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**Site Number:**  
**Numéro du site : 6**

**CSD (1991): 1309218**

**Site Name: Blissfield, New Brunswick**

**Principal Researcher(s): David Bruce**

**Assistant Researcher(s):**

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**Field Log:** We did not put the distances from the centroid in the spreadsheets because there seemed to be disagreement among NRE researchers about the relevance of the centroid, as per our previous e-mails, and also in the case of Blissfield, nothing is in Blissfield, and the centroid has no meaning.

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**Position of Centroid:** The centroid of the site is located at the point where Greene Road meets Route 8. The residence of George and Rona Greene and Grant's Snowmobile and Cycle Shop is located on one side of this intersection while the residence and TV/VCR repair business of Foulton Greene is located on the other side of the intersection.

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**What boundaries are meaningful for residents?** The initial boundary does correspond with the CSD boundary, although the residents of the community of Blissfield do not feel the boundary has much importance. The community is located approximately 5 kilometres north-east of Doaktown.

The boundary does not reflect the lives of the people of Blissfield as they are required to leave for everything from grocery shopping, putting gas in the car, going to the bank, or going to school.

The boundary for the residents spans from the south-western side of Doaktown, at the Betts Canteen, to as far north-east as the Upper Blackville village limit, at the Pentecostal church. This covers a distance of approximately 60 kilometres.

Blissfield is built along one of the province's busiest highways, Route 8. There are two local roads that extend from the highway, Greene Road and Weaver Siding Road. Each road leads to more housing, outfitting companies, wilderness, or the Miramichi River. Neither road leads you to an area that could be considered a subdivision by any means.

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**Distribution of population within CSD boundary:** The population in Blissfield is dispersed. The majority of the population is located along the highway, Route 8. When the highway was reconstructed, houses were moved from their original location to new locations that could either be a few feet back or possibly kilometres away. There is no centre to which houses were arranged and they remain generally isolated from one another.

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**Meaning of CSD boundaries to local contacts:** The site boundary has little meaning to local residents.

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**Relevance of CSD boundary - for the community:**

**Relevance of CSD boundary - for daily activities:**

**Relevance of CSD boundary - where people live:**

**Relevance of CSD boundary - where people work:**

**Relevance of CSD boundary - other:**

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## 4.1 - SITE HISTORY

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**- Major events & stories:** Geographic Framework

Blissfield is located in Northumberland County within the Blissfield Parish. It is a small unincorporated community next to Doaktown. Together, the two communities have a combined population of no more than 3,000 people.

**Economic Geography: Forestry**

The forestry industry is very important in Canada and Blissfield is no exception. The forests of the area are lush and of high priority among the region's natural resources. There are four lumber yard sites within a 30 kilometre distance of the Blissfield centroid, all of which are located on Route 8. Forestry is an important industry but "it is a hassle". There are many people in the industry and many more knocking on the door to get in. The problem is that "there just is not enough land."

Numerous lumber yards have opened and closed within the Blissfield boundary over the years. The two most dominant have been the Blissfield Lumber Yard, owned and operated by Glen Gilks, a resident of Blissfield; and the Russel and Slim Mill that has undergone numerous rebuilding efforts and that was recently purchased by the Irving Company of New Brunswick. The arrival of Irving to Blissfield was not one that was accepted by all of the residents in the beginning. The purchase was fought by many people but in the end the mill became a dominant employer for the people of Blissfield.

### **Fishery**

The Miramichi River, well known worldwide for world class fishing, flows through Blissfield. The region consists of numerous outfitting groups, inns, and lodges that provide visitors with access to the resources and beauty of the river.

The Miramichi River has been facing difficulties over the past few years with decreasing salmon stocks which is leading to a decrease in the numbers coming to fish along the river. The Miramichi region has executed different strategies to help in the regeneration of the river. A catch and release program has been implemented, the Miramichi Salmon Association has formed, and a Watershed Management Committee, established, all in an effort to help `save` the river`s ecosystem.

### **Agriculture**

Agricultural production is virtually non-existent in Blissfield and surrounding area. Within Blissfield itself, there is one farm owned and operated by George and Rona Greene. This piece of land has been the only fertile area for years; the ancestors of George Greene have been the only group to have ever succeeded in agricultural production.

