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August 2015

PLANNING FOR MAJOR PROJECTS

Go Plan Non-Market Survey Methodology and Results



Executive Summary

In May and June 2015, the City of Prince Rupert conducted the Go Plan Survey in order to capture important baseline statistical information related to three primary areas of interest: demographics, housing, and social cohesion. The survey randomly sampled 1,284 Prince Rupert addresses and obtained a response rate of 80%. In order to capture Prince Rupert residents who are not staying at addresses that could be selected into the sample, the City produced the Go Plan Survey Non-Market Questionnaire. The Non-Market Questionnaire is intended for residents that might otherwise be missed in the Go Plan Survey and residents at risk or who are in unstable housing conditions. A total of 131 respondents participated in the Non-Market Questionnaire. Highlights of the results include:

Housing Situation and Needs

- Approximately half (47%) of the survey respondents lived in dwellings that they owned or rented (4% and 43% of respondents, respectively), with the remainder living with friends or family (26%), in hotels or motels (5%), on the street or in shelters (15%), or in other accommodations (9%)
- For those whose usual accommodation status was on the street, one third (2 people) were camping, and the other 4 were sleeping rough
- Of all respondents, 45% (totaling 53 individuals), indicated their housing situation was stable (meaning that the respondent did not want or expect a change in housing situation), with the remaining 55% of respondents (65 individuals) indicating that their housing situation was unstable
- For those with an unstable housing situation, the duration of time since their housing situation was last stable ranged from 28 days to 2,190 days (6 years), with a median of 150 days
- By far the top reasons for an unstable housing situation were high rents (78% of those with an unstable housing situation) and lack of available rental housing (79%)
- By far the most desired housing option for respondents was affordable market housing, with 74% (86 individuals) listing it as a desired housing option
- A large proportion of respondents (48%) also indicated a desire for non-profit or subsidized housing
- Most respondents (73%) spent less than \$1,000 on shelter costs, with the median at \$600 and the mean at \$694

Demographics

- Most respondents (76%) were aged between 25 and 60 years of age
- Most respondents (55%; 71 individuals) identified as females, while 45% (58 individuals) identified as males. One individual identified as neither male nor female

Employment and Income

- The total labour force participation rate (the proportion employed or not employed and seeking work) for respondents was 64%
- 24% of respondents were employed at the time of the survey
- The unemployment rate (proportion of the total labour force that is not employed) for respondents was 63%
- Respondents indicated a wide range of total monthly incomes (from all sources). Just under one quarter (24%, or 27 respondents) had monthly incomes of \$300 or less, while 12% had monthly incomes exceeding \$1,800

Community Social Cohesion

- In the three months previous to the survey, 65% of respondents visited a public park, 58% used public transportation, 40% visited a recreation centre, and 32% used the public library
- Additionally, about equal numbers participated in community activities such as providing unpaid help to others (51% of respondents), participating in a cultural event (52%), and participating in an organized community event (53%)
- Asked to rate their sense of belonging to the local Prince Rupert Community, 76% of respondents stated their sense of belonging to the community was at least somewhat strong
- About one quarter (27%, or 20 individuals) of respondents lived in a community outside of Prince Rupert in the previous year
- Of those respondents who lived in a community outside of Prince Rupert in the previous year, 58% reported a non-voluntary reason (unable to find housing or work, or forced to leave by authorities) for leaving their previous community

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1.0 Introduction

This document provides results of the City of Prince Rupert’s Go Plan Survey Non-Market Questionnaire. Results are presented in the same order as the questions were presented in the questionnaire. Many other statistics are possible; these statistics are only a small subset of all possible statistics that can be produced from the dataset. It should be noted that responses were collected using a convenience sample so no inference about a larger population is being made. Statistics presented here refer only to those individuals who responded to the questionnaire. 131 respondents completed the Non-Market Questionnaire. Most responses were obtained on June 25th at the Fisherman’s Hall Block Party, an event designed to gather potential respondents and deliver the survey.

2.0 Results

2.1 Housing Situation and Needs

Approximately half (47%) of the survey respondents lived in dwellings that they owned or rented (4% and 43% of respondents, respectively), with the remainder living with friends or family (26%), in hotels or motels (5%), on the street or in shelters (15%), or in other accommodations (9%). This accounted for 60 respondents living in owned or rented dwellings, 39 living with friends or family or in hotels or motels, and 19 living in shelters or on the street (Table 1).

