



# FORT ST. JOHN COMMUNITY INDICATORS PROGRAM INDICATORS BASKET

December 2018

COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
INSTITUTE



**THE FORGE**  
EXCHANGE • INNOVATE • IGNITE



**FORT ST. JOHN**  
*The Energetic City*

# COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Introduction

**City of Fort St. John Vision:** “Fort St. John will be a flourishing community where nature lives, businesses prosper, families are active and diversity is celebrated.”

## City of Fort St. John Guiding Principles

1. Enhancing our Quality of Life
2. Valuing Partnerships
3. Embracing our Diversity
4. Increasing Economic Opportunities
5. Being Environmentally Sustainable

Source: Fort St. John *Official Community Plan*

## City of Fort St. John Strategic Goals

1. Enhance community economic development to provide opportunities and sustainability for Fort St. John.
2. Demonstrate leadership in environmental responsibility through sustainable and effective practices for municipal operations.
3. Build and manage public assets and human resources that support the current and future needs of the community.
4. Initiate and foster partnerships that will benefit Fort St. John. Advocate to decision makers on issues that impact the community.
5. Actualize downtown Fort St. John as a social, vibrant, liveable hub as articulated in the Fort St. John Downtown Action Plan.

Source: Fort St. John *Strategic Plan 2018-2023*

## Purpose of the Fort St. John Community Indicators Program

The Community Indicators Program (CIP) is a monitoring tool that tracks topics linked to the vision, principles, and strategic goals of the City of Fort St. John. In addition to assisting the City of Fort St. John with community planning and decision-making, it may also assist in developing future performance indicators. The CIP is also expected to be a valuable resource for the community. Through data collection and reporting, the CIP aims to encourage community discussion and collective action on pressing local issues. For the CDI, the CIP will inform an update of the Community Profile of Fort St. John (Phase 2), and will be useful in the preparation of the Social Framework for Fort St. John.

## The CIP Design Process

The CIP will proceed in five stages. In the first stage, CDI staff will prepare the data collection instruments: the Indicators “Basket” and the Community Survey. The second stage consists of the review of these instruments by The Forge Advisory Committee, the City of Fort St. John Executive Leadership Team, and City of Fort St. John staff. CDI staff will then make revisions based on the feedback of these stakeholders. In the third stage, CDI staff will finalize the Indicators Basket and the Community Survey through further engagement with The Forge Advisory Committee, the City’s Executive Leadership Team, and City staff. Further, in the third stage, CDI staff will secure Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) from data providers, which include City departments and community groups in Fort St. John; CDI staff will also test the Community Survey on a volunteer sample.

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Introduction

The fourth stage consists of the data collection. Data will be collected following the protocols set out in the MOUs and is expected to occur over a two-year period. The fifth stage involves reporting on the data that has been collected. CDI staff will produce a research report describing the data in detail, as well as assessing the strengths and weaknesses of the CIP instruments and delivery. CDI staff could recommend further revision to the Indicators Basket or Community Survey. The research report will be presented to The Forge Advisory Committee and the City's Executive Leadership Team. CDI staff will also produce a public report of the CIP, with a formal presentation given to City Council. Based on the public report, workshops will be organized with community groups to identify issues requiring further planning and action.