### **Tourism**

Tourism has not been an industry of great importance in Blissfield although it definitely has the resources and qualities that are required for a successful tourism industry. With the attractive Miramichi River ideally located for the community of Blissfield, tourism could become an important economic source.

There are some artists that are known to go to Blissfield to sketch the beautiful scenery and its abundant ecosystem. There are, too, those people who come from all corners of the world to take advantage of the natural and rare fishing experience of the Miramichi.

### **Employment**

The most important base for employment is in all aspects of the natural resources of the region, except agriculture. The predominant industry is forestry. It is also well known that women have much difficulty finding employment opportunities in the area. For women, the options are limited to such jobs as a cashier at a local store, a bank attendant, or housekeeping at a local inn or resort.

### **Migration**

The levels of out-migration are rather high for youth as they have great difficulty in finding employment. The primary sector is the main source of employment. If a person is looking for

**work in any other field - with the exception of those businesses related to forestry - they have to leave the area. Those who are looking to further their education are also required to leave.**

**In-migration is not quite as high as the level of out-migration but there are many people entering the area. Those who are arriving in Blissfield consist mainly of people who are retiring or people who are "coming back home to Blissfield."**

### **History: Events and Stories**

**Blissfield is like any other small community in Canada with an abundant history. The community is marked by numerous events that have changed the lifestyles of the residents in one way or another. The events of importance to Blissfield residents are the major events which happen in Doaktown.**

**1998 - The old liquor store, located in Doaktown, is in the process of being converted from its present state to an apartment complex. The sale of liquor is now in a neighbouring store.**

**1996 - The most recent event to effect the community was the purchase of the Russell and Slim Mill by the Irving company. This was followed by another purchase by Irving of a piece of the Pond's Resort in Doaktown.**

**1995 - Stedmans, in Doaktown, was once owned by the Cumming family but after a fire devastated the store, in 1995, it was demolished at an age of more than 150 years. Stedmans was rebuilt and purchased by another family.**

**1993 - A very important event in the history of Blissfield, and for many residents, was when the Catholic Church was torn down. It is still possible to see the remains of the front steps as well as a parking lot and graveyard.**

**1987 - What was known as Old John Murray home was demolished after a fire ripped through the 150 year old house. Another building in Blissfield also built in 1837, was recently destroyed as well by fire.**

**Early 1980s - The most important event in the history of Blissfield was the reconstruction and rerouting of the highway. When the highway was rerouted, numerous houses along the previous road were directly in the way of progress. There were many houses that were either torn down, moved back, or sold and moved to new destinations. This affected the citizens and businesses, and it also dramatically increased traffic in the area.**

**1970's - A forest fire swept through the community and destroyed numerous houses as well as the piece of forest, known to residents as MacDonalds Woods. The destruction of the woods is apparent as the trees growing here are quite small and the entire forest is in a process of regrowth.**

**There is one infamous characteristic in Blissfield. This is located along Route 8 at the Molasses Barrel bend in the road. This turn is well known because after every winter storm, there has been a car accident of some kind.**

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## **5.2.1 - SERVICES**

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## **WATER**

**- municipal water to everyone:** Municipal water service is not available to any of the residents in Blissfield. The citizens depend on spring water or wells. Sewage collection and disposal is unavailable and citizens depend on a septic system. Garbage collection is available to all residents as well as access to a sanitary landfill.

There are no sidewalks located anywhere in Blissfield. Cable TV access is not available to residents in the area. If you want to have cable, you have to be willing to purchase a satellite dish for your home. Internet access is available through the Doaktown Community Access Centre. Internet access is also available in homes through NBTel.

There is no local daily, weekly, or monthly newspaper for Blissfield, although newspapers are deliverable, such as the Globe and Mail, to personal mail boxes. Doaktown recently published its first newsletter and this includes activities and events of Doaktown and surrounding area, Blissfield included.

