



NUCLEAR WASTE  
MANAGEMENT  
ORGANIZATION

SOCIÉTÉ DE GESTION  
DES DÉCHETS  
NUCLÉAIRES

## Community Profile

TOWNSHIP OF THE NORTH SHORE, ONTARIO



**APM-REP-06144-0101**

**NOVEMBER 2014**

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Community Profile:  
Township of The North Shore, ON

November 28, 2014

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## Community Profile

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## Acronyms

APM	Adaptive Phased Management
AWIC	Algoma Workforce Investment Committee
CAP	Community Access Programme
CFDC	East Algoma Community Future Development Corporation
CPR	Canadian Pacific Railroad
EA	Environmental Assessment
EACFDC	East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation
FIR	Financial Information Return
GIS	Geographic Information System
MASL	Metres Above Sea Level
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources
MPAC	Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
MTO	Ministry of Transportation
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
NCYC	North Channel Yacht Club
NWMO	Nuclear Waste Management Organization
PPS	Provincial Policy Statement

## 1.0 CONTEXT

This community profile has been prepared as part of the Township of The North Shore'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 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.

The profile brings together information about the community, their history, their aspirations, and current conditions. The information contained in the profile is not an assessment of any kind; instead it is intended to paint a picture of the community 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 Adaptive Phased Management project. The Adaptive Phased Management 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; and
- 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 Adaptive Phased Management project, or other large project 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 Committees and through interviews with community leaders.

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, their aspirations and current conditions will continue throughout the duration of the Township of The North Shore's involvement in the *Learn More* program.

### **1.1 Report Format**

Please note that for the Statistics Canada data presented in this profile, the most recent census and National Household Survey data used are for 2011 (where available). In some instances, due to recent changes in how Statistics Canada conducts their data collection, 2006 data may also be used where necessary.

## 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE – THE TOWNSHIP OF THE NORTH SHORE

### 2.1 Overview

This community profile depicts the characteristics of the Township of The North Shore.

#### 2.1.1 Location

The Township of The North Shore is located in the north shore area of Lake Huron and includes the communities of Algoma Mills, Spragge and the Pronto East Subdivision. These are spread out, smaller and older communities that developed as a result of historic economic and resource-based activity.

**Figure 1 - Map of the Township of The North Shore**



#### 2.1.2 Land Size and Uses

The Township of The North Shore covers 238.94 km<sup>2</sup> of land<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. Census – Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2013. Note: Serpent River First Nation is not included in the land area and has its own census tract.

### 2.1.3 Vision and Strategic Plan

The Township of The North Shore's Mission Statement has themes of preservation, enhancement and promotion that are in keeping with the economic goals of the community<sup>2</sup>. Preservation of existing businesses and jobs in the community are priorities. Enhancement of business opportunities by being a supportive, business-friendly community is of considerable interest to the local business community. Finally, the promotion of the Township of The North Shore as a good place to develop new businesses is seen as essential to future growth of the area economy<sup>3</sup>.

The Township of The North Shore has the following goals:

- *“To create jobs for Township residents;*
- *To provide opportunities for individuals to improve their quality of life;*
- *To achieve growth in all aspects of the economy;*
- *To promote the Township as a business friendly community;*
- *To support local entrepreneurial development; and*
- *To act as a partner in the economic development of the community”<sup>4</sup>.*

The Township of The North Shore has the following objectives and strategies:

- *“Work to attract potential businesses and promote the use of financial assistance agencies that are exclusive to the area;*
- *Educate and encourage property enhancement through incentive programs and grants for property upgrading;*
- *Look at identifying potential development of an industrial park, wilderness tours, small craft harbour, senior citizen housing, local historical sites, and local events;*
- *Work with the business community to identify needs and develop promotional material to encourage business development;*
- *Work with the proposed Business Association to identify, encourage and assist potential entrepreneurs in the community to investigate and develop their business ideas; and*
- *Work with local clubs to assist in developing and promoting snowmobiling in the area and conduct research into potential users of the fibre optic link”<sup>5</sup>.*

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<sup>2</sup> Township of The North Shore. Community Economic Development. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/images/ced/ced.html>]

<sup>3</sup> Township of The North Shore. Community Economic Development. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/images/ced/ced.html>]

<sup>4</sup> Township of The North Shore. Community Economic Development. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/images/ced/ced.html>]

<sup>5</sup> Township of The North Shore. Community Economic Development. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/images/ced/ced.html>].



The Township of The North Shore's Official Plan (2012) identifies the following general goals for the community<sup>6</sup>:

- Create attractive and controlled environment for growth;
- Ensure an adequate supply of land for growth;
- Create an economical, healthy and safe environment for residents;
- Provide an adequate range of housing types and densities;
- Minimise land use conflicts and promote efficient use of land;
- Improve public health and safety of residents;
- Work with Ministries to improve vehicular safety in Algoma Mills;
- Maintain/enhance visual and aesthetic qualities of Township;
- Preservation and rehabilitation of properties and structures;
- Protect water quantity and quality and water resources;
- Promote environmentally sensitive shoreline development;
- Preserve cultural heritage and archeological resources; and
- Ensure development can be sustained over the long term and is compatible with the rural landscape<sup>7</sup>.

## 2.2 Human Assets

### 2.2.1 Human Asset Indicators

This section provides a discussion of human assets in the Township of The North Shore. Human assets 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, or a desired standard of living. Human assets indicators include population size and demographics, skills and labour, education, and health and safety facilities and services.

#### 2.2.1.1 Population Size and Demographics

##### *Population Changes*

The population of the Township of The North Shore declined by 25 percent over the past 15 years (see Table 1). For the most part, the population loss is the result of out-migration of skilled and young residents who typically are the most mobile. The losses in population were due to youth leaving the community for school and work. In addition, the closure of the Elliot Lake mines meant that some of the workers and their families who lived in the Township of The North Shore left in pursuit of other work. Nevertheless, families living in the Township of The North Shore state that it is a great place to raise a family<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> The Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan (Draft).

<sup>7</sup> The Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan (Draft).

<sup>8</sup> Based on interview data.

**Table 1 - Population Change in the Township of The North Shore<sup>9</sup>**

Year	The North Shore
1996	<b>678</b> (-7.0%)
2001	<b>544</b> (-19.8%)
2006	<b>549</b> (0.9%)
2011	<b>509</b> (-7.3%)

### *Age of Population*

Figure 2 provides the age distribution from 1996 to 2011 for the Township of The North Shore. In 2011, the average age of the population (56.2) was older than the median Provincial age of 40.4<sup>10</sup>. Since 1996, the population has been aging in the Township of The North Shore and in other communities along the north shore of Lake Huron. The number of seniors 65 to 84 years old has more than doubled from 9.6 percent in 1996 to 23.5 percent in 2011. The presence of residents 65 and over indicates that older residents are retiring in the Township of The North Shore. These residents will be drawing from their pensions and will not be as sensitive to changes in the regional economy. Statistically, the higher percentage of older residents is also due to an out-migration of the younger population to other communities in Ontario<sup>11</sup>.

Since 1996, the population under 25 has been decreasing. The decrease in population was more prevalent with those between the ages of 25 to 44, declining from 27.3 percent in 1996 to 9.8 percent in 2011. Those between the ages of 15 to 24 declined from 12.5 percent in 1996 to 6.9 percent in 2011. The challenge in many rural centres is to keep young people in a community after they finish school.

While Statistics Canada data does not measure seasonal changes, local residents state that the influx of summer residents results in an increase to about 900 individuals<sup>12</sup>.

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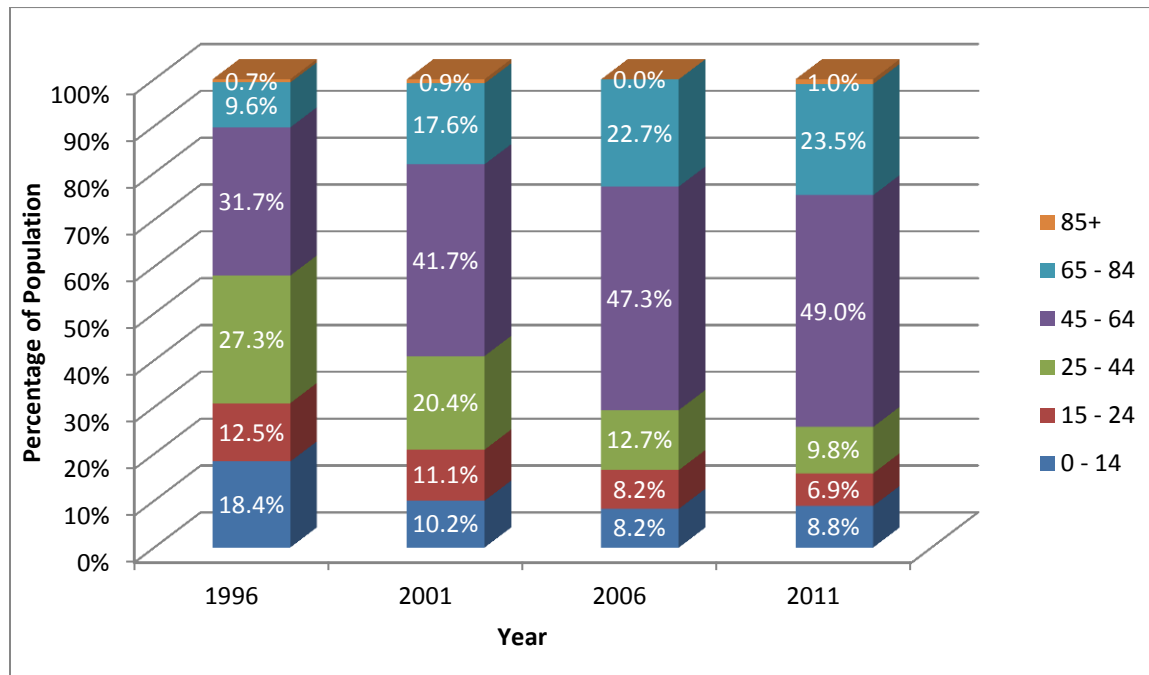
<sup>9</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2013.

<sup>10</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. Census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2013.

<sup>11</sup> Employment Ontario and Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, 2011. Local Labour market Plan for 2012: Trends, Opportunities and Priorities.

<sup>12</sup> Based on interview data.

**Figure 2 - Total Population by Age of the Township of The North Shore<sup>13</sup>**



### *Mobility Status*

In general, the Township of The North Shore is relatively stable. There are few people moving in or out of the Township of The North Shore. Families residing in the Township tend to be multi-generational including children and grandparents. Youth in the Township generally travel to Southern Ontario or Alberta to work. However, if jobs were available they would consider returning<sup>14</sup>. Stability in a community is important because it shows that people have a stake in their community, serve as volunteers and help develop community quality of life.

As of 2011, most people lived at the same address from the previous year (Non-movers = 90 percent). No people moved in the same census subdivision within that time period in the Township of The North Shore. A number of current residents (Intraprovincial migrants = 10 percent) migrated from elsewhere within the Province in the previous year. No one in the Township of The North Shore (Interprovincial migrants) moved from another Province in the year prior. Finally, no residents (External migrants) moved to the Township of The North Shore from another country<sup>15</sup>.

As of 2011, most people lived at the same address as in five years previously (Non-movers = 74.5 percent). No people moved in the same census subdivision within that time period in the Township of

<sup>13</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2012.

<sup>14</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>15</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. NHS National Household Survey (2011)(Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed July 2013. July 2013.

The North Shore. A number of people moved to or from other parts of Ontario (Intraprovincial migrants = 20.4 percent). Also, no one (Interprovincial migrants) lived out of Province or out of the country (External migrants).<sup>16</sup>

For complete data tables regarding mobility status, see Table A1 a) and b) in **Appendix A**.

### *2.2.1.2 Skills and Labour*

#### *Population by Occupation*

Figure 3 illustrates the percentage distribution of the labor force by sector of occupation in the Township of The North Shore (labour force by occupation). In 2011, the top occupations in the Township of The North Shore were: transport and equipment operators and related occupations (25.0 percent); education, law and social, community and government services (16.7 percent); management (14.6 percent); and business, finance and administration services (12.5 percent)<sup>17</sup>.

The presence of trades and transport occupations are a strength within the Township of The North Shore. The transport occupations include heavy equipment repair and trucking. Algoma Chrysler, Hydro One, Lafarge, Carmeuse Lime, Domtar. K. J. Beamish construction and their sub-contractors employ people with these skills. Interview data suggests that residents who have other skilled trades work elsewhere and return home every few weeks<sup>18</sup>. It is often hard for smaller, rural centres to source this sort of labour and it is readily available in the Township of The North Shore.

There are few professionals or managers living in the Township<sup>19</sup>. Business activity indicates that some management experience is present. The presence of people with finance and administration occupations indicates that people and businesses in the Township are able to obtain capital and financial advice. However, these occupations may be represented by people who have retired and live in the Township. There are people living in the Township and working in management positions on the Serpent River Reserve, in Blind River or in Elliot Lake. Natural resources and agriculture occupations reflect the mining and related activities in the area (e.g. mineral processing operations such as Carmeuse Lime & Stone and Lafarge Canada Ltd.) and the secondary industries that cater to these activities. It also indicates that there are many people with skills specific to primary industry activities, which is beneficial for future developments.

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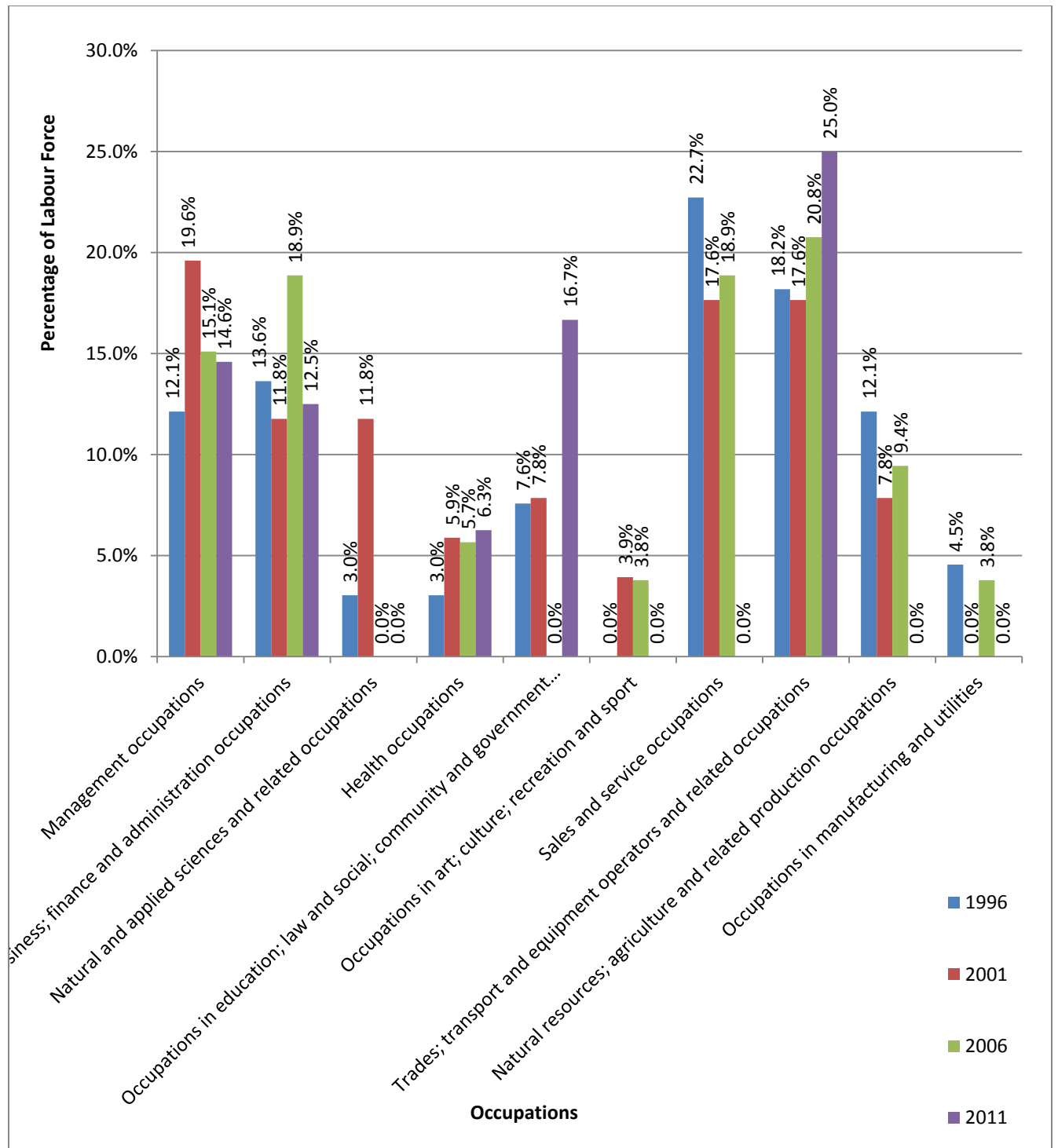
<sup>16</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. NHS National Household Survey (2011)(Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed July 2013. July 2013.

<sup>17</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. NHS National Household Survey (2011)(Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed July 2013. July 2013.

<sup>18</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>19</sup> Based on interview data.

**Figure 3 – Labour Force by Occupation in the Township of The North Shore<sup>20</sup>**



<sup>20</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles and NHS National Household Survey (2011)(Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed July 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

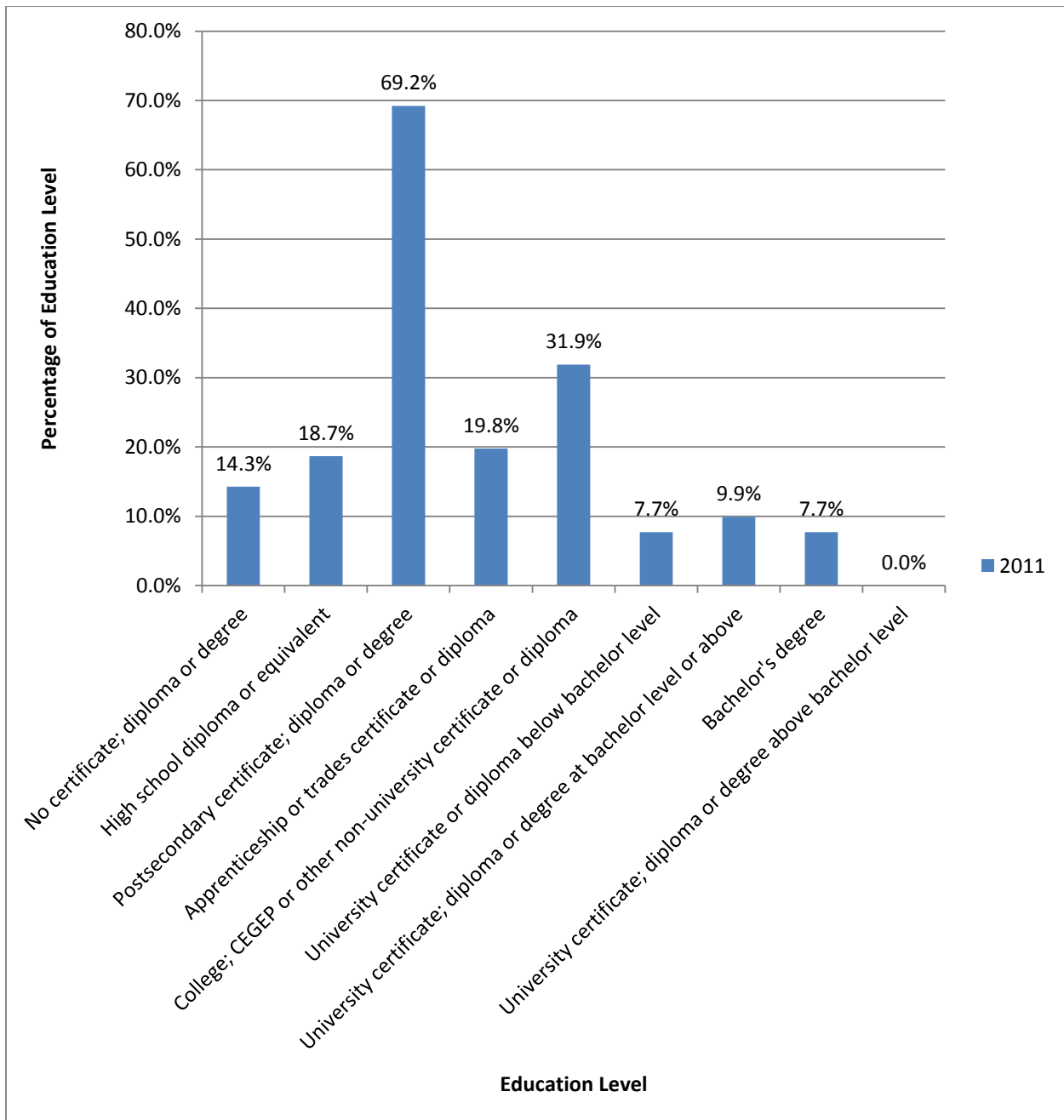
### *2.2.1.3 Education and Training*

Figures 4 and 5 illustrate levels of education and training in the Township of The North Shore in 2011 and 2006. As of 2011, there were some residents without a certificate, diploma or degree (14.3 percent), however, this may be influenced by the nature of the major occupations in the area that do not necessarily require academic attainment for certification (e.g. skilled training related primary industry and construction). The percentage of residents with high school diplomas in 2011 was 18.7 percent which is up from 14.2 percent in 2006. The Township of The North Shore residents have trade skills, college and university degrees. The percentage of residents having a university certificate, diploma or degree in 2006 was 6.8 percent and in 2011 the figure was 9.9 percent (for those with a university certificate, degree or diploma bachelor's degree or above)<sup>21</sup>. Table 2 shows that more younger residents (ages 20-34) have university certificates, diplomas or degrees.