Table 1 - Usual Accommodation Status in the Previous Month

Usual Accommodations	Count	Proportion
With friends or relatives with own room	18	0.14
With friends or relatives, couch surfing	15	0.12
Hotel or motel	6	0.05
Shelter	13	0.10
On the street	6	0.05
A dwelling that you own	5	0.04
A dwelling that you rent	55	0.43
Other	11	0.09

For the 13 individuals who indicated that their usual accommodation was in shelters, 4 primarily used shelters supported by social services, 5 used Salvation Army shelters, and 5 used other types of shelters (Table 2; one individual indicated multiple types of shelter). For those using other types of shelters, 3 indicated transition houses as the type of shelter, and one each indicated Prince Rupert shelter and Northern Health shelter (Table 2).

Table 2 - Type of Shelter for Individuals whose Usual Accommodation in the Previous Month was a Shelter

Shelter Type	Count	Proportion
Social Services	4	0.33
Salvation Army	5	0.42
Church	0	0.00
Other	5	0.42

For those whose usual accommodation status was on the street, one third (2 people) were camping, while the other 4 were sleeping rough (Table 3).

Table 3 - Detailed Accommodation Status for Individuals whose Usual Accommodation in the Previous Month was “On the street”

On the Street Type	Count	Proportion
Camping	2	0.33
Sleeping Rough	4	0.67
Other	0	0.00

45% of respondents, totaling 53 individuals, indicated their housing situation was stable (meaning that the respondent did not want or expect a change in housing situation), with the remaining 55% of respondents (65 individuals) indicating that their housing situation was unstable (Table 4). For those with an unstable housing situation, the duration of time since their housing situation was last stable ranged from 28 days to 2,190 days (6 years), with a mean of 420 days and a median of 150 days (Table 5). There are two measures of central tendency, and a measure of dispersion presented in Table 5: the mean and the median, and the standard deviation. The reason for including this information is to describe the distribution of responses. The mean (average) is a commonly used statistic to describe the central tendency of a distribution, however for distributions that are skewed (they are not symmetrical, with the same number of low numbers as high numbers) the mean can be misleading because it is influenced by outliers (extremely high, or extremely low values). For this reason, we present the median, which is not influenced by outliers, as it is more descriptive of the middle of this distribution. The standard deviation is presented to show that responses were highly variable, and not tightly clustered around the centre of the distribution.