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Population Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Link to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
1. Population	The number of people residing in Fort St. John.	Population increases and population decreases are often linked to changing economic conditions. Population change impacts the municipal tax base.	The City encourages population growth (OCP, pg.20)		Statistics Canada Census Program; Year over year: BC Stats
2. Aboriginal population	The number of people residing in Fort St. John who self-identify as Aboriginal (First Nations, Métis, Inuit).	Aboriginal people are overrepresented in the criminal justice, health care, and social welfare systems. The mobility patterns and housing of Aboriginal people differ from the general population, especially if they alternate between living on reserve and off reserve.	The City seeks better integration with neighbouring First Nations and Métis communities (OCP, pg.38). The City will be considering the use of Indigenous place and street names (OCP, pg.71). The City has proposed developing a framework to establish an Urban Reserve (SP 4.2, pg.15).	17. Partnerships for the goals	Statistics Canada Census Program
3. Visible minorities	The number of people who identify as a visible minority.	Visible minorities increase the diversity of the population, contributing to more diversity of services in the local economy.	The City encourages inclusivity and diversity as part of its Community Vision. The City's goal is to have a culturally diverse community (OCP, pg.111).		Statistics Canada Census Program
4. Internal migration	The total number of migrants from other places in Canada (intra-provincial and inter-provincial migration).	Immigration patterns affect population size as well as the demand for education, social, and community services.			Statistics Canada Census Program
5. External migration	The total number of immigrants from countries outside of Canada.	Immigration patterns affect population size as well as the demand for education, social, and community services.	The City's Guiding Principle #3 is "Embracing Our Diversity" and this includes services to newcomers (OCP, pg.30).		Statistics Canada Census Program
6. Household size	The number and proportion of households of different sizes in the community.	Changes in household size will affect the demand for education, social, and community services.			Statistics Canada Census Program
7. Age	The age structure of the population according to five-year age cohorts.	Changes in the age profile of the population will shape community needs and services.			Statistics Canada Census Program
8. Sex	The number of males and females in the community.	Changes in sex composition (e.g., more men than women) will affect community needs and services.			Statistics Canada Census Program
9. Marital status	The number and proportion of the population that is married, living common law, or unmarried.	A growing number of married and common law couples could be an early signal of growth in the number of families, which, in turn, means an increased demand for education, social, and community services.			Statistics Canada Census Program

Please note: "UNSDG" refers to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Under the "Links to City of FSJ goals and initiatives" column, "OCP" refers to the City of Fort St. John's *Official Community Plan (2017)* and "SP" refers to the City's *Strategic Plan: 2018-2023*. Page numbers are provided for the OCP. For the SP, goal and objective reference numbers are provided. This referencing style applies to the entire document.

