profile (Golder Associates, July, 2013).

#### 3.1.4.1 SOCIAL, ECONOMIC

##### Transportation

The map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B shows the road network and airports in northern Saskatchewan.

There was a proposal for an all-weather road to be built from the Fort McMurray area of Alberta to the Garson Lake/ La Loche area in northwestern Saskatchewan<sup>135</sup>. Development of a highway between La Loche and Fort McMurray could significantly impact tourism in the region by providing a link to a high income earning population and providing them with outdoor recreation opportunities. The link would also increase employment opportunities and possible construction opportunities through access to Alberta's oil sands projects. There is a 66 km winter road (the 'La Loche Winter Trail') constructed annually from south of Ft. McMurray (Highway 881 near Anzac) to Garson Lake (Highway 956) on the Saskatchewan border near La Loche. The proposal for the Alberta portion of the all-weather connector link project is currently inactive. Saskatchewan has completed their portion of the all-weather road to the Alberta border. Recently, a project team composed of northern Saskatchewan leaders has been established to pursue completion of the all-weather gravel road south of La Loche to Highway 886 in Alberta.<sup>136</sup>

<sup>133</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. 2012. Churchill River Enterprise Region. Website: <http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/index.php/communities>

<sup>134</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. 2012. Boreal West Enterprise Region. Website: <http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/index.php/communities>

<sup>135</sup> Additional research is required to confirm status/proposed location of the new road. <http://www.nadc.gov.ab.ca/Docs/Northern-Highways-Strategy-2008.pdf>  
<http://www.woodbuffalo.ab.ca/Page11.aspx?SourceId=2&ArticleId=3250>

<sup>136</sup> <http://www.northerneconomicsummit.com/docs/BWR-Access-to-Fort-McMurray-Charter.pdf>

### Electrical Power Generation and Transmission

An overview of SaskPower’s transmission and distribution system, including northern Saskatchewan, is available<sup>137</sup>. A December 2011 map of SaskPower generation and major transmission shows an existing 110-138 KV transmission to the northwest of Island Falls Generating Station that goes to the various mines in north-eastern Saskatchewan, with a number of spurs shown to the south of Points North in the Wollaston Lake area<sup>138</sup>. There is a proposed 230KV line from the Island Falls Generating Station to Key Lake (shown on Figure 29 below)<sup>139</sup>.

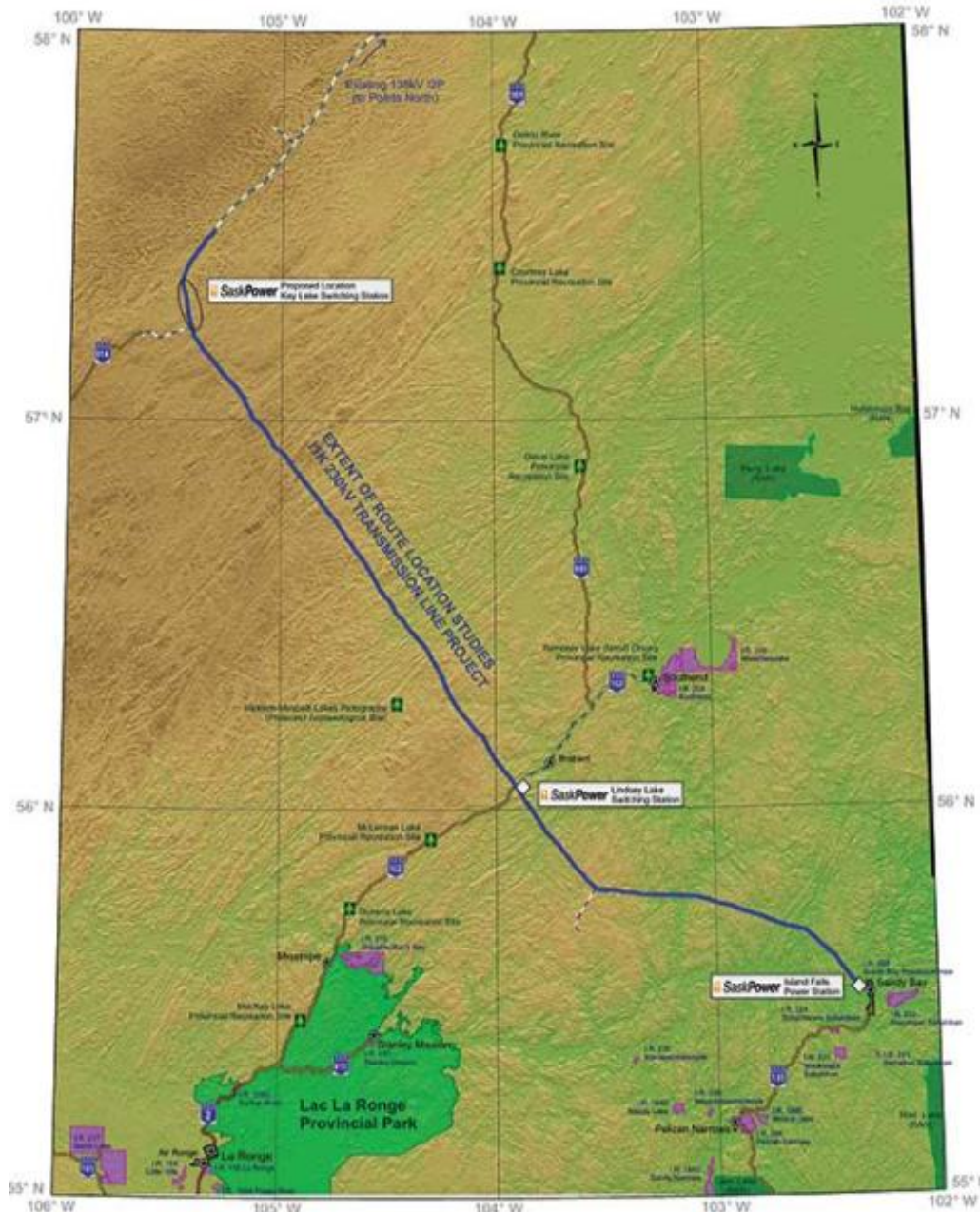


Figure 29: Proposed Transmission Line – Island Fall GS to Key Lake

<sup>137</sup> [http://www.saskpower.com/about\\_us/generation\\_transmission\\_distribution/](http://www.saskpower.com/about_us/generation_transmission_distribution/)

<sup>138</sup> [http://www.saskpower.com/about\\_us/assets/generation\\_and\\_transmission\\_system.pdf](http://www.saskpower.com/about_us/assets/generation_and_transmission_system.pdf)

<sup>139</sup> [http://www.saskpower.com/sustainable\\_growth/projects/transmission\\_distribution/island\\_falls\\_key\\_lake.shtml](http://www.saskpower.com/sustainable_growth/projects/transmission_distribution/island_falls_key_lake.shtml)

### 3.1.4.3 NATURAL RESOURCES

Section 2.6.1.2 (above) provides summary information on the regionally significant Churchill River, the province's Representative Areas Network, and the ecoregions found in Northern Saskatchewan.

#### Forest Resources

The once active northern Saskatchewan forestry industry has been in decline. The Northwest Community Wood Products was initiated in 1999; since that time, and with the rise of new technologies, other new and innovative opportunities could be possible (e.g. bio-fuels). Via the Northern Economic Summit (see Section 3.6.1, below), a project focussing on creating bio-diverse market opportunities for Boreal Wood Resources that will lead to the creation of business opportunities for the people of the Boreal West Region has been initiated<sup>140</sup>. Through collaboration with stakeholders in the Boreal West Region, and the engagement and inclusion of other entities and, the intent is to secure a Term Supply License Agreement with the province that will anchor the establishment a Boreal Wood Resource Partnership.

#### Mineral Resources

Parts of Northern Saskatchewan demonstrate significant mineral resource potential, as shown in a 2012 Mineral Resource Map of Saskatchewan<sup>141</sup>. This figure indicates that:

- In the vicinity of Pinehouse, there is major peat resource potential
- To the north of Pinehouse, there are base metal, gold, and uranium resources (including showings, known deposits, active exploration, active and closed mines)
- To the far northwest of Pinehouse, and north of La Loche near the Alberta border, there is oilsands potential.

Existing and proposed uranium mines in Northern Saskatchewan are shown on the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B. Additional discussion on uranium mining in Saskatchewan is provided in Section 3.6.2, below.

## 3.2 MUNICIPALITIES

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The incorporated municipalities nearby Pinehouse include:

- Patuanak (Northern Hamlet) - adjacent to ERFN's Wapachewunak reserve
- Beauval (Northern Village)
- Île-à-la-Crosse (Northern Village)
- Buffalo Narrows (Northern Village)
- Town of La Ronge
- Air Ronge (Northern Village)

The location of these communities is shown on the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B.

New North is an organization formed to advocate for Northern Saskatchewan municipalities within the NAD. It works on behalf of northern communities and is governed by a board of Northern Mayors with an administrative office in La Ronge<sup>142</sup>.

<sup>140</sup> <http://www.northerneconomicsummit.com/docs/BWR-Boreal-Wood-Resources-Charter.pdf>

<sup>141</sup> Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy: <http://www.er.gov.sk.ca/mineralresourcemap>

<sup>142</sup> <http://www.newnorthsask.ca/>

### 3.3 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

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There are a number of First Nations and Métis organizations in the surrounding area. The information in this section reflects readily available information from publicly available sources and does not reflect conversations or dialogue with Aboriginal communities or organizations unless otherwise noted.

The following First Nations are all part of the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC):

- Birch Narrows First Nation
- Buffalo River Dene First Nation
- Canoe Lake First Nation
- Clearwater River Dene Nation
- English River First Nation
- Flying Dust First Nation
- Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation
- Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation (formerly known as Island Lake First Nation)
- Waterhen Lake First Nation

The following First Nation is part of the Prince Albert Grand Council:

- Lac La Ronge Indian Band

Pinehouse is in the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan's Northern Region III and nearby Métis Locals include:

- Kineepik - Pinehouse - Métis Local #9
- Beauval - Métis Local #37
- Canoe River - Métis Local #174
- Cole Bay - Métis Local # 41
- Patuanak - Métis Local #82
- Sakitawak - Île-à-la-Crosse - Métis Local #21

The text which follows provides a brief introduction to some of these communities and organizations. The map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B shows their locations.

#### 3.3.1 First Nations

Treaty areas for Saskatchewan First Nations are shown in Figure 30, below, and in the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B. The First Nations in the area around Pinehouse are affiliated with Treaties 6, 8, and 10, and are members of the Meadow Lake Tribal Council<sup>143</sup> (to the west of Pinehouse) or the Prince Albert Grand Council<sup>144</sup> (Lac La Ronge Indian Band, to the east).

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<sup>143</sup> Meadow Lake Tribal Council <http://www.mltc.ca/aboutus.htm>

<sup>144</sup> <http://www.pagc.sk.ca/>





### 3.3.1.2 BUFFALO RIVER DENE FIRST NATION

The Buffalo River Dene First Nation is a Treaty 10 signatory, and a member of the MLTC. In 1972, the Peter Pond Band was divided into the Turnor Lake / Birch Narrows First Nation and Buffalo River First Nation. Buffalo River First Nation's 8,259.7 hectare reserve is located about 84 km northwest of Île-à-la-Crosse, and the largest population is at Dillon<sup>147</sup>. The total registered population as of May 2013 was 1,318. Of that total, 699 members live on-reserve<sup>148</sup>.

### 3.3.1.3 CANOE LAKE FIRST NATION

The Canoe Lake First Nation is a Treaty 10 signatory, and a member of the MLTC. It has seven reserve land parcels, with three located along Canoe Lake approximately thirty miles west of Beauval<sup>149</sup>. The registered population in May 2013 was 2,238 members, with 943 residing on 14,172.6 ha of reserve lands (the most populated of which is approximately 30 km southwest of Île-à-la-Crosse) and 46 residing on other reserves<sup>150</sup>.

### 3.3.1.4 CLEARWATER RIVER DENE NATION

The Clearwater River Dene Nation is a Treaty 8 signatory, and a member of the MLTC. It is situated at Clearwater River on the east side of Lac La Loche near the Northern Village of La Loche. Four parcels of reserve land total 9,511.1 hectares. Membership in May 2013 was 1,862, with 770 members residing on their own reserve (and 24 on other reserves) and 1,061 off-reserve<sup>151</sup>.

### 3.3.1.5 ENGLISH RIVER FIRST NATION

The English River First Nation (ERFN) is a Treaty 10 signatory and a member of the MLTC<sup>152</sup>. ERFN has 18 individual reserves covering an area of more than 20,878 hectares, including the communities at Patuanak and La Plonge and an urban reserve in Saskatoon. The neighbouring northern hamlet of Patuanak was originally settled by non-Treaty /non-status Indians. As of June 2013, English River has a registered population of 1,480 band members, with 732 people living on-own-reserve, 41 living on other reserves, and 707 living off-reserve<sup>153</sup>.

<sup>147</sup> Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan. 2006. *Buffalo River First Nation*. Website. [http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/buffalo\\_river\\_dene\\_first\\_nation.html](http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/buffalo_river_dene_first_nation.html)

<sup>148</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Buffalo River First Nation* Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=398&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=398&lang=eng)

<sup>149</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Canoe Lake Cree First Nation - Reserves/Settlements/Villages*. Website. [http://Pse5-Esd5.Ainc-Inac.Gc.Ca/Fnp/Main/Search/Fnreserves.aspx?Band\\_Number=394&Lang=Eng](http://Pse5-Esd5.Ainc-Inac.Gc.Ca/Fnp/Main/Search/Fnreserves.aspx?Band_Number=394&Lang=Eng)

<sup>150</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Canoe Lake Cree First Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=394&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=394&lang=eng)

<sup>151</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Clearwater River Dene Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=401&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=401&lang=eng)

<sup>152</sup> English River First Nation. 2013. <http://www.erfn.ca/>. Additional detail is provided in DPRA Canada. 2013. *Community Profile - English River First Nation, Saskatchewan –Draft*.