Table 4 - Stability of Housing Situation

Housing Situation	Count	Proportion
Stable	53	0.45
Unstable	65	0.55

Figure 1 - Stability of Housing Situation

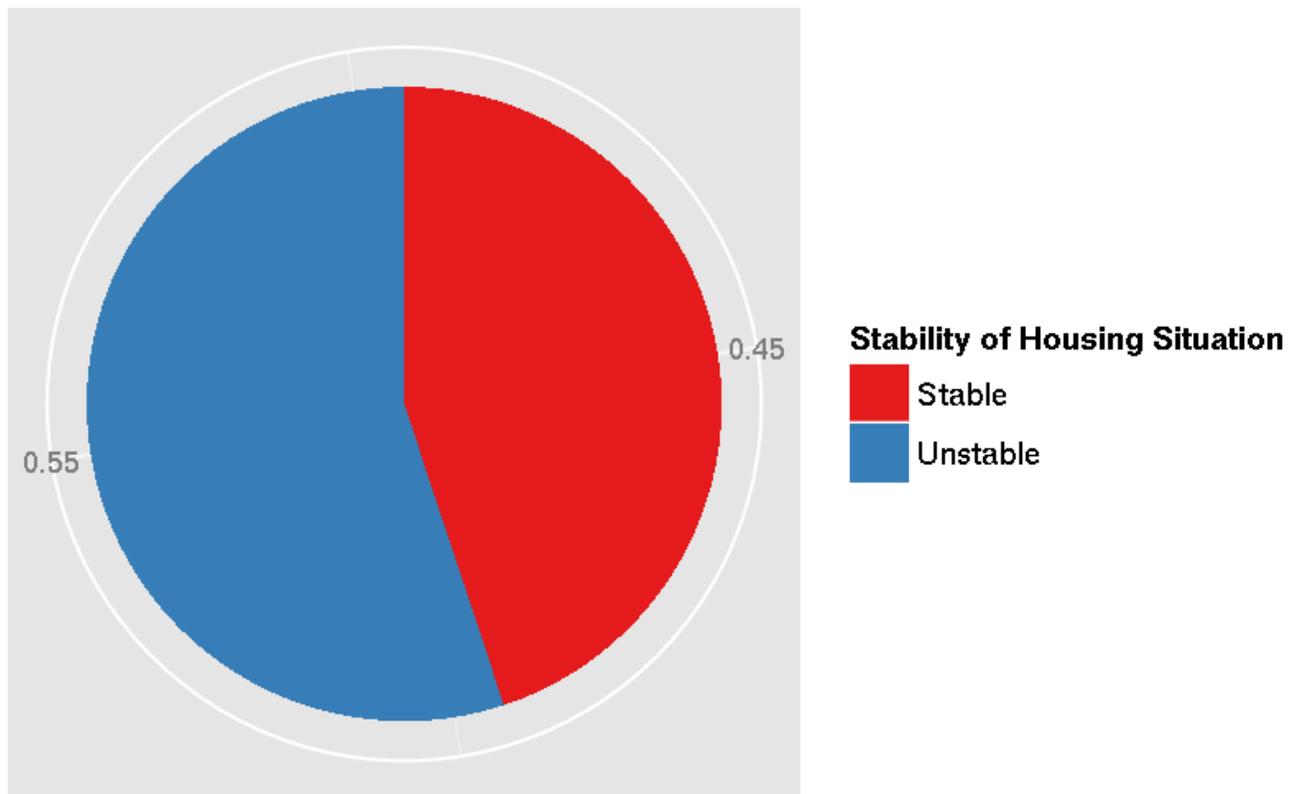


Table 5 - Duration of Time Since Housing Situation was Last Stable for Individuals with Unstable Housing Situation

Statistic	Number of Days
Mean	420
Median	150
Standard Deviation	533
Minimum	28
Maximum	2,190

By far the top reasons for an unstable housing situation were high rents (78% of those with an unstable housing situation) and lack of available rental housing (79%). Most respondents who indicated that their housing situation was stable also gave reasons for instability in their housing situation; for all respondents (including those with a stable housing situation), the top reasons for instability in housing situations remained high rents (81% of all respondents) and lack of available rental housing (71% of all respondents) (Table 6).

Table 6 - Reasons for Instability in Housing Situation

Reason	Respondents with Unstable Housing Situation		All Respondents	
	Count	Proportion	Count	Proportion
Rents too high	49	0.78	94	0.81
Not enough rental housing available	50	0.79	82	0.71
Discrimination from potential landlords	21	0.33	43	0.37
Language barriers	10	0.16	16	0.14
Inadequate accessibility	14	0.22	26	0.22
Inadequate location	18	0.29	29	0.25
Domestic violence	8	0.13	13	0.11
No rental history	16	0.25	22	0.19
No rental references	18	0.29	26	0.22
Poor landlord references	19	0.30	24	0.21
No credit history	20	0.32	27	0.23
No proof of income	12	0.19	18	0.16
Disability or mental health	17	0.27	27	0.23
Lack of income	18	0.29	32	0.28
Other	14	0.22	20	0.17

By far the most desired housing option for respondents was affordable market housing, with 74% (86 individuals) listing it as a desired housing option (Table 7). This included 16 individuals who indicated affordable market housing as their most preferred housing option, accounting for just under one half (46%) of the respondents that indicated a top housing option (Table 8). A large proportion of respondents (48%) also indicated a desire for non-profit or subsidized housing (Table 7).

Table 7 - Desired Housing Options

Housing Option	Count	Proportion
Transitional housing	15	0.13
Emergency housing	17	0.15
Affordable market housing	86	0.74
Secondary suite	33	0.28
Co-housing	13	0.11
Non-profit or subsidized housing	56	0.48
Independent seniors housing	21	0.18
Assisted seniors housing	5	0.04
Supportive housing	10	0.09
Temporary shelter	14	0.12
Supervised housing	1	0.01
Other	12	0.10

Table 8 - Preferred Housing Options

Preferred Option	Count	Proportion
Transitional housing	1	0.03
Emergency housing	0	0.00
Affordable market housing	16	0.46
Secondary suite	2	0.06
Co-housing	1	0.03
Non-profit or subsidized housing	9	0.26
Independent seniors housing	2	0.06
Assisted seniors housing	1	0.03
Supportive housing	1	0.03
Temporary shelter	0	0.00
Supervised housing	0	0.00
Other	2	0.06

Respondents reported a wide range of expenditures on shelter costs (including rent and utilities) in May 2015, from \$0 to \$2,940; however most respondents (73%) spent less than \$1,000 on shelter costs, with the median at \$600 and the mean at \$694 (Table 9).