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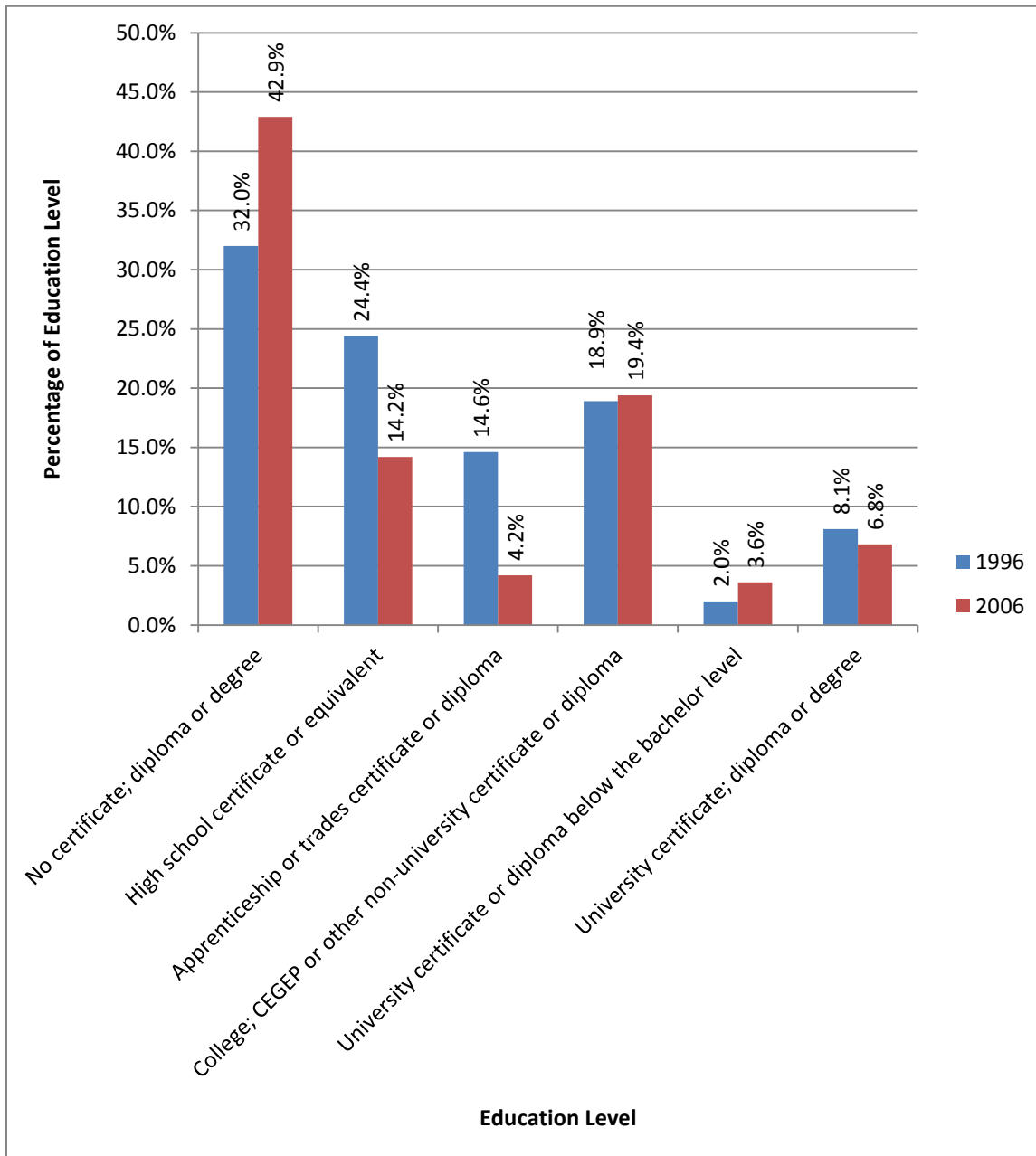
<sup>21</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006 to 2011. Census Community Profiles and NHS National Household Survey (2011)(Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed July 2013.

**Figure 4 - Education and Training Attainment in the Township of The North Shore (2011)<sup>22</sup>**



<sup>22</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada, and reporting of overlapping categories in the figure. Postsecondary certificate; diploma or degree has the subcategories of: 1) Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, 2) College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma, 3) University certificate or diploma below bachelor level and 4) University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above (which has its own subcategories of i) Bachelor's degree, and ii) University certificate; diploma or degree above bachelor level).

**Figure 5 - Education and Training Attainment in the Township of The North Shore (15+) in 1996 and 2006<sup>23</sup>**



<sup>23</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 and 2006. Census – Community Profile. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada. Please note that 2001 data is unavailable.



**Table 2 - Education and Training Attainment in the Township of The North Shore (2001)<sup>24</sup>**

Level of Education	Age 20 – 34 (n= 35)	Age 35 – 44 (n= 90)	Age 45 – 64 (n= 250)
Less than a high school certificate	28.6%	27.8%	40%
High school certificate and/or some post-secondary	0	27.8%	12%
Trades certificate or diploma	0	16.7%	16%
College certificate or diploma	0	22.2%	14%
University certificate, diploma or degree	28.6%	11.1%	18%

### *Local Schools*

Given that there are no public primary or secondary schools in the Township of The North Shore, students attend classes at schools in other communities (e.g. the City of Elliot Lake, Town of Spanish [for public schools French immersion] and the Town of Blind River). The exception is that The Township of The North Shore has the Rockhaven School for Exceptional Children which runs programs for developmentally challenged children<sup>25</sup>.

### *Post-Secondary Education*

There are no post-secondary institutions located in the Township of The North Shore. In the wider area, distance education is offered through Contact North for Laurentian University (in Sudbury) at distance education centres in the City of Elliot Lake and the Town of Blind River. In addition, Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury have a variety of university, college and training facilities.

### *Other Educational Opportunities*

For adult residents looking to take courses, general interest and adult learning programs are offered in the City of Elliot Lake, the Town of Blind River and the Town of Spanish. The Township of The North Shore has internet service that is provided at the Township office's Community Access Programme (CAP) Site. High speed internet service is available in Algoma Mills and Serpent River with dial-up service

<sup>24</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001. Census – Community Profile. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

<sup>25</sup> Algoma District School Board. Rockhaven School For Exceptional Children. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://rockhaven.adsb.on.ca/>].

available in Spragge<sup>26</sup>. Free library service for the Township of The North Shore residents is offered through the Blind River Public Library<sup>27</sup>.

#### *2.2.1.4 Health and Safety Facilities and Services*

##### *Number of Clinics*

There are no clinics or private health care services in the Township of The North Shore.

##### *Access to Health Care Services and Clinics*

Patients go to hospitals in the Town of Blind River (e.g. Blind River District Health Centre) the City of Elliot Lake (e.g. St. Joseph's Hospital), Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie.

##### *Health Care Professionals*

There are no health care professionals offering services in the Township of The North Shore although some home care is provided as needed.

##### *Emergency Services and Plans*

The Township of The North Shore has adequate emergency services in place and is able to handle emergency situations. The Township of The North Shore's volunteer Fire Department operates out of two fire stations located in Algoma Mills and Serpent River<sup>28</sup>. The closest OPP detachment operates out of the Town of Blind River and services the Township of The North Shore.

## **2.2.2 Summary of Human Assets**

The following summarizes our findings for human assets in The Township of The North Shore.

### *2.2.2.1. Priorities and Key Issues*

The Township of The North Shore is situated beside two larger municipalities, the City of Elliot Lake and the Town of Blind River, as well as the Serpent River First Nation. The human assets of these communities tend to overlap with the assets of Township of The North Shore residents. Even though there are not many young children in the Township, the community is seen to be a good place to raise a family. Its location on the north shore of Lake Huron offers an excellent setting for recreational and retirement activities. The Township of The North Shore has a history of mining projects (including uranium mining at the Pronto Mine in the 1950s) and the presence of established mining infrastructure. Some of the people living in the Township are retired uranium miners<sup>29</sup>. The Township of The North Shore is relatively prosperous, although there is an aging population.

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<sup>26</sup> Township of North Shore. Infrastructure. Accessed Online June, 2014.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/resources/infrastructure.html>].

<sup>27</sup> Township of North Shore. Municipal Services. Accessed Online June, 2012.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/municipal/municipal%20services.html>].

<sup>28</sup> Township of North Shore. Municipal Services. Accessed Online June, 2012.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/municipal/municipal%20services.html>].

<sup>29</sup> Based on interview data.

The Township has a skilled local workforce and is the location of several international primary industries and their employees. A key issue facing the Township of The North Shore is the need to grow and diversify the local economy, as well as to retain and attract younger workers and families. In terms of mobility status, few people are moving in or out of the area. People are content with their current residences and there is a sense of permanence in the community.

#### *2.2.2.2. Community Aspirations*

The Township of The North Shore aspires to enhance the quality of life and economic opportunities; however residents would closely examine the socio-economic effects of new industry particularly if change affects people's quality of life<sup>30</sup>. The Township of The North Shore also aspires to have economic stability and solid prospects for future growth. In particular, they have a specific focus on leveraging their natural outdoor setting for the benefit of both residents and tourists. The quality and variety of outdoor nature based activities is a factor in attracting skilled labour.

Many residents are capable of applying their skills and training to the resource extraction activities and related industries in the area. There are no elementary, secondary or post-secondary schools in the Township of The North Shore and students have to go to larger centres. There are online training programs available.

#### *2.2.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community*

Though there has been a long history of resource extraction in the area, the presence of skilled labour has steadily declined in the Township of The North Shore after the decline of mining activity in Elliot Lake. There are two mineral processing operations in the area, Lafarge Canada Ltd. and Carmeuse Lime & Stone. There are no medical services in the Township of The North Shore and residents use facilities in neighbouring communities (e.g. Town of Blind River and City of Elliot Lake).

In terms of education, residents are strong in the trades and related community college skills. Few residents have university degrees. The overall level of education among residents of the Township of The North Shore is in keeping with the region as a whole and towns of a similar size.

## **2.3 Economic Assets**

### **2.3.1 Economic Asset Indicators**

The following section depicts the Township of The North Shore's economic assets. Economic assets include the monetary or financial related resources that people use to achieve their livelihood objectives. It includes the availability of cash or equivalents to individuals and the community as a whole gained from private or public sector sources, and the availability of financial related services that allow individuals and communities to manage their finances and wealth. Economic assets indicators include employment, business activity, income, tourism, economic development services, and governance and municipal finances.

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<sup>30</sup> Based on interview data.

### 2.3.1.1 Employment

#### Labour Force Activity

Table 3 shows labour force activity in the Township of The North Shore. Given that Elliot Lake and many of the communities along the north shore are a relatively short drive from each other, the labour force of each community is influenced by economic activities in the other communities. In the Township of The North Shore, the labour force and participation rate has decreased since 1996. This can be accounted for, in part, due to the closure of the uranium mines in Elliot Lake. The employment rate has remained relatively stable. However, people in the work force have managed to obtain jobs. From 1996 to 2006, unemployment decreased (23.5 percent in 1996 to 9.3 percent in 2006). By 2011, there was a slight increase in the unemployment rate to 10.6 percent. These unemployment rates were higher than the 2011 Provincial average of 8.3 percent<sup>31</sup>. Employers report that it is hard to attract and retain skilled permanent workers. Larger projects tend to also attract employees who would work locally but live in Sudbury or Sault Ste. Marie<sup>32</sup>. Union hiring halls are located in Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie<sup>33</sup> and elsewhere in Northern Ontario.

**Table 3 - Labour Force Activity in the Township of The North Shore<sup>34</sup>**

Parameters	1996	2001	2006	2011
Total Population 15 years and over	565	490	500	460
Employed	260	235	240	215
Participation rate (%)	60.2	52.5	54	51.1
Employment rate (%)	n/a	48.5	48	46.7
Unemployment rate (%)	23.5	11.5	9.3	10.6
Full time employment	115	110	105	190
Part time employment	200	n/a	n/a	35

#### Employment Industry Sector

Figure 5 depicts the percentage distribution of labour force by industry in the Township of The North Shore according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). In 2011, the top industries included health care and social assistance (18.3 percent), retail trade (13.9 percent), accommodation and food services (10.8 percent), educational services (9.0 percent), construction (7.3

<sup>31</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Please note that the list of industry categories has been expanded in the 2011 NHS survey beyond the categories that were used in the previous censuses. Therefore, a direct comparison between 1996 to 2006 and 2011 data is not possible.

<sup>32</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>33</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>34</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles and National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

percent), other services (6.7 percent) and public administration (6.6 percent)<sup>35</sup>. It should be noted that the Township indicates that as of 2014, there are no residents employed in the category of health care and social assistance.

Between 1996 and 2006, most industries were declining except for health care and social assistance, construction and manufacturing. Several of the firms in the Township (such as Lafarge and Carmeuse) are large, very robust, international firms in the resource sector who continue to benefit from mining activities across Northern Ontario, in Southern Ontario and in the U.S.<sup>36</sup>. These companies are able to adjust to take advantage of economic opportunities across a broader extent of Northern Ontario. Other firms active in the Township of The North Shore (such as Hydro One or K.J. Beamish Construction) tend to expand or contract based on the strength of public sector spending. Others are more subject to the strength of the local and tourist economy (local automobile sales and retailers). Public sector spending on health care is typically less dependent on changes in the broader economy.

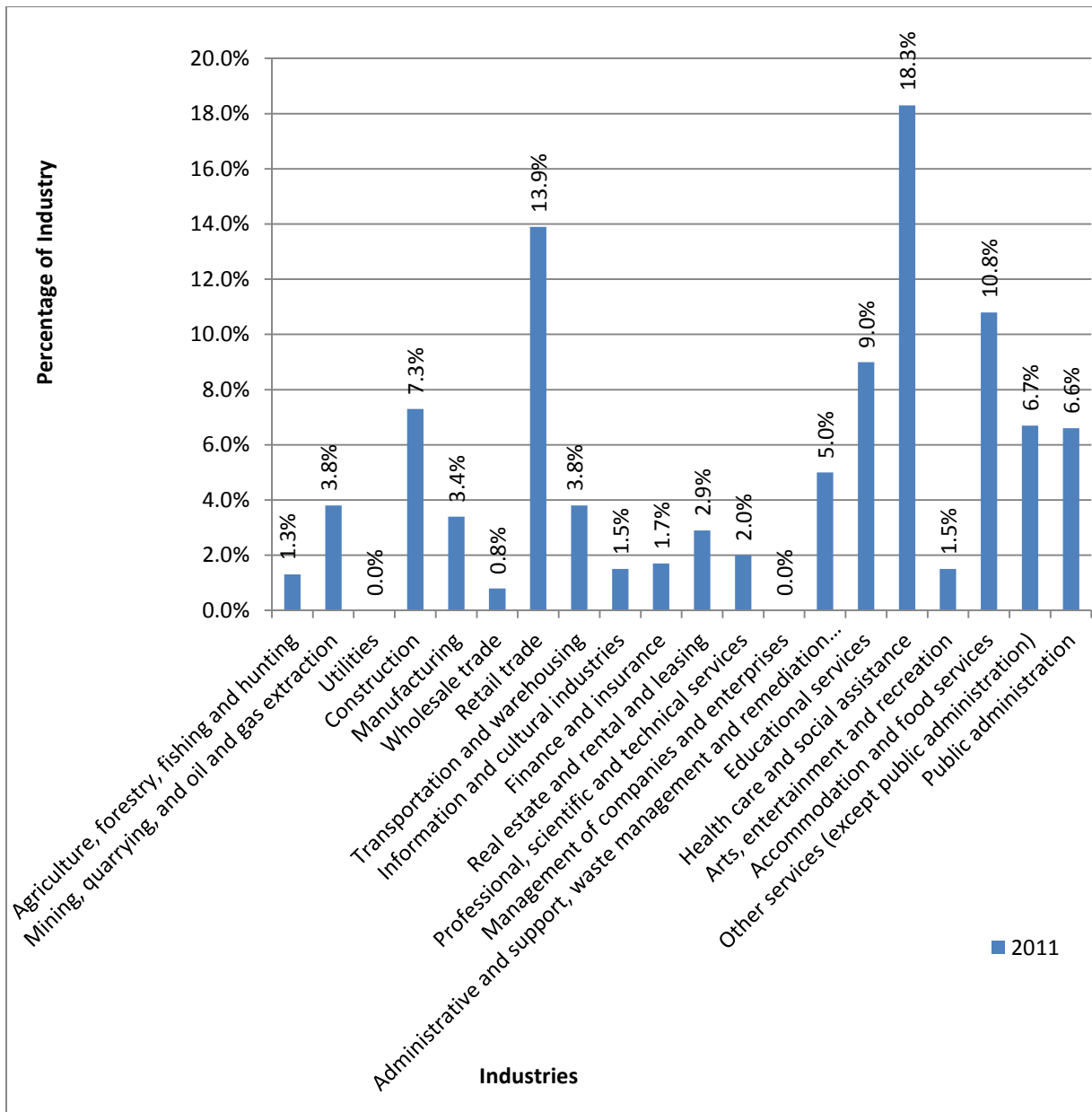
With an aging population (and retirement community in the neighbouring community of the City Elliot Lake), an increasing number of jobs in the Township of The North Shore and surrounding communities are linked to geriatric care management, and associated health services. There will also be employment associated with support for exceptional children. There are also many jobs in the tourism industry which is captured in 'other services' (e.g. retail activities and outdoor expedition companies). The manufacturing and construction sector situated in the Township are linked to the mining operations in north-eastern and north western Ontario. Lafarge Canada, Carmeuse Lime & Stone, K.J. Beamish Construction and Hydro One are larger employers. The Domtar mill in Espanola has a positive influence on forest sector employment across the north shore and beyond. Public administration occupations are due to the Township of The North Shore and the Serpent River First Nation being among the larger public sector employers in the area.

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<sup>35</sup> Please note that Statistics Canada NHS data is depicted in a different format than Census data for 2006 and before. Therefore, the data presented for NAICS industries needs to be spilt into two distinct tables to show the new categories added in 2011.

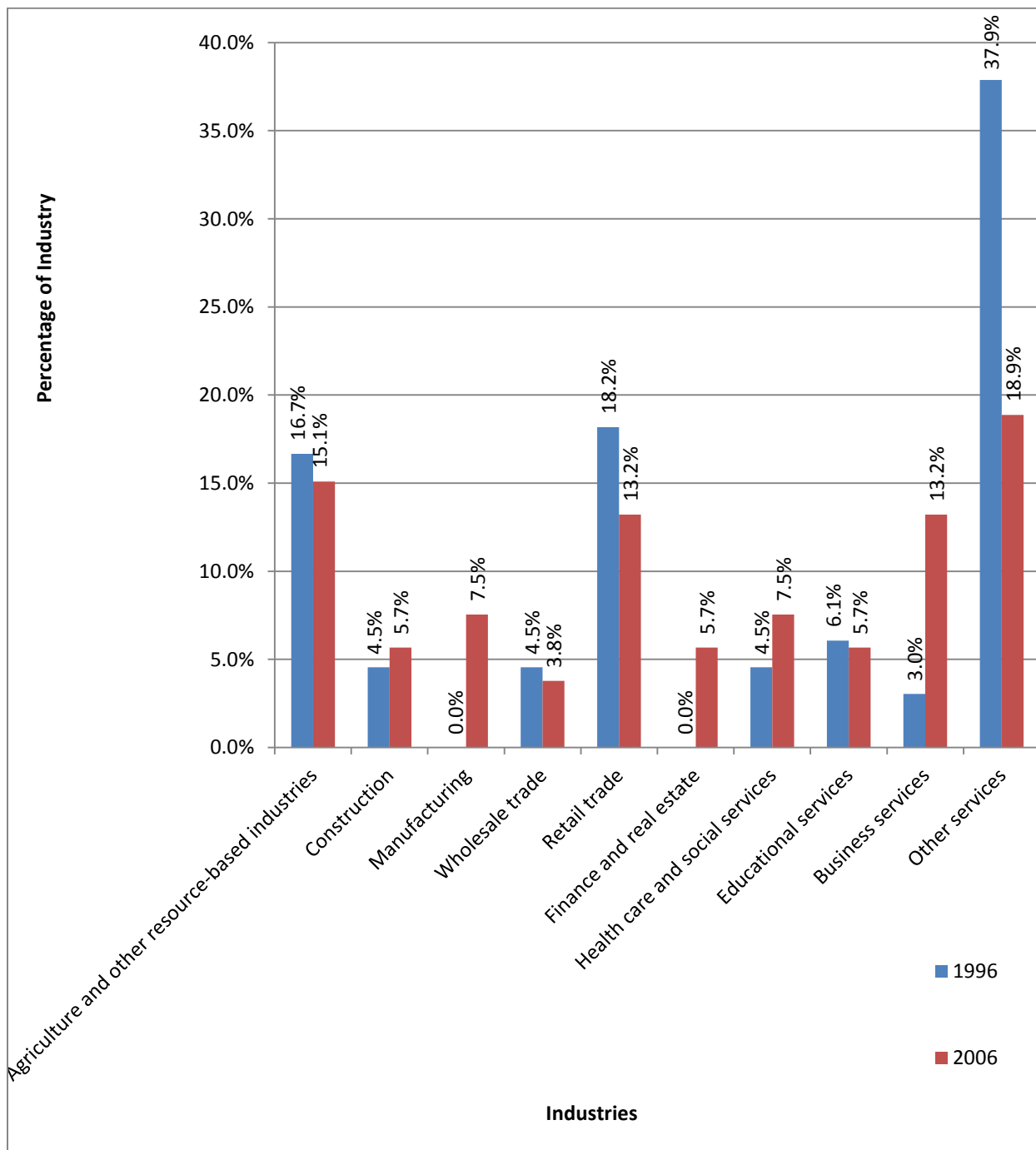
<sup>36</sup> Based on interview data.

**Figure 6 – Labour Force by Industry (NAICS) in the Township of The North Shore (2011)**<sup>37</sup>



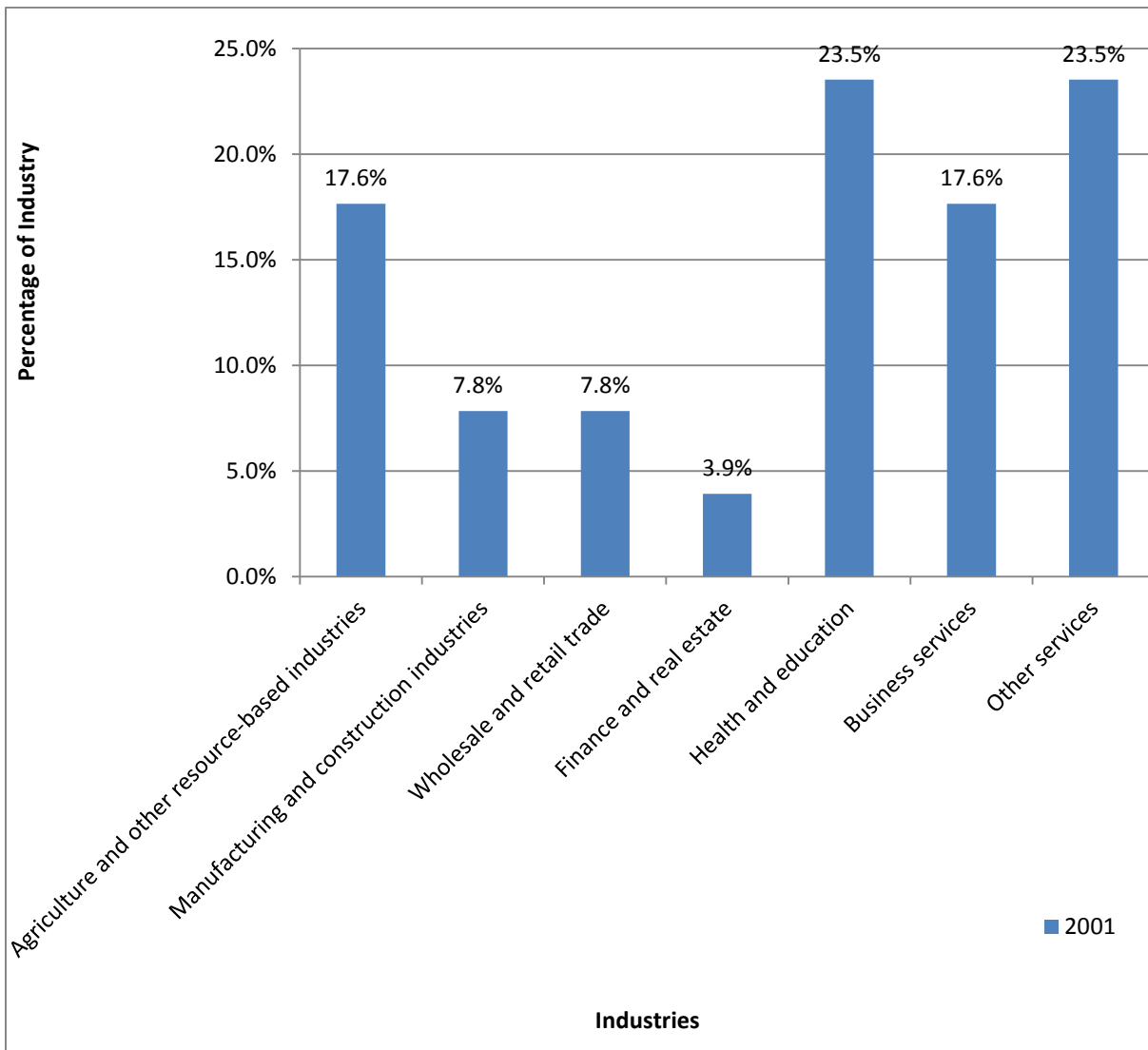
<sup>37</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca). Accessed July 2013. Please note that the list of industry categories was expanded in the 2011 NHS survey beyond the categories that were used in the previous censuses. Therefore, a direct comparison between 1996, 2001, 2006 and 2011 data is not possible. Different categories were also used in the 2001 Census. Please note that instances of 0% relate to no data reported in this category from Statistics Canada.