<sup>153</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – English River First Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=400&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=400&lang=eng)



### 3.3.1.6 FLYING DUST FIRST NATION

The Flying Dust First Nation is a Treaty 6 signatory, and a member of the MLTC. The community is located adjacent to the City of Meadow Lake. As of May 2013, the membership of the Flying Dust First Nation was 1,305. There are 476 members residing on-reserve and 49 on other reserves. 780 members live off-reserve<sup>154</sup>. Flying Dust has seven parcels of reserve lands totalling more than 9,100 hectares.<sup>155</sup>

### 3.3.1.7 MAKWA SAHGAIEHCAN FIRST NATION

The Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation is Treaty 6 signatory and a member of the MLTC. The First Nation has a total of 5,881.7 ha of reserve land<sup>156</sup>, most of which are west of Loon Lake. Of the 1,460 registered band members as of May 2013, 972 live on their own reserve, 98 on other reserves, and 390 off reserve<sup>157</sup>.

### 3.3.1.8 MINISTIKWAN LAKE CREE NATION (FORMERLY KNOWN AS ISLAND LAKE FIRST NATION)

The Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation (formerly known as Island Lake First Nation) is a Treaty 6 signatory, and a member of the MLTC. The 11,120.6-ha of reserve lands are located to the west of Meadow Lake<sup>158</sup>. As of May 2013, Island Lake First Nation has a registered population of 1,267, with 899 members residing on their own reserve (133 on other reserves) and 233 living off reserve<sup>159</sup>.

### 3.3.1.9 WATERHEN LAKE FIRST NATION

The Waterhen Lake First Nation is a Treaty 6 signatory, and a member of the MLTC. Located 40 kilometres north of Meadow Lake, the 7972.2 hectare reserve is located on Waterhen Lake<sup>160</sup>. As of May 2013, there are 1,920 members, with 864 residing on their reserve lands and 95 residing on other reserves. 959 members reside off-reserve<sup>161</sup>.

<sup>154</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Flying Dust First Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=395&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=395&lang=eng)

<sup>155</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=395&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=395&lang=eng)

<sup>156</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=396&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=396&lang=eng)

<sup>157</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population - Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=396&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=396&lang=eng)

<sup>158</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/FNP/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=397&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/FNP/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=397&lang=eng)

<sup>159</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Ministikwan Lake First Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=397&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=397&lang=eng)

<sup>160</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=402&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=402&lang=eng) Fiddler, V Charles. 1994. *Waterhen Lake Reserve: An Ethno-History From 1921-1993*. University of Saskatchewan Indigenous Studies Portal. Website. [http://portal.usask.ca/index.php?t=display\\_solr\\_search&having=1649765&sid=865207574](http://portal.usask.ca/index.php?t=display_solr_search&having=1649765&sid=865207574)  
[http://portal.usask.ca/index.php?t=display\\_solr\\_search&having=1649765&sid=865207574](http://portal.usask.ca/index.php?t=display_solr_search&having=1649765&sid=865207574)

<sup>161</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Waterhen Lake First Nation*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=402&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=402&lang=eng)

### 3.3.1.10 LAC LA RONGE INDIAN BAND

The Lac La Ronge Indian Band is a Treaty 6 signatory and a member of the Prince Albert Grand Council<sup>162</sup>. Located in north-central Saskatchewan, the Lac La Ronge Indian Band is the largest First Nation in Saskatchewan, and one of the 10 largest in Canada. Of the registered population of 9,822 as of May, 2013, 5,913 reside on-reserve<sup>163</sup>. The band controls 43,302 ha of land<sup>164</sup>, with most reserve lands located near Lac La Ronge. The Lac La Ronge Indian Band's administration office is located in the Town of La Ronge. Communities include the reserve lands near La Ronge, Stanley Mission and Little Red River.

### 3.3.1.11 MEADOW LAKE TRIBAL COUNCIL

The following First Nations – some Dene, the others Cree – are part of the Meadow Lake Tribal Council (MLTC):

- Birch Narrows First Nation
- Buffalo River Dene First Nation
- Canoe Lake First Nation
- Clearwater River Dene Nation
- English River First Nation
- Flying Dust First Nation
- Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation
- Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation (formerly known as Island Lake First Nation)
- Waterhen Lake First Nation

MLTC member nations are signatory to Treaties 6, 8 or 10. As of November 2010 the total registered membership was 12,618, with 6,976 members residing on-reserve within the nine First Nations and 5,642 members residing at locations off-reserve.

### 3.3.1.12 PRINCE ALBERT GRAND COUNCIL

The 12 First Nations in central and northern Saskatchewan are part of the Prince Albert Grand Council ()<sup>165</sup>. The PAGC First Nation members are:

- Black Lake Dene Nation
- Cumberland House Cree Nation,
- Fond du Lac Dene Nation
- James Smith Cree Nation
- Lac La Hache Dene Nation
- Lac La Ronge Indian Band
- Montreal Lake Cree Nation
- Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation
- Red Earth Cree Nation
- Shoal Lake Cree Nation
- Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation
- Wahpeton Dakota Nation<sup>166</sup>.

<sup>162</sup> Lac la Ronge Indian Band. 2013. <http://www.lrib.org/>

<sup>163</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Registered Population – Lac La Ronge Indian Band*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=353&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNRegPopulation.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=353&lang=eng)

<sup>164</sup> Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. 2013. *Reserves/Settlements/Villages*. Website. [http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND\\_NUMBER=353&lang=eng](http://pse5-esd5.ainc-inac.gc.ca/fnp/Main/Search/FNReserves.aspx?BAND_NUMBER=353&lang=eng)

<sup>165</sup> Prince Albert Grand Council eulture portal. 2013. Accessed Online. Website. <http://eculture.pagc.sk.ca/eculture.php?pid=Overview&tp=slnk&language=&ver=>

There are 26 communities with approximately 30,000 members in the PAGC, which is the largest tribal council in Saskatchewan. The Treaties that are part of and overlap the boundaries of the PAGC include Treaties 5, 6, 8 and 10 as well as the Pre-Confederation Peace and Friendship Treaty<sup>167</sup>.

### 3.3.2 Métis Organizations

The Kineepik Métis Local in Pinehouse is located in the Métis Nation–Saskatchewan’s Northern Region III (see the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B for Métis region boundaries)<sup>168</sup>. Most of the hamlets, villages and towns in northern Saskatchewan have affiliated Métis locals. The following Métis Locals in MN-S Northern Region III are in the vicinity of Pinehouse:

- Kineepik - Pinehouse - Métis Local #9
- Beauval - Métis Local #37
- Canoe River - Métis Local #174
- Cole Bay - Métis Local # 41
- Patuanak - Métis Local #82
- Sakitawak - Île-à-la-Crosse - Métis Local #21

Information on these Métis Locals is not publicly available; further detail would require direct engagement with Métis Locals and regions. The location of these communities and the boundaries of the MN-S Northern Regions are shown on the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B.

## 3.4 POPULATION DYNAMICS

### 3.4.1 Trend Over Time

Table 12 below illustrates CD 18 and Saskatchewan growth patterns between 1996 and 2011.

**Table 12: CD 18 and Saskatchewan Population Trends over Time**

Time Period	CD 18 Population (Change from Previous Census)	Saskatchewan Population (Change from Previous Census)
1996	31,104 (N/A)	990,237 (+0.1%)
2001	32,029 (+3.0%)	978,933 (-1.1%)
2006	33,919 (+5.9%)	968,157 (-1.1%)
2011	36,557 (+7.8%)	1,033,381 (+6.7%)

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles, 1996, 2001, 2006, and 2011.

<sup>166</sup> Prince Albert Grand Council eulture portal. 2013. Accessed Online. Website.  
<http://eculture.pagc.sk.ca/eculture.php?pid=Overview&tp=slnk&language=&ver=>

<sup>167</sup> Prince Albert Grand Council eulture portal. 2013. Accessed Online. Website.  
<http://eculture.pagc.sk.ca/eculture.php?pid=Overview&tp=slnk&language=&ver=>

<sup>168</sup> Métis Nation – Saskatchewan. 2013. <http://www.mn-s.ca/>

During this period, the population in CD 18 has shown continuous growth; between 2006 and 2011, the population in CD 18 grew by 7.8%. In recent years, the population in Northern Saskatchewan has grown at a rate five-times faster than the provincial average. Overall, the population is young; largely a result of a high birth rate.<sup>169</sup> For the province as a whole the population declined slightly between 1996 and 2006. However, in 2011 Saskatchewan's population showed an increase of 6.7% from 2006.

Table 13 provides information on the census populations (2001, 2006 and 2011) for communities (Indian reserves, northern villages, northern hamlets, towns) nearby Pinehouse<sup>170</sup>. These communities are shown in the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B. While some communities grew in population during that period, others declined. It is noted that census data for First Nation and other communities may underestimate the actual population due to incomplete coverage/low response rates.

**Table 13: Nearby Communities – Population 2001, 2006, 2011**

Communities				
Community	Community Descriptor	2011 Population	2006 Population	2001 Population
<b>Air Ronge</b>	Northern Village	1043	1032	955
<b>Beauval</b>	Northern Village	756	806	843
<b>Birch Narrows First Nation</b>	Indian Reserve	N/A <sup>171</sup>	415	335
<b>Buffalo Narrows</b>	Northern Village	1153	1081	1137
<b>Buffalo River Dene First Nation 193</b>	Indian Reserve	764	741	607
<b>Canoe Lake First Nation 165</b>	Indian Reserve	716	822	747
<b>Clearwater River Dene 222</b>	Indian Reserve	778	658	584
<b>Cole Bay</b>	Northern Hamlet	230	156	161
<b>Flying Dust First Nation</b>	Indian Reserve	506	619	580
<b>Île-à-la-Crosse</b>	Northern Village	1365	1341	1268
<b>Island Lake First Nation (Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation): 161A</b>	Indian Reserve	220	198	N/A
<b>161</b>	Indian Reserve	818	533	N/A
<b>La Plonge 192 (ERFN)</b>	Indian Reserve	115	139	120
<b>La Ronge</b>	Town	2304	2725	2727

<sup>169</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report.* Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

<sup>170</sup> Note that only 'on-reserve' populations are noted for First Nations in this table.

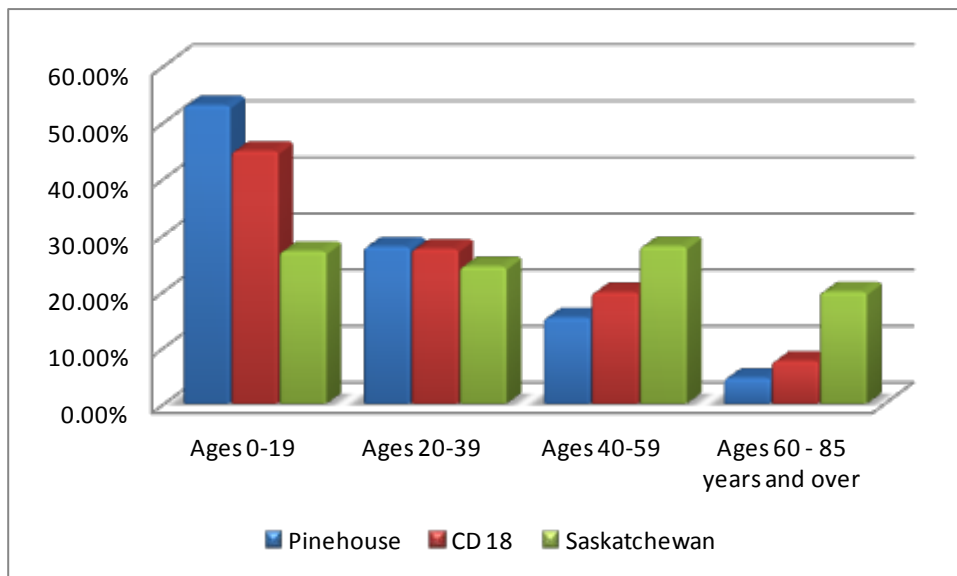
<sup>171</sup> Statistics Canada 2011 census profiles do not include Birch Narrows First Nation, although data for other First Nations in the area are reported.

		Communities		
Community	Community Descriptor	2011 Population	2006 Population	2001 Population
<b>Lac La Ronge Indian Band: Lac la Ronge 156</b>	Indian Reserve	1914	1534	1181
<b>Stanley 157</b>	Indian Reserve	1634	1467	1248
<b>Grandmother's Bay</b>	Indian Reserve	337	320	264
<b>Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation</b>	Indian Reserve	905	800	760
<b>Patuanak</b>	Northern Hamlet	64	84	72
<b>Waterhen Lake First Nation 130</b>	Indian Reserve	670	725	575
<b>Wapachewunak 192d (ERFN)</b>	Indian Reserve	482	526	434

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles, 2006, and 2011. .AANDC First Nation Profiles 2006.

3.4.2 Age Structure

Figure 31 illustrates the age structure for the NAD/CD 18 and Saskatchewan in 2006. CD 18 had a higher proportion of the population ages 0-19 than the province as a whole (44.9% vs. 27.1%). Saskatchewan had a higher proportion of the population 65 and over (15.5%) than CD 18 (5.2%).

