



## OUR MUNICIPALITY: NOW AND THEN

Knowing about a community's past and the present helps create a sense of place. In groups, create a profile that introduces a particular aspect of your community. Each group should use the following questions as a guide.

### Group A: The Basics

Group A's task is to create a general profile of the community's people and place as it exists today. Guiding points include:

1. Population, broken down by gender, age, ethnicity, and other factors
  - How does a diverse population benefit the community?
2. Climate
  - How does climate impact the community?
3. Location
  - Create a map that illustrates your community and its surrounding environment.
4. Relationships with other communities
  - How does the community's location and population shape its relation with other communities? For example, what services do people come to or stay in the community for? What services do people in the community go elsewhere to find? Where do they come from or go to?
5. What other highlights of the community today do you feel should be profiled. You may wish to think about flags, seals, or other community symbols.

### Group B: Infrastructure and the Economy

Group B's task is to explore elements of the local infrastructure and economy. Guiding points include:

1. Public infrastructure and public services
  - What would be the impact on the community if health care facilities, water treatment facilities, law enforcement, schools, or other government services disappeared?
2. Private enterprise
  - How do these businesses contribute to local well-being?
3. Locally-produced goods
  - What are the benefits of purchasing locally-produced goods?
4. Local media
  - Who owns the media outlets? What about local bloggers? Whose perspectives do they represent?
5. What other highlights of the local infrastructure and economy do you feel should be profiled?



## OUR MUNICIPALITY: NOW AND THEN ...continued

### Group C: Community History

Group C's task is to explore the community's history from its original settlement. Guiding points include:

1. Early immigration
  - What were the reasons that early immigrants chose the community as home?
2. Important local history
  - What events, buildings, and people shaped the community? How did the railroad, grain handling, and the post office play a role?
3. Important national and international historical events
  - How did events outside the community's control shape its history?
4. The land and environment
  - How did the land and environment impact the community's development?
5. What other highlights of local history do you feel should be profiled?

### Group D: Community History: Pre-colonization

Group D's task is to explore the community's history before European settlement. Guiding points include:

1. Original inhabitants
  - Who were the first people to live in the area? Describe their language, traditions, and culture.
2. The land and environment
  - How did the land and environment impact upon the lifestyle and identity of the original inhabitants.
3. Treaty
  - What Treaty land is your community located on? What agreements were made to allow for new settlement on this land? Have these agreements been honoured?
4. Impact of colonization
  - How did the arrival of new settlers impact upon the lives of those who already lived here?
5. What other highlights of the original inhabitants and Treaties do you feel should be profiled?