**Figure 7 – Labour Force by Industry in the Township of The North Shore (1996 and 2006)<sup>38</sup>**



<sup>38</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006. Census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2012. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada. Please note that instances of 0% relate to no data reported in this category from Statistics Canada.

**Figure 8 – Labour Force by Industry (NAICS) in the Township of The North Shore (2001)<sup>39</sup>**



### 2.3.1.2 Business Activity

#### Major Employers

The largest primary industries in the community are the operations of Lafarge Canada Ltd. (cement plant located in Algoma Mills) and Carmeuse Lime & Stone (lime and limestone products for commercial and

<sup>39</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001. Census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2012. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.



industrial applications)<sup>40 41</sup>. Both companies support a range of supplies and subcontract parts of the operations to local firms. The Domtar Espanola mill indirectly employs people in lumbering, trucking, construction (building lumber roads). Local businesses involved in lumbering benefit from cutting both pulp wood and high value timber. These businesses in turn purchase and maintain equipment such as cutter/ skidders and feller/bunchers<sup>42</sup>. Cameco in Blind River hires local north shore residents and sub-contracts work and has a positive influence on the economy of the Township of The North Shore.

Lafarge is located on the North Shore in order to service the mines in Sudbury, Elliott Lake and elsewhere. Their operation is a lime kiln, a slag grinding facility, powdered cement and redi-mix. They provide 90 percent of the backfill for mine shafts. They ship about 200,000 tonnes per year and import slag from Chicago and Hamilton. The North Shore Lafarge plant has 10 employees and they provide management and operate other concrete plants in the north. Lafarge has community relations programs. They sponsor Christmas baskets, assist the community with small donations, and assist with the doctor recruitment<sup>43</sup>. LaFarge tends to employ sub-contractors located in Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie. The company also employs other firms servicing the area, such as Canada Steamship Lines, Algoma Steamship Lines, Upper Lakes Steamship Lines, Manitoulin Trucking, M-O Trucking<sup>44</sup>.

K.J. Beamish is involved in supplying asphalt from facilities in Spragge. They also have a location in Elliott Lake. They conduct highway maintenance, and the Sudbury operation provides aggregates for roads in the North Shore area. Along the North Shore they are active from Thessalon to Espanola. The amount of employees varies. They normally have 40 people employed although they may peak at 50 to 60 people in the summer<sup>45</sup>.

The Carmeuse North Shore plant (Pronto) receives limestone from the Upper Peninsula in Michigan. They make lime at the North Shore facility and sell it to mining companies. It is used to neutralize the acid that is part of the mineral extraction process. It is also used for water treatment plants and in the pulp and paper industry.

The retail sector is also important in terms of employment opportunities. Tourism traffic passes through the Township of The North Shore (due to the Trans-Canada Highway 17) and provides significant incremental support for the retail sector, particularly in the summer. However, local residents tend to go to Espanola, Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie to make large purchases<sup>46</sup>.

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<sup>40</sup> Lafarge North America. Contact. Accessed Online Aug 2013. [[http://www.lafarge-na.com/wps/portal/na/en/1\\_5\\_2\\_A-Locations](http://www.lafarge-na.com/wps/portal/na/en/1_5_2_A-Locations)].

<sup>41</sup> Carmeuse Lime & Stone. About Us. Accessed Online. Aug 2013. [<http://www.carmeusena.com/page.asp?id=2&langue=EN>].

<sup>42</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>43</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>44</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>45</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>46</sup> Based on interview data.

**Table 4 - Major Private Sector Employers in the Township of The North Shore<sup>47</sup>**

Name	Sector	Location
Carmeuse Lime & Stone	Mineral Extraction	Algoma Mills
Lafarge Canada Ltd.	Construction Materials	Algoma Mills
Algoma Chrysler	Automotive	Spragge

Public sector employment currently represents a larger source of opportunity for jobs in the area for those employed in health care and social services. Most residents find employment in the surrounding communities of the Town of Blind River and the City of Elliot Lake.

**Table 5 - Major Public Sector Employers in the Township of The North Shore<sup>48</sup>**

Name	Sector	Location
Township of the North Shore	Municipal Government	Algoma Mills
Rockhaven School for Exceptional Children	Education	Serpent River
Hydro One	Energy	Pronto

#### *Small, Medium and Large Businesses*

The Township of The North Shore has some of the amenities and businesses that are needed in a resource based industry community. For most services, residents have to go to surrounding communities. The following table provides an overview of some additional businesses in the Township of The North Shore. Please note that this list is not meant to be exhaustive.

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<sup>47</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>48</sup> Based on interview data.

**Table 6 - Additional Businesses in the Township of the North Shore<sup>49</sup>**

Name	Sector	Location
Lauzon Aviation	Service	Algoma Mills
Lake Lauzon Resort	Hospitality	Algoma Mills
Clarence's Fish Market	Retail	Algoma Mills
Wilson's Market	Retail	Algoma Mills
Booker Pottery	Retail	Algoma Mills
North Shore Storage and Antiques	Retail	Spragge
Vine Storage	Service	Spragge
Roy's Motel	Hospitality	Spragge
Elliot Lake Monuments	Retail	Spragge
Automatic Welding	Service	Spragge
The Nest	Hospitality	Spragge
Serpent River Campground	Recreation	Spragge
North Channel Yacht Club	Recreation	Spragge
KJ Beamish Construction	Construction	Spragge
Don's Used Cars	Automotive	Serpent River
Barton's Garage	Automotive	Serpent River
Flea Market	Retail	Serpent River

### 2.3.1.3 Income

#### *Median Household/Family Income*

According to the 2011 National Household Survey, the Township of The North Shore residents 15 years and over had a median income (before tax) of \$33,622, an increase from \$23,985 in 2006. Median household income before tax was \$82,996 in 2011 which marks a significant increase from \$45,809 in 2006. Families had a median income of \$88,010 in 2011, compared to \$53,045 in 2006. For the employed population who worked a full year, in full time jobs the median employment income was \$59,934 in 2011 and \$42,529 in 2006. As well, 8.9 percent of individuals were identified as low income (LIM-AT) in 2011<sup>50</sup>. See Tables A2 to A4 in **Appendix A** for detailed statistics.

### 2.3.1.4 Tourism

#### *Tourist Attractions*

The presence of the Lake Huron shore line and the many lakes in the area makes tourism a driving force in the local economy. There are many opportunities for snowmobiling, fishing, water sports, hunting, trapping and hiking. The Township sponsors a Canada Day celebration which is a local tourist attraction. The economy also benefits from waterfront and property development and spending of seasonal

<sup>49</sup> Blind River Chamber of Commerce. Business Directory. Accessed Online June 2014. [http://www.brchamber.ca/pages/bus\_search.php]

<sup>50</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. Census Community Profiles and National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed Aug 2013.

residents. These seasonal residents are attracted from places such as Windsor, Calgary, Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie with Lake Lauzon being a preferred location<sup>51</sup>.

The Deer Trail is a scenic driving route through the region, which follows segments of Highways 639, 546, 17 and 108, providing views of and access to the rugged northern Ontario wilderness. The main hiking trails in North Shore are the Deer Trail, the Kennebec Trail in Serpent River, the Wagoosh Trail in Spragge, and the Little Lake Bog Trail in Algoma Mills<sup>52</sup>. There are many lakes including Lake Lauzon that has a beach and recreational facilities. Bootleggers Bay also has a beach area.

There are many snowmobile trails in the area as well as game hunting for 'big game' animals like moose, deer and black bear and small game animals such as squirrels, rabbits and hares. Birds include many varieties of waterfowl, ruffed grouse and spruce grouse<sup>53</sup>. There are opportunities for fishing in Lake Lauzon and other areas as well as bird watching on the shores of Lake Huron. The Spragge recreation area and Serpent River parkette offer additional recreational opportunities<sup>54</sup>. The Lauzon Creek Causeway Pavilion offers a boat launch site.

#### *Tourist Accommodation*

There are some accommodations in the Township of The North Shore as well as campground facilities (e.g. Serpent River Campground and Lauzon Aviation camps, fly in camps). The Township of The North Shore has lodgings (e.g. Lake Lauzon Resort and Marina, Lauzon Bed and Breakfast, and Roy's Motel). There is potential to enhance tourism accommodations and experiences.

#### *Tourism Plans*

Over the years, particularly in the 1990s, a number of major tourism development strategies were prepared for the region and its principal communities. A comprehensive Tourism Development Strategy was prepared for the Huron North region, which encompassed all of the regional communities, as well as others along the North Channel to the east and west.

The Township of The North Shore is within the Ontario travel region known as Algoma Country and the Algoma-Kinniwabi Travel Association (Algoma Country) continues to market the broader region through its website and various other marketing and promotional activities, all based on an annual Marketing Plan<sup>55</sup>.

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<sup>51</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>52</sup> The Township of the North Shore. Outdoor Activities. Accessed Online. August 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/outdoor.html>].

<sup>53</sup> The Township of the North Shore. Outdoor Activities. Accessed Online. August 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/outdoor.html>].

<sup>54</sup> The Township of the North Shore. Spragge Recreation Area. Accessed Online. August 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/sprggerecare.html>].

<sup>55</sup> Algoma Algoma-Kinniwabi Travel Association (Algoma Country). About Us. Accessed Online July 2014. [<http://www.algomacountry.com/61/about-us/>]

### 2.3.1.5 Economic Development Services

Through regional development organizations, the Township of The North Shore has sophisticated economic development programs, and initiatives in place that will easily enable them to adapt and thrive with an influx of new development. This will also enable local businesses to capitalize on the investments associated with growth in the economy.

#### *Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation for Business Development (ELNOS)*

The ELNOS Corporation is a full-service business development corporation that was established to stimulate economic growth in the region through new business development and investment. The ELNOS Corporation is comprised of: The City of Elliot Lake, The Town of Blind River, The Town of Spanish, The Township of the North Shore, and the Serpent River First Nation<sup>56</sup>.

ELNOS provides creative and flexible solutions to advance the development and growth of businesses in the region<sup>57</sup>. It favours growing businesses that will provide long-term income and employment opportunities in the region. ELNOS' mandate is to improve the long-term economic prosperity of the region by assisting businesses which in turn creates wealth and jobs. The organization concentrates its resources on wealth generating businesses<sup>58</sup>.

The ELNOS Corporation is particularly interested in the development of small, manufacturing and technology-related businesses; experienced management; and solid earnings performance and growth. Their objective is to share and reduce the investment and development risks of new business ventures established in the region and to work with partners to develop and implement solutions for common problems that growing businesses experience<sup>59</sup>. ELNOS works with its partners to:

- Address planning and management issues;
- Effectively employ local labour services;
- Address real estate issues and needs;
- Procure local public services and utilities;
- Develop sound financing strategies; and
- Identify and secure suitable financing<sup>60</sup>.

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<sup>56</sup> Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation for Business Development – About Us. Accessed Online. July 2012. [<http://www.elnos.com/index.php/aboutus>].

<sup>57</sup> Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation for Business Development – About Us. Accessed Online. July 2012. [<http://www.elnos.com/index.php/aboutus>].

<sup>58</sup> Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation for Business Development – About Us. Accessed Online. July 2012. [<http://www.elnos.com/index.php/aboutus>].

<sup>59</sup> Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation for Business Development - Services. Accessed Online. July 2012. [<http://www.elnos.com/index.php/services>].

<sup>60</sup> Elliot Lake and North Shore Corporation for Business Development - Services. Accessed Online. July 2012. [<http://www.elnos.com/index.php/services>].

### *East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation*

The Township of The North Shore offers assistance to businesses through the East Algoma Community Future Development Corporation (CFDC) and through Invest East Algoma. The East Algoma CFDC is a federally supported not-for-profit organization that assists community economic development in East Algoma communities, and helps entrepreneurs to strengthen their local economy<sup>61</sup>. Moreover, the East Algoma CFDC offers strategic community planning and socio-economic development, support for community-based projects, various business services and small business loans. The CFDC also provides businesses with information on government programs, publications and counselling assistance.

An overall regional economic development strategy entitled, 'A Regional Economic Development Strategy for East Algoma' was prepared for the East Algoma CFDC in 2007. It summarizes opportunities and makes a significant number of recommendations for enhancing the region's economy. These recommendations, to a large extent, document the community's aspirations related to the economic asset area.

Local business people cite the low number of entrepreneurs, lack of communication among existing businesses and cost cutting in some sectors as being impediments to the success of economic development programs. They are optimistic about the future of the north shore economy due to cottages areas to the south (such as Parry Sound) becoming expensive and greater accessibility to markets occurring due to the completion of the construction of Highway 400/69<sup>62</sup>. Other firms believe that the isolation of the Township of The North Shore from major markets in the U.S. and Southern Ontario and the associated demands on logistics, is an impediment to economic development. The location tends to benefit the importation and export of raw materials and discourages manufacturing and related industry. Some businesses cited the need for local entrepreneurs to become more active, and for greater private sector finance support from local banks<sup>63</sup>.

#### *2.3.1.6 Governance and Municipal Finances*

##### *Governance Structure*

In the Township of The North Shore, operations are relatively small with a few dedicated staff. There is strong leadership and the administration is well positioned to address the challenges that economic growth would require.

*"The municipality was created as an Improvement District by order of the Ontario Municipal Board on March 1, 1973, comprising the geographic Townships of Shedden, Lewis, Spragge, Long and the easterly portion of Striker. The area was enlarged on January 1, 1974 by the annexation of certain islands in the North Channel of Lake Huron and the Improvement District was elevated to Township status effective as of December 1, 1978. A ward system consisting of six wards was*

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<sup>61</sup> The Township of the North Shore, 2010. Community Profile.

<sup>62</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>63</sup> Based on interview data.

*established on December 1, 1980. On November 1, 1985 the Township of The North Shore geographically separated from the Township of Shedden”<sup>64</sup>.*

The Township of The North Shore’s Council consists of a Mayor and three Councillors elected by ward and one generally elected Councillor. The Township of The North Shore has the following departments:

- Office of the Clerk;
- Recreation and Parks;
- Planning Department; and
- Public Works<sup>65</sup>.

The Township of The North Shore has the following committees:

- Services Review Committee;
- Property Standards Committee;
- Committee of Adjustment;
- North Shore Police Services Board; and
- Mayor and Chiefs Committee<sup>66</sup>.

The Mayor and Chiefs Committee meets twice a year to discuss opportunities for economic development.

#### *Municipal Revenue and Expenditures*

The Township of The North Shore has some financial resources to manage economic expansion opportunities and is able to address challenges as they arise. There is a lower tax rate for the area compared to the district at 1.286814943 percent for residential and farm class lands.

The following discussion on municipal revenue and expenditures is based on financial statistics from Provincially available data (see **Appendix B** for financial data tables). Please note that the 2012 data is the most up to date information available at this time.

Based on its 2012 Financial Information Return (FIR) filed with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. The Township of The North Shore’s total revenue for the year ending December 31, 2012 was \$ 1,434,329 and its total expenses were \$ 1,518,283 <sup>67</sup>. Accordingly, the Township of The North Shore had a deficit of

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<sup>64</sup> Township of the North Shore, 2013. About Us. Accessed Online, December 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/about.html>].

<sup>65</sup> Township of The North Shore. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/>].

<sup>66</sup> Township of The North Shore. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/committees.html>] and Council [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/council.html>]

<sup>67</sup> Province of Ontario, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. 2012 Financial Information Return. Accessed Online July 2013. [<http://csconramp.mah.gov.on.ca/fir/View/FI125740%20Copy.pdf>].

\$ -83,954 (which includes depreciation)<sup>68</sup>. The Township of The North Shore has a general reserve balance of \$364,330 and a reserve fund of \$546,898 for a total reserve of \$911,228.

Despite the deficit, the Township of The North Shore's accumulated surplus<sup>69</sup> at the end of the 2012 year was \$5,931,872<sup>70</sup> which includes both cash and non-cash (capital assets) components.

### **2.3.2 Summary of Economic Assets**

The following summarizes our findings for economic assets in the Township of The North Shore.

#### *2.3.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues*

The priorities and issues in the Township of The North Shore relate to the strength of their labour force, employment opportunities and strength of municipal finance and administration and main businesses.

Labour force activity is satisfactory in the Township of The North Shore, especially compared to other rural centres. However one of the issues with which local residents are most concerned is the need to ensure that a diversity of well-paying jobs exists within the community. With issues of the out-migration of youth being directly connected to the availability of quality, local employment opportunities, the need to attract new businesses to the area is a high priority. However, while there are some differences of opinion between members of the community about whether new business will or will not detract from the quality of life of local residents<sup>71</sup>.

The continued focus on tourism promotion is a priority for the Township of The North Shore. With an abundance of natural leisure opportunities ranging from sailing to hunting and fishing to snowmobiling, the ability to attract visitors from both Ontario and the United States is a significant economic opportunity.

The Township of The North Shore is served by regional economic development agencies (ELNOS Corporation and CFDC) that seek to improve and expand business in the area and enable residents to find quality employment and services within their community. This economic leadership puts the Township of The North Shore into a good position to anticipate and prepare for future development and provides direction for local businesses and employers.

#### *2.3.2.2 Community Aspirations*

In regards to economic assets, the Township of The North Shore aspires to increase the diversity of local employment opportunities. There is some support for large scale economic growth, but a parallel strong desire to ensure that the natural heritage and beauty of the area is preserved in order to maintain their status as a premier tourist and outdoor recreation destination. The Township of The North Shore

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<sup>68</sup> Includes a -\$219,558 PSAB adjustment.

<sup>69</sup> Accumulated surplus consists of both cash and non-cash components, including: (1) unrestricted (including cash, accounts receivable and other non-cash financial assets); (2) restricted (cash that can only be used for a pre-determined purpose); and (3) equity in tangible capital assets.

<sup>70</sup> Province of Ontario, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. 2012 Financial Information Return. Accessed Online July 2013. [<http://csconramp.mah.gov.on.ca/fir/View/FI125740%20Copy.pdf>].

<sup>71</sup> Based on interview data.



residents see the potential for further economic development and growth in the area and aspire to balance the needs of the various industries that they are trying to attract.

There is a desire to attract employers that can provide stable, well-paying employment for young people and families. For the Township of The North Shore to remain viable in the long run, they aspire to expand the number of local opportunities for permanent work and find ways to retain local residents, rather than have them leave for large cities such as Sault Ste. Marie or Sudbury.

### *2.3.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community*

In relation to capabilities and capacities, the Township of The North Shore has some ability to take on new enterprises – they have the ability to be entrepreneurial and have strong leadership. The Township of The North Shore is receptive and is able to handle economic development and leverage the support of regional agencies such as the ELNOS Corporation and CFDC. There is a formal governance structure in the Township of The North Shore with a Mayor and Councillors that indicate a capacity to responsibly deal with economic growth opportunities. The Township of The North Shore already provides support for international resource based companies and there is room for expansion in other resource extraction areas.

## **2.4 Physical Assets**

### *2.4.1 Physical Asset Indicators*

This section provides a description of the Township of The North Shores' physical assets. Physical assets include the basic infrastructure needed to support livelihoods and the tools or equipment that people use to function more productively. Infrastructure is a public good that is used without payment or some other infrastructure for a fee related to usage. Increased access to such infrastructure improves community well-being, human health and quality of life. The opportunity costs associated with poor quality infrastructure can preclude education, access to health services and income generation. Physical assets indicators include land use, housing, municipal infrastructure and services and transportation infrastructure.

#### *2.4.1.1 Land Use*

##### *Commercial*

While the Township of The North Shore's Official Plan (2012) has designated commercial land uses, the commercial sector is not, as yet, well developed. Permitted uses include offices, retail stores, vehicle fuel retail outlets, sales and service establishments, tourist lodges, marinas, motel/hotels, restaurants and truck stops. Existing commercial areas are permitted adjacent to Trans-Canada Highway 17, Highway 108 and Highway 538<sup>72</sup>.

##### *Industrial*

Industries currently located in the Township, represent a major capital investment in the Township. As global firms, they are less subject to local variations in the economy. Smaller industries supporting

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<sup>72</sup> Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan.

construction and forestry are more vulnerable to local economic change. The Township of The North Shore's Official Plan (2012) has designated an industrial land use area. Industrial uses are also permitted adjacent to Highways 17, 108 and 538. Industrial uses in The Township of The North Shore are dry uses (usage of less than 10,000 litres of water per day) and only require a domestic water supply and sewage systems. Permitted uses include processing, manufacturing, assembly and warehousing activities as well as other non-intensive operations. Mining, bulk fuel facilities, heavy equipment sales and repair, the Ministry of Natural Resources firefighting base, public utilities, and transportation and communications facilities are also permitted. There are provisions for mineral aggregate extraction designations which include wayside pits and quarries, agricultural and forestry uses, crushing facilities, screening operations, asphalt and concrete plants and recycling operations<sup>73</sup>. Industrial uses also include the rail line and deep water port in Spragge and Serpent River.

### *Municipal Constraints*

The Township of The North Shore Official Plan identifies sensitive areas that need to be protected. These areas include those with historical significance, fish spawning areas, grave sites, waterfowl nesting areas and natural heritage features and areas. Uses permitted in sensitive areas include parks and public recreational uses<sup>74</sup>. In addition, there are lands designated as 'Restricted Open Space' on all the North Channel Islands<sup>75</sup>. Permitted uses include some recreational and residential uses (e.g. YWCA Camp), wildlife conservation and commercial fisheries. The Township owns 108 properties. There is no servicing for new housing. The cost of water servicing has in the past been a matter of some discussion<sup>76</sup>. There is land in the Official Plan for 65 properties that are owned by the Township of The North Shore. The Township bought 40 properties from Rio Algom<sup>77 78</sup>.

### *Amount of Land in the Planning Pipeline*

The entire Township of The North Shore is designated as a Community Improvement Area. This requires that the Township to provide:

- Water services to the Serpent River settlement area;
- Treatment of all Municipal roads;
- Adequate street lighting;
- New recreational facilities;
- Upgrading of housing; and
- Development of Municipal gardens.

Please see Figure 9 for a map of land ownership in the Township of the North Shore area.

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<sup>73</sup> Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan.

<sup>74</sup> Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan.