Table 9 - Total Expenditures on Shelter Costs in May 2015

Statistic	Monthly Expenditure (\$)
Mean	694
Median	600
Standard Deviation	535
Minimum	0
Maximum	2,940

2.2 Demographics

Respondents to Questionnaire A were asked to give their age in years, while respondents to Questionnaire B were asked to indicate their age in a number of ranges. Thus, statistics on actual ages are available only for the subset of respondents to Questionnaire A (Table 11), while information on age range categories is available for respondents to both questionnaires (Table 10). Most respondents (76%) were aged between 25 and 60 years of age, with equal numbers aged 25 to 44 and aged 45 to 59 (Table 10). For respondents to Questionnaire A, the mean age was 45 years of age, with the median being 44. Ages ranged from 19 years at the youngest to 82 years at the oldest (Table 11).

Table 10 - Age Ranges

Age (Years)	Count	Proportion
18-24	11	0.09
25-44	46	0.38
45-59	46	0.38
60-85	19	0.16

Figure 2 - Age Ranges

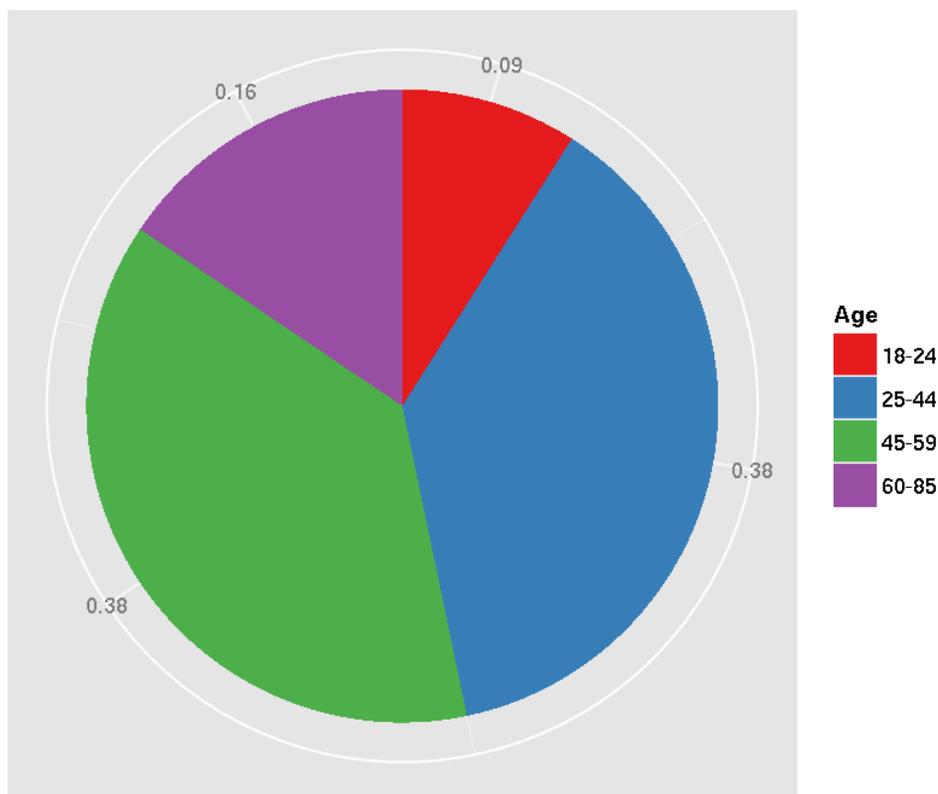


Table 11 - Age Statistics (Survey A Only)