Blissfield does not have a local fire department, police station, or ambulance service but they are served by those located in Doaktown. The Doaktown fire department is on a volunteer basis and response time can be rather slow for residents in Blissfield. RCMP service is located in Doaktown. The response rate is, again, very slow, and it is not rare to not get a response. Emergency 911 service is available to all residents in Blissfield. Road ambulance service is available from Doaktown and would be considered to have the fastest response rate of the services. For air ambulance service, a person would have to travel to Fredericton or Miramichi. The Irving company does have a helicopter landing pad in Doaktown, but air ambulance use is not known here.

There is one main road that runs through Blissfield, Route 8. It has the second highest traffic rate in New Brunswick, after the Trans Canada Highway. Therefore, the condition of this road is very good. It is paved with few to no potholes, and it does have a paved shoulder and painted lines. This road also has snow clearance and sanding in the winter months. The two other roads in Blissfield, Greene Road and Weaver Siding Road, have much less traffic. They are paved with potholes and have no shoulder or painted lines. Both have snow clearance and sanding in the winter.

**- municipal water to some:**

**- sewage collection and disposal:**

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## **GARBAGE COLLECTION**

**- open garbage dump:**

**- sanitary landfill:**

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## **SIDEWALKS**

- sidewalks throughout village/town:
  - sidewalks in center of community only:
  - cable TV:
- 

### **INTERNET ACCESS**

- to everyone willing to pay:
  - free through community centre:
  - specific institutions/individuals:
- 

### **LOCAL NEWSPAPER**

- daily:
  - weekly:
  - monthly:
  - newsletter (no regional or area news):
  - national newspaper:
- 

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

- paid, full time professionals:
  - volunteers:
  - approximate response time to centroid:
- 

### **POLICE**

- RCMP:
- provincial:
- municipal:

- **number of personnel:**
  - **approximate response time to centroid:**
- 

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

- **911:**
  - **road ambulance service:**
  - **approximate response time to centroid:**
  - **air ambulance service:**
  - **approximate response time to centroid:**
- 

### **ROADS**

**(type and condition):**

---

## **6.1 - SOCIAL SERVICES / EDUCATION**

---

### **Elementary school**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access: yes**
  - **comments: Located in Doaktown - All Students in Blissfield are bused to and from school**
- 

### **High school**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:** yes

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown - All Students in Blissfield are bused to and from school

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### **Technical school**

- **distance from centroid (km):** n/a

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):** n/a

- **special transportation needs:**n/a

- **wheelchair access:** n/a

- **comments:** n/a

---

### **University**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:** yes

- **comments:** University of New Brunswick, Fredericton

---

### **Extension courses**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**yes

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown/Blackville

---



**Other institutions**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**6.2 - SOCIAL SERVICES / HEALTH**

---

**Hospital**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:yes
  - comments: Location in Fredericton or Miramichi
- 

**Blood/urine testing facility**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access: yes
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**X-ray facility**

- distance from centroid (km):

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:** yes
  - **comments:** Located in Doaktown
- 

### **Baby delivery facility**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:** yes
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments:** Located in Fredericton or Miramichi
- 

### **CT scan facility**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**yes
  - **comments:** Located in Fredericton
- 

### **Nursing home**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
- **special transportation needs:**
- **wheelchair access:** yes
- **comments:** Located within the area, Doaktown or Blackville

---

**Doctor(s)**

- distance from centroid (km):8
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km): 8
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access: yes
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**Nurse(s)**

- distance from centroid (km): 8
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km): 8
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access: yes
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**Dentist(s)**

- distance from centroid (km): 8
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km): 8
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access: yes
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**Dental Surgeon(s)**

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:** yes
  - **comments:** Fredericton
- 

### **Optometrist(s)**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:** yes
  - **comments:** Located in Fredericton or Miramichi
- 

### **Home care / visits**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments:** Located in Doaktown
- 

### **VON**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments:** Located in Doaktown
-

**Social worker(s)**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**Other (specify)**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**6.3 - SOCIAL SERVICES / LEGAL**

---

**Lawyer**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access: no
  - comments: Yes - Alex Mills, in Blissfield - Located at his Outfitting company - The Old River Lodge
- 

**Notary**

- distance from centroid (km):