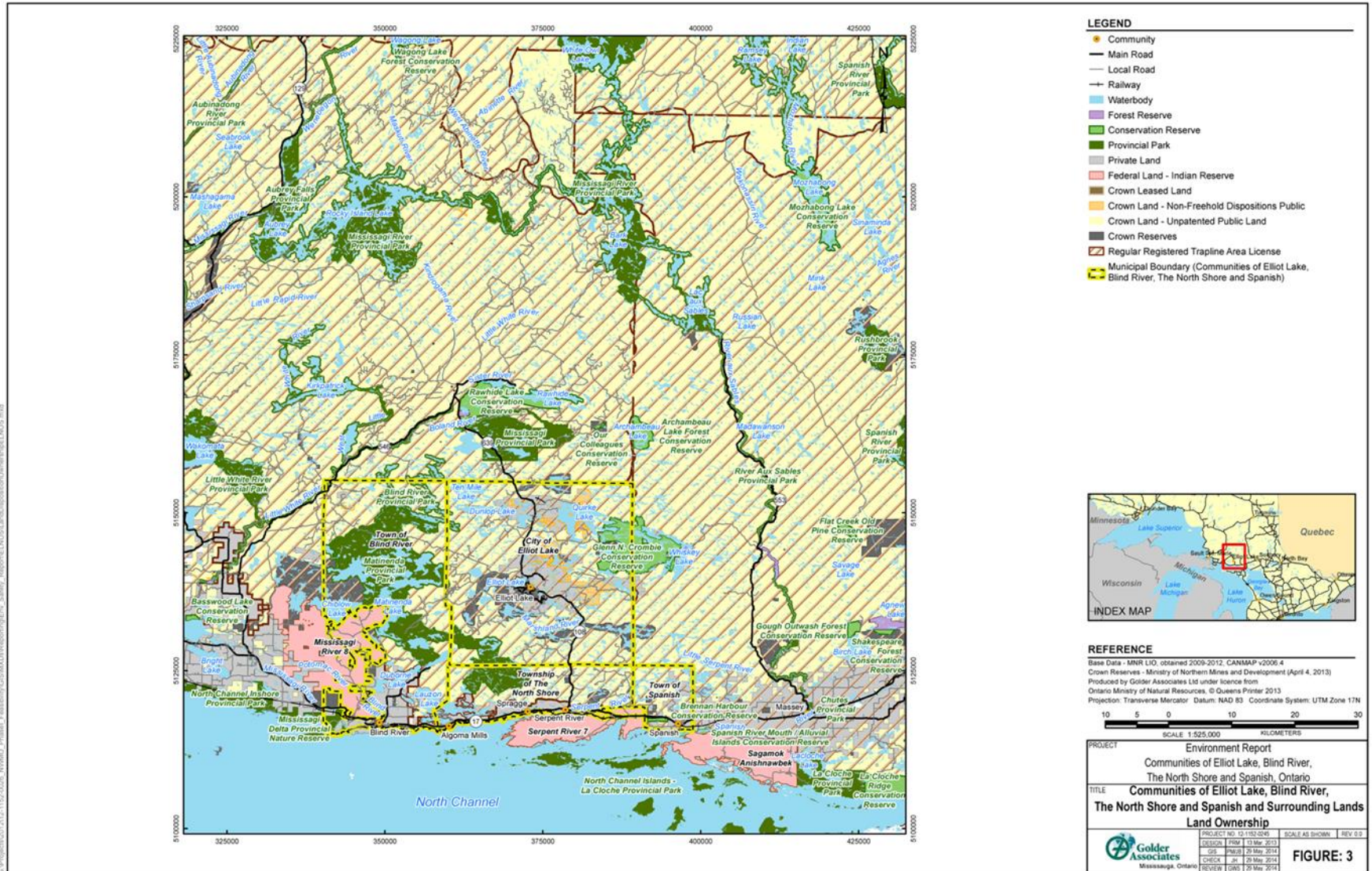
<sup>75</sup> Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan.

<sup>76</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>77</sup> Based in interview data.

<sup>78</sup> Township of the North Shore, 2012. Official Plan.

Figure 9 - Map of Land Ownership



## *Presence of Official Plan and Land Designations*

The Township of The North Shore Official Plan Draft was prepared in 2012.

### *2.4.1.2 Housing*

#### *Type of Dwellings*

As of 2011, the dominant housing style in the Township of The North Shore was single-detached housing which accounted for 93.8 percent of all dwellings, 2.1 percent were categorized as moveable dwellings<sup>79</sup>. 'Moveable dwelling' types include mobile homes. Between 1996 and 2011, dwelling types in the Township of The North Shore did not change substantially (see Figures 10 and 11).

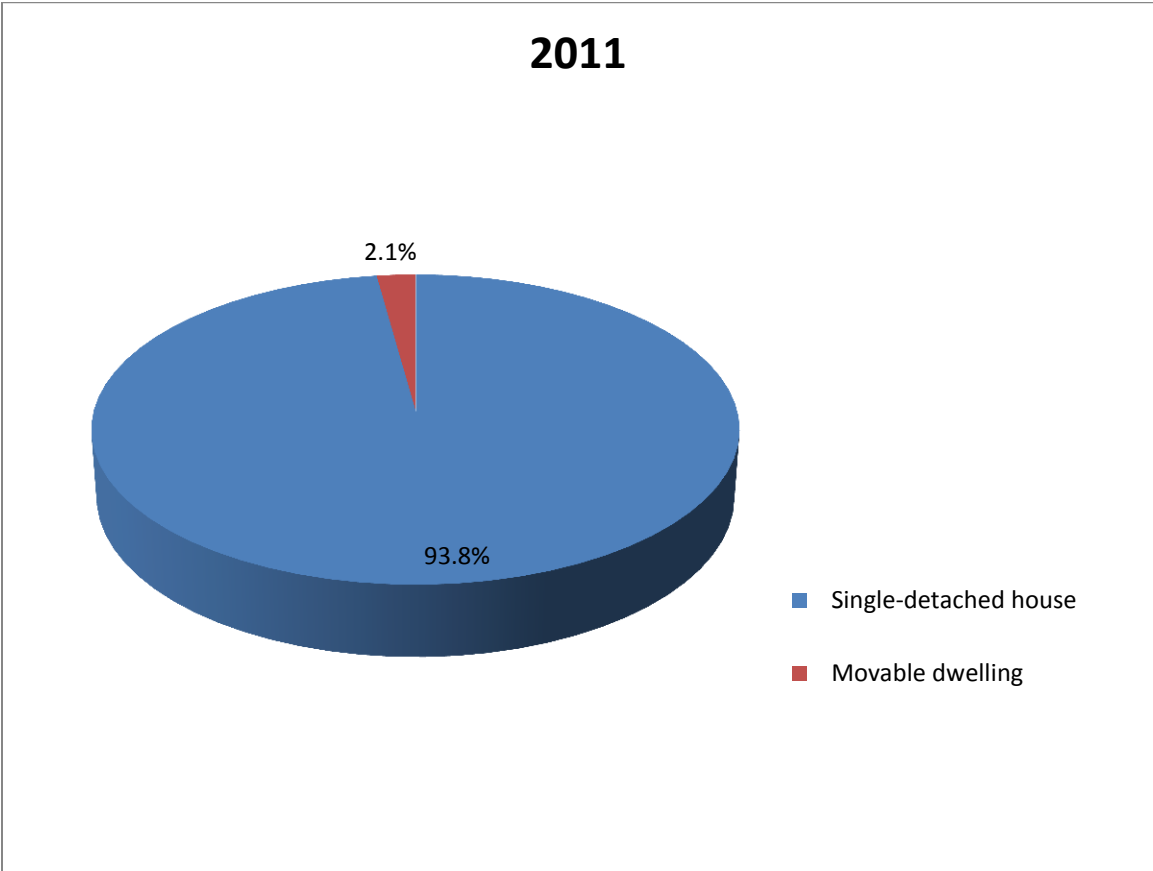
There are limited housing options available in the Township of The North Shore. There is a shortage of rental housing. Some homes require maintenance specific to cottages that have become permanent residences<sup>80</sup>.

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<sup>79</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Please note that data was not collected in 2001 for this statistic. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada. Please note that data was not collected in 2001 for this statistic.

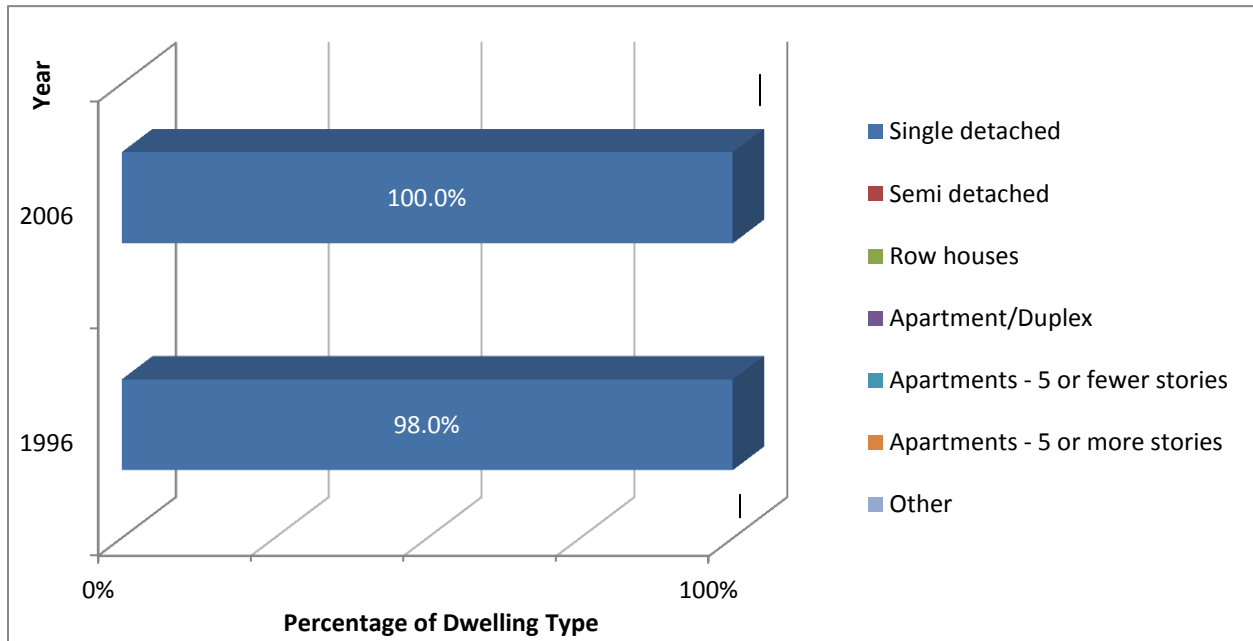
<sup>80</sup> Based on interview data.

**Figure 10 - Types of Private Dwellings in the Township of The North Shore (2011)<sup>81</sup>**



<sup>81</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. Census – Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed December 2013. Please note that data was not collected in 2001 for this statistic. Please note that data adds up to less than 100% due to random rounding by Statistics Canada. Please note that for all other categories for type of dwelling, Statistics Canada notes instances of 0% (no data collected) and are therefore not depicted in this figure.

**Figure 11 - Types of Private Dwellings in the Township of The North Shore (1996 and 2006)<sup>82</sup>**



In 2012, there were 20 building permits issued by the Township of The North Shore. Permits may include garages. This indicates that there is some growth in the local housing stock<sup>83</sup>.

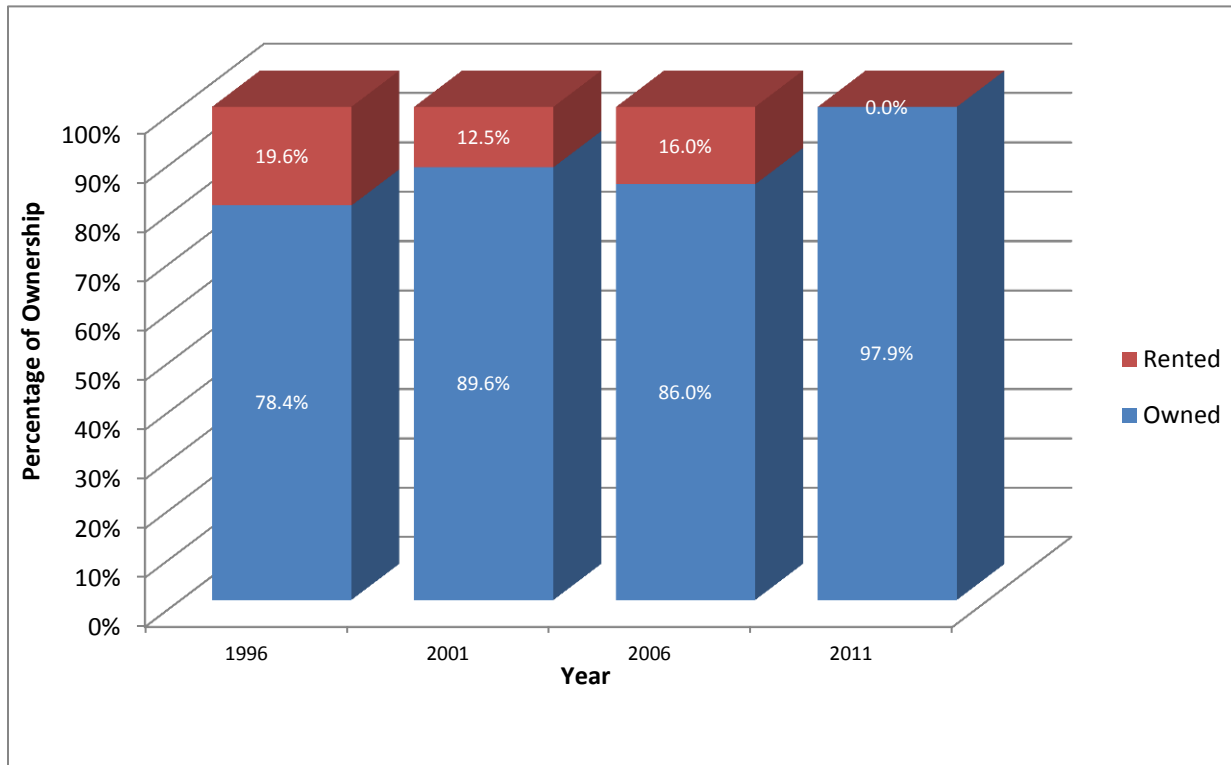
#### *Dwelling Characteristics and Tenure*

According to Statistics Canada, the majority of residents in the Township of The North Shore owned their homes (97.9 percent) in 2011. However, residents report that there are a limited number of rental properties available.

<sup>82</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006. Census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2013. Please note that 2011 data is not available. Please note that percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

<sup>83</sup> Based on CLC meeting data.

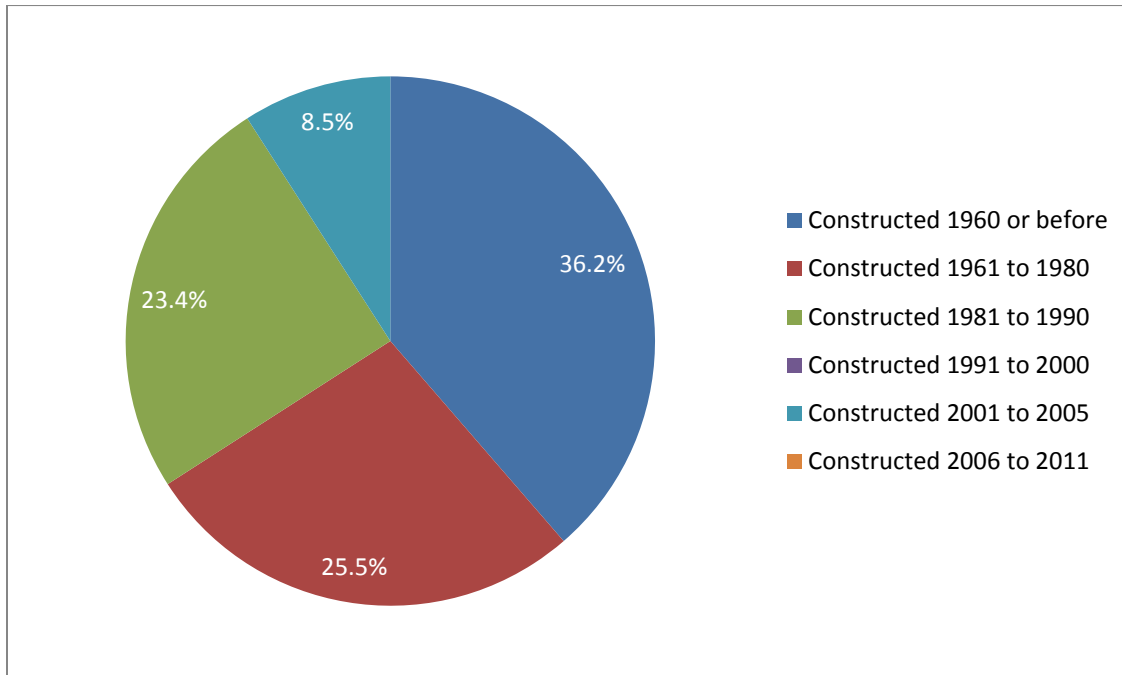
**Figure 12 - Dwelling Characteristics in the Township of The North Shore<sup>84</sup>**



In regards to the age of housing in the Township of The North Shore, Figure 13 shows that as of 2011, the majority (61.7 percent) of buildings in the community were constructed before 1981. 23.4 percent of dwellings were constructed between 1981 and 1990. According to Township records for building permits, there have been 32 new homes constructed in the Township of the North Shore since 1997.

<sup>84</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles and NHS National Household Survey (2011) (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed June 2012. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

**Figure 13 - Age of Dwellings in the Township of The North Shore (2011)<sup>85</sup>**



#### *Residential Property Value*

Between 1996 and 2011, the average value of homes in the Township of The North Shore increased (see Table 7). In 2011, the average home was \$179,835<sup>86</sup>.

**Table 7 - Average Home Value in the Township of The North Shore (Statistics Canada)<sup>87</sup>**

Home Value	1996	2001	2006	2011
The North Shore	\$75,673	\$109,232	\$176,434	\$179,835

The Township of The North Shore’s 2010 Community Profile states that:

*“According to the 2010 Royal LePage Recreational Property Report, in Lake Huron’s North Shore, waterfront properties with land access averaged \$140,000 while non-waterfront; land-access*

<sup>85</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. NHS – National Household Survey (2011). (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed December 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

<sup>86</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. NHS – National Household Survey (2011). (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed December 2013.

<sup>87</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles and NHS – National Household Survey (2011). (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed December 2013.



*properties cost \$75,000. This figure represents one of the lowest real estate rates for recreational waterfront properties in Ontario. According to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation the average assessment value for a single-family home (not on water) within the Township in 2008 was \$46,650<sup>88</sup>.*

In addition to home purchases, European families are purchasing large tracts of land in the Township of The North Shore<sup>89</sup>. Specifically, land purchasing and development has occurred north of Sunrise Lake and Lake Lauzon. German investors have also purchased waterfront lots.

#### *2.4.1.3 Municipal Infrastructure and Services*

The Township of The North Shore has adequate municipal infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, waste management systems, access to transit [Greyhound buses], gas and power utilities). Because the municipality is an amalgamation of smaller, spread out communities, municipal services vary across the municipality. For example, services in Pronto are newer and those in Serpent River are aging<sup>90</sup>. The Township of The North Shore has an effective Service Review Committee that addresses servicing matters such as disproportionate taxes, variances in assessment and consistency between municipal tax paid and services received<sup>91</sup>.

##### *Water Supply Systems*

A municipal water supply system services the residences in the Serpent River Settlement area of the Township of The North Shore Municipality. Individual private water supply systems service most of the lots in the Township of The North Shore<sup>92</sup>. The new plant in Pronto is a municipal system. There is an operating shortfall for the Pronto and Serpent River plants which has resulted in an increase in municipal taxes.

##### *Waste Water System*

Wastewater is handled by individual private septic systems in Spragge, Serpent River and Algoma Mills<sup>93</sup>. “Residents of these communities are responsible for the periodic pump out and maintenance of their own septic systems”<sup>94</sup>. Sewage services are available in the Pronto Subdivision<sup>95</sup>.

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<sup>88</sup> The Township of the North Shore, 2012. Community Profile.

<sup>89</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>90</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>91</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>92</sup> The Township of the North Shore, 2012. Draft Official Plan.

<sup>93</sup> Township of North Shore. Accessed Online June, 2012.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/municipal/municipal%20services.html>].

<sup>94</sup> Township of North Shore. Accessed Online June, 2012.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/municipal/municipal%20services.html>].

<sup>95</sup> The Township of the North Shore, 2012. Draft Official Plan.

### *Landfill Sites*

A municipal landfill is located at 5931 Trans-Canada Highway 17 in Serpent River<sup>96</sup>. The landfill is over capacity although land is available for expansion. The Township is the location of a legacy brownfield as a result of uranium mining in the municipality<sup>97</sup>.

### *Electricity Supply*

Power is supplied to the Township of The North Shore by Hydro One.

#### *2.4.1.4 Transportation Infrastructure*

##### *Presence of Transportation Infrastructure*

Trans-Canada Highway 17, Highway 108 and Highway 538 extend through the Township of The North Shore. At times the Highway is heavily used by trucks and other traffic and safety concerns have been raised. Residents are served by A.J. Bus Lines which is a school bus and charter service and Greyhound buslines. Deep water ports in Algoma Mills are used by Lafarge Canada Ltd. and Carmeuse Lime & Stone through a Federal lease<sup>98</sup>. The Huron Central rail line also goes through the Township of The North Shore and in some instances functions to bisect the community.

Also in close proximity to the Township of The North Shore is the City of Elliot Lake Airport that has a 4,500 ft x 100 ft paved runway. The Elliot Lake Airport has year round use and is certified by Transport Canada. Air Bravo Corp. provides charter services and operates an air ambulance service, servicing all of Northeastern Ontario<sup>99</sup>. The Airport is also serviced by Dynamex Courier with twice daily flights on weekdays. In addition, the MNR has training exercises at the Airport<sup>100</sup>. The Sault Ste. Marie Airport as well as the Sudbury Airports are also in proximity to the Township of The North Shore

## **2.4.2 Summary of Physical Assets**

The following summarizes our findings for physical assets in the Township of The North Shore.

### *2.4.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues*

The Township of The North Shore has provisions for commercial and industrial land uses and is prepared for moderate growth. Transportation, water and wastewater infrastructure is available, but there will need to be an expansion of these services to accommodate growth. Expansion of municipal services has been an issue in the Municipality in the past, particularly in terms of financing new infrastructure. Housing can be expanded in the Township of The North Shore. Outside single family owned homes, there are few housing options.

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<sup>96</sup> Township of North Shore. Accessed Online June, 2012. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/municipal/municipal%20services.html>].

<sup>97</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>98</sup> Based on CLC meeting data.

<sup>99</sup> City of Elliot Lake Economic Development Office, 2008. The City of Elliot Lake 2008 Community Profile.

<sup>100</sup> City of Elliot Lake Economic Development Office, 2008. The City of Elliot Lake 2008 Community Profile.

#### *2.4.2.2 Community Aspirations*

The Township of The North Shore aspires to support growth and development. They want to provide direction, but residents also want adequate controls on new industrial, commercial and residential development. Growth needs to occur in a manner that is well managed and consistent with the current quality of life. The Township of The North Shore is managing both residential growth and other physical infrastructure by aspiring to improve physical standards and expand industrial areas. In addition, the Township of The North Shore aspires to grow their economy while keeping natural assets and the quality of life.

#### *2.4.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community*

Because it is spread out, the Township of The North Shore has limited water supply and wastewater treatment system are only available in Serpent River and the Pronto East Subdivision. The Township of the North Shore is highly accessible by road (Trans-Canada Highway 17), rail, water and air (Municipal Airport in Elliot Lake). Municipal infrastructure would have to be expanded to accommodate increased residential and commercial development.

There are few areas of commercial land in the community. However, land is available for commercial and economic development. The presence of a new large scale industry would necessitate a significant increase in the quantity of commercial and serviced industrial lands.

## **2.5 Social Assets**

### *2.5.1 Social Asset Indicators*

This section identifies the social assets of the Township of The North Shore. Social assets 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 the community and between communities; increase connectivity and cohesion, and generate trusting relationships and community pride. These activities and resources allow people to better cope with change, provide an informal safety net, and may compensate for a lack of other types of capital within the community. Social asset indicators include diversity of population composition, cultural heritage resources, community facilities and programs, and social services and organizations.

#### *2.5.1.1 Diversity of Population Composition*

##### *Aboriginal Identity*

There is a varied mix of Aboriginal Identity and non-Aboriginal population in the Township of The North Shore. Since 1996, there has been an increase of residents who identify themselves as Aboriginal<sup>101</sup>. As of 2011, 7.9 percent of residents identified as Aboriginal (see Table A5 in **Appendix A** for detailed statistics)<sup>102</sup>.