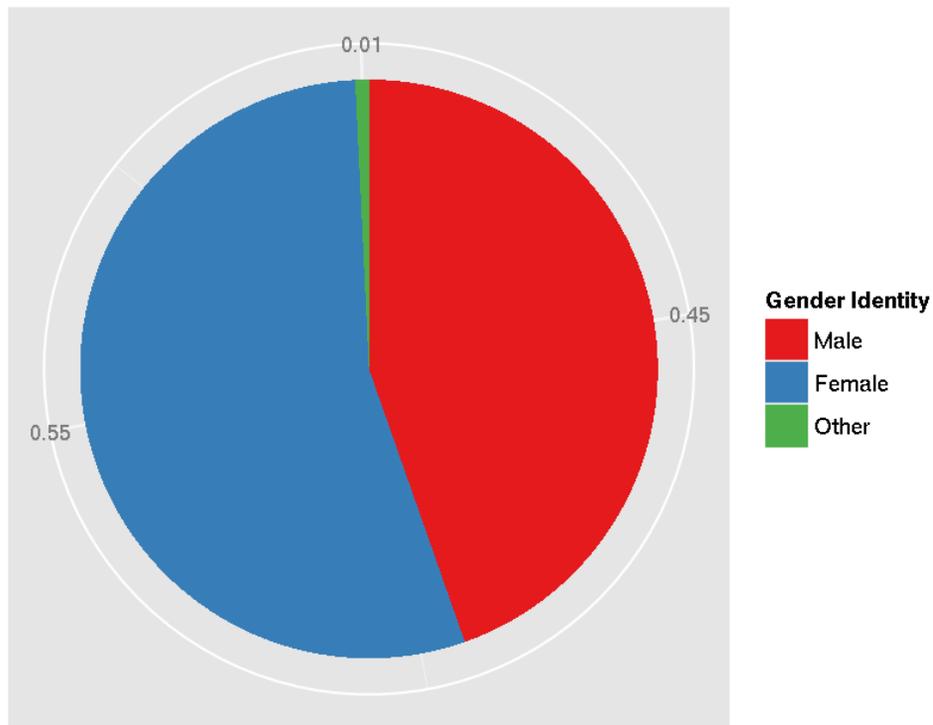
Statistic	Age (Years)
Mean	45
Median	44
Standard Deviation	15
Minimum	19
Maximum	82

Most respondents (55%; 71 individuals) identified as females, while 45% (58 individuals) identified as males. One individual identified as neither male nor female.

Table 12 - Gender Identity

Gender	Count	Proportion
Male	58	0.45
Female	71	0.55
Other	1	0.01

Figure 3 - Gender Identity



2.3 Employment and Income

The total labour force participation rate (the proportion employed or not employed and seeking work) for respondents was 64%. 29 respondents were employed, comprising 24% of respondents. The unemployment rate (proportion of the total labour force that is not employed) for respondents was 63% (Table 13).

Table 13 - Employment Status

Employment Status	Count	Proportion
Employed up to 20 hours per week	12	0.10
Employed more than 20 hours per week	17	0.14
Not employed and seeking work	49	0.40
Not employed and not seeking work	47	0.38

Respondents indicated a wide range of total monthly incomes (from all sources). Just under one quarter (24%, or 27 respondents) had monthly incomes of \$300 or less, while 12% had monthly incomes exceeding \$1,800 (Table 14).

Table 14 - Monthly Income

Monthly Income	Count	Proportion
\$0-\$300	27	0.24
\$301-\$700	33	0.29
\$701-\$1200	24	0.21
\$1201-\$1800	16	0.14
\$1801-\$2500	7	0.06
\$2501+	7	0.06

2.4 Social Cohesion (Questionnaire A Only)

Questions in the social cohesion portion of the survey, which asked about participation in community activities, sense of belonging to the local Prince Rupert Community, and reasons for moving to Prince Rupert for those that lived outside of Prince Rupert in the previous year, were only asked to respondents of Questionnaire A.

In the three months previous to the survey, 65% of respondents used public transportation, 58% used public transportation, 40% visited a recreation centre, and 32% used the public library (Table 15). Additionally, about equal numbers participated in community activities such as providing unpaid help to others (51% of respondents), participating in a cultural event (52%), and participating in an organized community event (53%) (Table 15). Asked to rate their sense of belonging to the local Prince Rupert Community, 76% of respondents stated their sense of belonging to the community was at least somewhat strong, while 19% rated their sense of belonging as somewhat weak, and 5% rated it as very weak (Table 16).