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Economic Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Link to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
1. Housing tenure	The percentage of owned and rented residential dwellings in Fort St. John.	Homeownership is a key means of accruing wealth, and homeownership signals permanency through longer periods of residence.	The City will be promoting the development of affordable homeownership options (OCP, pg.103). It will also be looking into establishing incentives for affordable housing and secondary forms of housing (OCP, pg.104).		Statistics Canada Census Program
2. Building permits value	The total value of residential building permits.	This is a leading indicator for the construction industry that signals a change in economic conditions.	The City's #4 Guiding Principle is "Increasing Economic Opportunities" (OCP, pg.31). The City will be looking at options to encourage owners of vacant and underutilized land to develop their properties (OCP, pg.64). The City will be supporting the development of a Business Improvement Association (OCP, pg.108; SP 5.1.4, pg.20).	11. Sustainable cities and communities	City of Fort St. John, Integrated Services Department
3. Housing starts	The number of new housing units in a community.	Changes in the number of housing starts can provide early signs of shifting economic conditions.	The City will be developing a housing strategy for the downtown core (SP 5.4.1, pg.21). As the dominant housing form is the single-detached home, the City is aiming to diversify the housing stock (OCP, pg.57).		CMHC Starts and Completions Survey
4. Average assessed value of properties	The average assessed value of residential and commercial properties in Fort St. John.	Higher property values benefit most homeowners, as home equity is often a key asset of household wealth. Higher property values also benefit the City through a larger tax base.		11. Sustainable cities and communities	BC Assessment
5. Business licenses	The number of business licenses in effect in Fort St. John minus the number of businesses retired per annum.	This will signal increases and decreases in local economic activity. An important caveat to this indicator is that many new and small businesses operate without a license (i.e., home businesses).	The City's vision is of a community where "businesses prosper." The City will be working with business owners to identify economic development opportunities (OCP, pg.109).	11. Sustainable cities and communities	City of Fort St. John, Integrated Services Department
6. Air traffic	The number of passengers using commercial airlines in and out of Fort St. John.	This is a leading indicator for economic activity in Fort St. John, including local commerce and tourism sectors.			North Peace Regional Airport Society
7. Median household income	Total income of all people living in the same residence. The median is the halfway point in a population.	Household income provides for basic needs that improve wellbeing.		8. Decent work and economic growth	Statistics Canada Census Program
8. Households below the low income cut-off level, after tax (LICO-AT)	LICO-AT refers to economic families that spend 20 percentage points or more of their after-tax income than average on food, shelter, and clothing.	Families below the LICO-AT line have more difficulty providing for their basic needs. They are likely to be receiving government transfer payments.	The City encourages affordable, attainable, and inclusive housing (OCP, pg.58). The City will also be encouraging the development of seniors living facilities (OCP, pg.59).	10. Reduced inequalities	Statistics Canada Census Program
9. Workforce participation rate	The percentage of working-aged people (15 years and older) who are in the labour force working on a full-time or part-time basis.	Shows the size of the labour force relative to the working age population. Non-participation reflects an unwillingness or inability to work.	The City is looking to encourage entrepreneurship opportunities as part of its economic development framework (OCP, pg.108).	8. Decent work and economic growth	Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Economic Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Links to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
10. High school completion rate	The proportion of students graduating high school within six years of entering grade nine.	Education is a key factor in securing employment and in community development. High school is widely considered the minimum level of education to secure a well-paying job.		4. Quality education	BC Ministry of Education
11. Aboriginal high school completion rate	The proportion of Aboriginal students graduating high school within six years of entering grade nine.	Education is a key factor in securing employment and community development. High school is widely considered the minimum level of education to secure a well-paying job. Historically, the completion rate of Aboriginal high school students is lower than the total high school completion rate.		4. Quality education	BC Ministry of Education
12. Educational attainment	The highest level of formal education that an individual has completed.	Higher educational attainment is positively linked to employment, income, and life satisfaction. Educational attainment contributes to people living longer and making healthier lifestyle choices.	The City wants to develop partnerships with post-secondary institutions to enhance training and education opportunities, specifically in the fields of energy and health (OCP, pg.31; SP 4.7.1, pg.17).	4. Quality education	Statistics Canada Census Program

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Social Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Link to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
1. Quality of life	The percentage of people who rate the overall quality of life in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.	Quality of life is determined by many factors. Higher quality of life is a means of attracting and retaining residents/workers.	Enhancing quality of life is the City's #1 Guiding Principle (OCP, pg.29).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Community survey
2. Sense of belonging	The percentage of people who rate opportunities to belong to community organizations and institutions as excellent or very good.	Sense of belonging influences an individual's sense of identity. It can affect their levels of volunteerism and mental health.			Community survey
3. Neighbourliness	The percentage of the population who rate support for opportunities to get to know their neighbors as excellent or very good.	This indicator reflects the strength of community associations. Higher levels of neighbourliness are associated with increased trust and perceptions of safety.	As part of "Being a Sustainable Community," the City will be developing Neighbourhood Plans (OCP, pg.41). This indicator can help inform the development of those plans. The City will encourage the support of infill development in established neighbourhoods with citizen support (OCP, pg.42).		Community survey
4. Perception of safety	The percentage of the population who strongly agree or agree that neighbourhoods in Fort St. John are safe.	The perception that a neighbourhood is unsafe could affect what people do and how they travel. Although there are a variety of factors that affect perceptions of safety, exposure to crime is typically seen as the main contributing factor.	The City will be utilizing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) urban design principles (OCP, pg.42).	16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Community survey
5. Licensed childcare spaces	The number of licensed child care spaces in the community.	Childcare is important for parents who need to have their children looked after while they are at work. Childcare is also valuable in preparing children for entry into the formal education system.	The City will be encouraging social enterprises to partner with institutional organizations for shared facilities and spaces for delivery of daycares, pre-schools, etc. (OCP, pg.70).		BC Chief Licensing Officer
6. Food bank use	The number of people using a food bank and meal/snack programs on a monthly basis.	This indicator reflects low income prevalence in a community as families struggle with providing for basic needs. Increases in food bank use can signal economic decline and/or growing income inequality.		2. Zero hunger	Survey of United Way and food banks
7. Shelter use	The number of people who use the emergency shelter in a month.	This indicator reflects low income prevalence, specifically homelessness. Increases in the use of emergency shelters can indicate worsening economic conditions.		1. No poverty	Fort St. John Shelter; Community Bridge; Fort St. John Women's Resource Centre
8. Core housing need	The percentage of households meeting any of the three conditions: 1) housing costs are more than 30% of household income; 2) housing requires major repairs; 3) housing is not sufficient in size.	Households in core housing need are unable to meet any one of the three conditions of affordability (housing costs not exceeding 30% of household income), adequacy (housing not in need of major repair), and suitability (size).	The City has the explicit goal of "providing adequate, affordable housing options for citizens" (OCP, pg.57).	11. Sustainable cities and communities	Statistics Canada Census Program

