

CITY OF  
vern

COMMUNITY PROFILE  
investvernon.ca





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Figure 1 1: Vernon Location Map

## 1.1 Overview

### About Vernon

Vernon is located in the beautiful Okanagan Valley, conveniently situated between Calgary and Vancouver. With a population of just under 39,000 and a regional population of approximately 83,000, the City of Vernon administration endeavours to provide a climate for healthy growth, entrepreneurship and liveability.

### Location

The City of Vernon is located in British Columbia, Canada's most westerly province. The 2010 population in the province was 4.5 million, making it Canada's third most populated province behind only Ontario and Quebec. British Columbia is Canada's gateway to the Pacific Rim and Asian trading markets, and is part of North America's Pacific Northwest trading region.

As illustrated in Figure 1 1, Vernon is situated between the northern tip of Okanagan Lake and Kalamalka Lake in the Okanagan Valley, one of the most desirable regions to live in Canada. The Okanagan Valley is a

diverse area with mild winter climates, long warm summers and is home to over 300,000 people. Agriculture has traditionally been the main economic engine of the area, but over the past few decades, construction, tourism and manufacturing have driven the economy. Agriculture, specifically beverage and fruit production, still plays a major role in Okanagan life.

### Market Area

The City of Vernon is the regional hub of retailing and services in the Regional District of the North Okanagan (RDNO). Generally, the City of Vernon serves two main populations. The primary market area depends on Vernon's services for daily needs, while the secondary market area relies on Vernon for its services that are not available in the smaller towns surrounding Vernon (See Figure 1 2).

**Primary Trading Area** – The primary trading area encompasses most of the Regional District of North Okanagan and communities in the north end of the Central Okanagan Regional District. Vernon services



Figure 1 2: Primary and Secondary Trading Areas for the City of Vernon Source: BC Stats, 2011e.

these communities on a daily basis. For this population, Vernon acts as the primary destination for shopping, employment, recreation and services for the surrounding communities. The distance from any one of the communities in this area to the City Centre does not exceed 30 minutes.

**Secondary Trading Area** – The secondary trading area extends further to include all the population that lies about halfway to Kamloops to the North and the West, halfway to Kelowna to the South, and to Revelstoke in the east. This population relies on Vernon for specialty purchases, some employment and cultural products. The average driving distance to the City Centre is typically under one hour.

## 1.2 Background

### People and Employment

**Demographics** - The City of Vernon has enjoyed steady growth over the past fifteen years with total population now almost 18% larger than it was in 1996. Looking ahead the City will continue to enjoy steady growth, with the region anticipated to add another 18% or over 15,000 new residents over the next fifteen years.

**Education** – Working age residents are well educated in the City of Vernon with almost 87% having a high school diploma or higher educational training. This includes almost 14% that hold an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma, and a further 15% with a university certificate or higher.

**Labour Force** – As mentioned above, the City of Vernon and surrounding area enjoys a diversified economy with a mix of resource activities, manufacturing, tourism,



government, professional services, and retail services, all making important contributions to the local labour force. In addition, much of the employed labour force in the City of Vernon works close to where they live with an average commuting distance of 4.4 kilometres. Not surprisingly, unemployment in Vernon has consistently been lower than the provincial average in recent years.

**Leading Employers** – The City of Vernon has seen strong growth in business licenses in recent years. In 2010, the City of Vernon reached 3,176 businesses with business licenses. Among the larger employers locally were Interior Health, School District 22, Tolko, Kal Tire, and Silver Star Mountain.

### **Personal Income and Income Sources**

**Personal Income** – Median income in Vernon for men is \$35,575 and for women it is \$23,000, slightly below the provincial average. Personal income is primarily derived from employment sources; however, like much of the Okanagan Valley, pension and investment income is also an important source as there is a larger share of retired residents.

**Canada Pension Plan** – All Canadian workers between the age of 18 and retirement (60 to 70) are covered by the CPP program. All wage and salary employees and their employers contribute at a separate equal rate per \$100 of the contributory earnings up to the maximum contribution of \$2,217.60. Self-employed workers pay both the employee's and employer's share of contributions at a combined rate per \$100 of the contributory earnings for a maximum contribution of \$4,435.20.

### **Quality of Life**

**Variety of Services** – The Greater Vernon Area offers an outstanding quality of life with a pleasant climate, safe and vibrant neighbourhoods, a diversity of cultural and recreational opportunities, quality health services and access to spectacular natural environment. The community is set in the

midst of rolling hills, three major lakes and open fields and grasslands surrounded by the Monashee Mountain range. The community also has a range of local shopping services including many large local shopping centres.

**Climate** – Vernon shares the climatic characteristics of the Okanagan Valley: dry, mild and continental. Summers are warm with hot days, cool nights, and relatively low humidity. Winters are moderate and occasionally cold. Annual sunshine amounts to more than 1900 hours.

**Events** – The residents of Vernon are engaged with a range of community groups, hosting and attending a diversity of festivals and events and supporting numerous cultural organizations. Vernon serves as a cultural centre for many of the surrounding communities in the area. Vernon is also home to numerous religious faiths and places of worship.

**Recreation** – The recreational opportunities in the community are exceptional, with a mix of nature based opportunities and built amenities. Water-based activities such as swimming, boating, fishing and houseboating on the lakes are complemented by hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and mountain biking in the surrounding environment, including the provincial park system. Local parks are situated throughout the community and provide opportunities for children and family events. Nearby Silver Star Mountain offers first class alpine and nordic skiing opportunities.

**Health Care** – Residents of Vernon have access to a variety of healthcare services, with Vernon Jubilee Hospital offering acute and emergency care, ambulatory care, medicine, and surgery, psychiatry, maternity and pediatrics. Three public and community health centres provide mental health and addictions services, public health nursing, Aboriginal health, home and community care programs, residential and assisted living facilities as well as laboratory and diagnostic services. A variety of other health-related

services, practitioners and clinics are also available in Vernon.

**Crime** – Vernon is a safe community with property crime rates close to the provincial average, while rates for violent crime are well below the provincial average.

### Housing Stock

**Home Ownership** – Vernon makes up almost half the housing stock in RDNO and the majority of the apartment housing units. Over two-thirds of homes are owner occupied with the median price of single family dwelling priced at \$236,500 in 2010.

**Vacancy Rates** – Vernon also has a good stock of rental accommodation with vacancy rates in 2011 at 7.7%.

### Taxes and Development Charges

**Property Taxes** – The City of Vernon collects property taxes for the City as well as for the Regional District, Hospital Board, School Board and Library Board. The tax rate is applied to every \$1000.00 worth of assessed value. The assessment includes the land value and the value of improvements to the land – buildings and structures. Taxes are applied to the land and the improvements. Property assessments are done by BC Assessment. The Province of BC gives a home owner's grant of up to \$570 for homeowners who live in the house they own.

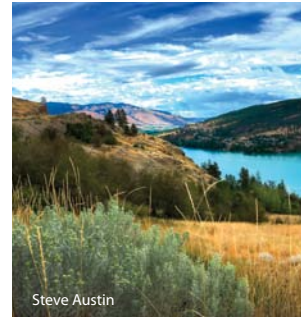
**Development Cost Charges (DCCs)** – are a one-time charge levied to a property to offset that portion of the costs related to the services that will be incurred as a direct result of new development. The City has just passed a progressive DCC Bylaw which directs growth toward the City Centre and established neighbourhoods by incentivizing development in those areas. Reductions are given for development in areas considered part of the "Core Area" of the city.

### Transportation

**Highways** – Vernon is located in the southern interior of the province, with multi-modal services that allow the efficient and cost-effective transport of goods and people regionally, nationally and internationally. Highway 97 is the provincial highway system's main north-south route running through BC's industrial heartland and linking Washington State with the Yukon Territory and Alaska. Connections to Highway 1, also known as the Trans Canada, are within a one hour's drive via Sicamous (97A) and Monte Creek (97).

