

NRE SITE PROFILES 2000

Community Name: Mackenzie

NRE cell number: 29

4. SITE HISTORY - MAJOR EVENTS & STORIES

MACKENZIE

Mackenzie is located 200 kilometers north of Prince George in North-Central British Columbia. The community was founded as an “instant town” in 1966 in conjunction with a massive hydroelectric project that created the Williston Lake Reservoir. The townsite of Mackenzie was developed to be the processing center for a regional forest industry. Providing nearly all of the basic sector employment are two large sawmills (Abitibi-Consolidated and Slocan Forest Products), a pulp mill facility (Fletcher Challenge Canada Ltd.), and a pulp and paper plant (Abitibi-Consolidated.) located on the outskirts of Mackenzie. In 1996 there was a population of approximately 6,000 people. As well, a small support service and local administration economy has developed. (From: Housing Transition in Single Industry ‘Instant Towns’. Prepared for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation by Greg Halseth and Lana Sullivan, 2000.)

MACKENZIE

- 1990- mills are affected by the BC Rail strike
Mackenzie receives a new ambulance, a new BC Forest Service Building, and money for airport
- 1991- Slow newsprint market means pulpmill shutdowns (March), poor lumber market as well leads to some shutdowns (September)
Interior sawmills set records
- 1992- 3 Fletcher Challenge mills suffer three week shutdown (July), Royal Bank takes over Finlay Forest Industries, pulpmill strike (June/July)
- 1993- Weak market for kraft pulp sparks short shut down for FCC (July)
- 1994- PPWC/Fletcher Challenge strike action (July/November), Slocan/Donohue obtain rights to Finlay Forest Industries, Economic Development Office established
Donation improves ambulance service
- 1995- Timber West buys 48% of Fletcher Challenge stock in Mackenzie mills
Forest Renewal BC in Mackenzie
- 1996- Deterioration in pulp market means layoffs (April/May)
- 1997- 48% of Timber West share in Fletcher Challenge on the market
- 1998- Nine month long strike at Fletcher Challenge Canada pulpmill
- 1999- Donohue Industries completes takeover of Finlay Forest Industries
February: Outdoor skating rink is completed
- 2000- Donohue Industries is taken over by Quebec based Abitibi

5. Communications and Infrastructure

5.2 Are the following available within this site, yes or no? If appropriate, record the number (#) of these available (i.e. 10 radio stations, or 2 newspapers). Comment on any changes since 1998. Remember, in most cases this is an update from 1998, so not a lot of detail is required, except where noted.

Note: Please obtain a copy of the local paper and any newsletters, and mail them to David Bruce.

Item	Yes/No/#	Comments
Communication Inventory		
Cable TV (is local programming in the form of "text" messages only, or actual programs as well)		There is a Community Directory in the form of text messages.
Cable TV Provider (who is the cable provider, name the company)		Regional Cable
Internet (which companies provide Internet (ISPs), list community website address)		Perfekt Programming and UNISERVE Telus service in the fall www.perf.bc.ca
Speed of Internet Access (indicate which forms are available: Vibe, DSL modem, cable, other)		modem (32k, to be upgraded) government services: wireless services
Public Internet Access Terminals		Public Library (wireless service)
Local Newspaper (frequency)		"The Mackenzie Times" - delivered once a week
Regional Newspaper		None
National Newspaper		"The Globe and Mail"
Community Newsletters (how many, how frequent, only include church bulletins if they carry more than church news)		We found two community newsletters. The Chamber of Commerce is planning to coordinate with leisure services and the community events in town to compile a comprehensive community newsletter.
Local Radio Station		CKMK 1240 Radio
# of Radio Stations available in the site (use your radio dial)		3 stations available: CBC, Hits 101.3FM from Prince George and 550 CKPG (AM).
Community Bulletin Boards (how many can you find, usually in stores or post offices, comment on what they are used for - mostly local notices, personal notices, regional notices, government notices, etc)		Found six community bulletin boards at the Recreation Center, the Mackenzie Mall, and the Post Office. They are used for a variety of things such as displaying community events, leisure services activities, counseling services, courses being offered at the college and buy and sell advertisements.
Community Identity Inventory		
Community "Welcome" Sign (describe what it says and any symbols or pictures)		"Mackenzie Welcomes You" -no pictures or symbols on the sign, but the sign is beside the M emblem on the grass with flowers outlining it
Community Flag (please describe)		Community symbol (fancy M) in yellow on a blue flag with a green pine/spruce tree beside it.

Community Symbols (crests, coat of arms, icons, etc, please describe)		They have a crest: a fancy M inside a circle. See hardcopy.
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6. Social Services - Availability and Accessibility

For each item determine whether or not it is located within the site boundaries (Yes/No column). If it is not, please indicate:

- which community residents travel to for these services (Community column)
- and how far it is by personal car, both in time (minutes) and distance (Time and Kms columns).

Add any additional relevant comments. For example, perhaps the elementary school has closed since 1998, or there has been a change in who provides a particular service. The key is to ask “What has changed?” of the person(s) you are speaking to.