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Social Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Links to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
9. Rental housing affordability	The percentage of renter households spending 30% or more of household income on shelter costs.	Rental housing affordability affects the amount of disposable income that renters have and their financial security through their ability to deposit savings. Renters need to have savings in order to pay a deposit when purchasing a home. Rental housing affordability also affects the elderly and others who are on fixed incomes/social assistance.	The City encourages “a range of housing types” (OCP, pg.42).	11. Sustainable cities and communities	Statistics Canada Census Program
10. Homeowner affordability	The percentage of owner households spending 30% or more of its income on shelter costs.	Households that are low income are more vulnerable to changing economic conditions. Issues with housing affordability discourage low-income families from purchasing a home (“planting roots”) in the community.	The City has the explicit goal of “providing adequate, affordable housing options for citizens” (OCP, pg.57).	11. Sustainable cities and communities	Statistics Canada Census Program
11. Seniors housing affordability	The percentage of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal seniors (aged 65 years and over) spending 30% or more of their income on shelter costs.	Currently, seniors are one of the fastest growing age cohorts (retirement of the Baby Boomers). As most seniors are on fixed incomes, they are more vulnerable to changes in property values and living costs.	The City is encouraging “the development of a range of seniors living facilities, from independent living to extended care, within the community” (OCP, pg.58). It plans to work in partnership with Northern Health on seniors housing (OCP, pg.80).	11. Sustainable cities and communities	CMHC, Housing in Canada Online
12. Seniors housing waitlist	The total number of seniors (aged 65 years and over) on a waiting list for seniors housing.	This reflects the capacity of local seniors housing to meet the needs of the growing population of seniors.	Fort St. John is developing an age-friendly action plan that will likely involve seniors housing initiatives (OCP, pg.106). Further, the City is considering whether to develop a seniors housing directory (OCP, pg.107).		NPSHS

