

NUCLEAR WASTESOCIÉTÉ DE GESTIONMANAGEMENTDES DÉCHETSORGANIZATIONNUCLÉAIRES

# Draft Community Profile

TOWN OF CREIGHTON, SASKATCHEWAN

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**JULY 2013** 

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Draft Community Profile CREIGHTON, SK

July 5, 2013

# Draft Community Profile

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# ACRONYMS

APM	Adaptive Phased Management
CRER	Churchill River Enterprise Region
GCFDC	Greenstone Community Futures Development Corporation
NORVA	Northern Visual Arts Centre
NWMO	Nuclear Waste Management Organization
PBCN	Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
SANC	Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities
UCN	University College of the North

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This community profile has been prepared as part of the Town of Creighton's participation in the Nuclear Waste Management Organization's (NWMO) *Learn More* program. This program is offered to communities interested in exploring and potentially hosting the Adaptive Phased Management project, the deep geological repository and centre of expertise which is required as part of Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel.

This document brings together information about the community, its history, its aspirations, and current conditions. The information contained in this report is not an assessment of any kind; instead it is intended to paint a picture of the community as it stands today. Such a picture can be a helpful starting point for community discussions about how future projects might be implemented in the community, and the extent to which a project might contribute to the well-being of the community over the long term, including the Adaptive Phased Management project. The Adaptive Phased Management project will only be implemented in a community that has reflected upon whether the project will contribute to community well-being and, after a series of detailed studies have been completed to confirm the safety and appropriateness of a site, has expressed an informed willingness to host the project. Over time, communities in the surrounding area will also need to become involved in the learning process.

This profile is organized to describe the characteristics of the community through five different perspectives or 'lenses':

- Human: Skills, knowledge and essential services supporting the well-being of the community;
- Economic: Monetary or financial resources supporting the well-being of the community;
- Infrastructure: Basic physical infrastructure supporting the well-being of the community;
- Social: Social and community activities in which people participate and the resources drawn upon to support well-being; and
- Natural environment: Nature and the natural environment important to well-being.

The characteristics of the community are referred to as "assets" throughout the report. This is intended to highlight their importance and pave the way for a broad and holistic discussion of how the community may be affected by the Adaptive Phased Management project, or other large project which the community may consider. This discussion of the characteristics of the community which support community life may also help the community identify other important aspects which should also be considered.

The information and data used to compile this profile was derived from a combination of sources, including:

- Publicly available documents and statistics;
- Data and information provided by the community; and,
- Insights derived from discussion with the community liaison committee and through interviews with community leaders.

Although this profile contains references to other communities within the region, these references are intended only as a means to round out the community profile and provide some context for discussion.

The NWMO *Learn More* program encourages collaboration and shared learning involving the NWMO and the community throughout all stages of reflection and decision-making. NWMO efforts to learn about and understand the community, its aspirations and current conditions will continue throughout the duration of the Town of Creighton's involvement in the *Learn More* program.

# 2.0 COMMUNITY PROFILE

# 2.1 Overview

This community profile depicts the physical characteristics of the Town of Creighton. Given the close connections with the City of Flin Flon (services, population, sense of community, etc.), both communities are profiled where applicable. Denare Beach is also profiled where data is relevant. Please note that for the Statistics Canada data presented in this profile, the most recent census data available is for 2006 and in some instances depending on the data that has been released to date, 2011. In addition, please note that some data has been derived from interviews in the community.

#### 2.1.1 Location

Creighton is located on the east-central edge of Saskatchewan adjacent to the Manitoba border next to Flin Flon, Manitoba (and Flin Flon, Saskatchewan) and less than 20 kilometres from Denare Beach, Saskatchewan. Creighton is located on Section 12, 27, 34 and 35, Township 66 and 67, range 30, west of the Prime Meridian. The following map illustrates Creighton's municipal boundaries.

Figure 1 - Map of Creighton



#### 2.1.2 Land Size

The Town of Creighton (census subdivision) covers 14.39 km<sup>2</sup> of land<sup>1</sup>.

#### 2.1.3 Vision and Strategic Plan

Creighton's Official Community Plan<sup>2</sup> provides the Municipal Vision:

'Creighton will manage growth in a way that maintains and enhances community livability. Council will ensure that the character of the residential areas is protected and that commercial areas are attractive, viable and complimentary to their neighbourhood. Council will protect natural areas, provide green space and enhance recreational opportunities and facilities to meet the needs of residents. Creighton will function as the service and recreation hub for northeast Saskatchewan.'

The Official Community Plan<sup>3</sup> lists the following goals:

- 1. Be sustainable, healthy and safe, and a place in which today's quality of life will be enjoyed into the future.
- 2. Be a community in which people of all ages, family structure, backgrounds and interests can live, work and play.
- 3. Provide a range of economic opportunities and sustain a healthy and diverse economy.
- 4. Work with the Churchill River Enterprise Region<sup>4</sup> to identify opportunities and action plans for economic tourism development.
- 5. Balance competing interests and values, maintain fairness and equity and involve residents and stakeholders in decision making processes.
- 6. Be a leader for inter-municipal cooperation to ensure that residents have access to resources and essential services at equitable prices.
- 7. Work with the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company to ensure that mining activities are held to the highest environmental standards to ensure health and safety of residents is maintained.
- 8. Preserve and enhance recreation and park green space in the municipality to ensure residents continue to have the opportunity to live an active and healthy lifestyle.