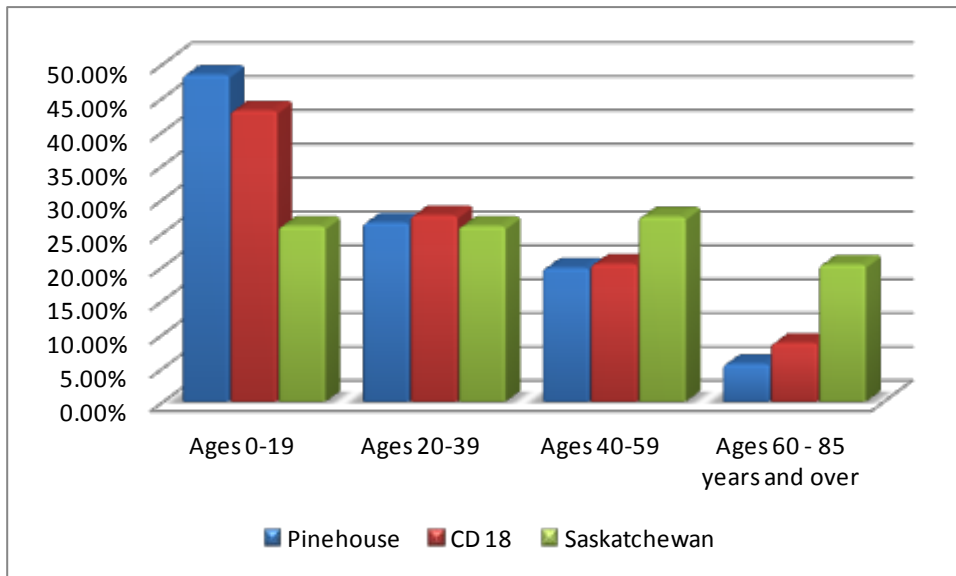


**Figure 31: Division 18 and Saskatchewan Age Structure, 2006**

Source(s): 1) Statistics Canada (2007). *Division No. 18, Saskatchewan 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>;

2) *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

As shown in Figure 32, in 2011, the proportion of the population between the ages of 0-19 for CD 18 is 43.1% (a small decrease from 2006); for Saskatchewan the figure is 26.0% (also a slight decrease from 2006).



**Figure 32: Division 18 and Saskatchewan Age Structure, 2011**

Source(s): 1) Statistics Canada (2012). *Division No. 18, Saskatchewan 2011 Community Profile*.  
 2) Pinehouse, *Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2011 Community Profile*.

The Province of Saskatchewan had a median age of 38.7 in 2006, compared to 22.9 in the NAD/CD 18. In 2011, the median age for CD 18 increased to 23.7, and the median age in Saskatchewan decreased slightly to 38.2.

### 3.5 LABOUR FORCE

Between 1976 and 2011, the labour force in Northern Saskatchewan doubled in size.<sup>172</sup> This can largely be attributed to a steadily growing population, and the desire of the younger population to stay in their communities rather than leaving for employment or education purposes. However, the rate of employment has not grown relative to the rate of population. Employment rates in Northern Saskatchewan (from 1976 to 2006) remained around 40%, which was much lower compared to the province at 60 to 64%.<sup>173</sup>

#### 3.5.1 Unemployment & Education/Training Attainment

With a little less than 4% of Saskatchewan’s population, the NAD/CD 18 is geographically separated from the major education and employment centres in the more populated areas of the province such as Prince Albert, Saskatoon, and Regina. In general, the majority of the educational, business, and employment opportunities can be found in the southern regions of the province near major urban centres. Further, the majority of Saskatchewan’s agricultural activities are located in the southern regions of the province, where fertile farm land is more readily available.

<sup>172</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the ‘Modern Era’ of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report*. Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

<sup>173</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the ‘Modern Era’ of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report*. Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>



## Unemployment

An overview of unemployment rates for each census year from 1996 – 2011 is presented in Table 14. Historically, Northern Saskatchewan/CD 18 has had significantly higher unemployment rates than Saskatchewan as a whole, but the rates have been decreasing since 2001.

**Table 14: Regional and Provincial Unemployment Rates – 1996 to 2011**

Unemployment Rate	CD 18	Saskatchewan
2011	17.9%	5.9%
2006	20.2%	5.6%
2001	24.2%	6.3%
1996	17.7%	7.2%

Source(s): 1. Saskatchewan Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Finance. (2012). Saskatchewan Labour Force Statistics June 2012. Website. <http://www.stats.gov.sk.ca/stats/labour2012/lfsjun12.pdf>

2. Statistics Canada. (2012). Labour force characteristics, unadjusted, by economic region (3 month moving average) (Manitoba, Saskatchewan). Website. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/lfss05e-eng.htm>

## Educational Attainment

Figure 33 shows educational attainment in CD 18 and Saskatchewan as reported in the 2011 NHS. An overview of selected categories for educational attainment (for population age 15 years and over) for each census year from 1996 – 2011 is presented in Table 15. In 2011 and 2006, CD 18 consistently showed lower levels of educational attainment compared to the Province with regards to ‘percent with a high school certificate’, ‘percent with apprenticeship or trade’, and ‘percent with university/college education’. However, in earlier census years, CD 18 had higher proportion of the population with an apprenticeship or trade (some of this may be related to differing age categories used in the 2001 census).

Between 1996 and 2011, the number/proportion of Northern Saskatchewan residents 15 years and older with a high school certificate or equivalent has increased considerably.<sup>174</sup> Generally, educational attainment is increasing for CD 18 over time, although still lower than for the province as a whole.

<sup>174</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the ‘Modern Era’ of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report.* Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

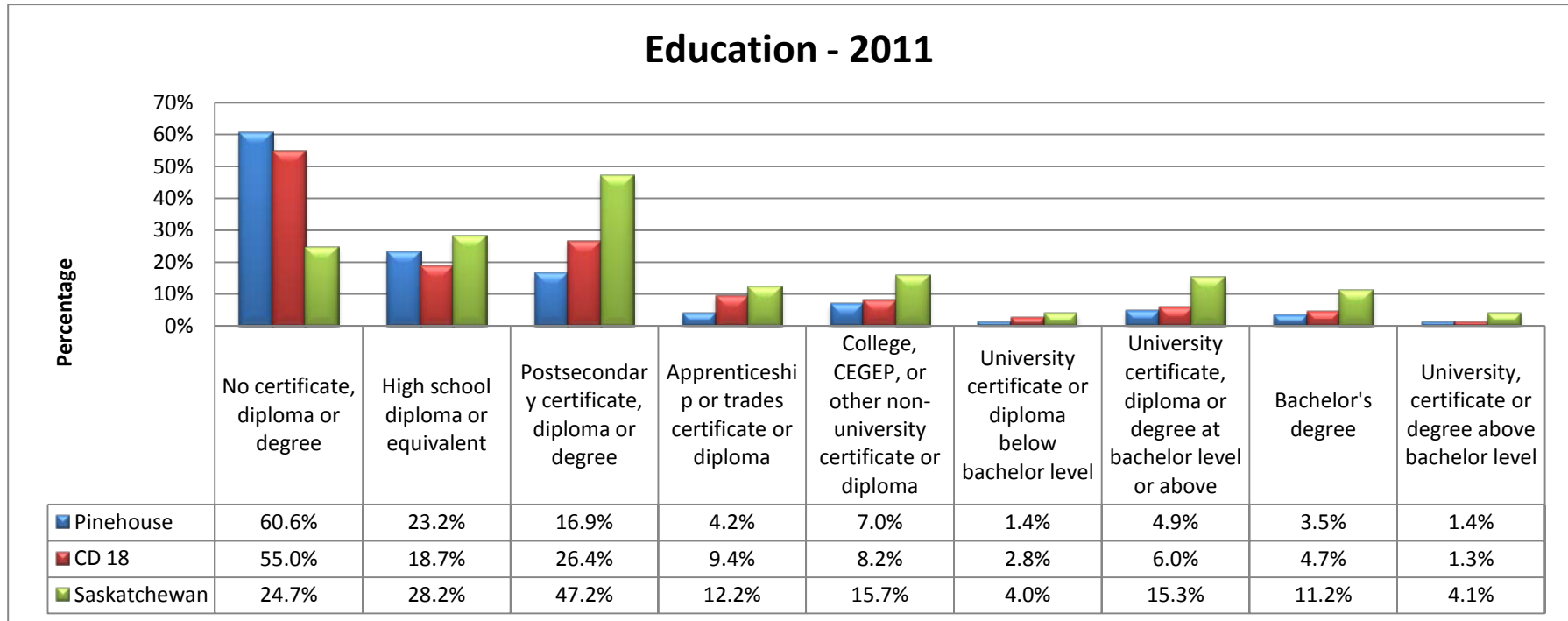
**Table 15: Educational Attainment – Selected Categories - CD 18 and Saskatchewan, 1996 - 2011**

Educational Attainment	CD 18				Saskatchewan			
	1996	2001 <sup>175</sup>	2006	2011	1996	2001	2006	2011
Percent without certificate, diploma or degree	N/A	45.4%	58.3%	55.0%	N/A	41.8%	30.0%	24.6%
Percent with high school or equivalent	6.5%	24.9%	15.6%	18.6%	10.6%	28.4%	26.8%	28.1%
Percent with apprenticeship or trade	28.7%	25.7%	8.4%	9.3%	22.7%	15.0%	11.2%	12.1%

Source: Statistics Canada, Community Profiles, 1996, 2001, 2006. Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey 2011 Profiles. Educational attainments in 2001 are calculated by percent of population over the age of 20 and under the age of 64, compared to 1996 and 2006, which calculated based on the population 15 years of age and over (this may impact 'percent with high school certificate' in particular); Statistics Canada Community Profile, 1996.

<sup>175</sup> 2001 figures for CD 18 and Saskatchewan appear to be anomalous but have been verified, result from differing age categories used by Statistics Canada to collect and report data in 2001.

<sup>176</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report.* Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>



**Figure 33: CD 18 and Saskatchewan Educational Attainment, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles.

The Northern Saskatchewan Regional Training Needs Assessment Report 2010-2011 (Northern Labour Market Committee and Northlands College, 2011) provides training agencies and policy makers with demographic and labour market information and trends for use in identifying and addressing education and training needs. Key observations are provided in the report summary, included in its entirety here (*emphasis added*):

*“The regional economy, primarily service and resource-based, is beginning to emerge from the global economic downturn: mineral exploration and mine developments are planning to proceed again after a year of slowed activity, and are expected to create new employment opportunities. Skilled trades people are needed in almost every trade and across every sector - from mining to construction to services sectors. In health care, education, child care, and social work, there are many job opportunities – both new jobs and turnover. Business and tourism services are growing and creating new jobs to serve a growing and more prosperous population.*

*Residents of the region are filling many of the available entry level and technical jobs at northern mine sites and many of the teaching jobs in northern schools, a result of provincial government-industry efforts in these sectors. Mine employers, however, continue to encounter challenges in recruiting residents for positions beyond entry level. Schools and health authorities in some communities continue to have high turn-over rates of professional workers. The service sector also often has difficulty in recruiting entry level workers who possess the necessary essential work skills. Over half of the working age population have less than high school education and might not have the basic education, skills, or experience required for jobs in the current labour market. Consequently, many people are unemployed, underemployed or have dropped out of the workforce altogether. At the same time, most industries are moving to higher technologies and computerization, requiring a highly skilled workforce with technical and professional training.*

*Gaps in education are first noticeable in the elementary grades where northern students’ proficiencies in reading, writing, and math are significantly below provincial norms. Some students discontinue school before they reach high school. Of those students who achieve a Grade 12 diploma, the students are sometimes unprepared for post-secondary training or the workforce because they lack prerequisites or workplace essential skills.*

*The northern region is home to 21% of the Aboriginal people of the province. This young and growing population will be an important source for the future provincial and regional workforces. To achieve this, partners in education and training are working with industry to overcome education barriers.” (p. 5)*

The Uranium Industry makes contributions towards education in Northern Saskatchewan. Funding is allocated towards “high school, trades, university scholarships, training, and apprenticeships”.<sup>176</sup> Northern Saskatchewan has a high level of educational attainment in the ‘Trades’, which can be attributed largely to funding from the Uranium Industry. In 2011, the uranium industry donated \$1.7 million to communities, organizations, and scholarships. Since the 1980’s, Northern Saskatchewan’s employment in uranium mining operations has increased; however, the Industry target for northern/Aboriginal employment has not yet been met.<sup>177</sup>

<sup>176</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the ‘Modern Era’ of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report.* Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

<sup>177</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the ‘Modern Era’ of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report.* Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

In March 2013, the Joint Task Force on Improving Education and Employment Outcomes for First Nations and Métis People (Task Force) in Saskatchewan released its final report- **Voice, Vision and Leadership: A Place for All**. The Task Force was commissioned in cooperation by the Government of Saskatchewan and the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations in March 2012. The Task Force identified 25 recommendations. Two recommendations are part of the overarching frameworks of the report:

- Dignified Mutual Relationships;
- Poverty Reduction and the Prevalence of Racism; and,
- Recognizing First Nations and Métis Cultures and Languages.

The remaining recommendations are spread across four identified mandated areas:

- Early Childhood;
- Prekindergarten to Grade 12;
- Post-secondary; and
- Labour Force Attainment.