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access: no**
  - **comments: Yes - Alex Mills, in Blissfield**
- 

### **Citizenship court**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments: Fredericton**
- 

## **6.4 - SOCIAL SERVICES / FINANCIAL**

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### **Bank**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access: yes**
  - **comments: Scotia Bank in Doaktown**
- 

### **Credit Union**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
- **special transportation needs:**

- wheelchair access: yes
  - comments: Credit Union in Blackville
- 

### ATM

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access: yes
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

### Micro-financing group

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

### Insurance office

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

## 6.5 - SOCIAL SERVICES / CARE

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**Daycare**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Not in Doaktown, maybe in Blackville, none in Blissfield.
- 

**Seniors / retirement home**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**6.6 - SOCIAL SERVICES / GOVERNMENT**

---

**E.I. office**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**Revenue Canada office**



- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments: Located in Fredericton**
- 

### **Auto insurance office**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access: Located in Doaktown**
  - **comments:**
- 

### **Welfare office**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments: Located in Fredericton**
- 

### **Town hall**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
- **special transportation needs:**
- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown

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### **Band council**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:** Post Office - Located in Doaktown

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## **6.7 - SOCIAL SERVICES / LOCAL**

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### **Food bank**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown

---

### **Clothing exchange / depot**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown

---

### **Secondhand stores**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

### **Drop-in centre**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

### **Halfway house**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Fredericton or Miramichi
- 

### **Counseling services**

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- comments:

---

### Family distress

- distance from centroid (km):

- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown - but they are NOT always there. They come around on a periodic basis. The nearest women's shelter would be in Fredericton or Miramichi along with Alcohol/Drug Abuse Services.

---

### Women's shelter

- distance from centroid (km):

- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown - but they are NOT always there. They come around on a periodic basis. The nearest women's shelter would be in Fredericton or Miramichi along with Alcohol/Drug Abuse Services.

---

### Alcohol / drug abuse

- distance from centroid (km):

- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown - but they are NOT always there. They come around on a periodic basis. The nearest women's shelter would be in Fredericton or

## Miramichi along with Alcohol/Drug Abuse Services.

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### 6.8 - SOCIAL SERVICES / PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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#### Bus

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - **comments:** Located in Doaktown - Although it is possible to pick the bus up if you are walking along the highway throughout Blissfield.
- 

#### Freight train

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - **comments:** No - converted into hiking/walking paths.
- 

#### Passenger train

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
- special transportation needs:
- wheelchair access:
- **comments:** No - it has been converted into hiking/walking paths. The closest would be in Fredericton.

---

### Scheduled air service

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Fredericton or Miramichi- Irving does have a private strip in Doaktown.
- 

### Small plane

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Fredericton or Miramichi- Irving does have a private strip in Doaktown.
- 

### Connecting flights

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

### Helicopter

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:** Located in Doaktown - Private air strip of the Irving Company

---

### **Boat**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:** n/a

---

### **Regular ferry / taxi**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:**

---

### **On demand**

- **distance from centroid (km):**

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**

- **special transportation needs:**

- **wheelchair access:**

- **comments:**

---

**Car taxi**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: No - Nearest is located in Fredericton.
- 

**Other (specify)**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**6.9 - SOCIAL SERVICES / FACILITIES**

---

**Curling**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

**Municipal indoor pool**

- distance from centroid (km):



- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
- 

### **Municipal outdoor pool**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
- 

### **Municipal indoor skating rink**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Indoor Rink Located in Doaktown.
- 

### **Municipal outdoor skating rink**

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
- special transportation needs:
- wheelchair access:
- comments: Indoor Rink Located in Doaktown.

---

### **Community playing field**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located in Doaktown
- 

### **Community gym**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Located at the High School Gym in Doaktown
- 

### **Community centre**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

### **YM/YWCA**

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: n/a
- 

### **Municipal athletic club**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
- 

### **Private athletic club**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
- 

### **Commercial athletic club**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
-

**Theatre**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
- 

**Cinema**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: no
- 

**Museum**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments: Yes - the Salmon Museum in Blissfield  
Also there is the Doak Historical House in Doaktown.
- 

**Library**

- distance from centroid (km):
- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- comments: Located in Doaktown.