**Carriers** – there are numerous common and private carriers serving Vernon, most of which are licensed in Canada and by the US Department of Transport for trans-border shipments. The largest local company is DCT Chambers, a major provider of transportation and services to the forest industry in the Pacific Northwest. DCT Chambers is headquartered in Vernon and provides service throughout the interior of BC.

**Rail** – Rail service is provided by Kelowna Pacific Railway (KPR), a shortline railway that was once owned by CN Rail but is now leased by Knighthawk Rail. The line connects Kelowna and the North Okanagan with the CN



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mainline in Kamloops, where trans-loading services are available. Knighthawk handles about 16,000 carloads annually, primarily wood products, chemicals, agricultural commodities and industrial products.

**Regional Airports** – Commercial and international air services are available at Kamloops and Kelowna airports respectively. Kelowna International Airport is 37 kilometres away and is the nearest port of entry and custom entry point to Vernon. Kelowna International Airport (YLW) offers direct flights to six domestic destinations and five international destinations in the US and Mexico. YLW regularly handles over one million passengers and 90,000 aircraft movements annually. Kamloops Airport is a semi-international airport located an hour and a half drive from Vernon.

**Vernon Airport** – There are approximately 20 industrial enterprises operating on airport lands with many involved in aircraft manufacturing and services. Okanagan College also operates an aircraft maintenance training program on site.

**Port Facilities** – The closest ocean port to Vernon is Vancouver, about a half-day's trucking time. As the fourth largest tonnage port in North America, it offers 28 major marine cargo terminals and three Class 1

railroads, providing a full range of facilities and services to the international shipping community. There are virtually no draft restrictions, Super Post-Panamax capacity and extensive on-dock rail facilities. The five key business sectors are automobiles, breakbulk, bulk, container and cruise.

### Education

**Schools** – The Greater Vernon area has a full complement of schools from elementary to university level courses. School District 22, serving Vernon, Coldstream, Lavington, Lumby and Cherryville, operates 14 elementary schools, five Secondary Schools and an Alternative Learning Program. In addition, there are three independent schools in Vernon.

**Post-secondary** – There are several colleges and specialized post-secondary training institutions in the Vernon area. Most notable is Okanagan College with its main North Okanagan Campus, Kalamalka Campus, located in Coldstream. In addition, the College operates the trades training facility in downtown Vernon and the Airline Engineer Building at the Vernon airport. The University of British Columbia – Okanagan (UBCO) is approximately 37 kilometres south of Vernon and is a 35 minute drive along Highway 97. UBCO opened in 2005 and has a total student population of over 6,000 and a faculty population of 337. UBCO campus has eight Faculties and Schools, each responsible for a range of academic programs.

## 1.3 Summary

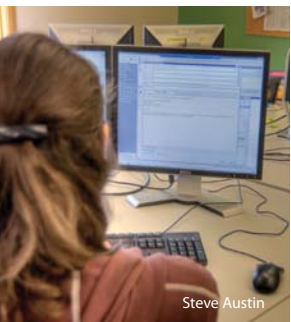
The remainder of this report provides detailed tables and figures on the topics discussed above. For more information please contact:

### Kevin Poole

Manager of Economic Development and Tourism  
City of Vernon, Economic Development Office

tel: (250) 550.3249

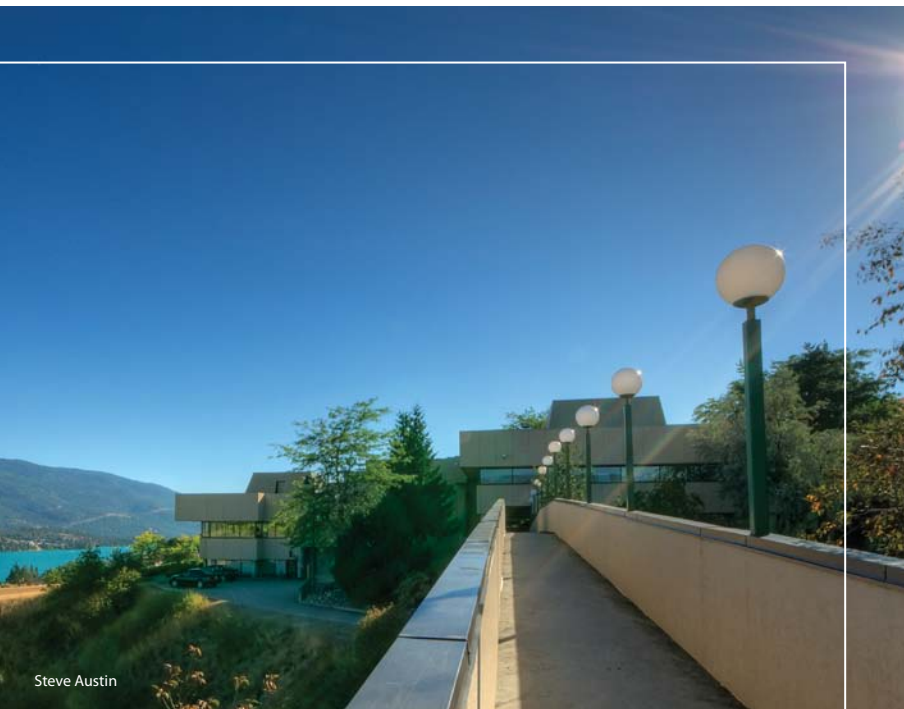
email: [info@investvernon.ca](mailto:info@investvernon.ca)



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**Table 1: Population in Vernon, RD of North Okanagan and BC, 1996 to 2010**

	CITY OF VERNON	RDNO	BC
<b>1996</b>	32,995	74,195	3,724,500
<b>2001</b>	34,550	75,185	3,907,740
<b>2006</b>	36,920	78,875	4,113,485
<b>2010</b>	38,895	83,140	4,530,960
<b>Growth (1996 to 2010)</b>	+17.9%	+12.1%	+21.6%

Source: BC Stats. 2011a.

**Table 2: Age Characteristics for Vernon, RD of North Okanagan RD and BC, 2006**

AGE CHARACTERISTICS	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Age 0 to 19</b>	8,170	22.1%	18,390	23.3%	23.2%
<b>Age 20 to 44</b>	10,575	28.7%	21,345	27.1%	33.8%
<b>Age 45 to 64</b>	10,055	27.2%	23,980	30.4%	28.4%
<b>Age 65+</b>	8,120	22.0%	15,160	19.2%	14.6%
<b>Total</b>	36,920	100.0%	78,785	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

**Table 3: RD of North Okanagan and BC Population Forecast, 2010 to 2030**

	RDNO	BC
<b>2010</b>	83,140	4,530,960
<b>2015</b>	89,100	4,850,950
<b>2020</b>	93,750	5,179,200
<b>2025</b>	98,250	5,492,650
<b>2030</b>	102,150	5,776,850
<b>Growth (2016 to 2030)</b>	+22.8%	+27.7%

Source: BC Stats. 2011a.