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Health Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Links to City of FSJ goals and initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
1. Doctors per capita	The total number of medical doctors per capita who are providing services in Fort St. John.	This reflects the capacity of the health care system and the ability of residents to receive medical attention and preventative care.			Northern Health
2. Specialists per capita	The total number of medical specialists per capita who are providing services in Fort St. John.	This reflects the capacity of the health care system and the ability of residents to receive medical treatment.			Northern Health
3. Dentists per capita	The total number of dentists per capita who are providing services in Fort St. John.				Dentist Directory of Canada
4. Perceived health	The percentage of population reporting that their health is either good, very good, or excellent.	Perception of health is a central component of subjective wellbeing.	The City intends to develop partnerships with health services (SP 4.7, pg.15).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Statistics Canada Health Indicator Profile
5. Perceived mental health	The percentage of population reporting that their mental health is either good, very good, or excellent.	Perception of mental health is a central component of subjective wellbeing.	The City intends to develop partnerships with health services (SP 4.7, pg.15).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Statistics Canada Health Indicator Profile
6. Life expectancy	An estimate of the average lifespan that a newborn is expected to live.	Life expectancy is a cumulative indicator that is related to numerous factors, such as diet, lifestyle, proper sanitation, etc.		3. Good health and wellbeing	Northern Health
7. Birth rates per capita	The number of births by mothers residing in Fort St. John.				Northern Health
8. Heart attack and stroke rates	The number of hospitalizations or deaths due to heart attacks and strokes per 1,000 people aged 40 and older.	Heart attacks and strokes are two of the leading causes of death, hospitalization, and adult disability. There are links between risk of heart attacks/strokes and economic disadvantage.		3. Good health and wellbeing	Northern Health, hospital records
9. Diabetes prevalence	The percentage of people who have been treated for diabetes.	Diabetes is a major contributor to heart disease, kidney failure, blindness, loss of limbs, etc. People with diabetes incur costs for medication and supplies. There are increased costs on the health care system associated with a growing prevalence of diabetes.		3. Good health and wellbeing	Northern Health
10. Immunization rate	The percentage of 7-year-olds who have had vaccinations for measles, mumps, and rubella.	This is an indicator of the population uptake of a significant public health measure.		3. Good health and wellbeing	Northern Health
11. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome	The proportion of newborn babies that have been diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.	In addition to having several health problems, people with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome have been associated with a higher prevalence of criminality and propensity for substance abuse.			Northern Health
12. Teen pregnancy rate	The number of female pregnancies aged 15 to 19 years per 1,000 females of the same age.	Children of teenage mothers statistically have poorer health and educational outcomes compared to mothers who delayed pregnancy into adulthood.		3. Good health and wellbeing	Northern Health, hospital records

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Health Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Links to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
13. ADHD among children	The proportion of children (aged 18 years and under) who have been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.				Northern Health
14. Children with autism	The proportion of children (aged 18 years and under) who have been diagnosed with autism.				Northern Health
15. Child development	The Early Development Instrument (EDI) score for Fort St. John.	The EDI measures five core areas of early childhood development that are known to be good predictors of adult health, education, and social outcomes.		3. Good health and wellbeing	Human Early Learning Partnership
16. Smoking rate	The percentage of population reporting as "occasional smoker" or "daily smoker."	Smoking is known to be a leading cause of cancer and premature death.	The City revisited the issue of a smoking bylaw at its meeting on February 26, 2018 in the context of cannabis legalization.	3. Good health and wellbeing	Northern Health
17. Substance abuse	The number of people who have been diagnosed as having substance abuse problems.	People with substance abuse issues are more likely to need social and health care services. Substance abuse contributes to domestic violence and family breakups. People with substance abuse issues are also more likely to commit criminal offences.			Northern Health
18. Active leisure time	The percentage of population (aged 18 years and over) that does physical activity for 150 minutes or more per week.	Physical activity helps prevent chronic conditions and stress while improving mood.	The City is encouraging its citizen to embrace an active year-round lifestyle (OCP, pg.47).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Statistics Canada Community Health Survey