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<sup>101</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2011. Census Community Profiles and National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

<sup>102</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

## *Languages*

As of 2011, the majority of people in the Township of The North Shore speak English as their primary language at home (90.0 percent), which is higher than the Ontario average (79.0 percent)<sup>103</sup>. French is spoken in more homes in the Township of The North Shore (nine percent) than in the rest of Ontario (2.2 percent), indicating the presence of a strong Francophone or Métis population. Many people are bilingual and French and English are spoken interchangeably and with comfort along the north shore. The use of non-official languages in the Township of The North Shore (one percent) was significantly below the Ontario average (14.4 percent), indicating that the community has a less diverse population than much of the rest of the Province (see Table A6 in **Appendix A** for detailed statistics).

## *Immigrant Population*

Since 1996, the percent of residents in the Township of The North Shore who immigrated to Canada has been increasing. As of 2011, 7.9 percent of the population were immigrants (see Table A7 in Appendix A)<sup>104</sup>.

## *Seasonal Residents*

Lake Lauzon is a cottage area and includes a seasonal population that come from all over Ontario and the U.S. Seasonal residents increase the population of the community in the summer months. The area is also attracting European tourists and investors<sup>105</sup>.

### *2.5.1.2 Cultural Heritage Resources*

#### *Archaeological Sites*

There are 85 registered archaeological sites in the area of the four communities. Of these 85 archaeological sites, three are located within the municipal boundary for the City of Elliot Lake; four are within the municipal boundary of the Town of Blind River, and five within the Township of the North Shore<sup>106</sup>.

In addition, there are First Nations burial sites, ruins of the partially built rail hotel, as well as an archeological site located at Bootlegger's Bay<sup>107</sup>.

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<sup>103</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

<sup>104</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

<sup>105</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>106</sup> von Bitter, R., 2013. Personal Communication on April 26, 2013 re: Archaeological Sites Database. Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport.

<sup>107</sup> Based on CLC meeting data.

## *Euro-Canadian Heritage Resources and Cultural Landscapes*

In an area that had originally been an important route for early Voyageurs and fur traders, the Towns of Blind River and Spanish and the Township of The North Shore (successor communities) were formed in the late 1800s as an important area for logging activity. With the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railroad in 1884, the population in each town grew consistently.

The Township of The North Shore's Causeway Pavillion is located on Highway 538 in Algoma Mills near Lauzon Creek. The Causeway Pavillion is a historical landmark which once had a large dock that was used by local companies "in the late 1800s and early 1900s to transport freight to southern Ontario"<sup>108</sup>. Access to the North Channel of Lake Huron at the Causeway Pavillion was part of the Voyageur route<sup>109</sup>. Algoma Mills was once the Canadian Pacific Railway's (CPR's) major coal delivery port for the Algoma District. The CPR purchased land and planned to construct a 300 room hotel that was later located in Banff, Alberta (Banff Springs Hotel). There are display panels at the Causeway Pavillion regarding the Township of The North Shore's history as well as a locomotive replica created by a local artist<sup>110</sup>.

### *Arts and Multicultural Groups*

The Township of The North Shore's community's identity and cultural assets provide an attractive place to live, work and play. A community engaged in cultural and entertainment opportunities as well as amenities is typically successful in attracting and retaining families, workers and tourists. Furthermore, the vitality of a community's cultural participation and engagement relates directly to its overall quality of life. Although there are no arts and multicultural groups in the Township of The North Shore, residents attend events in the neighbouring communities of Elliot Lake and Blind River.

Media also plays an important part of the day to day news and cultural life in the Township of The North Shore. The Township of The North Shore does not have any media outlets of its own, but uses the services from the City of Elliot Lake. The main newspaper is the Elliot Lake Standard which is owned by Osprey Media. It is published weekly and is the largest circulation newspaper along the North Shore<sup>111</sup>. Residents also read the Sault Star and Sudbury Star.

### *2.5.1.3 Community Facilities and Programs*

#### *Service and Social Clubs*

The presence of service and social clubs illustrate the levels of volunteerism in a community as well as cultural participation. The Township of The North Shore has the North Channel Yacht Club (NCYC)

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<sup>108</sup> Township of North Shore. Causeway Pavilion. Accessed Online June, 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/causewaypav.html>].

<sup>109</sup> Township of North Shore. Causeway Pavilion. Accessed Online June, 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/causewaypav.html>].

<sup>110</sup> Township of North Shore. Causeway Pavilion. Accessed Online June, 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/causewaypav.html>].

<sup>111</sup> Elliot Lake Standard. Accessed Online. September 2012. [<http://www.elliottlakestandard.ca/>].

located in Spragge. Residents also partake in activities in the neighbouring communities of Elliot Lake and Blind River. The local Canada Day celebrations are well attended<sup>112</sup>.

Some change in lifestyle has been occurring for residents with an aging population, few young children and an influx of cottagers and others who choose to live in the Township as they have found Elliot Lake housing to be expensive. The need for more volunteers is seen to be desirable. Longer term residents tend to seek community stability. In general, local residents tend to know each other. They attend festivals and participate in school activities with other north shore residents and go to church and sporting events.<sup>113</sup>

### *Recreational Facilities*

There are a small number of recreational facilities in the Township of The North Shore and other facilities in Elliot Lake, Blind River and on the Mississauga First Nation Reserve. Such facilities along the north shore are a community asset, encourage local residents to stay in the community and serve as an attraction for future potential residents. The majority of recreation is focused on outdoor experiences such as fishing, hiking, hunting, sailing and snowmobiling. The Spragge Recreation Area includes an ice rink, basketball and tennis courts and a connection to the snowmobile trail<sup>114</sup>. There is an outdoor rink in Serpent River, as well multiple boat launch areas (at the Serpent River, Pater Mine Boat Launch at Spragge, Cook House Road at Pronto onto Lake Lauzon, Algoma Mills at Lauzon Beach and Lauzon Creek Causeway, as well as Spragge at Wagoosh Lake).

### *Park Areas*

The Township of The North Shore has a variety of parkland, hiking trails and green space within its boundaries. In the Township of The North Shore, Lake Lauzon Beach and the Spragge Recreation Area are popular attractions.<sup>115</sup> There are also park areas at the MTO Park in Serpent River, the Serpent River Campground Park, the Lauzon Creek Causeway Pavilion, Bootlegger's Bay and Kennebec Falls.

#### *2.5.1.4 Social Services and Organizations*

##### *Social and Affordable Housing*

There are organizations at the regional level that coordinate social housing programs. Like most communities, there is an opportunity for more social and affordable housing. At a regional level, Community Housing Algoma and the Algoma District Services Administration Board operate a number of facilities in the Township of The North Shore.

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<sup>112</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>113</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>114</sup> Township of North Shore. Features and Attractions. Accessed Online June, 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/features.html/>].

<sup>115</sup> Township of North Shore. Features and Attractions. Accessed Online June, 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/features/features.html/>].

### *Child Care Services*

Day care is primarily in the neighbouring communities of Blind River and Elliot Lake<sup>116</sup>.

### *Social Assistance and Support Programs*

There are a variety of social assistance and support programs offered at the local and regional level such as the Rock Haven School for Exceptional Children and Oak Drug and Rehabilitation Centre. The support networks provide for increased quality of life in the community and assist those residents in need or in crisis. The Township of the North Shore is a member of the Algoma District Services Administration Board which provides administrative duties regarding children's services, emergency medical services, housing services and Ontario Works and related social services<sup>117</sup>. In addition, the Blind River Food Bank services the Township of The North Shore<sup>118</sup>. The Mississauga First Nation and City of Elliot Lake Retirement Living also offer social services. There is a need for a low income senior's centre<sup>119</sup>.

## **2.5.2 Summary of Social Assets**

The following summarizes our findings for social assets in the Township of The North Shore.

### *2.5.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues*

In general, the Township of The North Shore population is not particularly diverse with few immigrants living in the community. With any incoming residents from diverse ethnic backgrounds, there will be a need to develop services that are sensitive to cultural needs.

### *2.5.2.2 Community Aspirations*

The Township of The North Shore aspires to have an attractive standard of living. They aspire to enhance their cultural scene. Most cultural activities are located in the surrounding communities of the City of Elliot Lake, the Town of Blind River and other communities along the north shore. The Township of The North Shore aspires to maintain and enhance recreational programs and facilities to service the current population to attract new and younger residents.

### *2.5.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community*

There are limited local social support institutions in the Township of The North Shore. For most social services, residents access programs are offered at a regional level. The Township of The North Shore Community Support Services offers some mental health programs. There are no day care facilities available or affordable housing programs available. However, much of the housing is affordable. There are nuclear workers currently in the area (e.g. former uranium miners and current Cameco employees) that understand uranium and nuclear issues.

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<sup>116</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>117</sup> Algoma District Services Administration Board. About Us. Accessed Online August 2013. [[http://www.adsab.on.ca/Administration\\_Board\\_Administration\\_Site.aspx](http://www.adsab.on.ca/Administration_Board_Administration_Site.aspx)].

<sup>118</sup> Based on CLC meeting data.

<sup>119</sup> Based on interview data.

## 2.6 Natural Assets

### 2.6.1 Natural Asset Indicators

This section provides data on natural assets of the Township of The North Shore. This includes a wide range of resources from intangible goods (e.g. air quality and biodiversity) that are used directly by people (e.g. water, trees, land, and wildlife) to natural assets indicators including parks and protected areas, natural areas and areas of significance.

#### 2.6.1.1 Parks and Protected Areas

There are a number of Provincial Parks in the region surrounding the Township of The North Shore. The southern portion of the Matinenda Provincial Park is within the Township of The North Shore and it occupies approximately 15 percent of the Township area<sup>120</sup>. Upstream of the Matinenda Provincial Park is the Blind River Waterway Provincial Park. The Chutes Provincial Park is east of the Township along Trans-Canada Highway 17. The Mississagi Delta Provincial Park is west of the Township and is located at the mouth of the Mississagi River<sup>121</sup>.

*“Other Provincial Parks in the region include the Aubinadong River, Wenebagon, Aubrey Falls, Spanish River, Mississagi, Mississagi River, La Cloche, Little White River, North Channel Islands, River aux Sables, and Rushbrook Provincial Parks. In addition to the Brennan Harbour and Glenn N. Crombie Conservation Reserves there are 10 other conservation reserves in the region. These include the Wagony Lake, Mozhabong Lake, Rawhide Lake, Archambeau Lake Forest, Old Colleagues, Flat Creek Old Pine, Gough Outwash Forest, Basswood Lake, Shakespeare Forest, and La Cloche Ridge. The four Forest Reserves are: Rawhide Lake, Glen N. Crombie, River aux Sables and Shakespeare”<sup>122</sup>.*

Please see Figure 14 that illustrates the locations of surrounding parks and protected areas.

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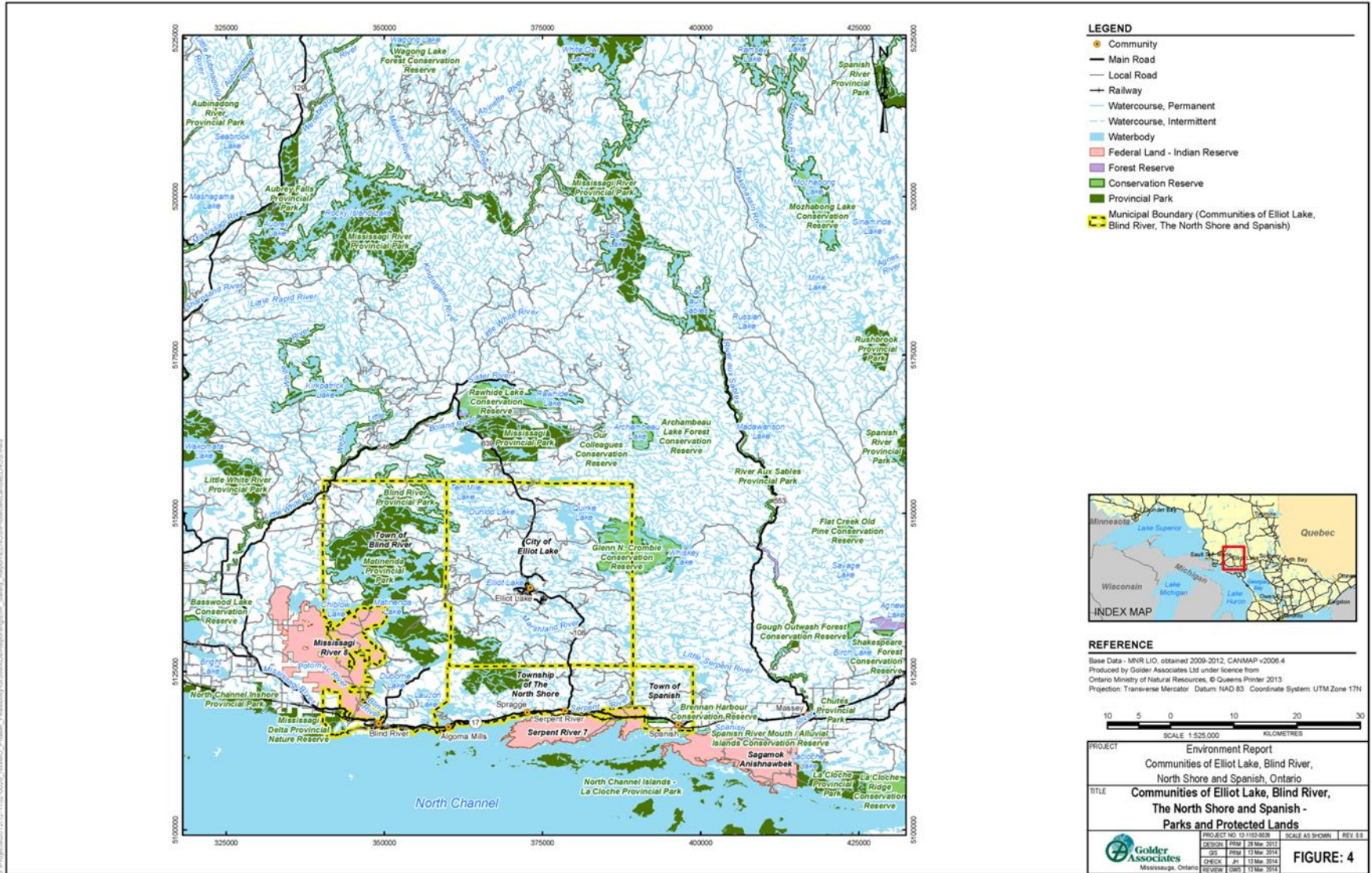
<sup>120</sup> Geofirma Engineering Ltd., 2012. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Final Report Canada’s Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of the North Shore, Ontario.

<sup>121</sup> Geofirma Engineering Ltd., 2012. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Final Report Canada’s Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of the North Shore, Ontario.

<sup>122</sup> Geofirma Engineering Ltd., 2012. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Final Report Canada’s Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of the North Shore, Ontario.



Figure 14 - Map of Parks and Protected Areas



### 2.6.1.2 Natural Areas and Features of Significance

#### *Biophysical Features*

The Township of The North Shore area is situated on a naturally diverse part of the Precambrian Canadian Shield. The topography is typical of the Canadian Shield and is situated at the contact between the geological Superior and Southern Provinces. “Most of the Township lies in the Superior Province while the southwestern and extreme southern parts of the Township lie in the Southern Province. The northern part of the Township of The North Shore and most of the surrounding area is located within the Abitibi Subprovince of the Superior Province”<sup>123</sup>.

Water resources are plentiful due to the previous presence of glacial coverage. The main river systems are the Spanish and Sables Rivers, the Blind River, Little Serpent River, as well as the Little White River which flows into the Mississagi River<sup>124</sup>. Lake Huron is the largest lake and there are many other smaller lakes in the area including Lauzon Lake which is a deep water lake.

#### *Climate*

Temperature in the area of the four communities can reach highs of 37°C in summer months and lows of -39°C in winter months. The annual average temperature is 4°C, with an average summer temperature of 16°C and an average winter temperature of -8°C<sup>125</sup>.

#### *Mineral Resources*

There are currently no active mines in the area of the four communities, but the region has a long history of mining and mineral exploration and development continues there today. In the area of the four communities, there are several areas of active exploration and of metallic mineral production. There is a historic and ongoing interest in the Huronian Supergroup, Whiskey Lake and Benny Lake greenstone belts and the East Bull Lake intrusive suite. Within the area of the four communities, there are 21 past producing mines with no reserves and six past producing mines with reserves.

There are numerous sand and gravel pits within the area of the four communities. There are two discretionary occurrences for building stone (granite) reported within the Ramsey-Algoma granitoid complex, near the mouth of the Blind River<sup>126</sup>.

## 2.6.2 Summary of Natural Assets

The following summarizes our findings for natural assets in the Township of The North Shore.

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<sup>123</sup> Geofirma Engineering Ltd., 2012. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Final Report Canada’s Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of the North Shore, Ontario.

<sup>124</sup> Geofirma Engineering Ltd., 2012. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geological Repository for Final Report Canada’s Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of the North Shore, Ontario.

<sup>125</sup> Environment Canada (EC), 2013c. National Climate Data and Information Archive. Accessed Online April 2013. [[http://climate.weatheroffice.gc.ca/climateData/canada\\_e.html](http://climate.weatheroffice.gc.ca/climateData/canada_e.html)].

<sup>126</sup> OGS (Ontario Geological Survey), 2011c. Mineral Deposit Inventory-2011. Ontario Geological Survey.

### *2.6.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues*

In regards to the natural assets in the Township of The North Shore, the central priority of residents is to preserve and protect the local environment. With a portion of the economy dedicated to wilderness recreation and tourism, ensuring the continued viability of local forests and watersheds is an important desire.

### *2.6.2.2 Community Aspirations*

The Township of The North Shore has rich natural heritage resources and was once a site for forestry activities. Local community members aspire to protect and ensure the beauty of their natural spaces. The goal of the Township of The North Shore is finding a reasonable balance between preservation and development that will support the viability of the Township while ensuring that the natural character of the area remains unchanged.

### *2.6.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community*

In regards to capabilities and capacities within the Township of the North Shore, it is important to note that the area is well-known for its mineral deposits. In addition to natural resource extraction, there are many opportunities for tourists and residents to participate in outdoor activities. Its location on Lake Huron and the natural spaces are an important economic strength as nature tourism is a major draw for visitors to the area. The capacity of the landscape surrounding the Township of The North Shore is one of its most powerful defining characteristics and must be a careful consideration in any efforts to increase development in the area.

## **2.7 Unique Characteristics**

This section profiles the unique characteristics of the Township of The North Shore.

### *2.7.1 Community Character*

#### *Attitudes About the Community and Community Character*

The Township of The North Shore is eager for development and encourages local investments. It also values its natural assets and prides itself on its natural attractions. Closeness to pristine nature and quality of life is valued. There is community pride and many residents attend local events such as Canada Day celebrations.

### *2.7.2 Environmental Values*

#### *Serpent River Region Environmental Committee*

The primary purpose of the Serpent River Region Environmental Committee was to maintain the long-term environmental well-being of the communities of Elliot Lake, Serpent River First Nation and the Township of The North Shore. The committee is no longer active.

### *2.7.3 Community Goals*

The Township of The North Shore wants to maintain and enhance their current quality of life and surrounding natural environment. They would like to encourage the younger population to live and work in the community as well as provide meaningful and equitable employment opportunities for all local residents. Moreover, there is a desire to provide economic diversification, assist entrepreneurs and

encourage the development of industries that provide stable and well-paying jobs and attract more professionals. The Township of The North Shore is also interested in encouraging new recreational facilities and cultural events. Enhancing the promotion of tourism and outdoor recreational opportunities in the Township of The North Shore is also a key community goal.

## 3.0 REGIONAL PROFILE

### 3.1 Overview

This section provides an overview of the regional profile for the City of Elliot Lake, the Town of Blind River, the Town of Spanish and the Township of The North Shore. 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 specific purpose of this Community Profile, the geographic boundaries of the region have not been defined, as further dialogue with community members and members of surrounding communities is required. Established regional areas that have been used in this report for comparative purposes include the Algoma District Census Division.

#### 3.1.1 Location

The largest nearby Algoma District communities of Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie act as the major centres for higher order shopping and services such as specialized health care. The local centres for shopping and services are Elliot Lake, Blind River and Espanola.

#### 3.1.2 Maps

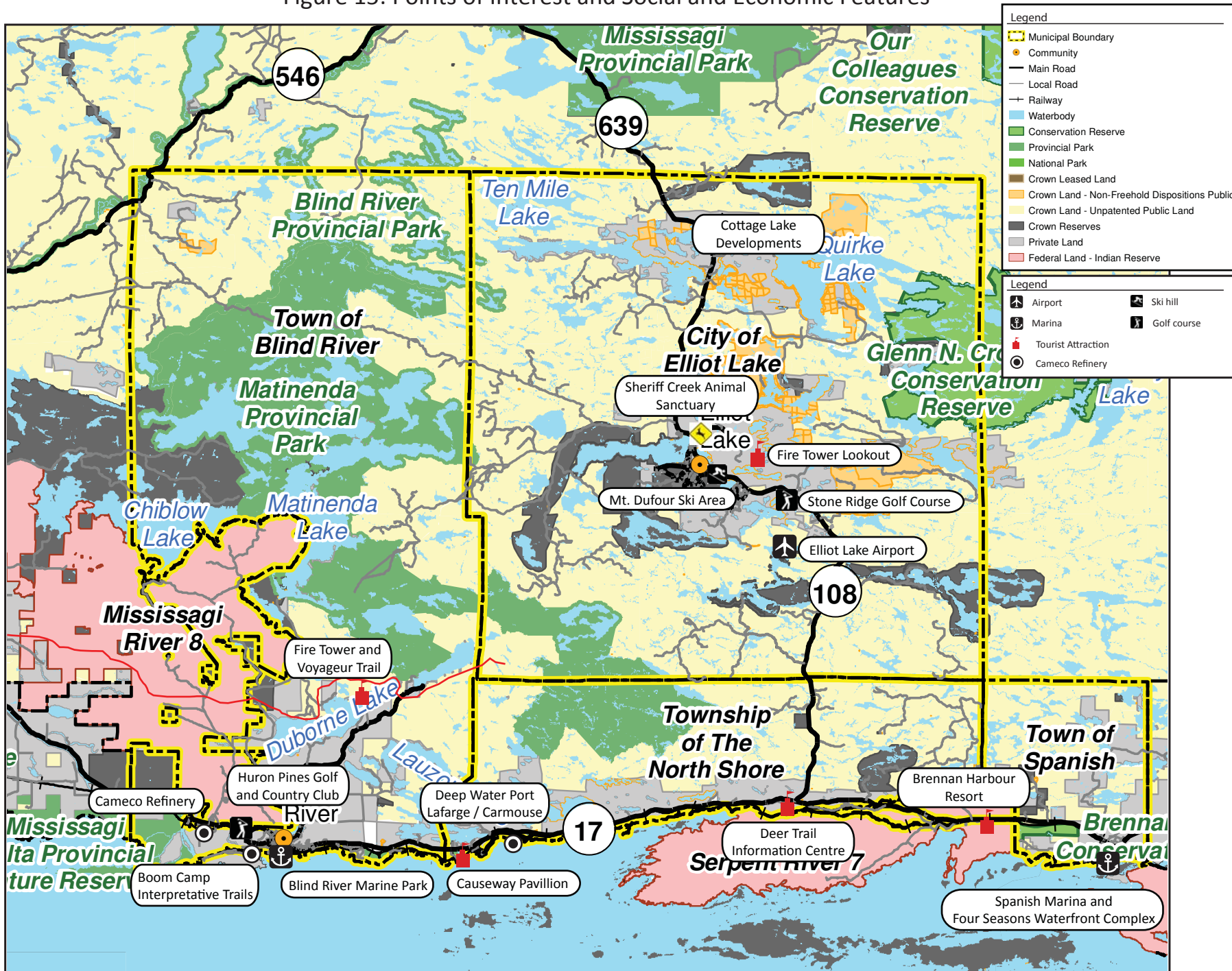
##### *3.1.2.1 Points of Interest and Social Economic Features*

The following map presents points of interest as well as social and economic features in the surrounding area.