**Table 4: Education Characteristics for Vernon, RD of North Okanagan and BC, 2006 (age 25 to 64)**

AGE 25 TO 64	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>No certificate; diploma or degree</b>	2,345	13.1%	6,025	15.0%	12.4%
<b>High school certificate or equivalent</b>	5,480	30.7%	11,955	29.8%	25.8%
<b>Apprenticeship or trades cert. or diploma</b>	2,495	13.9%	6,085	15.1%	12.0%
<b>College; CEGEP or other non-univ. cert. or dipl.</b>	3,940	22.0%	8,495	21.1%	19.6%
<b>Univ. cert. or diploma below the bachelor level</b>	870	4.9%	1,865	4.6%	6.1%
<b>University certificate; diploma or degree</b>	2,760	15.4%	5,770	14.4%	24.1%
<b>Total</b>	17,890	100.0%	40,195	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

# LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

## Experienced Labour Force

Table 5: Experienced Labour Force for City of Vernon and RD of North Okanagan, 2006

	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Agriculture</b>	270	1.5%	1,805	4.6%	1.8%
<b>Logging &amp; Forestry</b>	195	1.1%	720	1.8%	1.0%
<b>Supporting Services Forestry &amp; Agriculture</b>	150	0.8%	420	1.1%	0.3%
<b>Mining/Oil and Gas</b>	150	0.8%	335	0.9%	0.9%
<b>Utilities</b>	190	1.1%	315	0.8%	0.5%
<b>Construction</b>	1,700	9.6%	4,065	10.3%	7.5%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	1,655	9.4%	4,355	11.1%	8.5%
<b>Wood Products</b>	465	2.6%	1,360	3.5%	1.7%
<b>Total Goods Producing</b>	4,310	24.3%	12,015	30.6%	20.5%
<b>Wholesale</b>	630	3.6%	1,350	3.4%	4.1%
<b>Retail</b>	2,615	14.8%	5,015	12.7%	11.2%
<b>Transportation &amp; Warehousing</b>	635	3.6%	1,375	3.5%	5.2%
<b>Info &amp; Cultural Industries</b>	265	1.5%	425	1.1%	2.6%
<b>Finance &amp; Insurance</b>	515	2.9%	1,055	2.7%	3.8%
<b>Real Estate &amp; Rental/Leasing</b>	365	2.1%	780	2.0%	2.3%
<b>Prof., Scientific &amp; Technical Services</b>	930	5.3%	1,920	4.9%	7.3%
<b>Admin &amp; Support, Waste Manag. Service</b>	1,010	5.7%	1,675	4.3%	4.4%
<b>Education Services</b>	1,045	5.9%	2,365	6.0%	6.9%
<b>Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</b>	2,130	12.0%	4,435	11.3%	9.6%
<b>Arts, Entertainment and Recreation</b>	460	2.6%	925	2.3%	2.3%
<b>Accommodation</b>	1,260	7.1%	2,545	6.5%	8.1%
<b>Accommodation Services</b>	285	1.6%	540	1.4%	1.7%
<b>Food Services &amp; Drinking Places</b>	975	5.5%	2,010	5.1%	6.4%
<b>Other Services</b>	745	4.2%	1,870	4.7%	4.9%
<b>Public Administration</b>	560	3.2%	1,130	2.9%	5.0%
<b>Total Services Sector</b>	13,165	74.4%	26,865	68.3%	77.7%
<b>Unclassified</b>	220	1.3%	490	1.1%	1.8%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	17,695	100.0%	39,370	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

**Table 6: Labour Force Participation (Numbers and Rates), 2006**

	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Male</b>	9,130	65.4%	20,745	67.8%	70.7%
<b>Female</b>	8,565	63.2%	18,625	56.5%	60.7%
<b>Total</b>	17,695	58.8%	39,370	61.9%	65.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

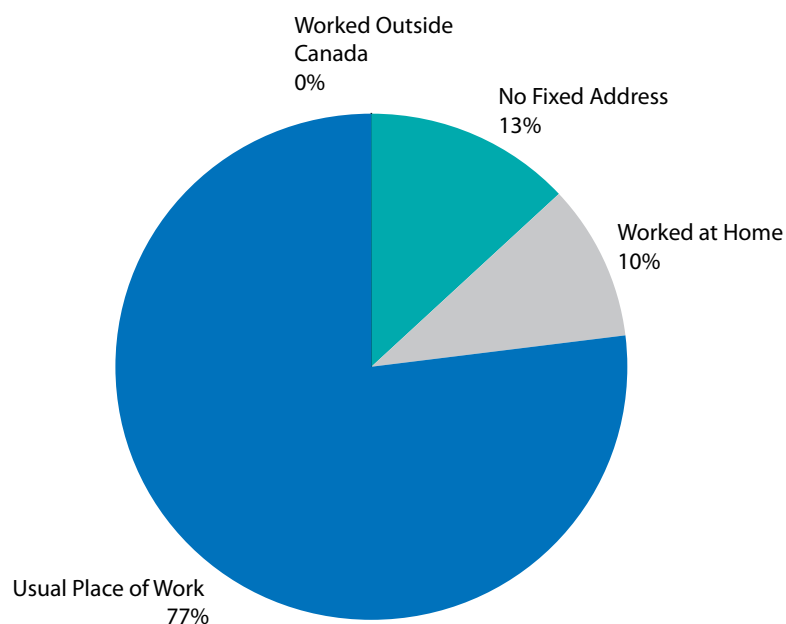
**Table 7: Experienced Labour Force By Occupation, 2006**

OCCUPATIONS	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Management</b>	1,685	9.5%	3,580	9.1%	10.3%
<b>Business, Finance &amp; Administration</b>	2,750	15.5%	5,575	14.2%	16.9%
<b>Natural &amp; Applied Sciences &amp; Related</b>	735	4.2%	1,530	3.9%	6.2%
<b>Health</b>	1,215	6.9%	2,440	6.2%	5.4%
<b>Social Science, Educ., Govern. &amp; Religion</b>	1,390	7.9%	2,895	7.4%	8.0%
<b>Arts, Culture, Recreation &amp; Sports</b>	410	2.3%	820	2.1%	3.4%
<b>Sales and Services</b>	4,575	25.8%	9,300	23.6%	25.1%
<b>Trades, Transp. &amp; Equip. Operators</b>	2,985	16.9%	7,430	18.9%	15.2%
<b>Unique to Primary Industry</b>	790	4.5%	3,035	7.7%	3.9%
<b>Unique to Processing, Man. &amp; Utilities</b>	920	5.2%	2,275	5.8%	4.1%
<b>Not Applicable</b>	240	1.3%	490	1.2%	1.5%
<b>Total Labour Force</b>	17,695	100.0%	39,370	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

## Place of Work

Figure 3-1: Employed Labour Force Place By Work Status for Vernon Census Agglomeration, 2006



Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

## Travel Distances

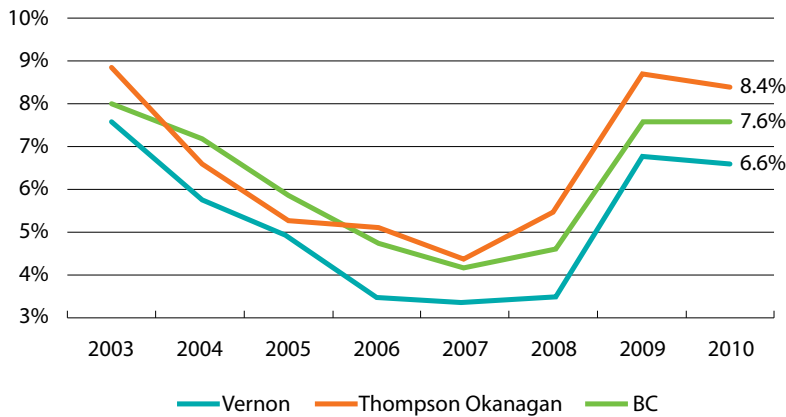
Table 8: Commuting Distance for the Employed Labour Force, 2006

COMMUTING DISTANCE	CITY OF VERNON		BC
	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Less Than 5 Km</b>	11,060	54.8%	40.5%
<b>5 to 9.9 km</b>	3,760	18.7%	23.8%
<b>10 to 14.9 km</b>	1,405	7.0%	12.4%
<b>15 to 19.9 km</b>	970	4.8%	7.5%
<b>20 to 24.9 km</b>	740	3.7%	4.8%
<b>25 to 29.9 km</b>	240	1.2%	3.1%
<b>30 km or more</b>	1,970	9.8%	7.9%
<b>Total commuters</b>	20,145	100.0%	100.0%
<b>Median Commuting Distance</b>	4.4 km		6.5 km

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007a).

## Unemployment Rate

Figure 3-2: Annual Unemployment Rates, 2003 to 2010



Source: BC Stats (2010b).