The Task Force worked in collaboration with communities and other members of the public. In total, the Task Force conducted 83 meetings with over 1000 participants (sixteen of which were community meetings).<sup>178</sup>

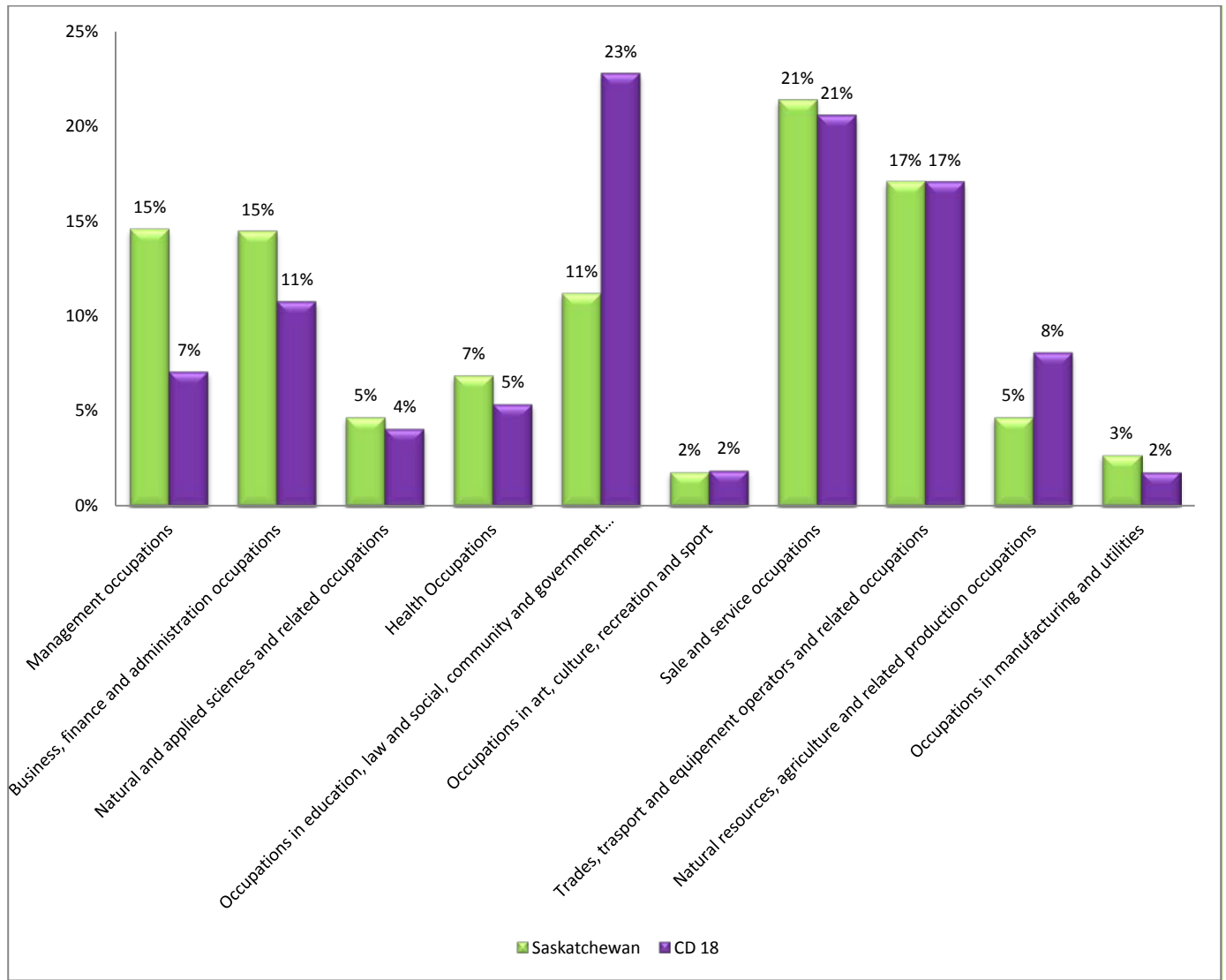
### 3.5.2 Employment by Activity and Sector

#### Occupation

It is noted that the Labour Force occupation categories used by Statistics Canada are slightly different between 2006 and 2011. Figure 34 shows the labour force by occupation for 2011 for CD 18 and Saskatchewan. CD 18 had a greater proportion of the population involved in education/law/social/community occupations (23%) compared to Saskatchewan (11%). Similar proportions were involved in sales and service occupations (21%) and trades/transport/equipment operator occupations (17%). A smaller proportion was involved in business, finance and administration occupations (11% vs. 15%) or management occupations (7% vs. 15%).

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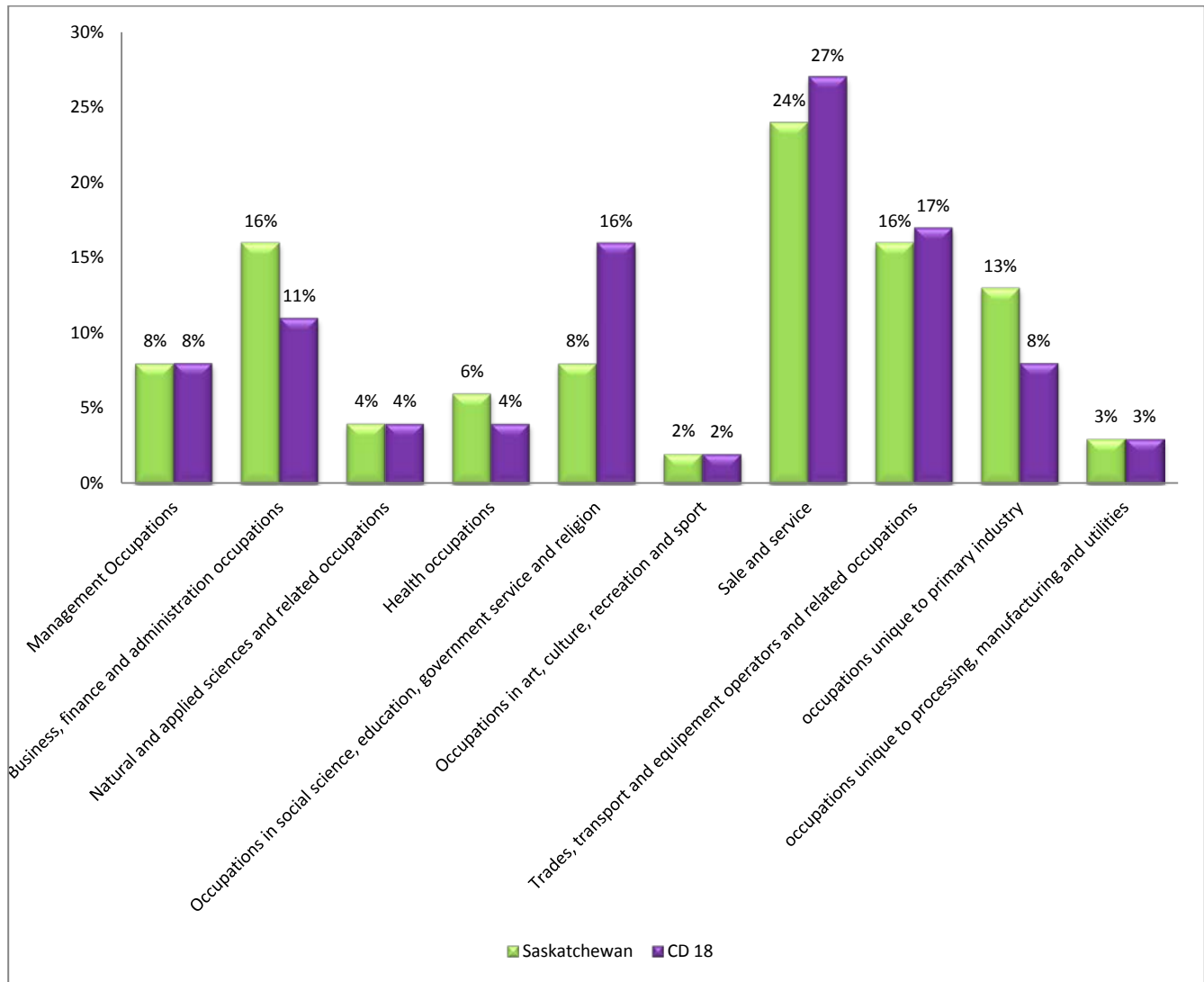
<sup>178</sup> Joint Task Force on Improving Education and Employment Outcomes for First Nations and Métis People. March 2013. *Final Report: Voice, Vision and Leadership: A Place for All*.



**Figure 34: CD 18 and Saskatchewan Labour Force by Occupation, 2011**  
 Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles

Figure 35 compares various occupational categories for CD 18 and the Province of Saskatchewan in 2006. ‘Sales and Service’ made up the largest proportion of occupations for both CD 18 and Saskatchewan as a whole. CD 18 had a greater proportion of the population involved in social science and education occupations (16%) compared to Saskatchewan (8%), and a smaller proportion involved in business, finance and administration occupations (11% vs. 16%) or occupations unique to primary industry (8% vs. 13%).



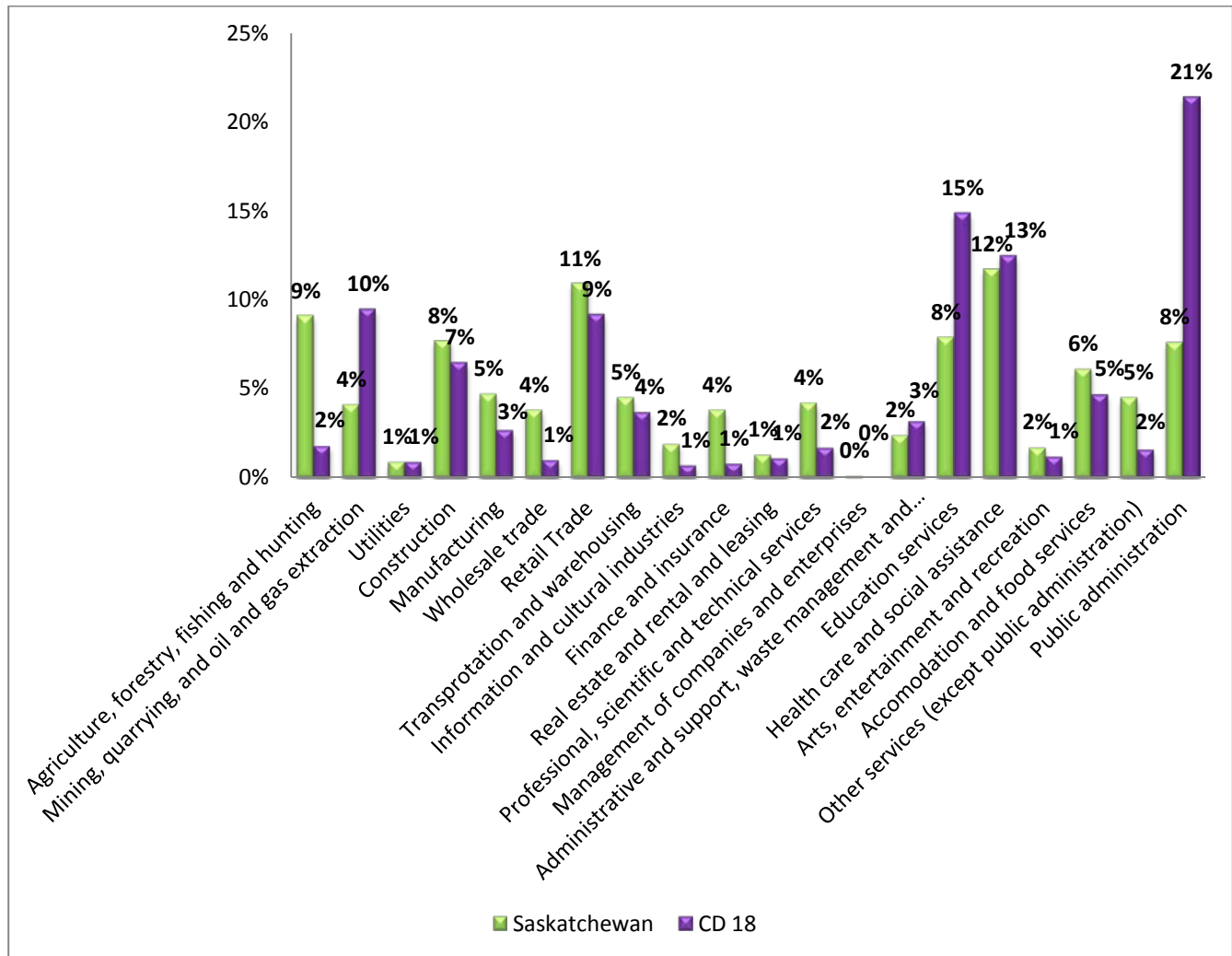


**Figure 35: CD 18 and Saskatchewan Labour Force by Occupation, 2006**

Raw Data Source: Statistics Canada Community Profile, 2006

**Industry**

It is noted that the Labour Force industry categories used by Statistics Canada are slightly different between 2006 and 2011. As shown in Figure 36, the largest industry in CD 18 in 2011 was ‘Public Administration’ (21%). The next largest Industries in CD 18 were ‘Education Services’ (15%), ‘Health Care and Social Assistance’ (13%) and ‘Mining/Quarrying/Oil and Gas Extraction’ industries’ (10%).