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Civic Engagement Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Link to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
1. Voter turnout in municipal elections	The percentage of registered voters who turn out to vote in municipal elections.	Indicator of the level of engagement with the formal political process. Higher levels of voter turnout and political engagement reflect the health of the democratic system, which is supposed to be representative of the population.		16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	City of Fort St. John
2. Volunteerism	The percentage of the population who rate opportunities for volunteering as excellent or very good.	This indicator reflects the vitality of the voluntary sector.		16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Community survey
3. Civic engagement in the community	The percentage of the population who rate opportunities to belong to community organizations and institutions as excellent or very good.	This provides a measure of citizen engagement in the voluntary sector, which is a reflection of community vitality.	The City wants to increase community engagement (OCP, pg.39) as part of "Building a Resilient Fort St. John."	16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Community survey
4. Women elected to municipal council and school board	The proportion of female to male council and school board members in Fort St. John.	Historically, women have been under-represented in political leadership. This indicator tracks the gender ratio of elected officials.		5. Gender inequality	City of Fort St. John; School District #60
5. Satisfaction with input into decision-making	The percentage of the population who strongly agree or agree that Fort St. John is a community where residents are encouraged to get involved with municipal decision-making processes.	This is an indicator of the health of local democracy and citizens' perception of their inclusion in community development.	The City supports transparency and accountability in governance through open and consistent communication with citizens (OCP, pg.39)	16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Community survey
6. Satisfaction with recreation opportunities	The percentage of the population who rate recreation opportunities in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.	Recreation opportunities enhance citizen's quality of life, and many recreation activities contribute to the local economy. Municipal government is directly involved in the provision of many recreation opportunities.	The City will be developing new recreational opportunities in the winter season (OCP, pg.49). Existing recreation facilities will be oriented towards multi-season use (OCP, pg.49).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Community survey
7. Satisfaction with education/schools	The percentage of the population who rate access to a quality school system as excellent or very good.	The quality of education and schooling is linked to community development and economic development. Satisfaction with education and schooling is a central component of the extent to which a community provides a good place to raise children.	The City will be developing partnerships with education services (School District No. 60) "regarding community use of facilities" (SP 4.7.3, pg.17). Further, the City wants a partnership agreement with secondary and post-secondary for "advanced education program" (SP 4.7.1, pg.17).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Community survey
8. Satisfaction with arts/culture	The percentage of the population who rate arts and culture opportunities in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.	Satisfaction with arts and culture is a signal of community vitality. Arts and culture not only enrich community life through activities and events, but artists and art groups also contribute to the local economy through their work.	As most arts and cultural events are located in the downtown, this indicator is relevant to the City of Fort St. John's strategic goal #5 to "Actualize downtown Fort St. John as a social, vibrant, liveable hub as articulated in the Fort St. John Downtown Action Plan." (SP 5, pg.3). The City will also be developing a Public Arts Policy (SP 1.7.1, pg.7)	3. Good health and wellbeing	Community survey
9. Satisfaction with public libraries	The percentage of population who rate public libraries in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.	Libraries are a means for residents to learn about the issues of interest to them. Satisfaction with libraries is tied to residents' ability to pursue lifelong learning.	Library facilities might fall under the Public Arts Policy (SP 1.7.1, pg.7).	3. Good health and wellbeing	Community survey