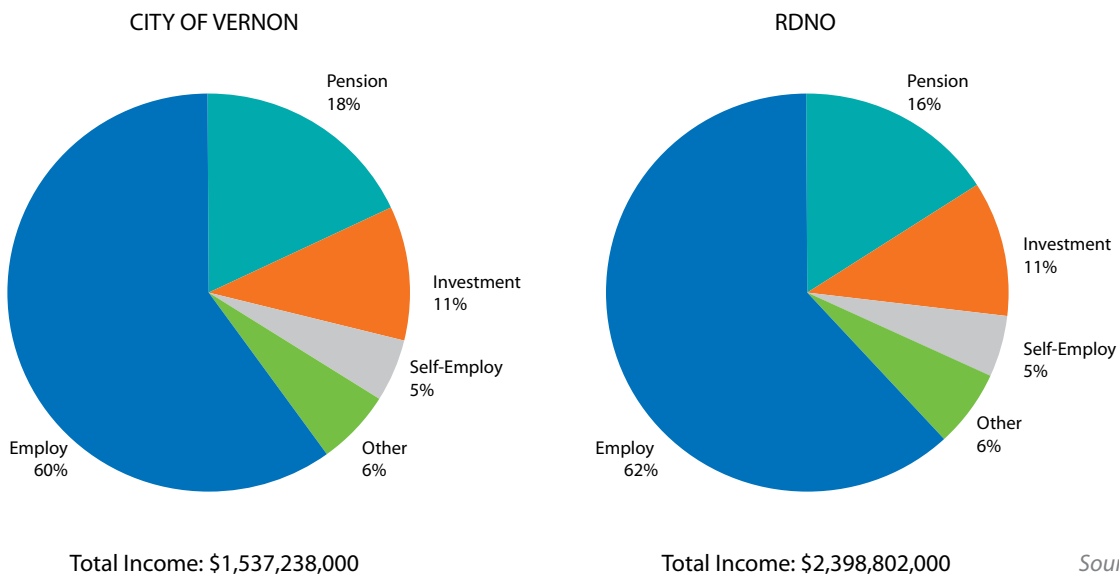
## Median Income and Income Sources

Table 9: Total Median Income, Vernon, RDNO and BC, 2008

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<b>City of Vernon</b>	\$35,575	\$23,000	\$28,130
<b>RDNO</b>	\$35,705	\$22,415	\$27,895
<b>British Columbia</b>	\$37,440	\$24,010	\$29,830

Source: BC Stats (2011c).

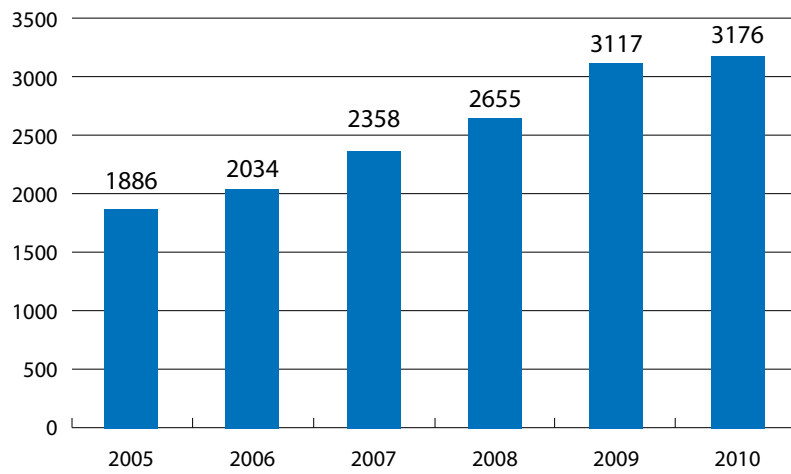
Figure 3-3: Personal Income By Source, 2008



Source: BC Stats (2010c).

## Number of Business Licenses and Leading Employers

Figure 3-4: Total Number of Business Licence for the City of Vernon, 2005 – 2010.



Source: City of Vernon (2011c).



Table 10: Major Employers in Vernon Area

MAJOR EMPLOYERS	EMPLOYEES	PRODUCT	CITY
<b>Interior Health</b>	1000 – 1250	Health	Vernon
<b>School District 22</b>	1000	Education	RDNO
<b>Tolko</b>	900-950	Forestry	Regional
<b>City of Vernon (RDNO)</b>	350-400	Local/ Regional Government	Vernon / RDNO
<b>Silver Star Mountain</b>	100-600	Tourism	Electoral Area C
<b>Kal Tire</b>	350	Administration / Retail	Vernon
<b>Real Canadian Superstore</b>	350	Retail	Vernon
<b>WalMart</b>	300-350	Retail	Vernon
<b>Vernon Morning Star</b>	300-350	Media	Vernon
<b>Westbild &amp; Predator Ridge</b>	200-350	Golf Resort/ Spa/ Development	Vernon
<b>BC Hydro</b>	200-250	Crown Corporation	Vernon
<b>Hytec Plumbing Products</b>	150-200	Bathroom & Plumbing Fixtures	Armstrong
<b>Pacific Regeneration Tech.</b>	150-200	Nursery	Vernon, Armstrong
<b>Royal Bank</b>	150-175	Financial	Regional
<b>Okanagan Spring Brewery</b>	150	Brewery	Vernon
<b>Lake City Casino</b>	150	Entertainment	Vernon
<b>Acutruss</b>	100-125	Trusses and Roofing	Vernon
<b>Okanagan College – North Campus</b>	100-125	Education	RDNO
<b>Best Western – Vernon Lodge</b>	100-125	Tourism	Vernon
<b>Remax</b>	100	Real Estate	Regional
<b>Rogers Foods</b>	100	Cereals and Grains	Armstrong
<b>Westwood companies</b>	100	Industrial Controls	Vernon
<b>Century 21</b>	75-100	Real Estate	RDNO
<b>DCT Chambers</b>	75-100	Trucking	Vernon
<b>Nixon Wenger</b>	75-100	Law	Vernon
<b>Rapid Span Structures</b>	75-100	Structures	Armstrong
<b>Tekmar</b>	75-100	Heating Ventilation Controls	Vernon
<b>Harbercraft Powerboats</b>	50-100	Boat Manufacturing	Vernon

Source: City of Vernon (2010a).



Kal Tire



Steve Austin



Steve Austin





## Payroll Taxes

**Table 11: Employment Insurance Rates**

<b>Taxable Base</b>	\$44,200
<b>Maximum Annual Employer Contribution</b>	\$1,101
<b>Employee Contributions</b>	\$1.78
<b>Employer Contributions</b>	\$2.42
<b>Maximum Weekly Benefit</b>	\$457

Source: Canada Revenue Agency (2011a).

**Table 12: Social Insurance (Canadian Pension Plan - CPP)**

<b>Maximum Pensionable Earnings</b>	\$48,300
<b>Contribution Rate</b>	4.95%
<b>Maximum Annual Employer Contribution Per Employee</b>	\$2,217.60
<b>Maximum Annual Self Employed Contribution</b>	\$4,435.20
<b>Maximum Weekly Benefit</b>	\$457

Source: Canada Revenue Agency (2011a).

**Table 13: Average Workers Compensation Rates, 2010**

<b>Maximum Gross Earnings Insured</b>	\$71,200
<b>Average Cost for All Industries per \$100 Payroll</b>	\$1.56
<b>Average Cost for Office Workers per \$100 Payroll</b>	\$0.30
<b>Maximum Weekly Benefit</b>	\$943

Source: Work Safe BC (2011a, 2011b, 2011c).

# RECENT BUILDING INVESTMENTS

## Value Of Building Permits

Table 14: City of Vernon Building Permits (\$ ,000s), 2005-2010

CATEGORY	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>Residential</b>	90,952	121,460	104,747	84,654	44,953	55,980
<b>Industrial</b>	4,121	23,616	2,376	1,047	930	389
<b>Commercial</b>	31,108	15,762	29,768	80,985	27,785	16,110
<b>Institutional &amp; Gov't</b>	9,496	6,234	9,056	1,382	90,797	794
<b>Total</b>	135,677	167,072	145,947	168,068	164,465	73,273

Source: BC Stats. 2010d.