##### *3.1.2.2 Natural Resources (Current and Former Mine Sites)*

The following map presents current and former mine sites in the surrounding area.

Figure 15: Points of Interest and Social and Economic Features



**Legend**

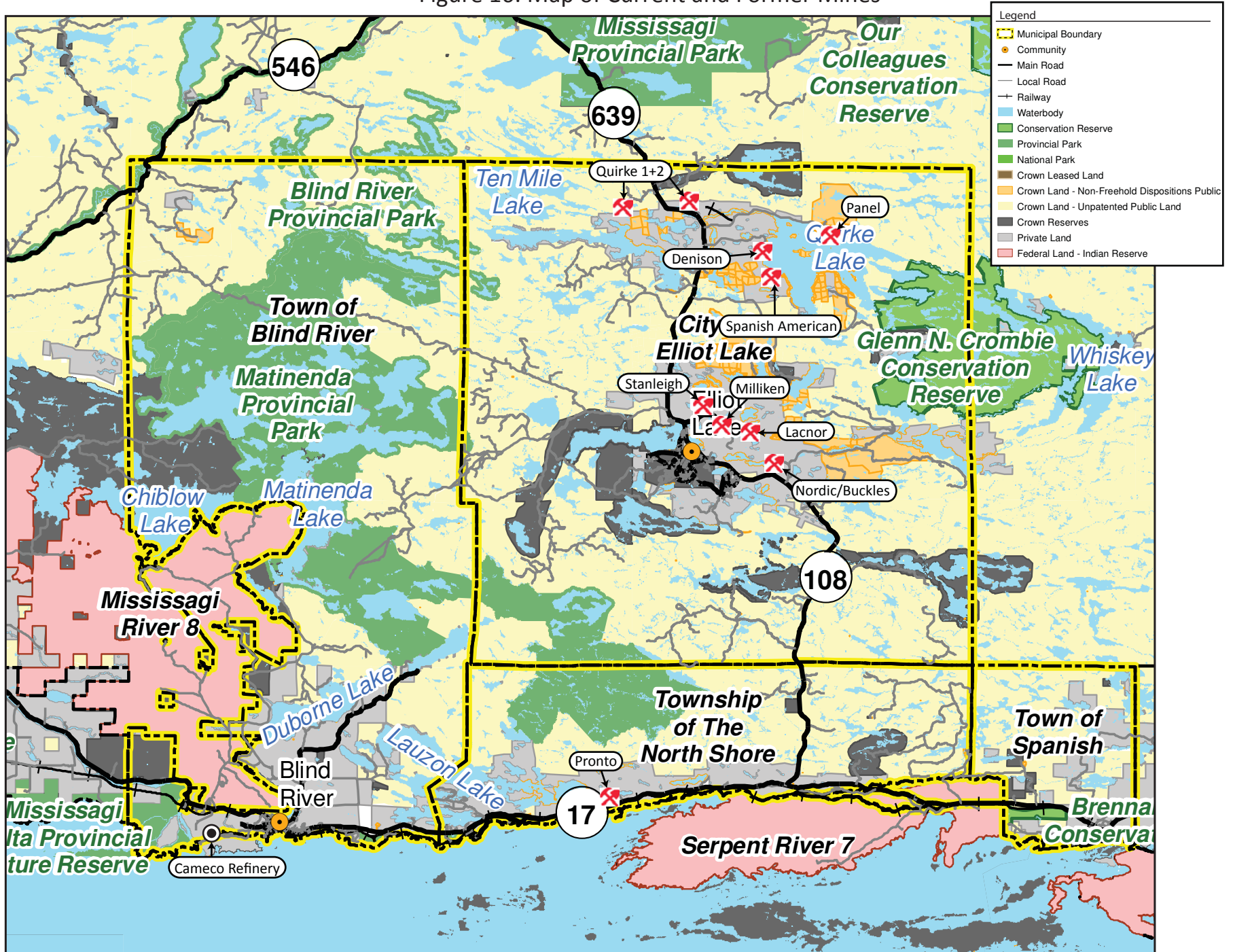
- Municipal Boundary
- Community
- Main Road
- Local Road
- Railway
- Waterbody
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- National Park
- Crown Leased Land
- Crown Land - Non-Freehold Dispositions Public
- Crown Land - Unpatented Public Land
- Crown Reserves
- Private Land
- Federal Land - Indian Reserve

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**Legend**

- Airport
- Marina
- Tourist Attraction
- Cameco Refinery
- Ski hill
- Golf course

Figure 16: Map of Current and Former Mines



## 3.2 Communities

### 3.2.1 Non-Aboriginal Historical Context

European explorers arrived in the 1600s, followed by French fur traders who used the North Channel between Manitoulin Island and the mainland as part of its voyageur canoe route<sup>127</sup>. The French as well as missionaries and traders from Montreal used the 'Great Trail' which was later called the voyageur canoe route<sup>128</sup>. Fur trading was the initial industry of the region. By 1672, an estimated 400 traders were operating in the area<sup>129</sup>. A post was established in 1789 to receive pelts from the Aboriginal people of the area. The logging industry grew in the 19th century to satisfy the building demands in the United States and the British colonies. Mining began in the region when copper was discovered at Bruce Mines during the mid-1800s. The Canadian Pacific Railroad (CPR) arrived in the region in 1884, which facilitated economic and social development in the area through easier transportation of materials. By 1887, the CPR was completed to Sault St. Marie and linked to Michigan<sup>130</sup>.

#### *Elliot Lake*

In 2011, the population of Elliot Lake was 11,348. The name 'Elliot Lake' first appeared on a map in 1910 in reference to a logging camp cook who drowned in the lake<sup>131</sup>. Fur trading and logging operations lasted in the City of Elliot Lake area until 1950. "Tourist outfitters have been active in the immediate vicinity as remote wilderness locations since the turn of the century"<sup>132</sup>.

Uranium was discovered in the area in the early 1950s. The City of Elliot Lake began to develop to meet the growing demand for housing near the new uranium mines. There were 14 uranium mines established in the region, and the mining sector expanded in the region over the next 40 years. Elliot Lake area mines included:

- Pronto Mine (1957 – 1970)
- Buckles Mine (1956-1958)
- Lacnor Mine (1956-1960)
- Nordic Mine ( 1956-1970)
- Spanish-American Mine (1957-1959)
- Quirke 1and II Mine (1957-1960 and 1967-1990)
- Stanleigh Mine (1957-1960 and 1983-1996)

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<sup>127</sup> Town of Blind River. The History of Blind River. Accessed Online, Aug 2013. [<http://www.blindriver.com/site/visitors/index.php?pid=14>].

<sup>128</sup> Daschul, J. 2013. Clearing the Plains! Disease, Politics of Starvation and the Loss of Aboriginal Life. University of Regina Press.

<sup>129</sup> Daschul, J. 2013. Clearing the Plains! Disease, Politics of Starvation and the Loss of Aboriginal Life. University of Regina Press.

<sup>130</sup> Arbic, B. 2003. City of the Rapids. Sault Ste. Marie's Heritage.

<sup>131</sup> City of Elliot Lake. History of Elliot Lake. Accessed Online, Aug 2013. [<http://www.cityofelliottlake.com/en/cityhall/history.asp>]

<sup>132</sup> City of Elliot Lake. History of Elliot Lake. Accessed Online, Aug 2013. [<http://www.cityofelliottlake.com/en/cityhall/history.asp>]



- Panel Mine (1957-1961 and 1979-1990)
- Can Met Mine (1957-1960)
- Denison 1 and 11 Mines (1957-1992)
- Stanrock Mine (1958-1964 and 1964-1970)
- Milliken 1 and 11 Mine (1958-1965)
- Pater Mine (1961-1970)<sup>133</sup>

Uranium from the City of Elliot Lake became an important strategic resource for the nuclear industry including nuclear reactors. At its peak, it has been estimated that the City of Elliot Lake may have had a population of up to 25,000.

With the discovery of uranium in the City of Elliot Lake, the Provincial Government created a special agency to ensure the viable development of Elliot Lake as a community. The 'Planning and Development Department of the Ontario Ministry of Housing' formed in October of 1955 to address this task<sup>134</sup>.

"Elliot Lake produced most of the world's uranium and in doing so spearheaded mine development in safety - ventilation and environmental concerns that have made Elliot Lake an industry leader"<sup>135</sup>. Currently, local businesses continue to consult on how to decommission mines and tailing ponds. Mining production waned in the region after Canada decided to export uranium only for peaceful purposes in 1965. Uranium was stockpiled until 1974 to support the industry, and later recovered due to increasing demand for nuclear electricity reactors. A second decline in the early 1990s led many of the Elliot Lake mines to become decommissioned. The 1996 closure of the Stanleigh Mine marked the end of the Elliot Lake uranium mining operations. Saskatchewan was able to produce cheaper uranium and it became the major supplier of uranium to the world.

The City of Elliot Lake Nuclear and Mining Museum remains in the City as a reminder of its past place in Canadian mining history. The Canadian Mining Hall of Fame is housed there and has portraits and biographies of those individuals who made major contributions to the industry. In January of 1991, the Provincial Government officially proclaimed the City of Elliot Lake as Ontario's 15th city.

### *Blind River*

In 2011, the population of Blind River was 3,549. The name 'Blind River' was given by voyageurs because the mouth of the river was not visible as they followed along the canoe route<sup>136</sup>. The Town of Blind River was incorporated in 1906, and developed into a forestry town. The logging industry developed in the Blind River and Mississagi watersheds. "The first sawmill was built beside the mouth of the Blind River at the current site of the Old Mill Motel. By 1906 when the Town of Blind River had been incorporated as a

<sup>133</sup> Newman. Elliot Lake Commemorative Mining Year Book 1956-1996 A Tribute to All Elliot Lake Miners.

<sup>134</sup> City of Elliot Lake. History of Elliot Lake. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.  
[<http://www.cityofelliottlake.com/en/cityhall/history.asp>]

<sup>135</sup> City of Elliot Lake. History of Elliot Lake. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.  
[<http://www.cityofelliottlake.com/en/cityhall/history.asp>]

<sup>136</sup> Town of Blind River. The History of Blind River. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.  
[<http://www.blindriver.com/site/visitors/index.php?pid=14>].

Town, a second larger sawmill had been erected on the west arm of the Blind River<sup>137</sup>. A major saw mill, the McFadden Lumber Company, was built in 1929 and survived for forty years. The mill closed in 1969 due to difficult economic conditions<sup>138</sup>. At one time, the McFadden Mill was the largest in the British Commonwealth.

The first major mining activities included a copper discovery in the mid-1800s in Bruce Mines. In 1955, uranium was discovered near the Town of Blind River. In 1983, a uranium refinery area was built in the Town of Blind River by Crown-owned Eldorado Nuclear Ltd. "Cameco became the operator of the Blind River refinery in 1988, when the assets of Eldorado Nuclear and Saskatchewan Mining Development Corporation were merged to form a new company"<sup>139</sup>. The uranium refinery processes uranium concentrates from all over the world into uranium trioxide<sup>140</sup>. During the beginnings of the uranium mining boom in the early 1950's, the population of Blind River doubled to 5,000<sup>141</sup>.

### *Spanish*

In 2011, the population of the Town of Spanish was 696. The name of the Town of Spanish came from First Nations Chief, Chief Louis Le Espaniel, who was nicknamed 'the Spaniard'. The British Naval Survey named the Spanish River after the Chief<sup>142</sup>. The name Spanish River was then used to describe the post office and CPR station and was later used to identify the community of 'Spanish'. The Town of Spanish's economic base historically was based on the area's natural resources that included agriculture, mining, logging and commercial fishing<sup>143</sup>. Early settlement of the Town of Spanish began in the late 1800s with the completion of the CPR in February 1884, between Lake Nipissing and Algoma, now known as Algoma Mills. In 1888, flour trains started to move from Minneapolis to Montreal and then Atlantic Canada<sup>144</sup>.

By 1903 to 1904, the Spanish River Station had a population of approximately 200 with two timber companies operating in the area: the Sable and Spanish River Boom and Dam Co. and the Spanish River Lumber Company<sup>145</sup>. The Spanish River was a natural transportation system that was used by the Spanish River Lumber Company. The community of Spanish Mills, located on Aird Island in the North Channel just south of the Town of Spanish, also had a thriving timber industry complete with a sawmill,

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<sup>137</sup> Town of Blind River. The History of Blind River. Accessed Online, Aug 2013. [<http://www.blindriver.com/site/visitors/index.php?pid=14>].

<sup>138</sup> Town of Blind River. The History of Blind River. Accessed Online, Aug, 2013. [<http://www.blindriver.com/site/visitors/index.php?pid=14>].

<sup>139</sup> Cameco Corporation. History. Accessed Online, Aug 2013. [[http://www.cameco.com/fuel\\_services/blind\\_river\\_refinery/history/](http://www.cameco.com/fuel_services/blind_river_refinery/history/)]

<sup>140</sup> Town of Blind Rive. The History of Blind River. Accessed Online, Aug 2013. [<http://www.blindriver.com/site/visitors/index.php?pid=14>].

<sup>141</sup> Gutsche, A. 1997. The North Channel and St. Mary's River: A Guide to the History.

<sup>142</sup> Morrison, J. 2003. Lake Superior to Rainey Lake. Three Centuries of Fur Trade History. Thunder Bay Historical Society.

<sup>143</sup> Town of Spanish. History of Spanish. Accessed Online, Aug. 2013. [<http://www.townofspanish.com/pages/history.php>].

<sup>144</sup> Arbic, B. 2003. City of the Rapids. Sault Ste. Marie's Heritage.

<sup>145</sup> Town of Spanish. History of Spanish. Accessed Online, Aug, 2013. [<http://www.townofspanish.com/pages/history.php>].

schoolhouse, and general store<sup>146</sup>. In the 1950s, the Town of Spanish experienced ‘boom’ conditions due to the mining activity in the City of Elliot Lake.

There were two residential schools in the Spanish area; one for boys and one for girls, and Spanish hosts a reunion event. Jesuits opened the first Aboriginal High School, Garnier College in 1946, but it was closed by 1958<sup>147</sup>. The Town library is the archive for the school and also has an extensive picture collection<sup>148 149</sup>.

### *The Township of The North Shore*

In 2011, the population of the Township of the North Shore was 509. Employment in the Township of The North Shore used to be centered around natural resource based industries such as logging, sawmills, and some commercial fishing. In the late 1800s sawmills were built in the area<sup>150</sup>. Many more lumber mills operated in the subsequent years. The CPR was pivotal in the development of the lumber industry in the Township of The North Shore. The CPR acquired land in Algoma Mills to develop a 300 room hotel for travellers<sup>151</sup>. Work later ceased on the rail line and the hotel plans were abandoned. Funds for the hotel were then transferred to Alberta for the development of the Banff Springs Hotel. In the early 1900s, Algoma Mills became a major coal delivery port for the CPR. At this time “Algoma Mills had an immigration and customs office, a post office, three general stores, a bakery and two hotels”<sup>152</sup>.

Losses from the eventual closure of the lumber industry in Spragge were recovered with the discovery of uranium in Long Township in 1953. In the 1950s, uranium mining became a major employer with the first mine located within the Township of The North Shore<sup>153</sup>. The Pronto Mine was opened in 1955. Service stations, motels, car dealerships, trucking firms and heavy equipment service depots opened along Trans-Canada Highway 17 to service the expanding population in Spragge. “The first major copper discovery in Algoma, after Bruce Mines, was at Spragge in 1953 resulting in the development of Pater Mine by Rio Algom Limited”<sup>154</sup>. The Township of The North Shore website notes that:

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<sup>146</sup> Town of Spanish. History of Spanish. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.

[<http://www.townofspanish.com/pages/history.php>].

<sup>147</sup> Shanahan, D. 2004. The Jesuit Residential School of Spanish – More than Mere Talent. Canadian Institute of Jesuit Studies.

<sup>148</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>149</sup> Shanahan, D. 2004. The Jesuit Residential School of Spanish – More than Mere Talent. Canadian Institute of Jesuit Studies.

<sup>150</sup> Township of the North Shore. History. Accessed Online, July 2013.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/history.html>].

<sup>151</sup> Township of the North Shore. History. Accessed Online, July 2013. [<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/history.html>].

<sup>152</sup> Township of the North Shore. History. Accessed Online, July 2013.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/history.html>].

<sup>153</sup> Township of the North Shore. Community Business Profile. Accessed Online, July 2013.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/resources/businessprof.html>].

<sup>154</sup> Township of the North Shore. History. Accessed Online, July 2013.

[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/history.html>].

*“Carmeuse Lime & Stone and Lafarge Canada Inc., formerly Reiss Lime Co. of Canada Ltd., was established in Long Township during the 1970s to serve the uranium industry. With a dock accessible by Great Lake freighters, Carmeuse receives shipments of limestone, coal, and coke to make lime for the mining industry. The company has expanded to include storage for sulphuric acid for redistribution and is a major trans-shipment point for road salt that is distributed throughout Northern Ontario. Lafarge Canada Inc. produces a slag cement product used for backfilling in area mines”<sup>155</sup>.*

The Township of The North Shore was created as an Improvement District in 1973, after the amalgamation of the Townships of Shedden (which later became the Town of Spanish), Lewis (historically Lewis-Spragge-Long Striker), Spragge, Long and the eastern portion of Striker. It was later enlarged in 1974 to include some North Channel islands. In 1985, the Township of The North Shore and the Township of Shedden separated<sup>156</sup>.

During the 1980s, the population and the service industries waned due to the declining uranium industry. With depleting ore reserves, the uranium mines closed and in the early 1990s, the local economy was negatively affected.<sup>157</sup>

### 3.3 Aboriginal Communities

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 Aboriginal communities included here are those nearby to the north shore communities.

- First Nations: The following First Nations are all part of the Robinson Huron Treaty area:
  - Whitefish Lake First Nation
  - Wikwemikong Unceded
  - Serpent River First Nation
  - Mississauga #8 First Nation
  - Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation
- First Nations: The following First Nation is part of the Manitoulin Island Treaty area:
  - Whitefish River (Wauwauskinga) First Nation
- Métis: The area borders the Métis Nation Ontario Regions 4 and 5 including:
  - Region 4: Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council, North Channel Métis Council
  - Region 5: Sudbury Métis Council, North Bay Métis Council

The text which follows provides a brief introduction to these governments and organizations.

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<sup>155</sup> Township of the North Shore. History. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.  
[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/history.html>].

<sup>156</sup> Township of the North Shore. About Us. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.  
[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/about.html>].

<sup>157</sup> Township of the North Shore. History. Accessed Online, Aug 2013.  
[<http://www.townshipofthenorthshore.ca/aboutus/history.html>].

### 3.3.1 First Nations and Aboriginal Organizations

The following provides a brief introduction to the First Nations communities and organizations in the area.

#### 3.3.1.1 Whitefish Lake First Nation (*Atikameksheng Anishnawbek*)

Whitefish Lake First Nation is a community of 1,200 members of Ojibway ancestry with approximately 440 living on the First Nation. This First Nation is located approximately 19 km west of the Greater City of Sudbury<sup>158</sup>. “Atikameksheng Anishnawbek are descendants of the Ojibway, Algonquin and Odawa Nations.

#### 3.3.1.2 *Wikwemikong Unceded*

Wikwemikong Reserve is one of the ten largest First Nation communities in Canada and is situated on the eastern end of Manitoulin Island and shores of Georgian Bay<sup>159</sup>. The reserve is approximately 171 kilometres from Sudbury. “Access to the Wikwemikong main village is a paved road that eventually connects with Highway 6. The main village is the central focus of the reserve and is the location of the administrative buildings, nursing home, health centre and schools”<sup>160</sup>. The administration buildings include council chambers, Ontario Works, library, lands estates and membership, housing, Child and Welfare, and land claims<sup>161</sup>.

#### 3.3.1.3 *Serpent River First Nation*

Serpent River First Nation is located south of the City of Elliot Lake. The community has occupied the Serpent River Watershed since ‘time immemorial’<sup>162</sup>. Serpent River First Nation is within the Robinson-Huron Treaty area of 1850<sup>163</sup>. The community has focused on resource development projects in the mining, forestry and fisheries sectors, and recently energy. The reserve includes the villages of Cutler and Kenabutch, and includes a peninsula along Lake Huron to the southwest. The community is located between the major regional centres of Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury<sup>164</sup>.

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<sup>158</sup> Whitefish River First Nation. (*Atikameksheng Anishnawbek*). Community Accessed Online January 29, 2014. [http://www.atikamekshenganishnawbek.ca/site/community/]

<sup>159</sup> Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. Welcome. Accessed Online January 29, 2014.

[http://www.wikwemikong.ca/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=54]

<sup>160</sup> Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. Location Area and Status. Accessed Online January 29, 2014.

[http://www.wikwemikong.ca/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=65&Itemid=93]

<sup>161</sup> Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve. Location Area and Status. Accessed Online January 29, 2014.

[http://www.wikwemikong.ca/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=65&Itemid=93]

<sup>162</sup> Assembly of First Nations. Resolution No. 17. Accessed Online, July 2014.

[http://64.26.129.156/article.asp?id=4280]

<sup>163</sup> Serpent River First Nation. Community Profile. Accessed Online, July 2014.

[http://serpentriverfn.ca/community-profile]

<sup>164</sup> Serpent River First Nation. Community Profile. Accessed Online, July 2014.

[http://serpentriverfn.ca/community-profile]

#### *3.3.1.4 Mississauga #8 First Nation (Mississagi River)*

Mississauga First Nations (MFN) also known as Mississauga River #8 is located along Hwy 17, 348 km west of the city of Sudbury and 278 km east of the city of Sault Ste. Marie. It is adjacent to the Town of Blind River situated along the North Shore of Lake Huron<sup>165</sup>.

#### *3.3.1.5 Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation*

Sagamok Anishnawbek has been home to the Anishnawbek since ‘time immemorial’<sup>166</sup>. Sagamok is located at the mouth of the Spanish River. It is one of six Aboriginal communities located within the Spanish River Watershed, including villages at Beaverstone, Birch Lake, Pogmasing, Duke Lake and Biscotasi Lake. Sagamok includes a traditional territory that is generally defined by the Spanish River Watershed.

#### *3.3.1.6 Whitefish River (Wauswauskinga) First Nation*

The Whitefish River First Nation is located on the shores of Georgian Bay, the North Shore Channel, and Manitoulin Island and is accessible by Highway 6 and 17.

### **3.3.2 Métis Organizations**

Métis citizens are represented at the local level through the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) Charter Community Councils. The local Councils are a communication hub for MNO and play a role in fostering community empowerment and development for Métis citizens living within the geographic region of that Council. Community Councils operate in accordance with MNO Charter Agreements, which give Councils the mandate to govern, while ensuring accountability, transparency, and consistency.

Protocol Agreements are set up between the MNO and each of its regions. The MNO Lands, Resources and Consultation Committee is the initial contact in each Region and is the group with which discussion and involvement of local Councils begins.

The area borders Regions 4 and 5 of the MNO classification. There are two Métis Councils within Region 4, namely:

- Historic Sault Ste. Marie Métis Council
- North Channel Métis Council

There are two Métis Councils within Region 5, namely:

- Sudbury Métis Council
- North Bay Métis Council

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<sup>165</sup> First Nation Market Housing Fund. “Mississauga First Nation.” Accessed Online June 2014 [http://www.fnmhf.ca/english/participating\_fn/participating\_fn\_027.html]

<sup>166</sup> Sagamok Ashwinabek, 2013, History. Accessed Online. [http://www.sagamok.ca/about/history]

## 3.4 Population Dynamics

### 3.4.1 Trend Over Time

The population was declining in most of the Algoma District communities (including the Township of The North Shore, the Town of Blind River, the Town of Spanish and the City of Elliot Lake) between 2006 and 2011. The decline in population of the other communities is not atypical of the general population trends of resource based regions. Growth in communities across the area is a positive sign for future population trends.