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Environmental Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Links to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
1. Air quality health index	The concentration of outdoor air pollutants in the community.	People engaging in outdoor activities when there is high concentration of air pollutants put their health at risk.		15. Life on land	BC Air Quality
2. Water use	The amount of water used per capita on a daily basis (litres/day).	Water conservation not only improves environmental sustainability but also decreases consumer and municipal costs.	The City's Guiding Principle #5 "Being Environmentally Sustainable" includes reducing community water needs (OCP, pg.31).	6. Clean water and sanitation	City of Fort St. John, Public Works
3. Waste	The annual amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators.	Waste produces considerable GHG emissions and creates a toxic environment where the landfills are located.	The City will be promoting sustainable household practices and skills around recycling and composting (OCP, pg.42). The City's goal is to increase solid waste diversion to 50% (OCP, pg.122). The City has proposed a yard waste and compost collection program (SP 2.2.2, pg.9).	6. Clean water and sanitation	City of Fort St. John, Public Works; Peace River Regional District; private waste contractors
4. Number of agricultural/ community gardens	The total number of community gardens, community orchards, and urban agricultural lands.	Urban agricultural lands and community gardens are a means of ensuring access to affordable, fresh, and healthy food to Fort St. John residents. Urban agriculture also benefits the local economy.	The City will be encouraging urban agricultural opportunities to promote community food security (OCP, pg.125).	15. Life on land	City of Fort St. John
5. Area of managed parks per capita	The number of hectares per 1,000 people of parks that are managed by the municipality.	Parks and open spaces are important for community vitality as they are spaces used by the public for recreation purposes. Public park use improves quality of life and reduces stress.	The City will be managing and directing urban growth through conservation principles to natural conserve areas (OCP, pg.41). The City goals of having all residential dwellings within a 400m radius of a neighbourhood park (OCP, pg.71).	15. Life on land	City of Fort St. John, Recreation Services
6. Satisfaction with park space	The percentage of population who rate parks in Fort St. John as excellent or very good.	Parklands are community assets and important for public recreation purposes. Levels of satisfaction with parks is a signal of whether there is enough land dedicated as park space and whether it is adequately maintained.	The City wants to enhance quality of life through investments in parks, trails, and public spaces (OCP, pg.29). New subdivisions will require a set amount of park space (OCP, pg.58). City will acquire parkland (OCP, pg.71).	15. Life on land	Community survey
7. Kilometers of trails per capita	The number of trails in kilometers per 1,000 people that are managed by the municipality.	Trails have been identified as providing environmental, social, and economic benefits to the residents of Fort St. John.	The City has a number of proposals concerning trails, such as requiring trails to be built according to universal design (OCP, pg.76), developing ice ribbons along multiple-purpose trails in the winter months (OCP, pg.50).	3. Good health and wellbeing	City of Fort St. John, Public Works
8. Kilometers of sidewalks per capita	The number of sidewalks in kilometers per 1,000 people that are managed by the municipality.	Sidewalks are important for sustainability and accessibility purposes.	The City's Transit Strategy is to enhance pedestrian infrastructure especially in the vicinity of transit routes (OCP, pg.115). Sidewalks will be required to follow universal design principles so as to accommodate children, parents with strollers, and the elderly (OCP, pg.104)	3. Good health and wellbeing	City of Fort St. John, Public Works

## COMMUNITY INDICATORS: Environmental Domain

Indicator	Definition	Rationale	Links to City of Fort St. John goals/initiatives	UNSDG	Data source
9. Kilometers of maintained sidewalks in winter per capita	The total distance of sidewalks that are maintained by the City during the winter.	Sidewalks are important for sustainability and accessibility purposes.	City's commitment to Smart Growth includes adopting urban design principles that emphasize pedestrian oriented streets and winter design guidelines (OCP, pg.42).		City of Fort St. John, Public Works
10. Kilometers of cross-country ski trails per capita	The total distance of cross-country ski trails that are maintained by the City during the winter.	Cross-country ski trails contribute to citizens' ability to pursue an active lifestyle during the winter.	The City wants to encourage citizens to embrace an active year-round lifestyle (OCP, pg.47)	3. Good health and wellbeing	City of Fort St. John, Public Works
11. Public transit use	The annual number of rides taken by passengers on the bus transit system.	Public transit is more environmentally sustainable than personal automobile use. Public transit reduces Greenhouse Gas Emissions.	The City will be working with BC Transit to review and upgrade the City's transit system "to ensure all citizens are able to access it in a timely manner" (OCP, pg.116).	13. Climate action	BC Transit
12. Handy Dart use	The annual number of rides taken by passengers on the Handy Dart.	The Handy Dart service is a key means of transportation for persons with disabilities.	The City will be working with BC Transit to review and upgrade the City's transit system "to ensure all citizens are able to access it in a timely manner" (OCP, pg.116).	3. Good health and wellbeing	BC Transit
13. Satisfaction with public transit	The percentage of population who rate public transit as excellent or very good.	Levels of satisfaction with public transit affect ridership levels. Higher satisfaction with public transit reflects reliable service and adequate transit routes.	The City will be encouraging "multi-modal transportation" (OCP, pg.42). As part of its winter city initiative, the City is considering strategically investing in additional bus shelters (OCP, pg.50).	13. Climate action	Community survey