## Building Permits By Project

Table 15: Vernon Building Permits By Project, January 2009 to May 2011

PROJECT	YEAR	VALUE	UNITS/SQFOOTAGE
Vernon Secondary School	2011	\$24,242,000	115,801
Kal Tire - Head Office	2011	\$13,500,000	81,000
Vernon Regional Library	2011	\$10,600,000	30,000
BC Transit Facility	2011	\$8,700,000	14,490
City Furniture	2011	\$2,900,000	40,645
Boston Pizza (addition)	2011	\$1,010,000	2,042
Blenz Coffee Shop (downtown)	2011	\$940,000	
Nixon Wenger	2010	\$5,200,000	33,000
5100 Anderson Way Building A (Shell Only)	2010	\$1,540,000	8,000
Polson Park - Pavillion	2010	\$1,000,000	
East Side Mario's	2010	\$950,000	
Construction Supply	2010	\$750,000	
Geniers Appliance	2010	\$650,000	3,873
Retail Space	2010	\$600,000	
Red Robin Restaurant	2010	\$600,000	
Kees Tae Kwon Do	2010	\$550,000	
Okanagan Spring Brewery Expansion	2010	\$500,000	16,000
Home Building Supplies	2010	\$500,000	
Vernon Jubilee Hospital Expansion	2009	\$80,500,000	181,500
Wal-Mart - Expansion	2009	\$12,000,000	37,329
Carrington Place	2009	\$6,742,292	71
Predator Ridge - Birdie	2009	\$2,852,774	12
Silver Rock Land Corp.	2009	\$2,000,000	22,700
Polson Mall - Coopers Foods	2009	\$1,900,000	
The Brick	2009	\$1,850,000	29,434
Smart Centres – Mark's Work Wearhouse	2009	\$1,600,000	16,000
Office Space	2009	\$1,250,000	
Interior Health - Hospital	2009	\$1,014,000	0
Predator - Osprey	2009	\$950,000	5
Habitat for Humanity	2009	\$912,486	6
Polson Mall - Galaxy Cinema's	2009	\$750,000	
Langford Condominiums	2009	\$724,680	5
Service Canada	2009	\$600,000	
Polson Mall - Façade Update	2009	\$600,000	
The Foothills	2009	\$600,000	2

Source: City of Vernon (2011b).

## Climate

Table 16: City of Vernon Climate

AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURE (CELSIUS)	HIGH	LOW	AVERAGE
<b>January (Celsius)</b>	-1.6	-6.7	-4.2
<b>July</b>	26.2	13.2	19.7
<b>Mean</b>	7.5		
<b>Annual Extreme Max/Min</b>	38.5 / -31		

ANNUAL AVERAGES	
<b>Rainfall (mm)</b>	322.7
<b>Snowfall (cm)</b>	123.3
<b>Average Sunshine (hours)</b>	1903
<b>Average Growing Season (days)</b>	159

Source: Environment Canada (2011).

## Shopping

Table 17: Vernon Area Shopping

	NUMBER
<b>Shopping Centres</b>	7

Source: Canpages (2011).



## Events and Culture Amenities

**Table 18: Vernon Area Events**

DESCRIPTION	DATE
<b>Vernon Winter Carnival</b>	February
<b>Shoparama Spring Show!</b>	April
<b>Annual Vernon Home &amp; Leisure Show</b>	April
<b>BC Open Gold Panning Championship</b>	May
<b>Falkland Stampede</b>	May
<b>Creative Chaos Craft Fair</b>	June
<b>Sunshine Festival</b>	June
<b>Funtastic Sport and Music Festival</b>	July
<b>Komasket Music Fest</b>	July-August
<b>Caravan Farm Theatre</b>	July-August
<b>Rarearth Jazz and Blues Fest</b>	July
<b>Okanagan Summer Wine Festival</b>	July
<b>Dragon Boat Races and Festival</b>	August
<b>Sun Valley Cruise In</b>	August
<b>Interior Provincial Exhibition (IPE)</b>	September
<b>Ok Science Centre Haunted House</b>	October
<b>Pumpkin Festival</b>	October
<b>A Festival of Crafts</b>	November
<b>The Shoparama Holiday Gift Show</b>	December

Source: Tourism Planning Group (2010).

**Table 19: Vernon Area Cultural Places and Amenities**

AMENITY	NUMBER
<b>Dance Companies</b>	3
<b>Museums</b>	2
<b>Opera Companies</b>	1
<b>Symphony Companies</b>	1
<b>Theatre Companies</b>	1

Source: Invest BC (2011).



Steve Austin



Steve Austin

## Religion

Table 20: Vernon Area Places of Worship

DENOMINATION	Number
Anglican	3
Baptist	5
Catholic	10
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	1
Jehovah's Witnesses	3
Lutheran	4
Muslim	1
Presbyterian	3
Seventh-Day Adventist	2
Sikh	1
United	5
Other Christian	36

Source: Cofars.ca (2011).

## Recreation

Table 21: Vernon Area Recreation Outlets

DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES
Polson Park	general recreation, garden, tennis, picnicking
Kin Beach Park	swimming, boating, picnicking
Paddlewheel Park	swimming, boating, sailing, picnicking
Marshall Fields	soccer, baseball
Ellison Park	camping, hiking, rock climbing, fishing, cycling, swimming
Kalamalka Beach	swimming, tennis, volleyball
Kalamalka Lake Provincial Park	boating, beach
Swan Lake	boating
Mara Lake	Boating, swimming, camping, fishing
Silver Star Ski Resort	downhill skiing, Nordic skiing, mountain biking, hiking
Sovereign Lake	cross country skiing, snowshoeing
Predator Ridge	golf
Vernon Golf and Country Club	golf
The Rise	golf

Source: Invest BC (2011).

## Health Services

**Table 22: Vernon Area Health Service Indicators**

DESCRIPTION	
<b>Number of hospitals</b>	1
<b>Number of teaching hospitals</b>	0
<b>Number of hospital beds</b>	332
<b>Community health centres</b>	1
<b>Public health centres</b>	2
<b>Number of physicians</b>	102
<b>Number of dentists</b>	31
<b>Ratio of physicians per 1000</b>	1.84
<b>Ratio of dentists per 1000</b>	0.56

Source: Invest BC (2011).

## Crime Rates

**Table 23: Crime Rates, 2006 to 2008 Averages**

CRIME RATE PER 1,000	PROPERTY	VIOLENT	TOTAL
<b>Vernon LHA</b>	10	2.7	12.7
<b>BC</b>	10	3.5	13.5

Source: BC Stats (2010d).



## Housing Stock

**Table 24: Occupied Private Dwellings, 2006**

HOUSING TYPE	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Single-Detached House</b>	8,010	51.0%	21,295	66.8%	49.0%
<b>Semi-Detached House</b>	1,095	7.0%	1,565	4.9%	3.1%
<b>Row House</b>	1,390	8.9%	1,675	5.3%	6.8%
<b>Apartment, Duplex</b>	910	5.8%	1,315	4.1%	10.2%
<b>Apartment, 5 or More Storeys</b>	310	2.0%	310	1.0%	7.2%
<b>Apartment, Under 5 Storeys</b>	3,780	24.1%	4,380	13.7%	20.9%
<b>Movable Housing</b>	155	1.0%	1,245	3.9%	2.6%
<b>All other Housing</b>	35	0.2%	90	0.3%	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	15,685	100.0%	31,875	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

**Table 25: Rental and Owned Occupied Private Dwellings, 2006**

HOUSING TYPE	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO		BC
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>Owned</b>	10,820	69.0%	24,635	77.3%	69.7%
<b>Rented</b>	4,865	31.0%	7,240	22.7%	30.1%
<b>Band Housing</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	15,685	100.0%	31,875	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census (2007b, 2007c).