### 3.4.2 Age Profile

In 2011, Algoma District communities had a similar and older median age (47.2). The national median age was 40.6 and the Provincial median age was 40.4<sup>167</sup>. The population aged for all of the area communities in the area since 2006.

Normally, there would be cause for concern with an aging population in relation to support services, but since the City of Elliot Lake has strategically pursued development as a retirement community, there are many health care facilities, seniors' homes, amenities and services that cater to the older population. Conversely, there is a need to ensure that the younger population has training opportunities and jobs available upon graduation to live and work in the area. This is especially important in light of the out-migration of younger residents to Southern Ontario and other parts of Canada.

## 3.5 Labour Force (Algoma District)

The Algoma District Census Division data is used to discuss the regional labour force in this profile. The population of Algoma District is 115,870 and covers 48,810.68 km<sup>2</sup> in land area<sup>168</sup>.

### 3.5.1 Population By Education/Training

Figure 17 depicts the regional education and training for Algoma District in 2011. There were a relatively high number of high school graduates and number of residents who have some form of training, apprenticeship or certification. However, there were many residents without a high school diploma. This is due in part to the out migration of youth and other residents with higher education. The national average of people with university certificates, degrees or diplomas was 20.9 percent<sup>169</sup>. The percentage of residents in Algoma District was lower (13.9 percent)<sup>170</sup>.

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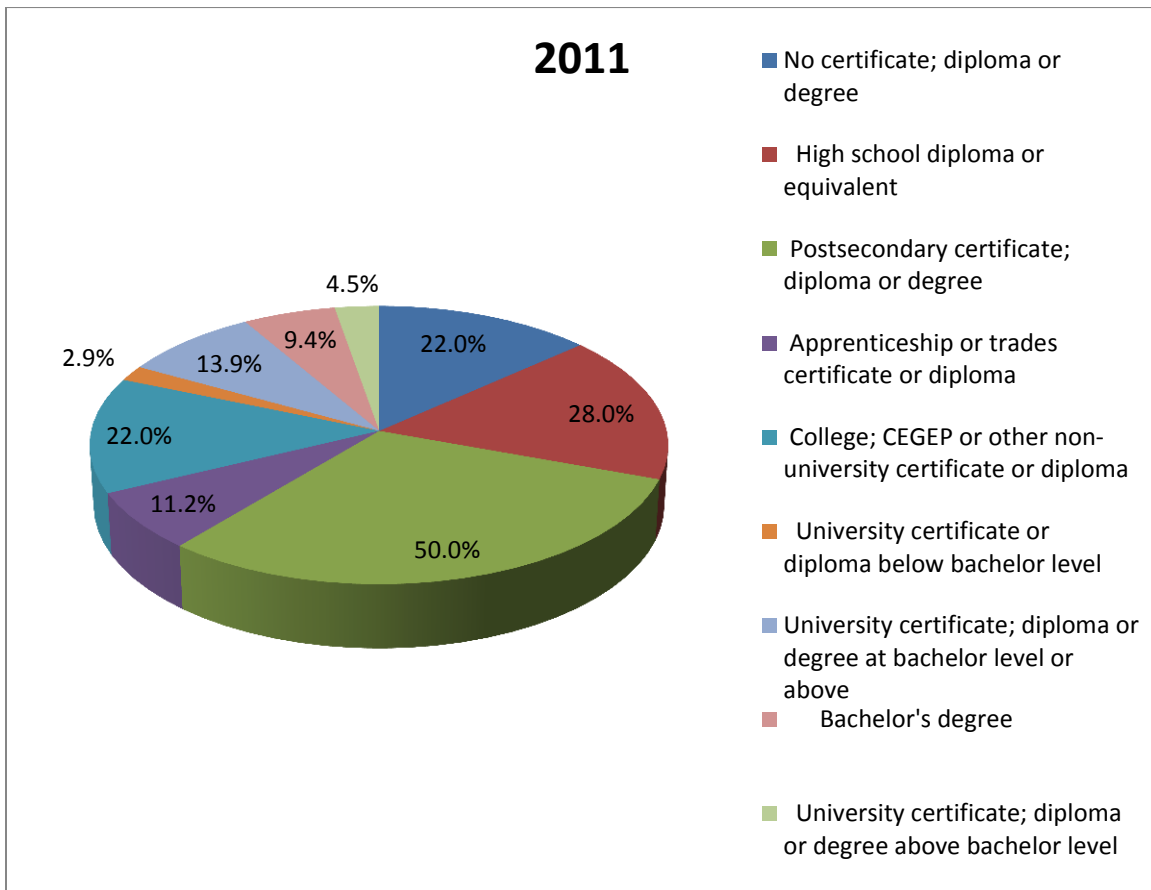
<sup>167</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. Census - Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed July 2013.

<sup>168</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. Census - Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed July 2013.

<sup>169</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

<sup>170</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

**Figure 17 - Education and Training in Algoma District (2011)**<sup>171</sup>



### 3.5.2 Employment By Activity and Sector

In 2011, the employment rate in the Algoma District was 50.6 percent and the unemployment rate was 11.0 percent<sup>172</sup>.

Figure 18 depicts the top occupations in the region in 2011. The top occupations were:

- Sales and service (includes tourism and hospitality);
- Trades, transport and equipment operation;
- Business, finance and administration;

<sup>171</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada, and reporting of overlapping categories in the figure. Postsecondary certificate; diploma or degree has the subcategories of: 1) Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, 2) College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma, 3) University certificate or diploma below bachelor level and 4) University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above (which has its own subcategories of i) Bachelor's degree, and ii) University certificate; diploma or degree above bachelor level).

<sup>172</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.



- Education, law and social, community and government; and
- Management occupations.

Sales and service occupations include retail as well as tourism related activities. Tourism is strong in Algoma District and there are many opportunities for outdoor recreational activities. The presence of trades and transport occupations are a strength. Business and management occupations indicate that capacity building experience is present in the region. Finance and administration opportunities indicate that there is capital, financial advice opportunities and accountants. Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services indicate that there are many people employed as civil servants, consultants and educators.

**Figure 18 – Labour Force by Occupation in Algoma District (2011)**<sup>173</sup>

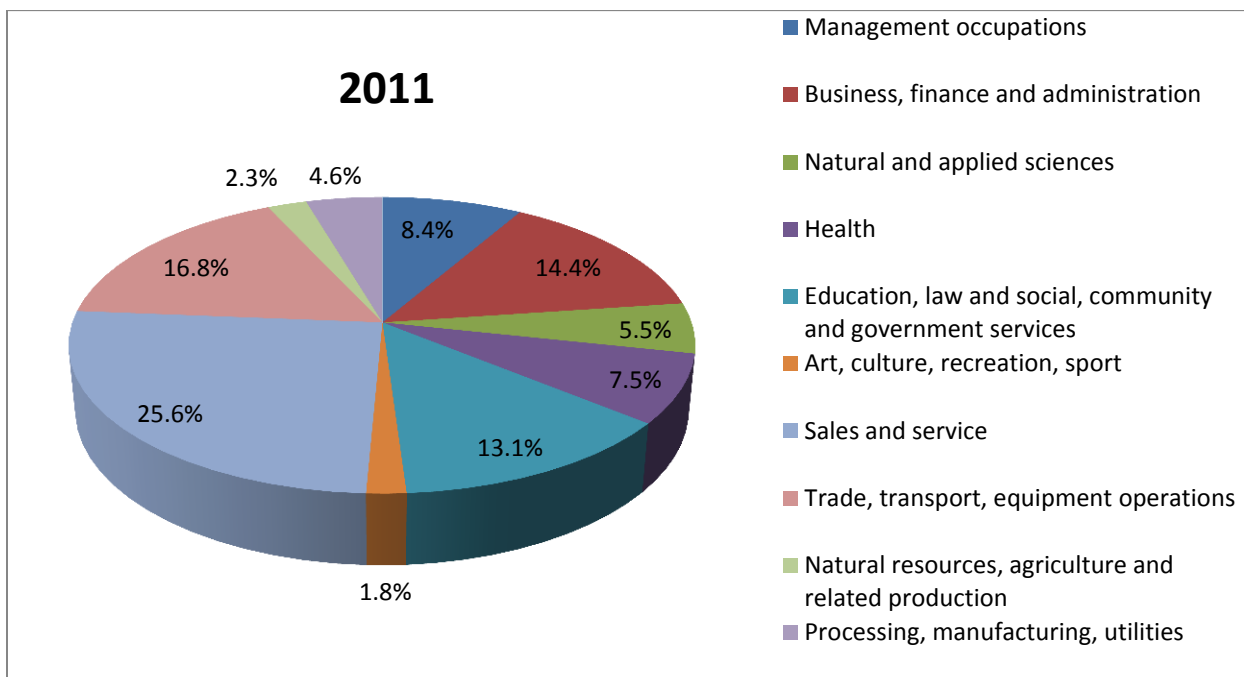


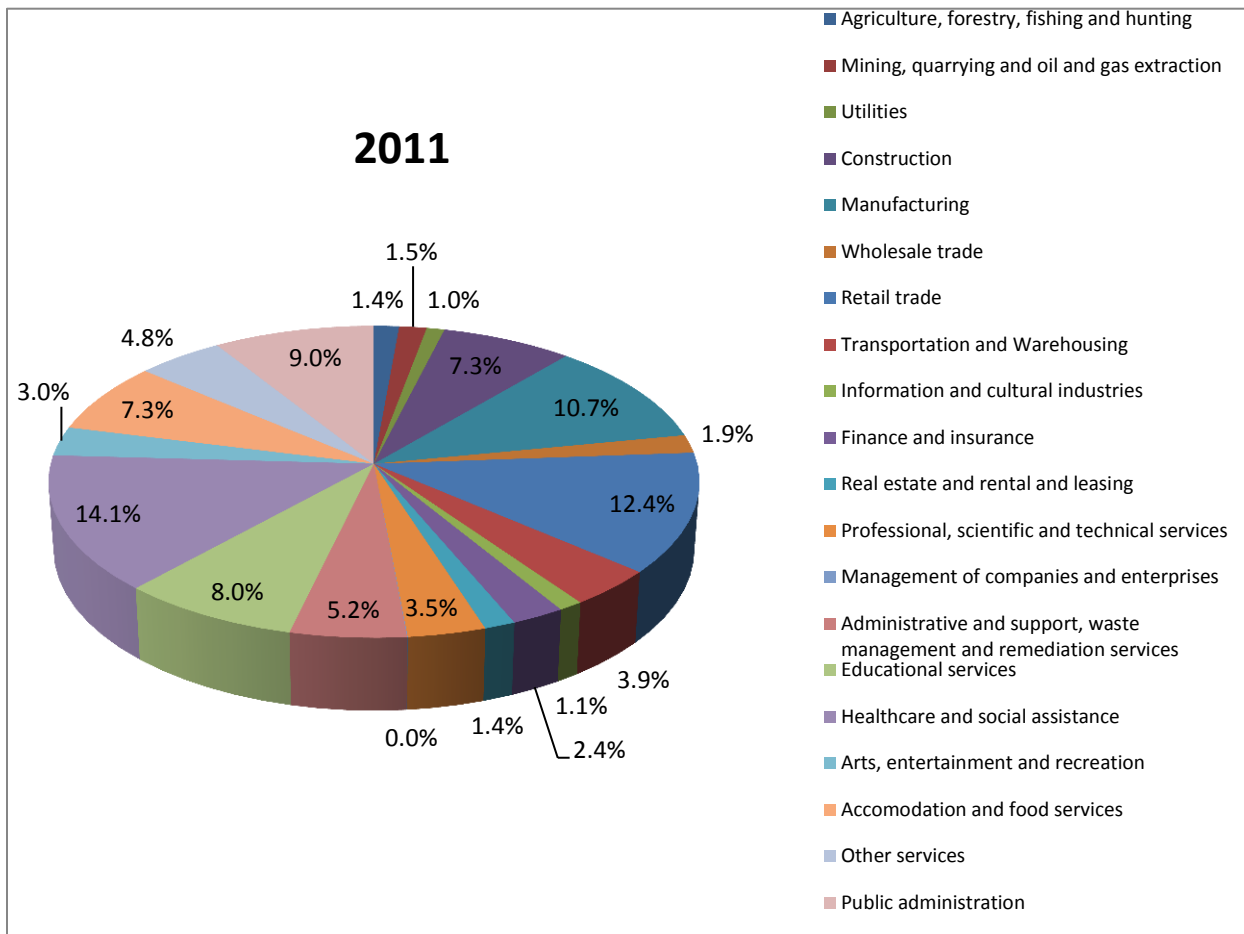
Figure 19 identifies the 2011 top industries by employment in the District which were:

- Healthcare and social services;
- Retail trade;
- Manufacturing;
- Public administration;
- Education services; and
- Accommodation and food services.

<sup>173</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

With an aging population across Algoma District, many jobs are linked to health care and social assistance with a focus on elder care management and associated activities. Retail trade is another important economic driver for the area, being the second largest employment sector. Manufacturing is also strong with various mining activities in the region having associated manufacturing operations (e.g. Cameco). Public administration indicates that many people are employed at municipal government and provincial agencies as well as First Nations Band Councils. The prevalence of the educational sector indicates that there is a strong education system in the area with opportunities for training for regional youth. Due to the strength of the tourist industry in the area, accommodation and food services also employs a large number of residents.

**Figure 19 – Labour Force by Industry (NAICS) in Algoma District (2011)<sup>174</sup>**



<sup>174</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

## 3.6 Business Activity

### 3.6.1 Main Businesses

Businesses in Algoma District are in the healthcare sector, retail trade, tourism and the resource extraction sector. They include:

- *“Retail service;*
- *Healthcare provider- Doctor, Nurse, Hospital employee;*
- *Construction labourer, welder, carpentry, contracting;*
- *Resource industry positions, engineer, heavy equipment operator;*
- *Clerical;*
- *Transportation equipment operators;*
- *Business services;*
- *Tourism and recreation services;*
- *Food services; and*
- *Manufacturing occupations and businesses”<sup>175</sup>.*

### 3.6.2 Public and Private Sector

In Algoma District, the key private and public sector industries are health care and social assistance, retail trade, accommodation and food services, educational services, construction and mining<sup>176</sup>.

#### *Private Sector*

At a regional and local level, Cameco’s uranium refinery near the Town of Blind River is the largest private corporation in the area. As one of the largest uranium producers in the world with operations in Canada, the United States and Australia, Cameco is an important economic driver. Other large private companies include Lafarge Canada Ltd. and Carmeuse Lime & Stone which are in the Township of The North Shore.

Another large business is Domtar paper products. Domtar has a pulp and paper mill located in Espanola that operates as part of Domtar’s Pulp and Paper Division. Domtar is a Canadian company that specialises in pulp and paper production with several mills across Canada and the United States<sup>177</sup>. They are also a manufacturer of personal care products. Their business activities at the Espanola Mill are prominent in the area.

The major industry in Sault Ste. Marie is steel manufacturing. Essar Steel Algoma is the largest employer in the City and surrounding area. Due the City’s location in close proximity to Lakes Superior, Michigan

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<sup>175</sup> The Ontario Trillium Foundation, 2008. *Your Community in Profile: Algoma, Cochrane, Manitoulin, Sudbury. Building Healthy Communities.* and Employment Ontario and Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, 2011. *Local Labour market Plan for 2012: Trends, Opportunities and Priorities.*

<sup>176</sup> Employment Ontario and Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, 2011. *Local Labour market Plan for 2012: Trends, Opportunities and Priorities.*

<sup>177</sup> Domtar, 2013. Espanola Mill. Accessed Online, December 2013. [ [http://www.domtar.com/en/paper-locations/paper-mills\\_espanola.asp](http://www.domtar.com/en/paper-locations/paper-mills_espanola.asp)].

and Huron and connections to the United States, Sault Ste. Marie is a transportation and natural resource centre<sup>178</sup>. Sault Ste. Marie is also home to several large scale wind farms and solar parks and has been called the alternative energy capital of North America<sup>179</sup>.

The City of Sudbury's major industry is mining. Vale mining is a large employer in the city<sup>180</sup>. Sudbury is also a centre for mining innovation with the presence of organizations such as the Centre of Excellence in Mining Innovation, Northern Centre for Advanced Technology, Mineral Exploration Research Centre (MERC), etc.

### *Public Sector*

In Algoma District, public sector positions represent a significant segment of the labour market. The public sector and Aboriginal public sector are major employers. This is not expected to change.

In the City of Elliot Lake and the Town of Blind River, the largest employers are health care providers (e.g. hospital and clinics). With an increasing proportion of elderly residents, health care and social service positions are expected to be an area of economic growth for the area. Other large employers are the Municipalities that employ administrators, managers, maintenance workers and social program coordinators. Other major public sector employers include the school boards: Algoma District School Board, Huron Superior Catholic District School Board, Conseil Scolaire Public du Grand Nord De l'Ontario and Le Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique du Nouvel-Ontario.

Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie are major providers of higher order education, health care and other services (e.g. retail, hospitality, airports). Sudbury's Laurentian University research and curriculum focuses on improving the health of water bodies at the Living with Lakes Freshwater Ecology Centre as well as mining innovation at the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation (CEMI), among others<sup>181</sup>. In addition, "Greater Sudbury is the regional referral health centre for northeastern Ontario. A hub of health care excellence has been created in Greater Sudbury that includes Health Sciences North, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Laurentian University, the Sudbury District Health Unit, Cambrian College, and College Boréal"<sup>182</sup>. Sault Ste. Marie is also home to a university, Algoma University. Moreover, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation have a corporate location in Sault Ste. Marie.

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<sup>178</sup> City of Sault Ste. Marie, 2006. Official Plan.

<sup>179</sup> Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation. Key Alternative Energy Companies. Accessed Online [http://www.sault-canada.com/en/ouruniqueadvantage/AlternativeEnergy.asp] Feb. 2014.

<sup>180</sup> Invest Sudbury. Mining Supply and Services. Accessed Online [http://www.investsudbury.ca/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=238&Itemid=224&lang=en]. Feb. 2014.

<sup>181</sup> Invest Sudbury. Advanced Education and Innovation. Accessed Online [http://www.investsudbury.ca/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=239&Itemid=225&lang=en]. Feb. 2014.

<sup>182</sup> Invest Sudbury. Health Sciences. Accessed Online [http://www.investsudbury.ca/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=241&Itemid=227&lang=en]. Feb. 2014.

## *Forestry Activities*

Forestry is a major business activity in the area communities and forest management plans have been created by industry leaders in the areas such as Domtar Inc. The region has more than 60 percent productive forest and a number of private timber companies are currently managing forestry operations. The North Huron area contains portions of two Forestry Management Units (FMUs): the Northshore Forest (FMU 680), and the Spanish Forest (FMU 210). The Northshore Forest FMU, managed by Northshore Forest Inc., is located in the western part of the area of the four communities. The Spanish Forest FMU, managed by Domtar Inc., covers the northeastern region of the North Huron area<sup>183</sup>. Of the forest's total area, approximately 86 percent is Crown land, with the remaining 14 percent being either privately or federally owned<sup>184</sup>.

A Sustainable Forest Licence was issued for the NF for Northshore Forest Inc. The company is managed by a Board of Directors consisting of four shareholders: Domtar Inc.; Eacom Timber Corporation; Midway Lumber Mills Ltd.; and North Shore Independent Forestry Association Inc. Eacom Timber Corporation acts as the management contractor to oversee the management program for the NF. There are currently 25 independent licensees that carry out harvesting operations on the unit through overlapping Forest Resource Licenses granted by the Crown<sup>185</sup>.

Currently, around 45 percent of the NF is staked or held as mining leases or patents with active exploration ongoing. The southern parts of the NF have the most prospecting occurring, primarily in areas that have been historically productive. The possible mineral resources in the NF are valued at approximately \$US 337 trillion<sup>186</sup>.

There are 18 provincial parks, nine forest reserves, and 15 conservation reserves found wholly or in part in the NF. Protected areas lying within the boundaries of the NF encompass a total of 151,904 hectares, of which 116,556 is forested. This represents about 14 percent of the Crown land area of the Forest, and 12 percent of the forest as a whole<sup>187</sup>.

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<sup>183</sup> Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), 2013a. Forest Management Plans. Accessed Online, March 2013. [<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/home.do?currentFmu=&language=en>].

<sup>184</sup> Northshore Forest Inc. (prepared by Domtar Inc.) *Northshore Forest 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan*. 2009. Accessed Online, March 2014.

[<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/viewFmuPlan.do?fmu=680&fid=100054&type=CURRENT&pid=100054&sid=5921&pn=FP&ppyf=2010&ppyf=2010&ptyf=2010&ptyf=2015&phase=P1>].

<sup>185</sup> Northshore Forest Inc. (prepared by Domtar Inc.) *Northshore Forest 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan*. 2009. Accessed Online, March 2014.

(<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/viewFmuPlan.do?fmu=680&fid=100054&type=CURRENT&pid=100054&sid=5921&pn=FP&ppyf=2010&ppyf=2010&ptyf=2010&ptyf=2015&phase=P1>).

<sup>186</sup> Northshore Forest Inc. (prepared by Domtar Inc.) *Northshore Forest 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan*. 2009. Accessed Online, March 2014.

[<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/viewFmuPlan.do?fmu=680&fid=100054&type=CURRENT&pid=100054&sid=5921&pn=FP&ppyf=2010&ppyf=2010&ptyf=2010&ptyf=2015&phase=P1>].

<sup>187</sup> Northshore Forest Inc. (prepared by Domtar Inc.) *Northshore Forest 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan*. 2009. Accessed Online, March

2014. [<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/viewFmuPlan.do?fmu=680&fid=100054&type=>

There a number of communities in the north shore area (including Elliot lake, Blind River, Spanish, The Township of The North Shore as well as surrounding Aboriginal communities) that are involved in forestry activities. Activities include the supply of wood fibre, wood chips or to support a labour force that is employed either in wood processing operations or in woodlands operations such as harvesting, hauling and silvicultural activities or support industry functions<sup>188</sup>.

### 3.6.3 Investment Trends and Projections

The City of Elliot Lake, Town of Blind River, Town of Spanish and the Township of The North Shore have many attributes that contribute to economic development. They are on the Trans-Canada Highway 17 (except for Elliot Lake), have access to deep water ports, have a CPR rail line, and have available skilled tradespeople and labourers. The resource economy has been in decline with several exceptions. Lumber companies operate and deliver wood and pulp to the Domtar Mill in Espanola. The Cameco Refinery, Lafarge Canada Ltd. and Carmeuse Lime & Stone are operating with success in the area. There are large bus transportation companies that operate throughout the communities. In addition, Elliot Lake's 'Retirement Living' has been successful and continues to attract seniors.

Amenities and activities (e.g. North Channel marinas, outdoor activities, festivals and events) as well as the natural setting of the north shore offer a good quality of life for workers and investors. The area is between two large cities (Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie) and people tend to shop in the larger centres or the Town of Espanola. The tourism economy is relatively healthy with some new investment and jobs opening up in the hospitality sector. The Town of Blind River is reasonably close to the border and American tourists see the area as a destination by road or water.

A new mall is under development in the City of Elliot Lake which should help alleviate increased unemployment resulting from the Algo Mall collapse. Some residents are looking for economic diversification in order to provide jobs for young people and broaden economic activity beyond the retirement community focus. Youth employment is available in the retail and hospitality sectors. However, there is a need to have more local employment opportunities for young professionals and young skilled workers.

Local municipalities and First Nations in the area have recently collaborated on several economic development projects such as the Elliot Lake cottage lots, the opening of Mississagi Provincial Park and joint construction of a new bridge.