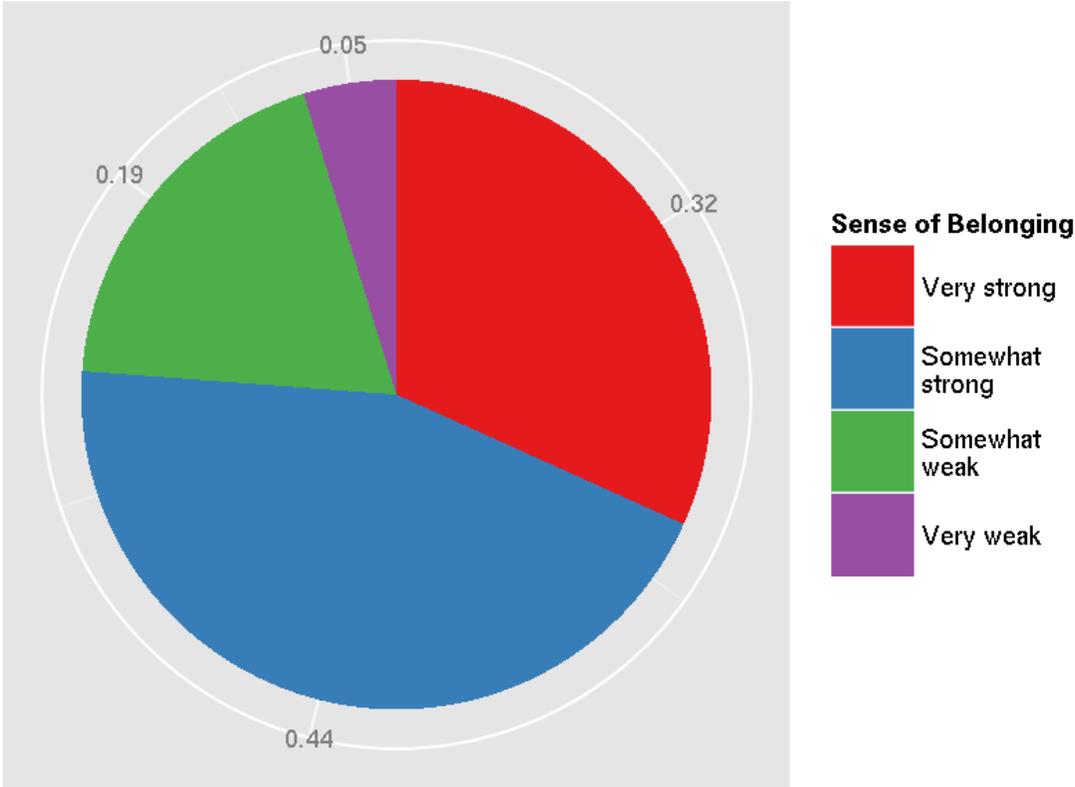
Table 15 - Participation in Community Activities

Activity	Count	Proportion
Provide unpaid help to others	39	0.51
Participated in a cultural event	40	0.52
Used public transportation	45	0.58
Went to a recreation centre	31	0.40
Participated in an organized community event	41	0.53
Used the public library	25	0.32
Visited a public park	50	0.65

Table 16 - Sense of Belonging to Prince Rupert Community

Sense of Belonging	Count	Proportion
Very strong	20	0.32
Somewhat strong	28	0.44
Somewhat weak	12	0.19
Very weak	3	0.05

Figure 4 - Sense of Belonging to Prince Rupert Community



About one quarter (27%, or 20 individuals) of respondents lived in a community outside of Prince Rupert in the previous year (Table 17). Of those individuals, 19 reported at least one reason for moving to Prince Rupert (Table 18). Eleven individuals, or 58%, reported a non-

voluntary reason (unable to find housing or work, or forced to leave by authorities) for leaving their previous community. 42% (eight individuals) indicated family and friends as being a reason for moving to Prince Rupert. 6 individuals, comprising 30% of those who moved to Prince Rupert in the previous year, lived previously in Terrace, while 5 individuals (25%) and 3 individuals (15%) lived in Kitkala and Lax-Kw'alaams, respectively (Table 19).