Note: Indian Band housing for the City of Vernon and RDNO are not included in the housing counts above.

**Table 26: Vacancy of Vernon CA Rental Apartment Structures of Three Units and Over, 2009-2010**

	TOTAL RENTAL UNITS	VACANT UNITS	VACANCY RATE
<b>April 2009</b>	1,697	41	2.4%
<b>October 2009</b>	1,688	52	3.1%
<b>April 2010</b>	1,690	94	5.6%
<b>October 2010</b>	1,660	111	6.7%

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. (2010a, 2010b).

Note: Vernon Census Agglomeration (CA) includes City of Vernon, District of Coldstream, RDNO Electoral Areas B and C, Okanagan Indian Reserve 1 and Priest's Valley Indian Reserve 6.



## Residential Dwelling Prices

**Table 27: Dwelling Prices for City of Vernon and Remaining North Okanagan Regional District, 2010**

	CITY OF VERNON		RDNO	
	Median	Average	Median	Average
<b>Townhouse</b>	\$288,000	\$284,025	\$268,500	\$284,015
<b>Apartment</b>	\$182,500	\$203,630	\$215,000	\$246,625
<b>Single Family Dwelling</b>	\$236,500	\$371,770	\$364,500	\$388,030

Source: Okanagan Mainline Real Estate Board (2011).

Note: Apartment refers to dwellings that are sold in the North Okanagan RD that typically do not have a lot of common property associated with them and consequently minimum strata fees.

## Tax and Charges On A Representative House

**Table 28: Taxes and Charges on a Representative House, 2010**

	HOUSE VALUE	RESIDENTIAL VARIABLE RATE	TOTAL RES. PARCEL TAXES	TOTAL USER FEES	TOTAL
<b>Vernon</b>	\$380,410	\$2,441	\$0	\$1,070	\$3,511
<b>Coldstream</b>	\$497,940	\$2,702	\$297	\$0	\$2,999
<b>Armstrong</b>	\$309,730	\$1,662	\$220	\$473	\$2,355
<b>Enderby</b>	\$256,596	\$1,718	\$426	\$584	\$2,728
<b>Lumby</b>	\$251,950	\$1,959	\$0	\$542	\$2,500
<b>Spallumcheen</b>	\$268,505	\$1,619	\$61	\$0	\$1,680

Source: Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development (nd). Internet Site.

## Property Taxes

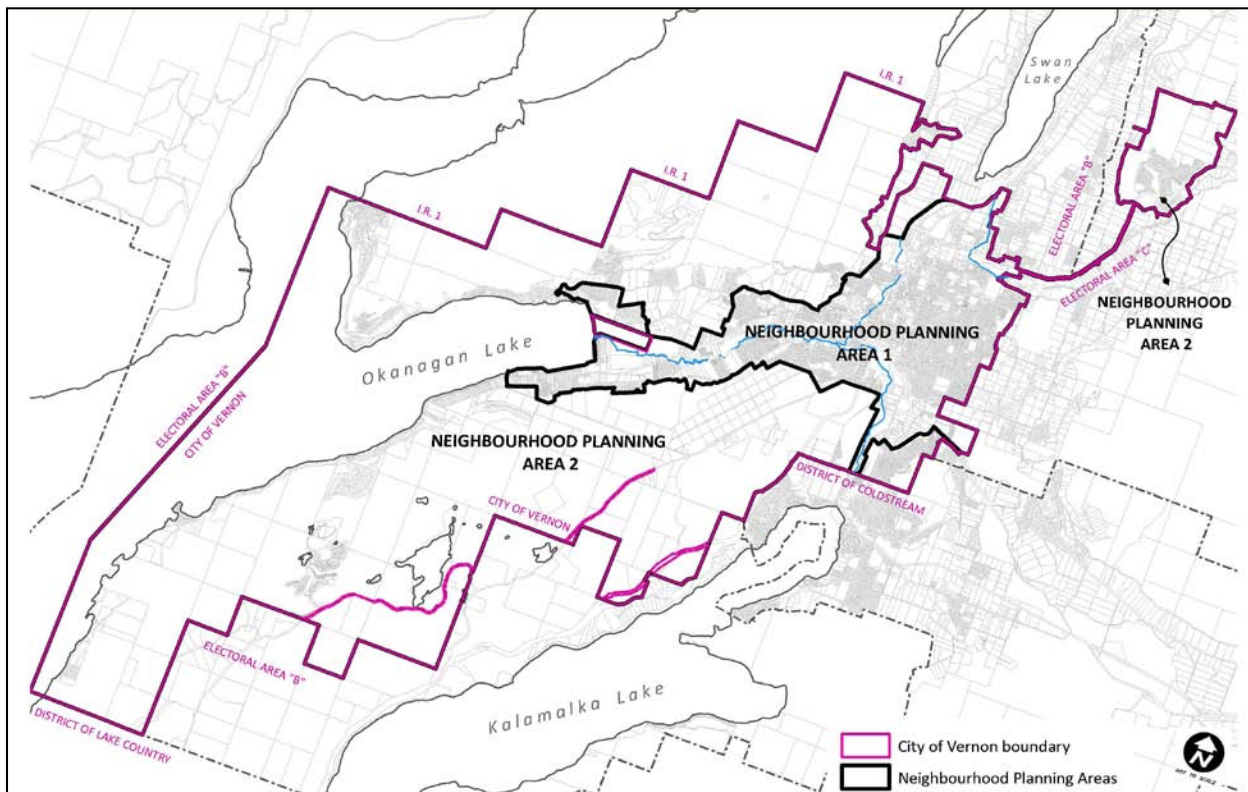
Table 29: City of Vernon Real Property Tax Rates (\$ per 1,000 of Assessed Property), 2011

CLASS	MUNICIPAL	REGIONAL DISTRICT	HOSPITAL	SCHOOL	OTHER	TOTAL
<b>Residential</b>	2.87995	1.8751	0.2029	2.1529	0.07167	7.18252
<b>Utilities</b>	39.29044	6.5631	0.71	14.1	0.63926	61.3028
<b>Supportive Housing</b>	2.87995	1.8751	0.2029	0.1	0.07167	5.12962
<b>Industry</b>	8.63147	6.3756	0.6897	6.6	0.21695	22.51372
<b>Business</b>	7.68294	4.5942	0.5246	6.6	0.21473	19.61647
<b>Manag. Forest Land</b>	0.82635	5.6255	0.6086	2	0.2982	9.35865
<b>Rec. Non-Profit</b>	3.92114	1.8751	0.2029	3.4	0.07462	9.47376
<b>Farm</b>	0.75656	1.8751	0.2029	6.8	0.0647	9.69926

Source: City of Vernon.

## Development Cost Charges

Figure 7-1: DCC Sectors for the City of Vernon



Source: City of Vernon (2010a).

Table 30: Development Cost Charges, 2010

CATEGORY	CORE AREA		OUTER AREA	
	Charge	Per-Unit Max	Charge	Per-Unit Max
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>				
Single Detached Housing	\$16,430/lot	\$16,430	\$21,183/lot	\$21,183
Small Single Detached Housing (less than 400 sq m)	\$11,581/lot	\$11,581	\$14,749/lot	\$14,749
Semi Detached Housing	\$65.44/sq m	\$10,928	\$83.58/sq m	\$16,715
Row Housing	\$81.59/sq m	\$10,606	\$104.89/sq m	\$13,635
Apartment Housing	\$85.42/sq m	\$7,944	\$110.47/sq m	\$10,274
Small Apartment Housing (less than 56 sq m)	\$77.68/sq m	\$4,350	\$98.48/sq m	\$5,515
Secondary Suite	\$0.00	Na	\$0.00	Na
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>				
Office Retail Commercial	\$37.05/sq m	No max	\$46.37/sq m	No max
Highway Commercial	\$48.95/sq m	No max	\$62.93/sq m	No max
<b>INDUSTRIAL</b>	\$152,768/ha	No max	\$191,911/ha	No max
<b>INSTITUTIONAL</b>	\$51.02/sq m	No max	\$65.00/sq m	No max

Source: City of Vernon (2010a).