---

### **Parks**

- distance from centroid (km):

- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- comments: Located in Blackville. There is a picnic site in Doaktown but you can't consider it a park really.

---

### **Other (specify)**

- distance from centroid (km):

- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- comments: Outfitters and Fishing Clubs are located throughout Blissfield as well as into Doaktown and Blackville. This is "salmon country" and located along the Miramichi River - known worldwide for fishing.

---

### **Community organized teams (juniors / children)**

- distance from centroid (km):

- distance from centroid in 1981 (km):

- special transportation needs:

- wheelchair access:

- comments:

---

**Community organized teams (adults)**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**Municipal art programmes**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**Private art programmes**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**6.10 - SOCIAL SERVICES / VOLUNTEER & SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS**

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**Religious groups**

- distance from centroid (km):

- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments:** Baptist, United, Catholic, Wesleyan, Anglican Pentecostal - two congregations, majority  
This includes Blissfield and Doaktown.
- 

### **Rotary club**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments:** Located in Newcastle or Fredericton
- 

### **Historical society**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
  - **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - **special transportation needs:**
  - **wheelchair access:**
  - **comments:** Located in Doaktown
- 

### **Other 1**

- **distance from centroid (km):**
- **distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
- **special transportation needs:**
- **wheelchair access:**

**- comments:** Royal Canadian Legion located in Doaktown - There is also the introduction of a Tourism Association beginning within the Doaktown/Blissfield area. There is a Committee Active/Volunteer (environmental group) that is dealing with watershed management. There is the Boisetown/Local Lions Club. There is the Miramichi Salmon Association.

---

### **Other 2**

- distance from centroid (km):**
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - special transportation needs:**
  - wheelchair access:**
  - comments:**
- 

### **Other 3**

- distance from centroid (km):**
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - special transportation needs:**
  - wheelchair access:**
  - comments:**
- 

### **Other 4**

- distance from centroid (km):**
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):**
  - special transportation needs:**
  - wheelchair access:**
  - comments:**
-



**Other 5**

- distance from centroid (km):
  - distance from centroid in 1981 (km):
  - special transportation needs:
  - wheelchair access:
  - comments:
- 

**Services named by citizens as unavailable:**

**Publicly funded programmes specific to community:**

**Accessibility Codes:**

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## 7.0 - ECONOMIC FORTUNES

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**List of businesses w/ number of employees:** All businesses in Blissfield are local home based businesses.

**List of home-based businesses w/ activity:** Home Based Business

The Homestead Inn  
 Billy Bob`s Bar  
 Blissfield Lumber  
 Salmon Museum  
 The Old River Lodge  
 Alex Mills Law Office  
 Greene`s Vegetables, Fruits, and Greenhouse  
 Greene`s TV and VCR Repair  
 Blissfield Grocer  
 Greene`s Snowmobile and Dirt Bike Repair Shop  
 The Miramichi Salmon Club

**List of businesses that ship goods out of area:** Blissfield Lumber - Lumber and Wood Products - Transport Trucks

**Major suppliers and locations for each business:** The businesses in Blissfield for the most part supply themselves with all of the material they need. The exceptions would be Blissfield Lumber that receives lumber from all over the region, the Homestead Inn that purchases groceries from the Fredericton Superstore and has meats delivered from Miramichi City weekly, and the local

grocery store that has products arriving from other parts of New Brunswick.

**Information from Chamber of Commerce:** There is no Chamber of Commerce in Blissfield, Blackville, or Doaktown. One existed in Doaktown, but it is now defunct. Presently, the competition struggle between businesses is rather high. There are a number of citizens and businesses that are in the process of setting up some kind of organizations, such as a the Upper Miramichi Tourism Association, to bring the businesses together.

**Degree of Optimism Perceived:** The general sense of the people of Blissfield is that there are many possibilities for development and growth. The problems they are facing surround the little funding they receive as well as the high level of competitiveness between businesses. Immediate development would encompass the tourism industry. Blissfield is located in a perfect resort area, but much has to be changed. A large tourism attraction is needed to attract people to the area.