Table 17 - Number of Individuals who Lived in a Community Outside of Prince Rupert in the Previous Year

Lived in Another Community	Count	Proportion
Yes	20	0.27
No	54	0.73

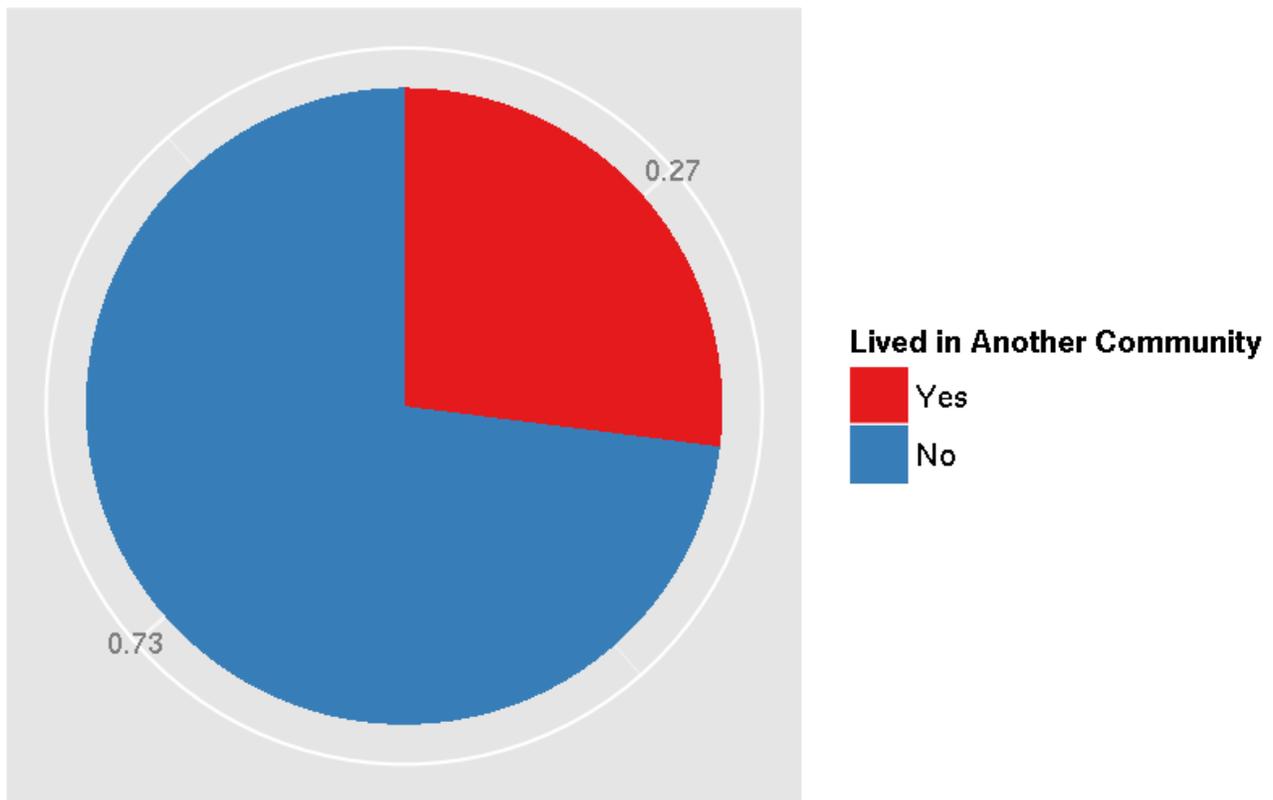


Table 18 - Reasons for Moving to Prince Rupert

Reason for Moving to Prince Rupert	Count	Proportion
Lack of housing options	6	0.32
Forced to leave by authorities	2	0.11
Lack of work	4	0.21
Family and friends in Prince Rupert	8	0.42
Other	6	0.32

Table 19 - Location of Previous Residence for Respondents who Lived in a Community Outside of Prince Rupert in the Previous Year

Previous Residence	Count	Proportion
Terrace	6	0.30
Kitimat	1	0.05
Lax-Kw'alaams	3	0.15
Metlaktla	0	0.00
Kitkatla	5	0.25
Skidegate	0	0.00
Hartley Bay	0	0.00
Old Massett	1	0.05
Other	10	0.50

Conclusion

The 2015 Go Plan Survey Non-Market Questionnaire closes a gap for the Go Plan Survey in that it ensures the baseline data collection effort was as inclusive as possible. The information collected in this questionnaire describes the circumstances of a segment of Prince Rupert's population that will be disproportionately impacted by the changes that Prince Rupert might undergo as a result of nearby industrial development.