## Corporate Taxes and Personal Taxes

Table 31: Corporate Income Taxes, 2011

	SMALL BUSINESS	MANUFACTURING	NON-MANUFACTURING
<b>FEDERAL</b>			
Rate (range)	11%	16.5%	16.5%
Accelerated Depreciation permitted	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>PROVINCIAL</b>			
Rate (range)	2.5%	10.0%	10.0%
Federal Tax Deductible	No	No	No
<b>LOCAL</b>			
British Columbia has no local corporate income taxes			
Total Federal and Provincial Corporate Income Tax	13.50%	26.50%	26.50%

Source: Canada Revenue Agency (2011c). Internet Site.

Table 32: Federal and Provincial Personal Income Tax Rate, 2011

INCOME CATEGORY	FEDERAL	PROVINCIAL
Taxable Earned Income	15.00% to 29.00%	5.06% to 14.70%
Interest and Other Investment Income (Dividends)	0.00% to 14.55%	0.00% to 3.92%
Capital Gain	7.50% to 14.50%	2.53% to 7.35%

Source: Canada Revenue Agency (2011d). Internet Site and Invest BC (2011). Internet Site.

## Highways and Distances

**Table 33: Main Highways**

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
<b>97</b>	Main north-south route through region, linking USA and Yukon/Alaska
<b>97A</b>	60 km north-south link to Highway #1 at Sicamous
<b>6</b>	Main east link to Kootenays
<b>1</b>	Main national highway accessible 85 km northwest via #97 and 60 km north via #97A

**Table 34: Vehicular Distances from Vernon to Various Major Centres**

METRO AREA	DISTANCE KM (MI)	DIRECTION	DRIVING TIME FROM VERNON
<b>Kelowna, BC</b>	53 km (33 mi)	South	39 min
<b>Kamloops, BC</b>	118 km (73 mi)	North West	1 hr, 25 min
<b>Vancouver, BC</b>	429 km (266 mi)	South West	4 hrs, 48 min
<b>Spokane, WA</b>	449 km (279 mi)	South	6 hrs, 2 min
<b>Victoria, BC</b>	511 km (317 mi)	South West	7 hrs, 1 min (via Ferry)
<b>Seattle, WA</b>	545 km (339 mi)	South West	6 hrs, 3 min
<b>Calgary, AB</b>	555 km (345 mi)	East	6 hrs, 48 min
<b>Portland, OR</b>	824 km (512 mi)	South West	8 hrs, 42 min
<b>Edmonton, AB</b>	848 km (527 mi)	North East	9 hrs, 44 min

Source: City of Vernon (2010a)

## Motor and Rail Carriers

**Table 35: Motor Carriers/Trucks**

<b># of Common Carriers Serving the Area</b>	17
<b># of Common Carriers with Local Terminals</b>	3

Source: Transport Solutions Inc. (2011).

**Table 36: Rail Carrier**

CARRIER NAME	LINE TYPE	LINE LENGTH	DISTANCE TO NEAREST SWITCHING YARD
<b>Kelowna Pacific</b>	Branch	Shortline	29 km

Source: CNplus (2011).

## Airports and Custom Entry Point

**Table 37: Closest Commercial and International Airports**

AIRPORT NAME	KELOWNA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	KAMLOOPS AIRPORT
<b>Website</b>	www.kelownairport.com/	www.kamloopsairport.com/
<b>Hub Status</b>	International	Commercial
<b>Distance In KMs</b>	53	118
<b>Hours Operation</b>	4:00 am - 11:30 pm	24 hrs / 7 days
<b>No Runways</b>	1	2
<b>Runway Lengths</b>	2700	1800
<b>Customs Point Of Entry</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Foreign Trade Zone</b>	No	No
<b>Full Instrument Landing</b>	Yes	No
<b>Passenger Carriers</b>	Air Canada Jazz, Central Mountain Air, Horizon Air, Westjet, Northwestern Air, Regional 1	Air Canada Jazz, Central Mountain Air, Westjet
<b>Cargo Carriers</b>	Carson Air	FedEx, Puralator
<b>Charter Carriers</b>	Air North, Canjet, Sunwing Airlines	Canadian Helicopters, Highland Helicopters, Westair Aviation Inc.
<b>Approved Capital Expansion</b>	Doubling of terminal size by 2025.	

Source: Kelowna Airport (2011), Kamloops Airport (2011).

**Table 38: Custom Port of Entry**

TYPE	NAME	SITE LOCATION
<b>Airport</b>	Kelowna International Airport	#15-5533 Kelowna Airport, Kelowna, BC V1V 1S1

Source: Invest BC (2011).

**Table 39: General Aviation Airport**

AIRPORT NAME	VERNON REGIONAL AIRPORT
<b>Website</b>	http://www.vernon.ca/services/airport/
<b>Distance In KMs</b>	0
<b>Hours Operation</b>	24 hours a day
<b>No Runways</b>	1
<b>Runway Lengths</b>	1072
<b>Full Instrument Landing</b>	No
<b>No Days Closed Weather</b>	

Source: Vernon Airport (2011).

## Ocean Ports and Warehousing

**Table 40: Closest Ocean Ports**

PORT	PORT OF VANCOUVER	PORT OF PRINCE RUPERT
<b>Type</b>	Ocean	Ocean
<b>Location</b>	Vancouver	Prince Rupert
<b>Distance</b>	429 km	1,300 km
<b>Channel Depth</b>	Minimum - 10 meters (33 feet)	Minimum - 10 meters (33 feet)
<b>Turning Basin</b>	Unlimited	Unlimited
<b>Highways Servicing</b>	#1, #1A, #7A, #99, #17	#16
<b>Railway Servicing</b>	CN Rail, CP Rail, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad	CN Rail
<b>Barging Facilities</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Storage Facilities</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>General Cargo Facilities</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Containerized Facilities</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Shall Water Barging Facilities</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Deep Water Barging Facilities</b>	Yes	Yes

Source: Invest BC (2011).

**Table 41: Warehouses**

TYPE	NO.
<b>Bonded Warehouses</b>	1
<b>Public Warehouses</b>	13

Source: Invest BC (2011).

## Water Utilities and Services

**Table 42: Water Sources and Availability**

MUNICIPALITY	MAJOR SOURCES	POPULATION CAPACITY
<b>Vernon Area</b>	Kalamalka Lake, Duteau Creek, Deer Creek, Goose Lake, Okanagan Lake, Antwerp Springs, Coldstream Ranch	~65,000

Source: City of Vernon (2010a).

**Table 43: Water Treatment Statistics**

MUNICIPALITY	VERNON AREA
<b>Provider</b>	Greater Vernon Services, Water
<b>Average Daily Demand (mgd)</b>	17.9
<b>Chemical Breakdown of Water</b>	
<b>Cost per 1000 Gallons (Residential)</b>	\$3.48
<b>Peak Demand (mgd)</b>	63
<b>Rated Capacity (mgd)</b>	
<b>Water Connection Fee</b>	\$2,180

Source: Greater Vernon Water (2011a).

## Sewer and Solid Waste Management

**Table 44: Sewer Treatment Statistics**

MUNICIPALITY	
<b>Provider</b>	City of Vernon
<b>Type of Service</b>	Sewer
<b>Rated Capacity (mgd)</b>	5.28
<b>Average Daily Demand (mgd)</b>	3.43
<b>Peak Demand (mgd)</b>	5.55
<b>Cost per 1000 Gallons</b>	\$7.69
<b>Sewer Connection Fee</b>	

Source: Invest BC (2011), City of Vernon (2011a)

**Table 45: Landfill Services**

LANDFILL LOCATIONS	REMAINING CAPACITY	PLANS FOR NEW CAPACITY
<b>Greater Vernon</b>	2,803,398 m3 (est. 23 years)	None

Source: Vernon (2011a).