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CURRENT&pid=100054&sid=5921&pn=FP&ppyf=2010&ppyt=2020&ptyf=2010&ptyt=2015&phase=P1]. Accessed Online, March 2014. And {[http://cpaws.org/uploads/pubs/report\\_fsc-performance.pdf](http://cpaws.org/uploads/pubs/report_fsc-performance.pdf)}

<sup>188</sup> Northshore Forest Inc. (prepared by Domtar Inc.) Northshore Forest 2010-2020 Forest Management Plan. 2009. Accessed Online, March 2014.

[<http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/viewFmuPlan.do?fmu=680&fid=100054&type=CURRENT&pid=100054&sid=5921&pn=FP&ppyf=2010&ppyt=2020&ptyf=2010&ptyt=2015&phase=P1>].

### *Regional Economic Development Organizations*

Throughout Algoma District, there are regional economic development organizations and committees. These organizations and committees have provided an analysis of trends and projections across the area in terms of investment and employment patterns.

The East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation (EACFDC) is a non-profit corporation governed by local volunteers in association with FedNor/Industry Canada<sup>189</sup>. The group brings together regional economic stakeholders in industry, local businesses, post-secondary and training institutions, municipalities, First Nations, Métis, and other economic development agencies. The objective is to support the local economy through strategic community planning and socio-economic development, provide support for community based projects, provide business services and assist with providing access to capital through a direct loan program<sup>190</sup>.

“The Algoma Workforce Investment Committee (AWIC) is a community-based organization funded by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities consisting of members who are knowledgeable about the labour force development issues in the District of Algoma”<sup>191</sup>. The AWIC provides coordination and leadership regarding workforce development and planning to Algoma District stakeholders<sup>192</sup>. The organization acts as a catalyst to facilitate economic growth as well as sustainable and responsible economic development throughout the region.

### *Trends and Projections*

The Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, Trends Opportunities and Priorities Report (2012) states that the District of Algoma’s resource based economy is recovering from a protracted recession. The recession began in 2009, has lasted longer than previous recessions and recovery has been slow.

The District of Algoma has experienced the closure of several major manufacturing and resource industries that have left skilled and older workers without jobs<sup>193</sup>. Because of the lack of opportunities for high-paying, stable jobs, young people in the region have been leaving for other jurisdictions to pursue careers that are capable of paying higher wages and offering greater security. This exodus has contributed to the competition for human resources and has made retraining and upgrading options even more important for local employers<sup>194</sup>.

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<sup>189</sup> East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation, 2013. Background. Accessed Online. July 2013. [<http://www.eastalgomacfdc.ca/English/index.php?content=home.html>].

<sup>190</sup> East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation, 2013. Background. Accessed Online. July 2013. [<http://www.eastalgomacfdc.ca/English/index.php?content=home.html>].

<sup>191</sup> Algoma Workforce Investment Corporation. About Us. Accessed Online, July 2014. [[http://www.awic.ca/en/about\\_us/](http://www.awic.ca/en/about_us/)].

<sup>192</sup> Algoma Workforce Investment Corporation. About Us. Accessed Online, July 2014. [[http://www.awic.ca/en/about\\_us/](http://www.awic.ca/en/about_us/)].

<sup>193</sup> Employment Ontario and Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, 2011. Local Labour Market Plan for 2012: Trends, Opportunities and Priorities.

<sup>194</sup> Employment Ontario and Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, 2011. Local Labour Market Plan for 2012: Trends, Opportunities and Priorities.

Throughout the District there is a sense that Algoma has a lot to offer as a place to work and live. The natural environment coupled with the low cost of living has made the area attractive. The employment infrastructure (including training options) has successfully attracted new businesses to the area and efforts to recruit for specific vacancies (such as family doctors) have also met with success. Moreover, the District has found that general and specific needs can be addressed through collaborative efforts between government, education and industry stakeholders<sup>195</sup>.

East Algoma Community Futures, A Regional Economic Development Strategy for East Algoma (2007) was commissioned by the federal government. The report states that area residents have expressed the understanding that economic development should be undertaken as a joint effort at the regional level and not as individual municipalities, especially if they tend to compete with one another<sup>196</sup>.

While many residents are in favour of growth, some want to ensure that there are controls so that any growth is sustainable and has an acceptable impact on the environment and local way of life. There is a need to identify and create manufacturing opportunities that are realistic given the barriers and constraints of the location<sup>197</sup>.

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<sup>195</sup> Employment Ontario and Algoma Workforce Investment Committee, 2011. Local Labour Market Plan for 2012: Trends, Opportunities and Priorities.

<sup>196</sup> East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation, 2007. A Regional Economic Development Strategy for East Algoma, May 2007.

<sup>197</sup> East Algoma Community Futures Development Corporation, 2007. A Regional Economic Development Strategy for East Algoma, May 2007.



## 4.0 COMPARISON OF COMMUNITY PATTERNS WITH ALGOMA DISTRICT AND THE PROVINCE

This section provides a comparison of Algoma District's trends and patterns to those of the Province of Ontario.

### 4.1 Population Dynamics

#### 4.1.1 Trends Over Time

**Table 8 - Population Trends at the Algoma District and the Province**<sup>198</sup>

Location	% change from 2006 to 2011	2011 Population	% change from 2001 to 2006	2006 Population	% change from 1996 to 2001	2001 Population	1996 Population
Algoma District	-1.4	115,870	-0.9	117,461	-5.5	118,567	125,455
Ontario	5.7	12,851,821	6.6	12,160,282	6.1	11,410,046	10,753,573

The population of Ontario is growing; however, the population of Algoma District is declining. In 2011, the Province grew by 5.7 percent. In contrast, the population of Algoma District declined by 1.4 percent.

#### 4.1.2 Age Profile

Table 9 provides the median ages in the Province of Ontario and Algoma District.

**Table 9 - Median Ages in Algoma District and the Province**<sup>199</sup>

Location	2001	2006	2011
Algoma District	41.4	45.0	47.2
Ontario	37.2	39.0	40.4

In 2011, Algoma District had an older population with a median age (47.2), which was above the Provincial average of 40.4. As mentioned previously, there is an aging population in Algoma District and an out migration of the younger population.

<sup>198</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2011. Census – Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>199</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2011. Census Community Profiles. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

## 4.2 Labour Force

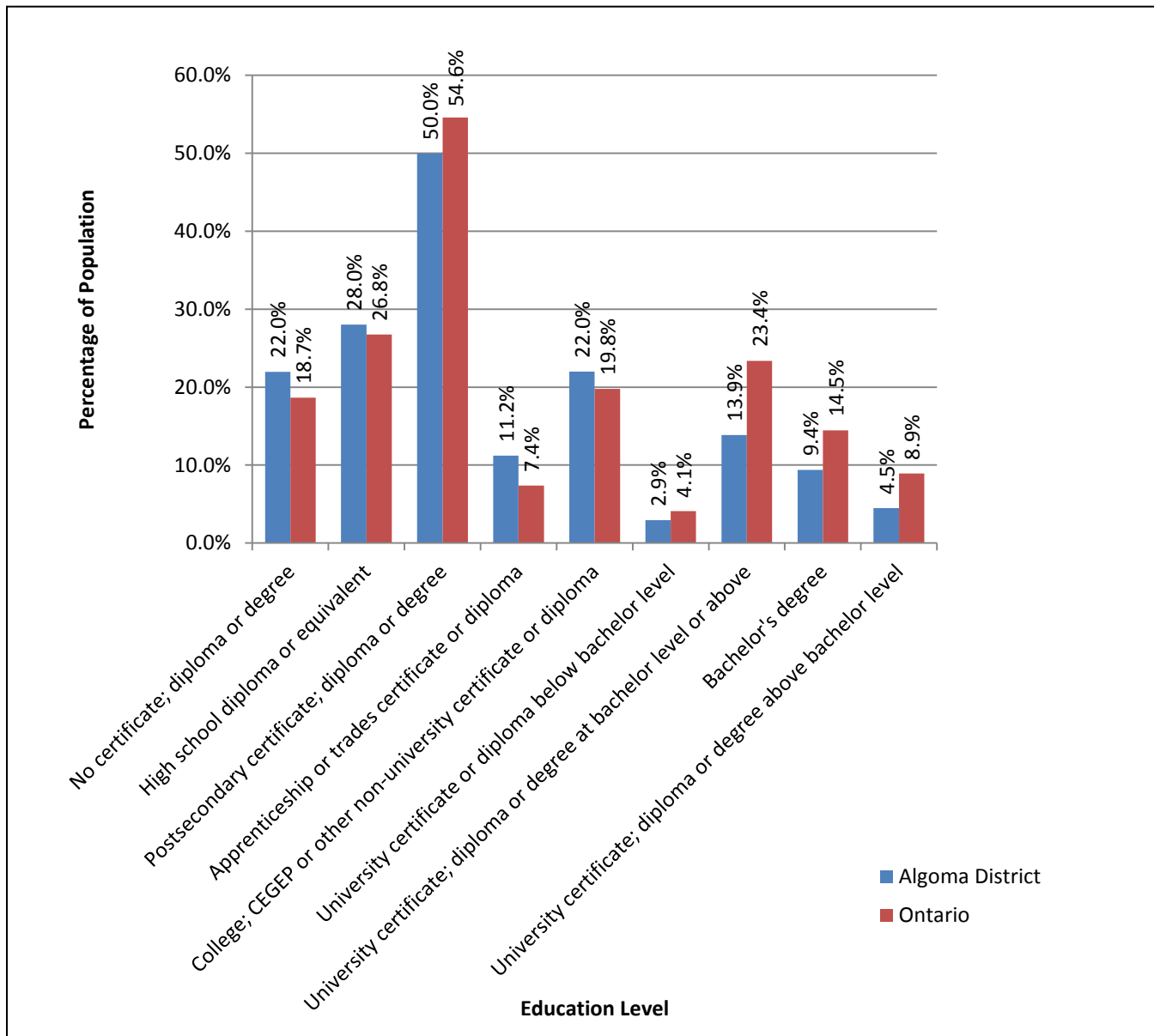
### 4.2.1 Population By Education/Training

Figure 20 illustrates the educational and training characteristics of Algoma District and the Province of Ontario. In 2011, Algoma District had a high number of high school graduates (28.0 percent), which was above the Provincial average (26.8 percent). They also had relatively high number of residents who had a post-secondary degree or diploma (50.0 percent) which was slightly below the Provincial statistic of 54.6 percent. A number of residents in Algoma District had Bachelor's degrees (9.4 percent), but this was below the Provincial statistic (14.5 percent)<sup>200</sup>.

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<sup>200</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

**Figure 20 - Education and Training in Algoma District and the Province (2011)**<sup>201</sup>



<sup>201</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada, and reporting of overlapping categories in the figure. Postsecondary certificate; diploma or degree has the subcategories of: 1) Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, 2) College; CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma, 3) University certificate or diploma below bachelor level and 4) University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above (which has its own subcategories of i) Bachelor's degree, and ii) University certificate; diploma or degree above bachelor level).

#### 4.2.2 Employment By Activity and Sector

In 2011, the Provincial employment rate was 60.1 percent and the unemployment rate was 8.3 percent. As mentioned previously, the employment rate in the Algoma District in 2011 was 50.6 percent and the unemployment rate was 11.0 percent<sup>202</sup>.

Figure 21 indicates the top occupations in the region and at a Provincial level. The top occupations in both the region and at a Provincial level in 2011 were:

- Sales and service (includes tourism and hospitality);
- Business, finance and administration;
- Trades, transport and equipment operation;
- Education, law and social, community and government; and
- Management

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<sup>202</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013.

**Figure 21 - Labour Force by Occupation in Algoma District and the Province (2011)<sup>203</sup>**

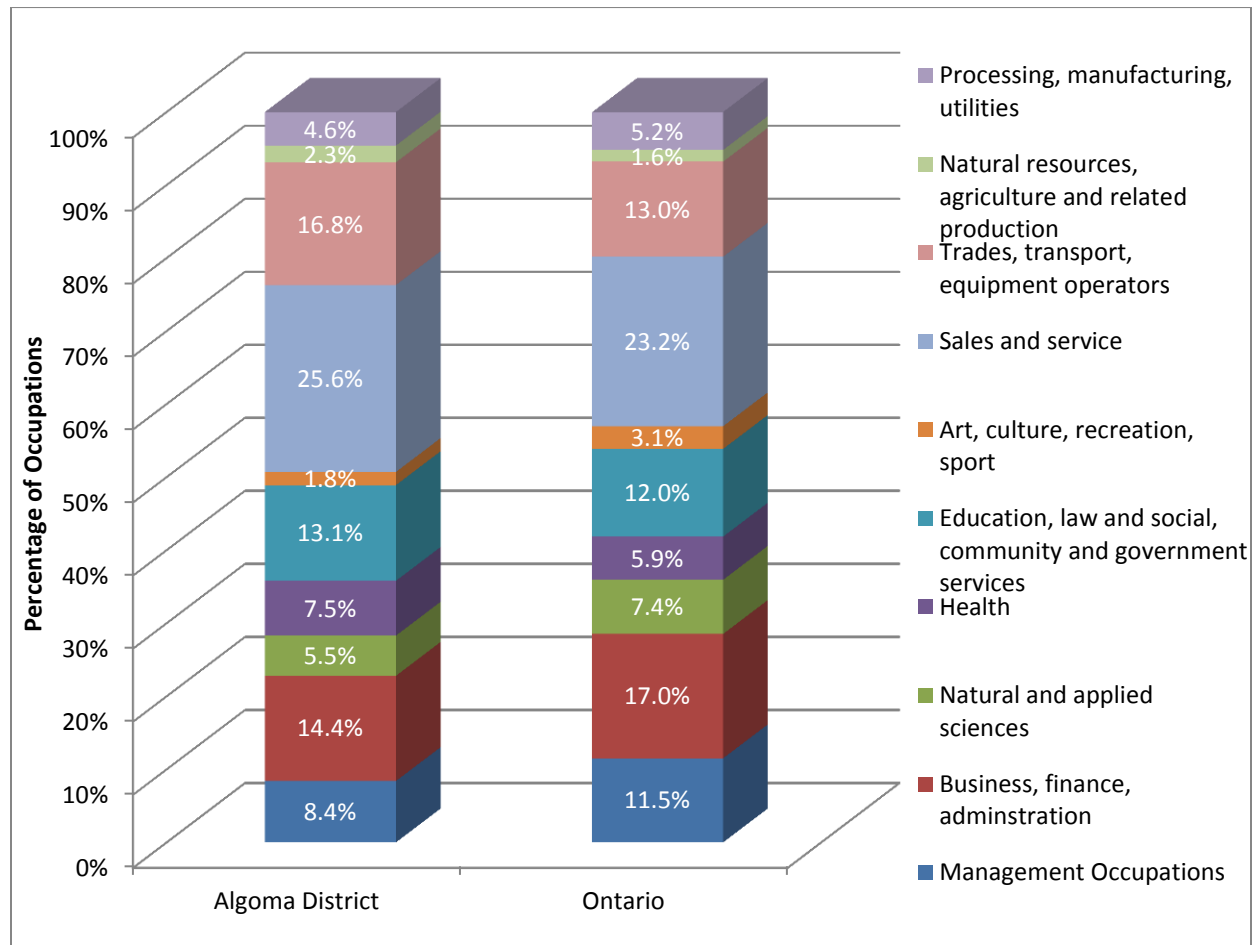


Table 10 identifies the top industries in the region and at a Provincial level in 2011 which were:

- Health care and social services,
- Retail and trade;
- Manufacturing;
- Public administration; and
- Educational services.

<sup>203</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

**Table 10 – Labour Force by Industry (NAICS) in Algoma District and the Province (2011)<sup>204</sup>**

Industry	Algoma (%)	Ontario (%)
Health care and social assistance	14.1	10.4
Retail trade	12.4	11.2
Manufacturing	10.7	10.4
Public administration	9.0	6.9
Educational services	8.0	7.5
Construction	7.3	6.3
Accommodation and food services	7.3	6.3
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	5.2	4.6
Other services (except public administration)	4.8	4.4
Transportation and warehousing	3.9	4.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	3.5	7.6
Arts, entertainment and recreation	3.0	2.2
Finance and insurance	2.4	5.5
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	1.5	0.4
Wholesale trade	1.9	4.6
Real estate and rental and leasing	1.4	2.0
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1.4	1.5
Information and cultural industries	1.1	2.7
Utilities	1.0	0.9
Management of companies and enterprises	0.0	0.1

<sup>204</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. National Household Survey (NHS) Profile. 2011 National Household Survey. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, [www.statca.gc.ca](http://www.statca.gc.ca) Accessed Aug 2013. Note: Percentages do not add to 100% due to random rounding of the original data by Statistics Canada.

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## APPENDIX A: Data Tables

### The Township of The North Shore Data Tables<sup>205</sup>:

**Table A1a: Mobility Status in the Township of The North Shore (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006 – Census Community Profiles)**

Parameters	1996	2001	2006
<b>1 year ago</b>			
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>545</b>
Lived at the same address 1 year ago	575 (83.9%)	545 (100%)	490 (89.9%)
Changed addresses within the same census subdivision	0	n/a	0
Changed addresses from another census subdivision within the same province or territory	110 (16.1%)	n/a	50 (9.2%)
Lived in a different province or territory	0	n/a	0
Lived in a different country	0	n/a	0
<b>5 years ago</b>			
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>535</b>
Lived at the same address 5 years ago	485 (71.9%)	395 (73.8%)	410 (76.6%)
Changed addresses within the same census subdivision	75 (11.1%)	n/a	15 (2.8%)
Changed addresses from another census subdivision within the same province or territory	105 (15.6%)	135 (25.2%)	95 (17.9%)
Lived in a different province or territory	10 (1.4%)	10 (1.9%)	10 (1.9%)
Lived in a different country	0	n/a	0

<sup>205</sup> Please note that for all Statistics Canada data presented in Appendix A, random rounding completed by Statistics Canada affects totals adding up to 100%.

## APPENDIX A: Data Tables

**Table A1b: Mobility Status in the Township of The North Shore (Statistics Canada, 2011–NHS Profile)<sup>206</sup>**

Parameters	2011
<b>1 year ago</b>	
Total Population	500
Non-Movers	450 (90.0%)
Movers	50
Non-Migrants	0
Migrants	55
Internal Migrants	50
Intraprovincial Migrants	50 (10.0%)
Interprovincial Migrants	0
External Migrants	0
<b>5 years ago</b>	
Total Population	490
Non-Movers	365 (74.5%)
Movers	120
Non-Migrants	0
Migrants	110
Internal Migrants	110
Intraprovincial Migrants	100 (20.4%)
Interprovincial Migrants	0
External Migrants	0

**Table A2: Median Personal Earnings in the North Shore (Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2006– Census Community Profiles and 2011 NHS Profile)**

Parameters	1996	2001	2006	2011
Persons 15 years and over with earnings	n/a	285	280	460
Median earnings - Persons 15 years and over (\$)	n/a	36,256	28,226	n/a
Persons 15 years and over with earnings who worked full year, full time	n/a	110	105	155
Median earnings (employment income) - Persons 15 years and over who worked full year, full time (\$) <sup>207</sup>	n/a	56,684	42,529	59,934

<sup>206</sup> Please note that the 2011 NHS categories differ from those in previous censuses. There are overlapping categories and new titles for the same categories as depicted from 2006 and previously.

<sup>207</sup> The 2011 Statistics Canada category refers to the full year, full time earnings as 'employment income'.

## APPENDIX A: Data Tables

**Table A3: Median Personal Income in the North Shore (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006– Census Community Profiles and 2011 NHS Profile)**

Parameters	1996	2001	2006	2011
Persons 15 years and over with income	520	445	475	460
Median income before tax - Persons 15 years and over (\$)	11,224	29,207	23,985	33,622
Median income after tax - Persons 15 years and over (\$)	n/a	n/a	21,398	31,348
Earnings as a percent of total income	68.3	67.9	66.5	n/a
Government transfers - As a percent of total income	21.8	11.7	21.6	19.6
Other money - As a percent of total income	9.9	20.7	11.4	n/a

**Table A4: Median Household and Family Income in the North Shore (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006– Census Community Profiles and 2011 NHS Profile)**

Parameters	1996	2001	2006	2011
Total private households	255	245	250	235
Average household size	2.7	n/a	2.2	n/a
Median income before tax - All private households (\$)	30,520	52,602	45,809	82,996
Median income after tax - All private households (\$)	n/a	n/a	43,079	68,156
Total number of census families	215	195	190	165
Average number of persons in all census families	2.8	n/a	2.5	2.6
Median income before tax - All census families (\$)	30,484	60,866	53,045	88,010
Median income after tax - All census families (\$)	n/a	n/a	46,969	77,258
Income status of all persons in private households	n/a	n/a	550	n/a
% in low income before tax - All persons (LICO)	n/a	n/a	13.6	n/a
% in low income after tax - All persons (LIM-AT)	n/a	n/a	7.3	8.9

## APPENDIX A: Data Tables

**Table A5: Aboriginal Identity Population in the North Shore (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006– Census Community Profiles and 2011 NHS Profile)**

Population Characteristic	1996	2001	2006	2011
Total population in private households by Aboriginal identity	N/A	555	545	500
Aboriginal Identity	10 (1.5%)	25 (4.5%)	60 (11.0%)	40 (8.0%)
Non-Aboriginal Identity	675 (98.5%)	530 (95.5%)	490 (89.9%)	460 (92.0%)

**Table A6: Detailed Language Spoken Most Often at Home in the North Shore (Statistics Canada, 2006 to 2011 – Census Community Profiles)<sup>208</sup>**

Language	1996*	2001*	2006	2011
Total Population/ Single responses – detailed language most spoken at home	N/A	N/A	550	500
English	N/A	N/A	485 (88.2%)	450 (90.0%)
French	N/A	N/A	55 (10.0%)	45 (9.0%)
Non-official languages	N/A	N/A	10 (1.8%)	5 (1.0%)

**Table A7: Immigrant Population in the North Shore (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006– Census Community Profiles and 2011 NHS Profile)**

Population Characteristic	1996	2001	2006	2011
Total Population in private households by immigrant status	N/A	555	550	505
Immigrant	20 (2.9%)	25 (4.5%)	25 (4.5%)	40 (7.9%)
Non-immigrant	665 (97.1%)	525 (95.5%)	525 (95.5%)	465 (92.1%)

<sup>208</sup> Please note that the languages most spoken at home category did not exist prior to the 2006 census.

## APPENDIX B: Financial Data

### FIR Data Tables<sup>209</sup>

Sources of Revenue	North Shore
Property taxation	\$764,423
Ontario unconditional grants	\$328,700
Conditional grants	\$39,348
Revenue from other municipalities	\$0
Total user fees and service charges	\$260,889
Licences, permits, rents, etc.	\$260,889
Fines and penalties	\$25,032
Other revenue	\$12,177
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,434,329</b>

Expenses (Total Expenses after Adjustments)	North Shore
General government	\$114,467
Protection services	\$235,832
Transportation services	\$218,241
Environmental services	\$541,089
Health services	\$122,814
Social and family services	\$105,386
Social housing	\$76,670
Recreation and culture services	\$65,568
Planning and development	\$38,216
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,518,283</b>

Surplus and Reserves	North Shore
Annual surplus/(deficit)	\$-83,954
Reserve (balance end of year)	\$364,330
Accumulated surplus/(deficit) at the end of the 2012 year	\$ 5,931,872

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<sup>209</sup> Province of Ontario, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. 2012 Financial Information Return. Accessed Online, July 2013. [<http://cscconramp.mah.gov.on.ca/fir/ViewFIR2012.htm#5700>]. Accessed Online, Feb 2014. [<http://cscconramp.mah.gov.on.ca/fir/ViewFIR2011.htm#5700>]