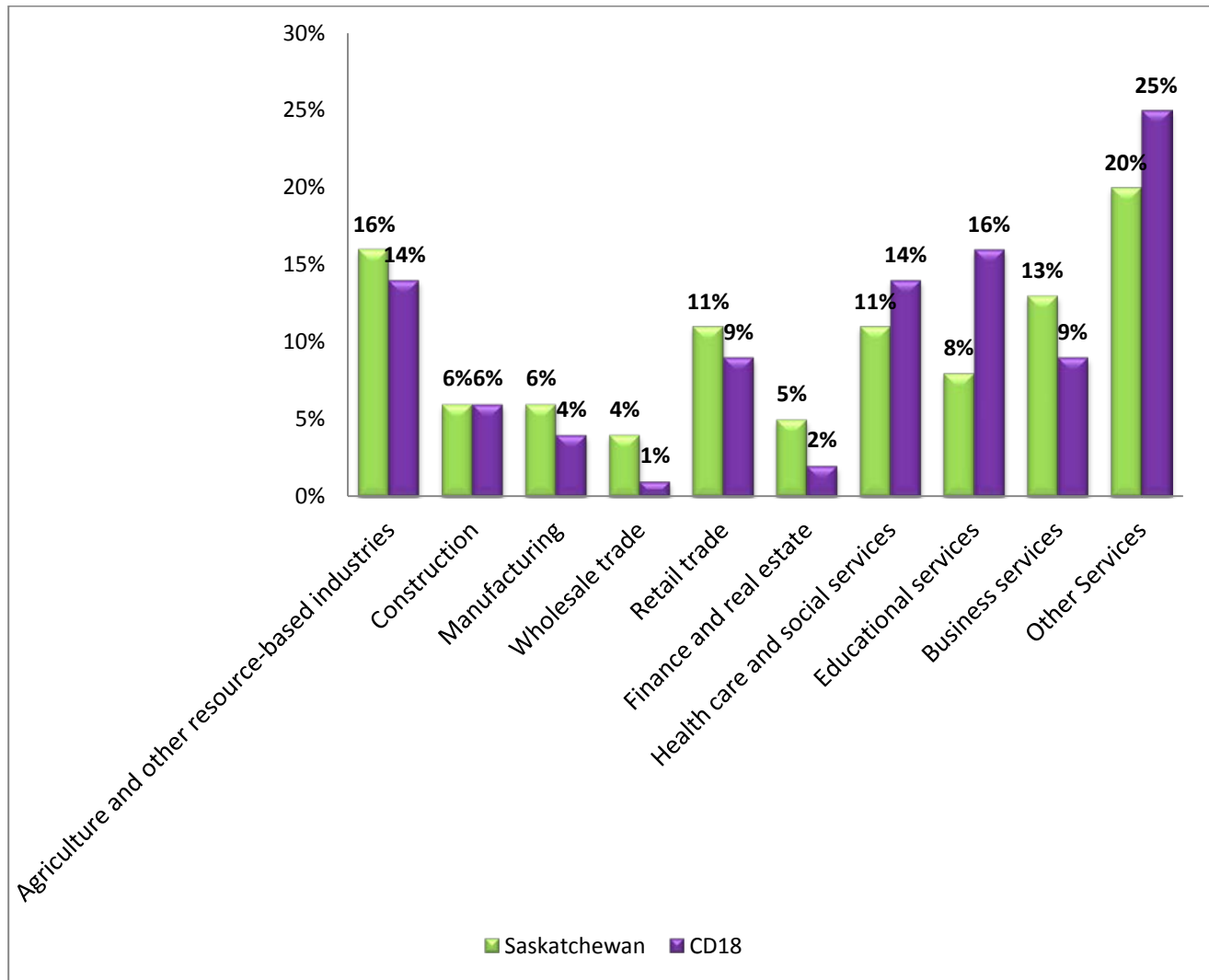


**Figure 36: CD 18 and Saskatchewan Labour Force by Industry, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles.

Figure 37 compares various industry categories for CD 18 and the Province of Saskatchewan in 2006.

The largest industry in CD 18 was ‘Other Services’ (25%). The next largest Industries in CD 18 were ‘Educational Services’ (16%), ‘Health Care and Social Services’ (14%) and ‘Agriculture and other resource-based industries’ (14%). Compared to the province as a whole, CD 18 had a greater proportion of people working in ‘Health Care and Social Services’ and ‘Educational Services’.



**Figure 37: CD 18 and Saskatchewan Labour Force Characteristics by Industry, 2006**  
 Raw Data Source: Statistics Canada Community Profile, 2006

## 3.6 BUSINESS ACTIVITY

### 3.6.1 Enterprise Regions/ Northern Economic Summit

#### Enterprise Regions

The NAD is organized into three enterprise regions: Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca. Pinehouse is located in the Boreal West Enterprise Region (BWER)<sup>179</sup>. However, the borders between enterprise regions are not rigid, business and employment opportunities flow between all three enterprise regions. Funding for all three Enterprise Regions was cancelled in a recent provincial budget, and the Enterprise Region Boards continuation will be dependent on local funding.<sup>180</sup> A map of the Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca Enterprise Regions and the communities within each region is provided below in Figure 38.

The goal of the BWER was to “encourage, foster, and contribute to economic growth and wealth creation in the region”<sup>181</sup>. The BWER worked both alongside and through a variety of communities and organizations currently engaged in working towards creating economic development in Saskatchewan’s northwest.

The BWER was governed by a 12-person Board of Directors; members originated from or are associated directly with various communities, educational institutes, development corporations, and industry located in the region<sup>182</sup>. The BWER’s Strategic Plan promoted new business, development, and employment opportunities within the region<sup>183</sup>.

#### 1. BUILD REGIONAL ECONOMIES

*“Market the region and the positive aspects of the economy; be an advocate. Provide support to existing businesses within the region. This should also include labour force development”*

#### 2. FOSTER A CULTURE OF ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION

*“Be considered “investment-ready” by potential outside investors to aid in the attraction of new businesses. Facilitate job creation through retention and expansion of existing businesses”*

#### 3. BUILD ON COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

*“Facilitate the growth of key industries and sectors in the region. Develop an integrated economic, social, and environmental approach to capitalize on the region’s natural attributes to sustain and enhance regional wealth”*

#### 4. ENGAGE LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

*“Increase public awareness and engagement in economic development to identify and develop new leaders to ensure that regional growth is maintained. To engage leaders and encourage new ideas that will effectively govern and co-ordinate the economic development of the region”*

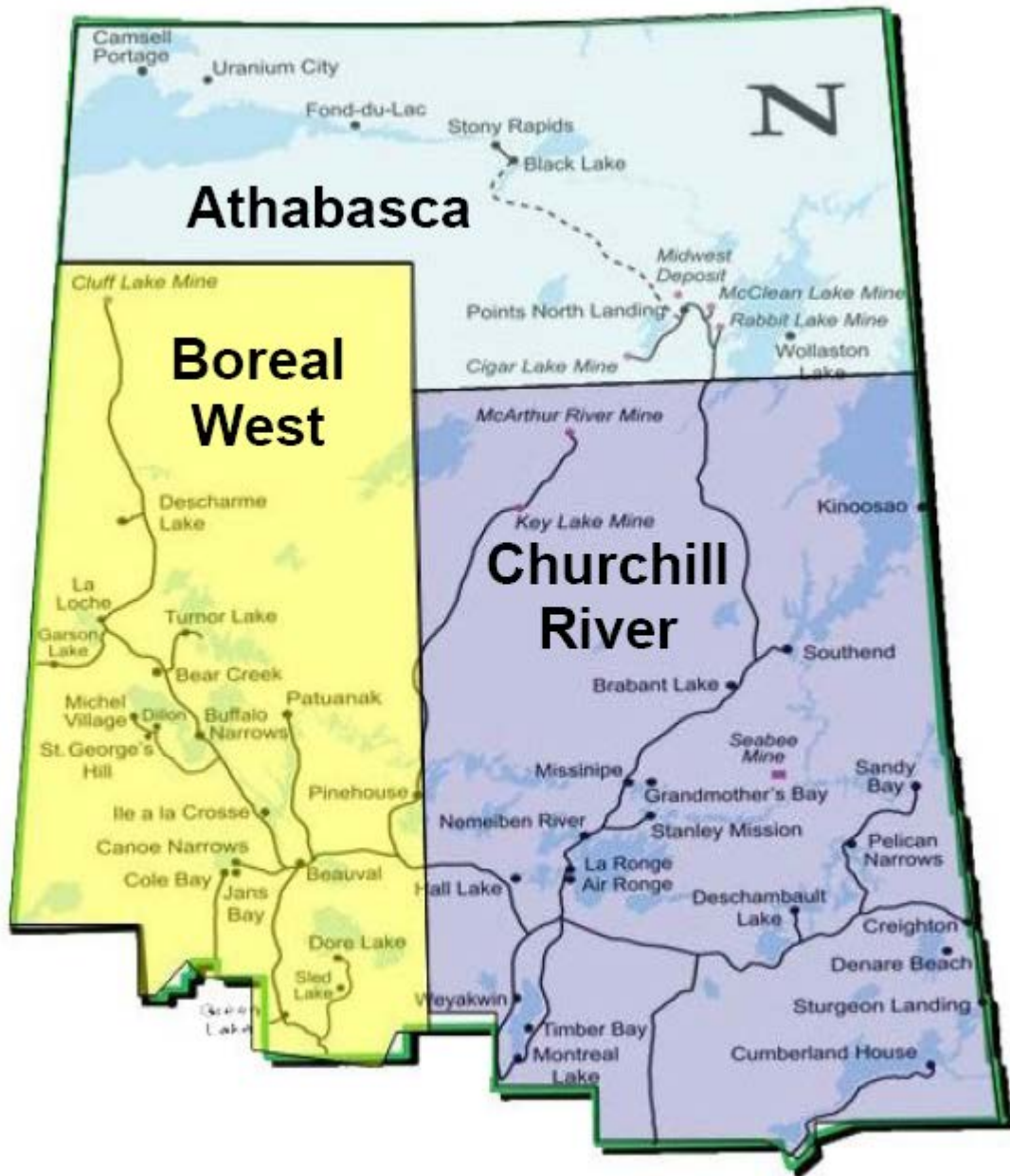
<sup>179</sup> Derek Murray Consultants and Associates, and, QED Information Systems. March 2011. *Sector Analysis for the Boreal West Enterprise Region*. Prepared for the Northern Enterprise Council. Website. <http://www.northerneconomicssummit.com/docs/Boreal-West-Analysis-Report.pdf>

<sup>180</sup> Opportunity North. Spring 2012. Northern Saskatchewan’s Business and Industry Magazine; Volume 19, Issue 2. Pg. 26-27.

<sup>181</sup> Boreal West Enterprise Region. 2012. Development Strategy. Website. <http://bwer.ca/about/>

<sup>182</sup> Boreal West Enterprise Region. 2012. Board of Directors. Website. <http://bwer.ca/about/>

<sup>183</sup> Boreal West Enterprise Region. 2012. Development Strategy. Website. <http://bwer.ca/about/>



**Figure 38: Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca Enterprise Regions**

Source: Boreal West Enterprise Region. 2012. Development Strategy. Website. <http://bwer.ca/about/>

**Northern Economic Summit**

The inaugural Northern Economic Summit was held in May 2011; the second was held in November 2012<sup>184</sup>. A Northern Summit Working Group was formed, and will continue to meet and communicate with stakeholders in the North as it moves forward on the priorities outlined in the final 2012 Northern Economic Summit Report (Nuguru Marketing and Business Consultants 2013). A work plan for 2013-2014 will guide the Working Group to bring into fruition the main recommendations of the summary report:

- Creating a governance and organizational structure that supports the ‘one voice’ concept;
- Focussing on two initiatives: road development and enhanced training; and
- Using a business case approach.

<sup>184</sup> Northern Economic Summit - The Power of Partnerships. (n.d.). Website. <http://www.northerneconomicsummit.com/>

A series of reports prepared in 2010 - 2012 provide a sector-by-sector overview of the economic conditions and future projections in Northern Saskatchewan and in the three enterprise regions - Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca – which approximately cover the same area as the Northern Administration District and/or CD 18.

The economic sectors profiled include:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| → Mineral Industry                                     | → Construction Industry |
| → Oil and Gas Industry                                 | → Manufacturing         |
| → Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Trapping | → Tourism Industry      |

An executive summary and series of appendices has been prepared for each of the three enterprise regions<sup>185</sup>:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Appendix A: Census Demographic Profile     | • Appendix E: Economic Foundations                       |
| • Appendix B: Census Socioeconomic Profile   | • Appendix F: Impact Analysis                            |
| • Appendix C: Competitive Advantage Analysis | • Appendix G: Opportunities, Challenges, and Initiatives |
| • Appendix D: Sector Analysis                |  |

The Boreal West Sector Analysis focuses on Economic Drivers, the Economic Foundation of the Region, Economic Outlook, Regional Performance, an Impact Analysis, Regional Challenges/Opportunities Prioritized, Flagship Initiatives – Next Steps to Building a Strong Regional Foundation, and Best Practices and Jurisdictional Comparatives.<sup>186</sup> The economic drivers in the Boreal West Enterprise Region are mining, oil and gas, other resource development, construction, manufacturing and tourism. In 2011, several projects were initiated for the Boreal West Enterprise Region, including Development of Boreal Wood Resources, formation of a Regional Action Committee to Enhance Access to Ft. McMurray, and facilitation of implementation of high school work experience and mentorship programs.<sup>187</sup>

### 3.6.2 Main Businesses

Table 16<sup>188</sup> provides a summary of the major employers and credit lenders found within each enterprise region (Pinehouse is located on the eastern boundary of the Boreal West Enterprise Region). The list is not exhaustive. There are 104 businesses located in the Boreal West Enterprise Region; 333 businesses in the Churchill River region; and 33 companies listed in the Athabasca region<sup>189</sup>.

<sup>185</sup> Derek Murray and Associates, and QED Information Systems Inc. Website: <http://www.northerneconomicssummit.com/docs/PNS-Boreal-West-with-Appendices.pdf> . Executive Summary and appendices prepared various dates. Both ERFN and Pinehouse are in the Boreal West Enterprise Region; however, the Churchill River Enterprise Region is also of relevance, and to a lesser extent, the Athabasca Enterprise Region.