The probability of another lumber mill opening in the area is slim. They get better incentives from larger centres and industrial parks to locate there.

There has also been talk of the possibility of a strip mall being constructed within Blissfield, as well as a Tim Horton's restaurant. The residents have different opinions on these ideas (presented by the mayor of Doaktown), but most tend to believe that the Tim Horton's would do very well. This is because of the location and the high traffic and truck use on the road.

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## 8.0 - RESOURCE BASE & AMENITIES

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**Special environmental and/or resource features:** The Blissfield area is well defined by the forestry and fishery. The forest industry is the number one employer in the area and there are numerous lumber yards or mills throughout the region too. The forests are very healthy and they are monitored by New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources.

The fishery was at one point plentiful and attractive. Over the past few years, catches have decreased, water temperature has risen, and water levels are dropping. There are groups and organizations everywhere from Miramichi City to Doaktown involved in the regeneration of the Miramichi River. One other feature of Blissfield is the beautiful beaches and lakes. They are described by everyone as wonderful for swimming, boating, and canoeing.

**Negative features:** There are not many major features that detract from the area. The main undesirable feature is the lack of employment opportunities in the area, for people of all ages and all education levels. The second is the fact that there are no services available in Blissfield. Residents always have to go to Doaktown, or sometimes to Miramichi City or Fredericton.

**Local strategies or projects engaged or planned:** Presently, the community of Blissfield and the Town of Doaktown are in the process of implementing a tourism association that will bring the local businesses together. This will hopefully help businesses work together rather than against one another. There is also the Watershed Management group that is working to revitalize and protect the Miramichi River.

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## 9.0 - DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHANGE

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**Current population:** In 1991, population count was 550. In 1996, population count was 674.\* A variation of +4.2% - Unemployment Rate is 44.4%

**Net migration (in/out/net):** The migration of the people in Blissfield is low. There are not very many people entering the community and those who do, are commencing retirement. There is a rather high count for the out-migration number as the youth population are leaving to attain an education greater than grade 12 or employment outside the forestry and fishery sectors.

**Current Number of Households:** The number of private households in Blissfield for the 1996 census was 255 and for 1991 there were 205.

### Average family Size: 1996

1 Person - 35  
 2 People - 100  
 3 People - 80  
 4-5 People - 40  
 6 + People - 0

The average number of persons per family is 2.8. There are also 10 single-parent families noted in the 1991 census and 30 single-parent families marked in the 1996 census.

### Age Structure: Age Group(Yrs) = Men / Women

1996

0-4 = 10 / 10  
 5-9 = 20 / 20  
 10-14 = 20 / 25  
 15-19 = 30 / 20  
 20-24 = 30 / 20  
 25-29 = 20 / 20  
 30-34 = 20 / 20  
 35-39 = 30 / 25  
 40-44 = 20 / 20  
 45-49 = 25 / 25  
 50-54 = 35 / 25  
 55-59 = 20 / 15  
 60-64 = 15 / 20  
 65-69 = 25 / 20  
 70-74 = 25 / 10  
 75 + = 35 / 40

### Language: 1991 / 1996

English Only - 635 / 550  
 French Only - 0 / 0  
 English and French - 10 / 0

**Religion:** There are numerous religions practised by the residents of Blissfield even though there are only 2 churches within the community.

1996

Catholic - 260

Protestant - 275

United - 60

Baptist - 110

Anglican - 70

Presbyterian - 10

Pentecostal - 25

**Literacy levels:** 1991 / 1996

Not Reached Grade 9 - 185 / 145

Grade 9-13 With Certificate - 60 / 260

College Certificate - 45 / 120

Other Non-University Studies - 10 / 85

Univeristy - 0 / 15

**Social changes (population, characteristics, problems):** There seems to be an increase in the number of people leaving the area, mostly younger people looking for employment. There was also mention of the doctor who recently located in Doaktown and services those in Blissfield as well. He is of a visible minority group and when he first arrived, he was not respected by everyone. Now, he is known as the best doctor they have ever had.

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**EXTRA INFORMATION (when available)**

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**End of Entry**

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