ITEM	Yes/No	If “no”, how far?			Comments
		Which Community?	Time	Kms	
EDUCATION					
Elementary School					3 elementary schools
High School					one high school
CÉGEP/comm. college					College of New Caledonia satellite campus. (CNC)
University					They offer UNBC web courses.
Continuing Education and Extension Courses					College of New Caledonia
Other Educational Institutions					College of New Caledonia provides the opportunity for people to take correspondence courses from other places.
HEALTH/SAFETY					
Hospital					Mackenzie and District Hospital
Blood/Urine Testing Facility					They have the facilities but they have to send the tests away to be analyzed. It sometime takes a long time to receive a diagnosis.
X-Ray Facility					They have an X-Ray facility but no one to read them and make a diagnosis. They do not have ultrasound.
Baby Delivery Facility					They will only deliver babies in emergencies, unless there are doctors in town who are willing to deliver babies.
CT Scan Facility					None.
Nursing Home					None.
Doctor(s)					They have five doctors, six if they find a replacement to fill the practice.
Nurse(s)					18 including home care nurses and public health nurses
Dentist(s)					There is one dentist.
Dental Surgeon(s)					None.

Optometrist(s)					There is one optometrist that travels into Mackenzie on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
Home Care/Visits					There are two nurses from the Health Unit that provide Home Care Services.
VON					N/a
Social Worker(s)					27 in total; 17 at Mackenzie Counselling Services; 2 at victim services with RCMP, 7 at the Ministry of Children and Families
Pharmacy					Pharmasave and People's Drug Mart
Ambulance					The Ambulance service is made up of 16 part time paid staff which come from Prince George and Mackenzie
Emergency Services					Search and Rescue
Public Health Nurse					Mackenzie Health Unit, there are two.
Rehabilitation - Physiotherapy					No physiotherapist but there is a massage therapist in town.
Rehabilitation - Speech Therapy					There is a visiting speech therapist, but no set schedule for visits
Rehabilitation - Occupational Therapy					No occupational therapist in town but there is a Massage therapist.
Police (local or RCMP)					There are eight RCMP officers.
Fire Department (state if comprised of volunteers, paid staff, or both)					Two paid staff: The Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief, 36 volunteers.
911 Emergency Line					911 service is out of Prince George.
LEGAL					
Lawyer					There is a visiting lawyer on Wednesdays.
Notary					One notary public who is also the Government Agent.
Citizenship Court					Yes, there is a provincial court.
FINANCIAL					
Bank					There is a Royal Bank and a Bank of Nova Scotia.
Credit Union					None.
ATM Machine					There are five ATMs.
Micro-Financing Group					Millennium Financial Group
Insurance Office					Barton Insurance
SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY AND DAYCARE					
Daycare					There are four daycares, one pre-school and one after school care.
Senior Citizens' Retirement Home					There is an organization called the Autumn Lodge Society who have been pushing for a senior's home for quite some time.

GOVERNMENT					
Employment Insurance Office					None.
Revenue Canada Office					None.
Provincial Automobile Licence Office					This service is provided by Barton Insurance on contract.
Welfare Office					Ministry offices
Town Hall					Just built a new municipal town hall.
Band Council					There is a Métis Association.
Post Office					Post Office is a stand alone building shared by other businesses.
COMMUNITY SERVICES					
Food Bank					Care and Share and the Mackenzie Counseling Center.
Clothing Exchange or Depot					Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store
Second-Hand Stores (profit & charitable)					Thrift store
Drop-In Center					Mackenzie Counseling Center; no youth center
Half-Way House					There is a group home for teenagers.
Personal Aid Services(counseling, family distress, etc)					Mackenzie Counseling Center
PUBLIC TRANSPORT					
Bus					There is the Greyhound and Mackenzie Charter Bus Service.
Train - Passenger					None.
Train - Freight					BC Rail
Air					There is an airport and a couple of airplane businesses (Terry Air Charter and Williston Air- commercial charter service) . There are no flights to Prince George.
Helicopter					Northern Mountain Helicopter.
Boat					Finlay Navigation on Williston Lake, barg service for freight
Taxi					Mackenzie Taxi
FACILITIES					
Curling					In the Recreation Center.
Municipal Swimming Pool (indoor & outdoor)					An indoor pool in the Recreation Center.
Municipal Skating Rink (indoor & outdoor)					Indoor and outdoor at the Recreation Center.
Community Playing Field					There are fields at the schools as well as some by Morfee Lake and the golf course
Community Gym					Recreation Center, newly expanded and renovated (Spring 2000)

Community Center					Yes, the Recreation Center could be considered a Community Center. They are a central place for information and services, however they do not have any meeting space. There is meeting space at Ernie Bodin Center
YMCA/YWCA					None.
Athletic Club					Recreation Center
Theatre					None.
Cinema					Small.
Museum					Ernie Bodin Center
Library					Located at the Recreation Center
Parks					Morfee Lake Park and Beach

8. COMMERCIAL SHOPPING

We want to determine the level of retail / commercial shopping in the site, and the distance and time to travel to any higher levels of retail / commercial shopping. We are roughly following Hodge / Stabler's classification scheme.

For example, if the community is a full convenience center, write "yes" in the Yes/No column beside that description. Then for each of the four descriptions of more extensive retail / commercial centres, identify the nearest community people in this site would travel to for that level of shopping, and how far that is in terms of time and distance by personal automobile.

Description	Yes/No	If "no", how far?			Comments
		Which Community?	Time	Kms	
minimum convenience center (gas and basic groceries)					7-11, Shell Station, Chevron
full convenience center (minimum plus some general merchandise, full grocery store, implement dealers)					Alexander Mackenzie Mall, Evergreen Mall
partial shopping center (above plus selected merchandise - small malls)					Alexander Mackenzie Mall, Evergreen Mall
complete shopping center (above plus extensive retail merchandise - large malls)					Prince George
secondary wholesale-retail center (above plus some wholesale)					Prince George
primary wholesale-retail center (above plus central wholesale outlets)					Prince George