<sup>186</sup> Derek Murray Consulting and Associates, and QED Information Systems. March, 2011 – draft update March 2012. *Sector Analysis for the Boreal West Enterprise Region*. Prepared for the Northern Enterprise Council. Website: <http://www.northerneconomicssummit.com/docs/Boreal-West-Analysis-Report.pdf>

<sup>187</sup> <http://www.northerneconomicssummit.com/docs/BOREAL-WEST-PROJECTS-LIST.pdf> July 2011.

<sup>188</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. 2012. Communities, Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca Regions. Website. <http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/index.php/communities>

<sup>189</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. 2012. Communities, Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca Regions. Website. <http://northernbusinessdirectory.ca/index.php/communities>



**Table 16: Major Employers in the Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca Enterprise Regions**

Enterprise Region	Major Employers	Credit Lenders
<b>Boreal West</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meadow Lake Tribal Council</li> <li>Province of Saskatchewan</li> <li>Keewatin Yatthé Health Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northern Development Fund, Saskatchewan Northern Affairs</li> <li>Beaver River, Community Futures Development Corporation</li> <li>Northern Enterprise Fund</li> <li>Battlefords Credit Union</li> <li>Primrose Lake Economic Development Corporation (PLEDCO)</li> </ul>
<b>Churchill River</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lac La Ronge Indian Band</li> <li>Province of Saskatchewan</li> <li>Mamawetan Churchill River Health Authority</li> <li>Montreal Lake Cree Nation</li> <li>Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation</li> <li>Hudson Bay Smelting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northern Development Fund, Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations</li> <li>Visions North Community Futures Development Corporation</li> <li>Conexus Credit Union</li> <li>CIBC</li> <li>Northern Enterprise Fund</li> </ul>
<b>Athabasca</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AREVA</li> <li>Cameco</li> <li>Athabasca Health Authority</li> <li>Athabasca Labour Services</li> <li>Mining Contracting Companies</li> <li>Regional Government Organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northern Development Fund, Ministry of First Nations and Métis Relations</li> <li>Northern Enterprise Fund</li> <li>Visions North Community Futures Development Corporation</li> <li>Conexus Credit Union</li> <li>Saskatchewan Indian Equity Fund</li> <li>SMEDCO and Clarence Campeau Development Fund</li> </ul>

### 3.6.3 Mining Operations

Table 17 illustrates the mining operations in Northern Saskatchewan by resource/development stage and majority owner<sup>190</sup>. It is noted that there are seven operating mines in Northern Saskatchewan (none of which are in the Boreal West Enterprise Region). For these mines, 43% of the northern-based workforce comes from the Boreal West region, compared to 36% from Churchill River, and 21% from Athabasca.<sup>191</sup> A number of Pinehouse residents are employed at the mines and/or by companies that service the mining industry.

<sup>190</sup>Derek Murray Consulting and Associates. March 2012. *Draft Boreal West Region - Looking Towards Prosperity – Developing Economic and Social Well-being in Northern Saskatchewan*. Draft for Comment. Prepared by Website: <http://www.northerneconomicsummit.com/docs/PNS-Boreal-West-Executive-Summary.pdf>

<sup>191</sup>Derek Murray Consulting and Associates. March 2012. *Draft Boreal West Region - Looking Towards Prosperity – Developing Economic and Social Well-being in Northern Saskatchewan*. Draft for Comment. Prepared by Website: <http://www.northerneconomicsummit.com/docs/PNS-Boreal-West-Executive-Summary.pdf>

**Table 17: Mining Operations in Northern Saskatchewan**

Mining Type	Name of Mine	Owner (majority owner)
<b>Active Uranium mines</b>	McArthur River	Cameco/AREVA
	Rabbit Lake	Cameco
	Cigar Lake	Cameco/AREVA
	McClellan Lake	AREVA
	Key Lake (mill)	Cameco/AREVA
<b>Gold</b>	Seabee	Claude Resources Inc.
	Roy Lloyd/EP/Komis	Golden Band Resources
<b>Advanced Development Projects</b>	Midwest Project	AREVA
	Millennium Project	Cameco
<b>Pre-Development Projects</b>	Roughrider	Hathor Exploration
	Shea Creek	AREVA
<b>Decommissioned Projects</b>	Cluff Lake	AREVA
	Beaverlodge	Canadian Eldor
	Gunnar	Clean up by Saskatchewan Research Council
	Lorado	Clean up by Saskatchewan Research Council

From a regional perspective, between 1989 and 2011 the uranium industry reports that contracts with northern suppliers have grown from \$23 million, to \$464 million.<sup>192</sup>

Additional information is available from the Saskatchewan Mining Association. The location of uranium mines is shown in the map of Northern Saskatchewan in Appendix B.

In December 2012, Cameco and AREVA completed negotiations with Pinehouse with respect to a Collaboration Agreement. In addition, Cameco is actively investing in communities around the entire NAD. Since 2004, the company has invested over \$7 million dollars in numerous projects and communities, such as recreational facilities, communications, education, and community development<sup>193</sup>. Cameco operates a full-time office in Pinehouse<sup>194</sup>.

In February 2013, the Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process (CVMPP) released a report identifying the socio-economic impacts associated with uranium mining in Northern Saskatchewan<sup>195</sup>. *"The Socio-Economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan"* focuses on the following categories of direct socio-economic impacts:

- Employment
- Business Opportunities
- Socio-Economic Conditions
- Socio-Economic Indicators

<sup>192</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report*. Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

<sup>193</sup> Cameco Corporation. October 2011. Northern Tour 2011. Newsletter.

<sup>194</sup> Opportunity North. Spring 2012. Northern Saskatchewan's Business and Industry Magazine; Volume 19, Issue 2. Pg. 2-3.

<sup>195</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report*. Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

Four case study communities were considered: Wollaston Lake, Hatchet Lake First Nation, Cumberland House, and Cumberland House Cree Nation.

### 3.6.4 Investment Trends and Projections

In northern Saskatchewan, future economic development is tied largely to the uranium mining industry, although as described in Section 3.1.4.3 above, there are base metal and gold resources being explored in the region. In 2011, the uranium industry paid the province \$145.9 million in royalties and taxes.<sup>196</sup> The forest industry, once active in northern Saskatchewan, is in decline, although there are efforts underway to utilize new technologies and to explore innovative opportunities. There is a small but successful tourism industry in Northern Saskatchewan, but the remoteness of much of the region, and lack of support services, sets limitations.

The Pan-Northern Saskatchewan (PNS) Summary<sup>197</sup> prepared in March 2012 for the Northern Economic Summit provides a sector-by-sector overview of the economic conditions and future projections in Northern Saskatchewan. The PNS focuses on the three economic regions of Northern Saskatchewan: Boreal West, Churchill River, and Athabasca – which cover approximately the same area as the Northern Administrative District and/or CD 18. The economic sectors of Northern Saskatchewan profiled in the PNS include:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| → Mineral Industry                                     | → Construction Industry |
| → Oil and Gas Industry                                 | → Manufacturing         |
| → Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Trapping | → Tourism Industry      |

The primary resource development drivers in northern Saskatchewan are:

- Mineral resources (e.g., uranium, gold, base metals)
- Oilsands (to the northwest near the Alberta border)
- Oil and gas exploration (near and in the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range)
- Recreation and tourism (particularly focused on the northern Alberta market)
- A re-focused and recovering forestry industry
- Non-timber forest products (e.g. wild rice, spices/herbs, berries, mushrooms)
- Construction sector support of major resource development and infrastructure projects and residential construction needs
- Limited manufacturing and processing in the Churchill River Enterprise Region

It is of interest to note that between 2001 and 2006, Northern Saskatchewan showed a decline of 7.7% in labour force in the Manufacturing and Processing sector. By contrast, during the same period, the Northern Saskatchewan labour force in Mining, Oil and Gas increased by 11.0%.<sup>198</sup>

<sup>196</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan. Final Report.* Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>

<sup>197</sup> Derek Murray Consulting and Associates, and QED Information Systems. March 30, 2012. *Looking Towards Prosperity – Developing Economic and Social Well-being in Northern Saskatchewan. Draft for Comment.* <http://www.northerneconomicssummit.com/docs/PNS-Executive-Summary.pdf>

<sup>198</sup> Derek Murray Consulting and Associates, and QED Information Systems. March 30, 2012. *Looking Towards Prosperity – Developing Economic and Social Well-being in Northern Saskatchewan. Draft for Comment.* <http://www.northerneconomicssummit.com/docs/PNS-Executive-Summary.pdf>

## 3.7 HEALTH INDICATORS

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### 3.7.1 Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report

The *Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report* examines the determinants of health (those things that influence individual and community health and wellness), and reports on indicators related to the health status and well-being of the northern population. Information is provided for the three northern health authorities in comparison to Saskatchewan as a whole, to other northern regions in Canada, and for trends over time<sup>199</sup>. For a variety of indicators Northern Saskatchewan fares poorly relative to Saskatchewan as a whole (e.g. income, adequate housing, crime rates, smoking rates, life expectancy, incidence of diabetes and obesity). A number of other indicators are positive or improving for northern Saskatchewan, including education levels; a natural environment that offers opportunities for traditional, cultural and social activities; and relatively high levels of Aboriginal languages in use.

### 3.7.2 Northern Action Plan

“The Northern Action Plan is a collaborative initiative between the Northern Leaders of Saskatchewan, the Government of Saskatchewan and Government of Canada to engage Northerners in a comprehensive approach that will positively influence a wide range of Northern social and economic outcomes including drug use and suicide. To this end a Northern Leaders Table has been created to work collaboratively with communities, Federal and Provincial Governments and Industry to enhance the quality of life for people in Northern Saskatchewan. The role of the Northern Leaders Table is to:

- Provide guidance and advice to the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada respecting Northern social development priorities and measures, budget needs, and program and policy development.
- Foster an environment of collaboration and shared accountability by working together in partnership on social and economic issues and engaging Northern communities, First Nations and Métis organizations, community based organizations, Federal and Provincial Governments.
- Provide leadership on social and economic issues and opportunities in Northern communities and help facilitate and support community based solutions and dialogue to improve social outcomes in the North.”<sup>200</sup> (p.3)

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<sup>199</sup> Irvine et al. 2011. *Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report*. Prepared for the Athabasca Health Authority, Keewatin Yatthé Health Region, and Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. Population Health Unit, La Ronge, Saskatchewan. [http://www.populationhealthunit.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=86:northern-saskatchewan-health-indicators-report-2011-release&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=65](http://www.populationhealthunit.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=86:northern-saskatchewan-health-indicators-report-2011-release&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=65)

<sup>200</sup> Northern Leaders Table. September 2012. *Northern Action Plan: Framework for Northern Saskatchewan Social Development*.

### 3.8 SUMMARY

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Census Division 18 has approximately 36,500 residents dispersed over a large area (269,996 km<sup>2</sup>) in 45 communities (including northern hamlets, northern villages, and towns; First Nation reserves; and settlements). The regional population can be characterized as:

- Over 85% Aboriginal identity (First Nations or Métis)
- Still relying heavily on the natural environment for sustenance (fishing, hunting, trapping, gathering of wild rice and plants), and opportunities for traditional, social and cultural activities
- Demonstrating declining use of Aboriginal languages, although there are still relatively high levels of use compared to elsewhere in Saskatchewan
- Younger, and growing at a faster rate than the rest of Saskatchewan
- Transitioning from a traditional way of life to a wage economy
- Having lower levels of education (although educational attainment is improving over time) and income, lower labour force participation rates, and higher levels of unemployment, than the rest of Saskatchewan
- Faring more poorly than the rest of Saskatchewan with respect to a number of determinants of health and indicators of health status and well-being

Several communities are accessible only by air; others by gravel all-weather roads, and main centers are serviced by paved highways. Many communities have airstrips; there is no rail access in northern Saskatchewan.

The once active forestry industry is in decline; the regional economy is driven to a large extent by uranium mining and exploration, and the education and health services sectors. Exploration for other types of mineral resources is also occurring.

## 4.0 COMPARISON OF THE COMMUNITY PATTERNS WITH THE PROVINCE

### 4.1 POPULATION DYNAMICS

#### 4.1.1 Trend Over Time

The community leadership has stated that the current population of Pinehouse is about 1,400; the Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority reported that the Pinehouse ‘total covered population’<sup>201</sup> was 1,144 in 2012. This is a difference of an additional 166 people relative to the 2011 census population figure. Both the community and the the Regional Health Authority report a growing population trend. Census data for 1996 through 2011, shown in Table 18, appears to under-report the population and does not reflect the growth trend described above in Section 2.2.1.1. The population in CD 18 has steadily grown between 1996 and 2011. Saskatchewan’s population showed a small decrease from 2001 to 2006. Saskatchewan’s population grew by 6.7% from 2006 to 2011.