## Electric, Natural Gas and Telecommunications

**Table 46: Natural Gas Provider Rates**

PROVIDER	RATE TERRITORY	TYPE OF CUSTOMER	FIXED MONTHLY BASIC CHARGE	TOTAL VARIABLE PRICE PER GJ
Fortis BC	Inland	Small Commercial Service	\$24.84	\$8.53
		Large Commercial Service	\$132.52	\$7.84
		General Firm Service	\$587.00	\$5.94

Source: Terasen (2011).

**Table 47: Electrical Utility Rates and Service**

PROVIDER	BC HYDRO
<b>Communities Served</b>	Serves 94% of all British Columbia's residents including Vancouver CMA.
<b>% of Reserve Margin</b>	8% as per WSCC guidelines plus an additional 8% surplus
<b>Average Service Last 5 Years</b>	99.967
<b>Average Service Most Recent Year</b>	99.974
<b>Importer or Exporter of Power</b>	Net Exporter
<b>Power Pool Membership</b>	Formal membership in WSCC, WSPP, Power Pool of Alberta (PPA), MAPP. Also active in SPP and CalPX.
<b>Deregulated?</b>	Wholesale competition allowed.
<b>Average Cents Per kWh (6 kW, 750 kWh)</b>	8.595
<b>Average Cents Per kWh (500 kW, 200,000 kWh)</b>	6.125
<b>Average Cents Per kWh (10,000 kW, 5,500,000 kWh)</b>	5.555

Source: Manitoba Hydro (2011).

**Table 48: Telecommunications Provider Statistics**

PROVIDER	ADDRESS	SWITCH TECHNOLOGY	SERVICE
Telus	www.telus.com	Digital	ADSL/ISDN
Shaw Cable	www.shaw.ca	Digital	Cable Internet
Johnson's Communications Ltd	www.johnsonscm.com	Digital	Satellite
Uniserve	www.ca.inter.net	Digital	ADSL/ISDN

Source: NorthOkanagan.net (2011).



## Water Utilities and Services

**Table 49: City of Vernon Municipal Government**

NAME	CITY OF VERNON
<b># of Elected Officials</b>	7
TOP ELECTED OFFICIAL	
<b>Name</b>	Wayne Lippert
<b>Title</b>	Mayor
<b>Next Election Date</b>	November 19, 2011

Source: City of Vernon (2011b).

**Table 50: Regional District Government Structure**

NAME	RDNO
<b># of Elected Officials</b>	13
TOP ELECTED OFFICIAL	
<b>Name</b>	Herman Halvorson
<b>Title</b>	Chair
<b>Next Election Date</b>	November 19, 2011

Source: City of Vernon (2011b).

**Table 51: Provincial Government Representation**

FORM (STRUCTURE)	LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
<b>Total Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA)</b>	85
<b>Electoral District Name</b>	Vernon-Monashee
<b>Name of MLA</b>	Eric Foster
<b>Party Affiliation</b>	British Columbia Liberal Party
<b>Next Election Date</b>	May 14, 2013

Source: Legislative Assembly of BC (2011).

**Table 52: Federal Government Representation**

FORM (STRUCTURE)	BICAMERAL PARLIAMENT (HOUSE OF COMMONS AND SENATE)
<b>Total Members of Parliament (MP)</b>	308
<b>Riding Name</b>	Okanagan-Shuswap
<b>Name of MP</b>	Colin Mayes
<b>Party Affiliation</b>	Conservative Party of Canada
<b>Next Election Date</b>	NA

**Senate**

In Canada, there are ordinarily 105 Senators appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Prime Minister. Senators are chosen to represent the various provinces and territories of Canada and are appointed until the age of 75. British Columbia currently has six senators.

## Primary and Secondary School System

**Table 53: Vernon School District (District 22) Public School Overview, 2010**

	ELEMENTARY	SECONDARY	TOTAL
<b>Number of Schools</b>	14	5	19
<b>Number of Students</b>	4,735	4,027	8,762
<b>Number of Teachers (FTE)</b>	n/a	n/a	453.9
<b>Student to Teacher Ratio</b>			19.3: 1

Source: Ministry of Education (2010, 2011a, 2011b).

## Post-Secondary Education

**Table 54: Closest Community Colleges and Other Local Post Secondary Learning Institutions**

	CAMPUS LOCATIONS	WEBSITE
<b>Okanagan Valley College of Massage Therapy</b>	Vernon	www.ovcmt.com
<b>MC College (hair design)</b>	Including Vernon & Kelowna	www.mccollege.ca
<b>Transport Training Centre of Canada</b>	Vernon	www.ttcc.ca
<b>British Columbia College of Equine Therapy</b>	Vernon	www.equinetherapy.ca

**Table 55: Closest Four Year Educational Institutions**

	MAIN CAMPUS	DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY	WEBSITE
<b>Okanagan University College</b>	Vernon, with locations across the Okanagan	N/A	www.okanagan.bc.ca
<b>University of BC - Okanagan</b>	Kelowna	37 km	www.ubc.ca/Okanagan
<b>Thompson Rivers University</b>	Kamloops	123 km	www.tru.ca
<b>Simon Fraser University</b>	Burnaby	428 km	www.sfu.ca
<b>University of BC</b>	Vancouver	442 km	www.ubc.ca

Source: Kelowna Airport (2011), Kamloops Airport (2011).

**Table 56: Vernon Area Business Support Organizations**

	CONTACT PERSON	POSITION	TELEPHONE
<b>City of Vernon Economic Development Office</b>	Kevin Poole	Manager of Economic Development and Tourism	250-550-3249
<b>Downtown Vernon Association</b>	Ruth Hoyte Earl Hansen	President Executive Director	250-542-5851
<b>Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce</b>	George Duffy Deb Leroux	General Manager President	250-545-0379
<b>Community Futures of North Okanagan</b>	Norm Metcalf Don Main	General Manager Chair	250-545-2215

**Table 57: International Support Services**

TYPE OF FIRM	NUMBER
<b>Foreign Banks with Local Branches or Offices:</b>	1
<b>Import/ Export Brokers:</b>	1
<b>International Courier Services:</b>	5
<b>Language Translation Firms:</b>	0
<b>Freight Forwarders:</b>	15

*Source: Invest BC Research (2003)*

**Table 58: Top 20 Non-Official Language Spoken in the City of Vernon, 2006**

LANGUAGE	CITY OF VERNON		BC
	(#)	(%)	(%)
<b>German</b>	1,500	28.8%	8.0%
<b>Punjabi</b>	580	11.1%	12.5%
<b>Ukrainian</b>	440	8.5%	1.0%
<b>Spanish</b>	415	8.0%	6.0%
<b>Russian</b>	290	5.6%	1.8%
<b>Dutch</b>	270	5.2%	2.1%
<b>Chinese (All)</b>	205	3.9%	28.2%
<b>Polish</b>	165	3.2%	1.3%
<b>Italian</b>	150	2.9%	2.8%
<b>Hindi</b>	95	1.8%	4.7%
<b>Gujarati</b>	95	1.8%	0.7%
<b>Portuguese</b>	80	1.5%	1.2%
<b>Urdu</b>	80	1.5%	0.8%
<b>Japanese</b>	60	1.2%	2.2%
<b>Filipino</b>	50	1.0%	4.9%
<b>Norwegian</b>	45	0.9%	0.3%
<b>Hungarian</b>	40	0.8%	0.8%
<b>Danish</b>	35	0.7%	0.5%
<b>Czech</b>	35	0.7%	0.5%
<b>Vietnamese</b>	30	0.6%	2.1%

Source: BC Stats (2010b).

Note: The count in this table is of languages spoken and not persons. Some residents speak more than one language.

## Appendix A - References

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