**Table 18: Pinehouse, CD 18, Saskatchewan Populations, 1996 -2011**

Time Period	Pinehouse Population (Change from Previous Census)	CD 18 Population (Change from Previous Census)	Saskatchewan Population (Change from Previous Census)
<b>1996</b>	922 (12.4 %)	31,104 (N/A)	990,237 (0.1%)
<b>2001</b>	1,038 (12.6%)	32,029 (3.0%)	978,933 (-1.1%)
<b>2006</b>	1,076 (3.7%)	33,919 (5.9%)	968,157 (-1.1%)
<b>2011</b>	978 (-9.1%)	36,557 (7.8%)	1,033,381 (6.7%)

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profiles, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2011

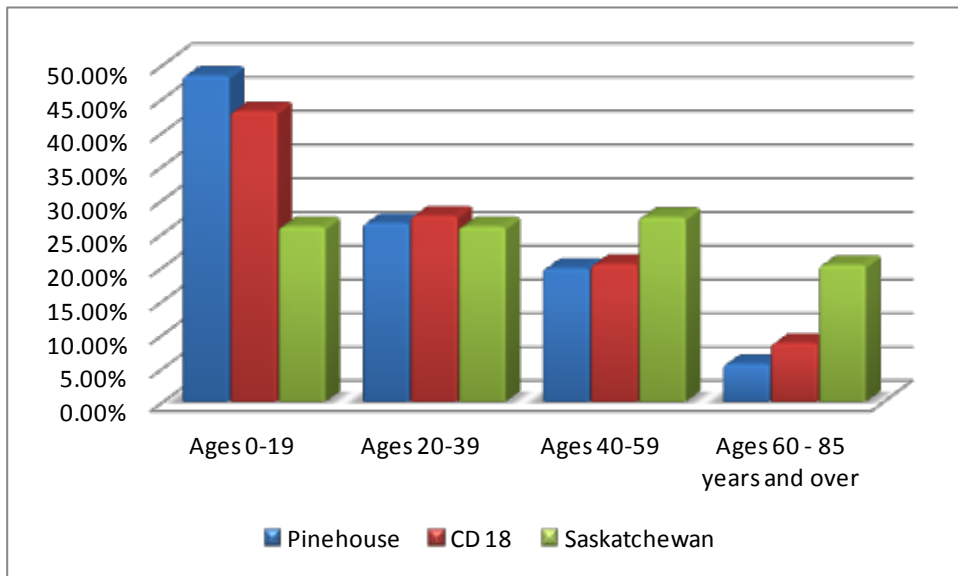
#### 4.1.2 Age Structure

##### Age Structure

As shown in Figure 39, in 2011 the proportion of the population between the ages of 0-19 for CD 18 is 43.1% (a small decrease from 2006, as shown in Figure 40); for Saskatchewan the figure is 26.0% (also a slight decrease from 2006). Pinehouse has an even younger population than both CD 18 and Saskatchewan as a whole, but less so than in 2006.

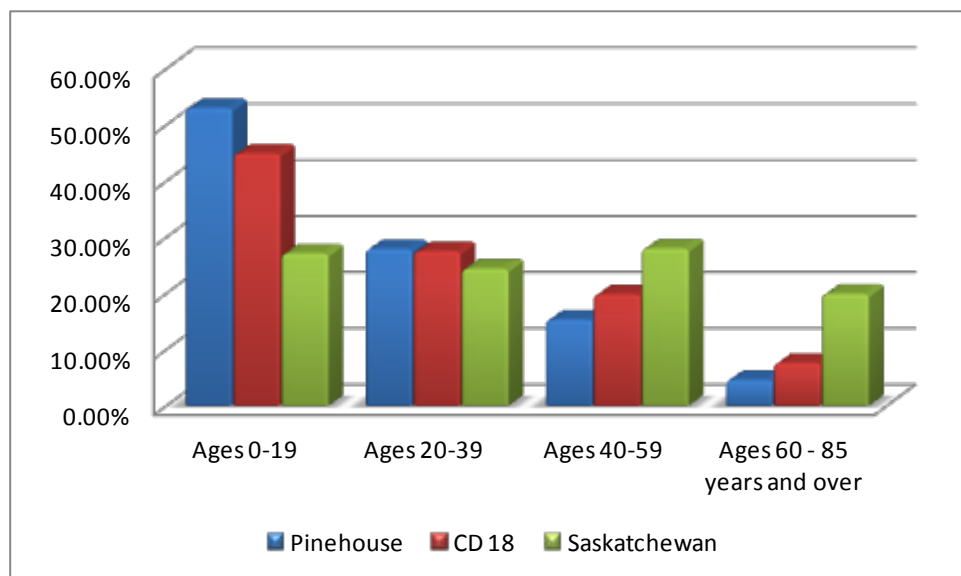
<sup>201</sup> “Saskatchewan residents who hold a valid Saskatchewan health card and are eligible for provincial health insurance benefits. The data is broken down by health regions, municipalities, age groups and gender” - <http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/covered-population-common-questions>. It is quite possible that there are individuals in Pinehouse without a valid health card.





**Figure 39: Pinehouse, Division 18 and Saskatchewan Age Structure, 2011**

Figure 40 illustrates the 2006 age structure for Pinehouse, CD 18, and Saskatchewan. Compared to the Province, CD 18 and Pinehouse had a larger proportion of the population between the ages of 0-19. Pinehouse has a higher percentage of youth between the ages of 0-19 compared to CD 18. However, Saskatchewan had a higher proportion of persons aged 40 and over.



**Figure 40: Pinehouse, Division 18 and Saskatchewan Age Structure, 2006**

Source(s): 1) Statistics Canada (2007). *Division No. 18, Saskatchewan 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>;  
 2) *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

### Median Age

In 2011, Pinehouse had a median age of 20.6 (an increase from 18.5 in 2006<sup>202</sup>), while the median age in CD 18 increased only slightly to 23.7, Saskatchewan marginally decreased to 38.2. The median age in Pinehouse was 18.5 in 2006 (compared to 22.9 in CD 18 and 38.7 in Saskatchewan)<sup>203</sup>.

## 4.2 LABOUR FORCE

### 4.2.1 Unemployment & Participation Rates

Historically, the Northern Village of Pinehouse and CD 18 have a much higher unemployment rate when compared to Saskatchewan as a whole. In 2011, the unemployment rate of 17.6% was similar to CD 18 (17.9%) but still much higher than Saskatchewan (5.9%); however, this is lower than the 2006 unemployment rate of 22.4%. In 2006, Pinehouse had an unemployment rate of 22.4%, and CD 18 had an unemployment rate of 20.2% (see Table 19 below). In the same year, Saskatchewan had an unemployment rate of 5.6%. These differences in unemployment rates can generally be linked to the remote geography of the NAD, which contributes to poor business, employment, and educational opportunities compared to the southern regions of the province. It has been reported that the long-term unemployment rate in northern Saskatchewan is more than four times the provincial rate, and there is a growing potential workforce<sup>204</sup>.

<sup>202</sup> Statistics Canada. 2012. *Wapachewunak 192D, Saskatchewan (Code 4718814) and Division No. 18, Saskatchewan (Code 4718) (table)*. *Census Profile*. 2011 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-XWE. Ottawa. Released May 29, 2012. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E> (accessed August 9, 2012).

<sup>203</sup> Statistics Canada 2006 community profiles.

<sup>204</sup> Irvine et al. 2011. *Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report*. Prepared for the Athabasca Health Authority, Keewatin Yatthé Health Region, and Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. Population Health Unit, La Ronge,

**Table 19: Unemployment Rates Pinehouse, CD 18 and Saskatchewan, 1996 - 2011**

Year	Pinehouse	CD 18	Saskatchewan
1996	28.8%	20.2%	7.2%
2001	32.8%	24.2%	6.3%
2006	22.5%	20.2%	5.6%
2011	17.6%	17.9%	5.9%

Source: Statistics Canada, Community Profiles, 1996, 2001, 2006. Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) 2011 Profiles.

In 2006, Pinehouse had a labour force participation rate of 46.0% (290 of 630), below the 50.4% regional and 68.4% provincial rates<sup>205</sup>. The size of the Pinehouse labour force grew to 370 in 2011, with the participation rate increasing to 52.1% (compared to 46.7% for CD 18, and 69.2% for Saskatchewan)<sup>206</sup>. In Northern Saskatchewan as a whole, the participation rate remained comparatively constant between 1976 and 2006. Persons participating increased during this time, however, as a reflection of population growth.<sup>207</sup>

#### 4.2.2 Population By Education/Training Attainment

Figures 41 and 42 provide an overview of educational attainment (age 15 years and over) for Pinehouse in 2011 and 2006. In 2011, while education levels have increased, levels of attainment in Pinehouse remained lower than for CD 18 and the province (although the percentage of Pinehouse residents with a high school diploma/equivalent (23.2%) was greater than for CD 18 (18.7%)). The majority of Pinehouse residents over age 15 did not possess a certificate, diploma or degree in 2011 (60.6%) or 2006 (70.6%).

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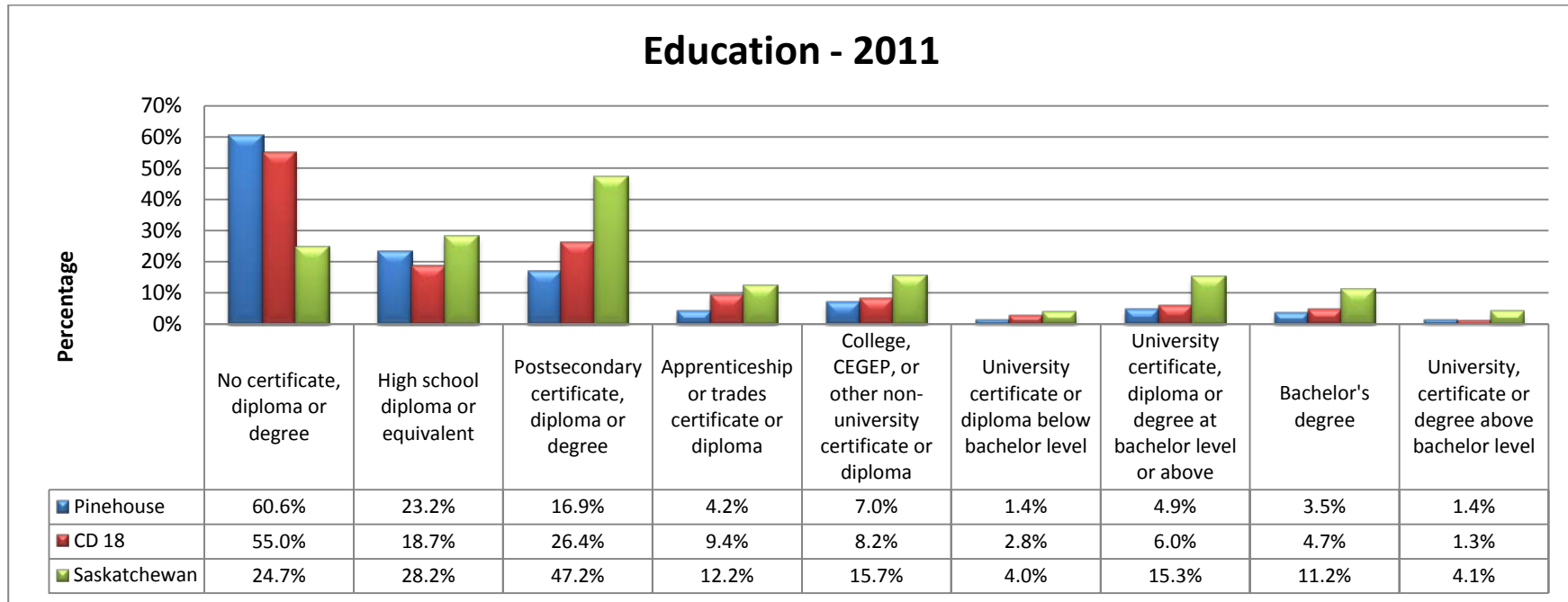
Saskatchewan. [http://www.populationhealthunit.ca/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=86:northern-saskatchewan-health-indicators-report-2011-release&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=65](http://www.populationhealthunit.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=86:northern-saskatchewan-health-indicators-report-2011-release&catid=1:latest-news&Itemid=65).

<sup>205</sup> Statistics Canada. 2007. *Pinehouse, Northern Village, Saskatchewan, 2006 Community Profile*. Website. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/2006/dp-pd/prof/92-591/index.cfm?Lang=E>

<sup>206</sup> Statistics Canada. 2013. Pinehouse, NV, Saskatchewan (Code 4718065) (table). National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 99-004-XWE. Ottawa. Released June 26, 2013. <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

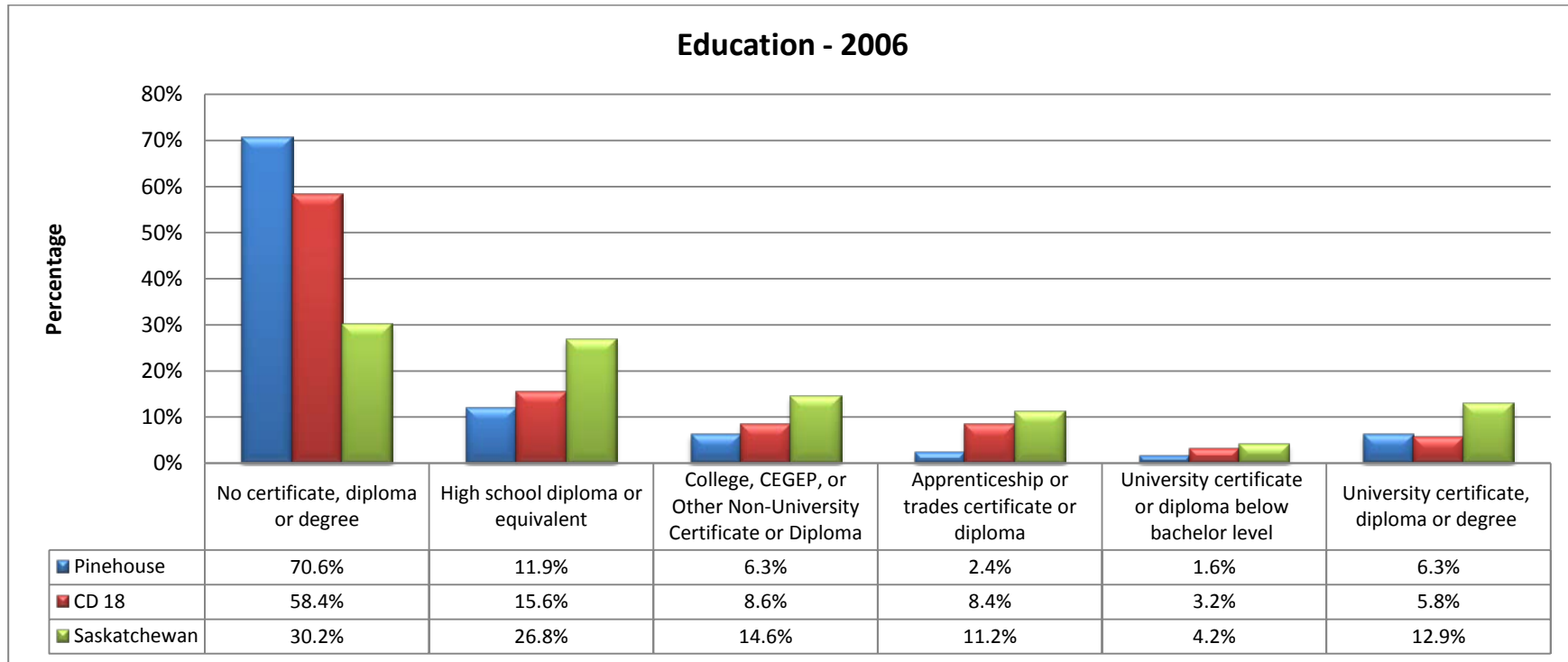
(accessed August 21, 2013).

<sup>207</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd. February 2013. *The Socio-economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan*. Final Report. Submitted to: Community Vitality Monitoring Partnership Process. <http://www.cvmpp.ca/index.php/reports>



**Figure 41: Pinehouse Educational Attainment, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles.



**Figure 42: Pinehouse Educational Attainment, 2006**

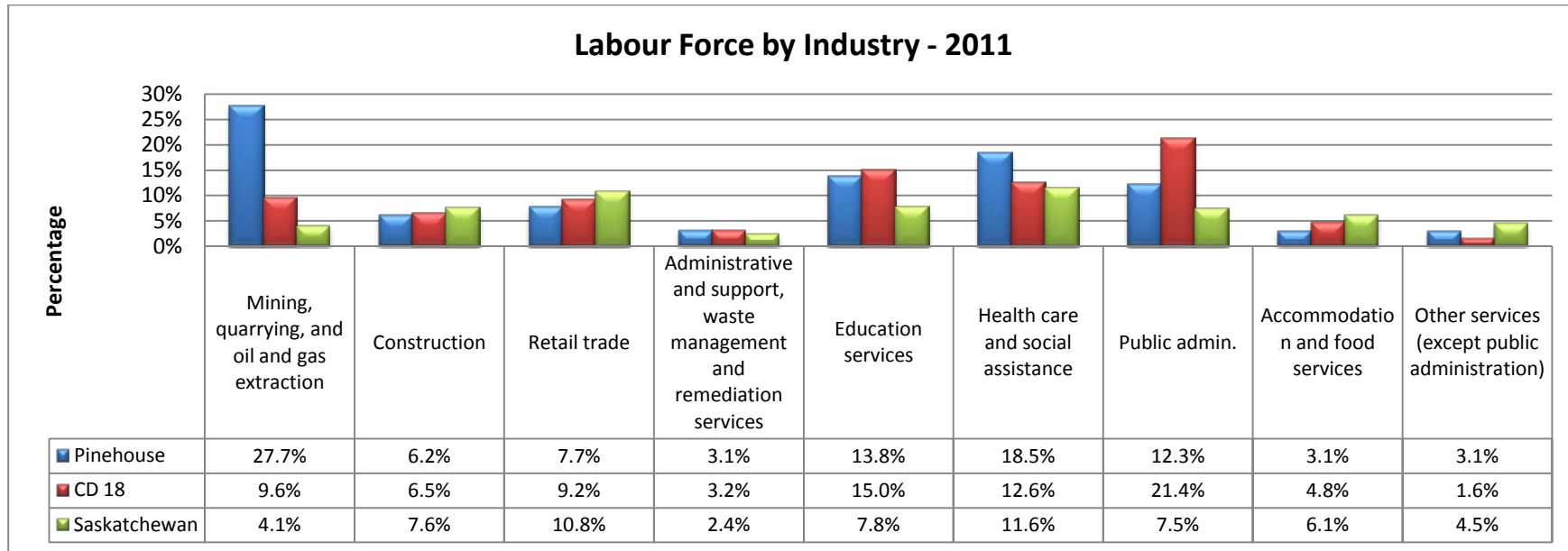
Statistics Canada 2006 Community Profiles.

### 4.2.3 Employment by Activity and Sector

It is noted that the Labour Force industry categories used by Statistics Canada are slightly different between 2006 and 2011. As shown in Figure 43, in 2011 a greater proportion of the labour force in Pinehouse were employed in mining ` (quarrying, oil and gas extraction) and health care/social assistance than the labour force for CD 18 or Saskatchewan. Relatively fewer worked in retail, construction, or accommodation/food service industries.

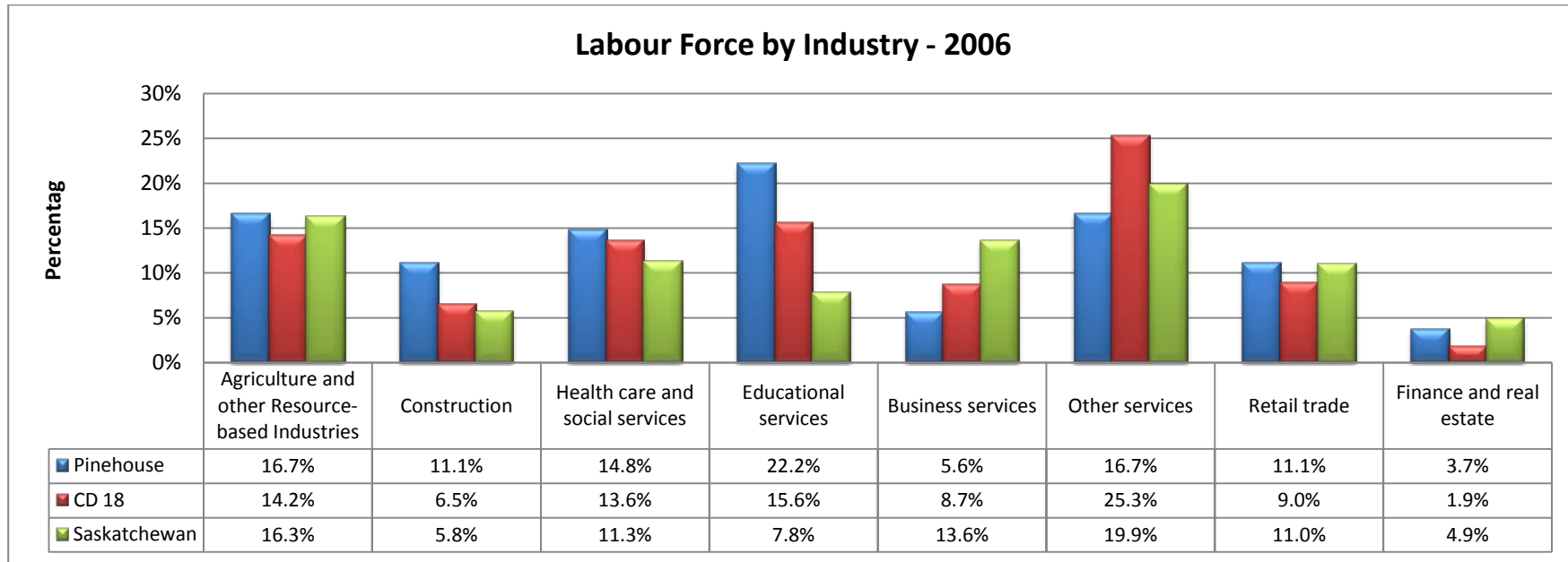
As shown in Figure 44, the largest occupation by industry in Pinehouse (2006) was 'Educational Services' (22.2%). The next largest were 'Agricultural and Resource Based' (which includes mining - 16.7%), and 'Health Care and Social Services' (14.8 %). Proportionately more of the labour force worked in construction in 2006 than in 2011; and in greater proportions than in CD 18 and Saskatchewan as a whole. Additional information is provided in Sections 2.2.1.2 and 3.5.2 above.





**Figure 43: Pinehouse Labour Force by Industry, 2011**

Source: Statistics Canada. 2013. National Household Survey (NHS) Profiles. Both CD 18 and Saskatchewan have members of the labour force in additional industries; as such the percentages do not add to 100%.



**Figure 44: Pinehouse Labour Force by Industry, 2006**

Source: Statistics Canada Community Profile, 2006, Pinehouse. Both CD 18 and Saskatchewan have members of the labour force in additional industries; as such the percentages do not add to 100%.

### 4.3 COMMUNITY PATTERNS WITH PROVINCE SUMMARY

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The available data indicate that overall, Pinehouse has many similarities with CD 18/northern Saskatchewan as a whole, while both Pinehouse and CD 18 differ from the Province of Saskatchewan with respect to a number of indicators:

- While census data indicate that the population in Pinehouse has declined by 9.1% between 2006 and 2011, both the community and regional health authority report a growing population. The population in CD 18 is growing at a slightly higher rate than Saskatchewan as a whole.
- Both Pinehouse and CD 18 have a larger proportion of their population between the ages of 0 and 19, compared to the province.
- In 2011, Pinehouse had a median age of 20.6 (an increase from 18.5 in 2006), while the median age in CD 18 increased only slightly to 23.7, and Saskatchewan marginally decreased to 38.2.
- Both Pinehouse and CD 18 have historically higher rates of unemployment than the province as a whole, although these are improving over time
- The size of the labour force, and the participation rate, are growing in Pinehouse. The Pinehouse labour force participation rate of 52.1% in 2011 is higher than the 46.7% regional rate, but significantly less than the 69.2% provincial rate.
- In 2011, while education levels have increased, levels of attainment in Pinehouse remained lower than for CD 18 and the province (although the percentage of Pinehouse residents with a high school diploma/equivalent (23.2%) was greater than for CD 18 (18.7%)). The majority of Pinehouse residents over age 15 did not possess a certificate, diploma or degree in 2011 (60.6%) or 2006 (70.6%). In 2011 a greater proportion of the labour force in Pinehouse were employed in mining ` (quarrying, oil and gas extraction) and health care/social assistance than the labour force for CD 18 or Saskatchewan. Relatively fewer worked in retail, construction, or accommodation/food service industries.

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## 5.0 SUMMARY

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Pinehouse is an Aboriginal community in Northern Saskatchewan, with most residents being Métis of Cree ancestry. There are also a significant number of First Nations people living in the village. Geographically, Pinehouse is relatively isolated –its nearest neighbour, Beauval is 109 km to the southwest by road. There are a limited range of facilities and services in the community. The natural environment and traditional activities on the land and water continue to be very important. The community has faced significant social, cultural and economic changes in a relatively short period, particularly since the 1970s when road access came with the development of uranium mines in the region. Pinehouse continues its efforts to address challenges related to housing, education, employment, health and social services, and substance abuse. The community has a number of cultural initiatives related to language, encouragement of participation in traditional activities on the land, cultural camps, and the annual regional elders gathering.

A number of initiatives and community characteristics in Pinehouse are contributing to a sense of opportunity moving forward. These include the:

- Ongoing strategic planning by Mayor and Council;
- Reclaiming our Community (Interagency) initiative;
- Pinehouse Business North – which is undergoing strategic revitalization;
- Relatively young and growing population (also a challenge);
- Increasing success with education and training of youth and adults;
- Hosting the annual regional Elders Gathering;
- Participation in regional initiatives with other partners, e.g., participation on the EQC, in New North; and
- Collaboration Agreement with Cameco and AREVA (December 2012).

Pinehouse leaders often speak with pride about overcoming many challenges in the community since the late 1970s, when, in its own words, the community “hit rock bottom”. Pinehouse is a resilient community, striving to achieve its vision in northern Saskatchewan. Future economic development is tied largely to the uranium mining industry, although there are base metal and gold resources being explored in the region. The once active forest industry is in decline. There is a small but successful tourism industry in Northern Saskatchewan, although the remoteness of much of the region, and lack of support services, sets limitations. Pinehouse is positioning itself to be better able to participate in regional and community economic development, including mining. Larger centers such as Meadow Lake, Prince Albert and Saskatoon offer a range of services and economic opportunities for Pinehouse and other communities. Partnerships such as New North, the Northern Economic Summit, and the Northern Leaders Table (and Action Plan) provide regional opportunities for collective action that will contribute to improved well-being in northern Saskatchewan.

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- Executive Summary (March 2012)
  - Appendix A: Census Demographic Profile (March 2010)
  - Appendix B: Census Socioeconomic Profile (March 2010)
  - Appendix C: Competitive Advantage Analysis (January 2011 – Updated March 2012)
  - Appendix D: Sector Analysis (January 2011 (Updated April 2012)
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<sup>208</sup> Pinehouse and ERFN are both located in Northern Economic Region 4760 (which covers Census Division 18 which covers the Northern Administration District for Saskatchewan and includes La Ronge]. This reports deals with Prince Albert Economic Region 4750 – need to confirm if a corresponding report has been prepared for 4760.

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## APPENDIX B: MAP OF NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN

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The map of Northern Saskatchewan (July 5, 2013) is provided as a separate pdf file accompanying this profile document; hard copies of the map have been provided with the original document provided to the community.