# 2.2 Human Assets

#### 2.2.1 Human Asset Indicators

This section provides a discussion of human assets in Creighton. Human assets include the skills and knowledge inherent in a community. They also include the ability of a community to provide its residents with access to other skills, knowledge, and essential services that are fundamental to maintaining community well-being, or a desired standard of living. Human assets indicators include

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada 2011. Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Churchill River Enterprise Region was disbanded on March 8, 2013

population size and demographics, skills and labour, education, and health and safety facilities and services.

# 2.2.1.1 Population Size and Demographics Population Changes

The population of Creighton is 1,498<sup>5</sup>. Since 2001, the population in Creighton has been in slight decline. Table 1 illustrates the percent changes from 1996 to 2011. The decline in population can be attributed to changes in the economy (e.g. mining activities at the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company and closure of some operation). This decline is offset by the influx of new residents in support of new exploration and mining activities in the area.

Even though Statistics Canada is showing population decline, interviewees indicate that growth is still occurring<sup>6</sup>. Many residents take advantage of the natural beauty and amenities of the area by living outside of the census district in lakeside homes and cottages converted to year round use and seniors are moving back to the communities to retire<sup>7</sup>. Population growth pressure can be seen through the demand for housing and numbers of students enrolled in schools.

Time Period	Creighton (Change from previous census)
1996	1, 713 (+2.7%)
2001	1,556 (-9.2%)
2006	1,502 (-3.5%)
2011	1,498 (-0.3%)

**Table 1 - Population Changes in Creighton**<sup>8</sup>

#### Age of Population

The population of Creighton (37.5) is slightly younger than the median National age of 40.6<sup>9</sup>. Although the residents in Creighton are younger, the population has been aging since 1996. The figures show that the proportion of residents under 14 and between 25 and 44 is decreasing while the proportion of residents aged 45 to 64 are increasing. The proportion of residents 65 and over is relatively stable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

Few young people are moving out of the area for work and there are employment opportunities in the communities that will be able to sustain the younger population<sup>10</sup>. The presence of the older population 65 and over indicates that older residents are retiring in the area.

Figure 2 provides the age distribution in the census years from 1996 to 2011 for Creighton.





#### **Mobility Status**

In general, the area is stable with few people moving in or out of Creighton. Population stability indicates that the community has not undergone large changes in the economy. Residents are staying in the community for the long-term and are making the area their permanent home.

As of 2006, most people (86.4 percent) had lived at the same address from the previous year. Few people moved in the same census subdivision in the previous year (5.1 percent). Few people moved to a different census subdivision (4.4 percent). Few people in lived out of province in the previous year (4.1 percent).

As of 2006, most people (67.1 percent) had lived at the same address over the previous five years. Few people moved in the same census subdivision over the previous five years (11.7 percent). Few people

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

(8.8 percent) moved to a different census sub-division. Also, few people in Creighton lived out of province five years previously (12.4 percent).<sup>12</sup> See **Appendix A**, Table A1 for detailed statistics.

#### 2.2.1.2 Skills and Labour Population by Occupation

In general, Creighton has a well-educated and highly skilled population. Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company (HudBay) and many of the junior exploration companies in the area employ millwrights, carpenters, welders and other associated skilled labourers.

Figure 3 indicates the occupations of Creighton residents. The top categories of occupation in Creighton (as well as surrounding area) are sales and service, trades and transport, occupations unique to primary industry and business, finance and administration. Since 1996, there has been little fluctuation in each occupation category except for sales and service where there was a slight decline in 2001 and then a slight increase in 2006.

These top occupations are similar to what exists at a regional and provincial level (see Section 3.5.2 and Section 4.2.2). Creighton and Flin Flon are regional centres for federal and provincial government administration focused on 'service' centres, courts and social services. The hospital and schools are also large employers.

Because of the strength of the area's natural assets for hiking, hunting and fishing, tourism is a strong industry in the area. Outdoor enthusiasts are attracted to the area from throughout Canada, the United States and world<sup>13</sup>. Sales and service occupations include tourism and retail related activities. Also, the presence of trades and transport occupations are a strength within the area. Primary industry reflects the mining and related activities in the area (e.g. the HudBay operations) and the secondary industries that cater to these activities. It also indicates that there are many people with skills specific to primary industry activities, which is beneficial for future developments in this field. Finance and administration opportunities indicate that there is capital, financial advice opportunities and accountants in the communities. There is an opportunity to enhance the presence of professionals (e.g. engineers, planners, dentists, accountants and health care workers) in the community<sup>14</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Based on interview data.

Figure 3 - Occupations in Creighton<sup>15</sup>



#### 2.2.1.3 Education Education and Training in Creighton

Interviewees note that area residents are well educated. While there are many residents without a high school diploma, this is due to the nature of the major occupations in the area that may require skilled trade training but not require post-secondary education (e.g. occupations related primary industry and construction). HudBay requires advanced training among their employment base.

Figure 4 shows that a large proportion of Creighton residents have trade skills, college and university degrees. Since 1996, there has been an increase in residents with high school certificates or diplomas and university educations.

Members of the community have identified the need to supplement training opportunities at Northland College by attracting a satellite campus of a southern university or attracting a research facility<sup>16</sup>. Both would provide greater opportunities for high school graduates to earn primary and advanced degrees in the community.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> In addition to University College of the North.

#### Figure 4 - Education and Training in Creighton<sup>17</sup>



#### Local Schools

Creighton has a number of educational programs for elementary and high school aged children.

Education in Creighton is provided through the Creighton School Division No. 111. The School Division covers approximately 1,600 km<sup>2</sup> in northeastern Saskatchewan and includes the communities in



Photo 1: Creighton Community School

Creighton, Denare Beach and the Amiskosakahikan Indian Reserve of the PBCN<sup>18</sup>. The only school in the Division is Creighton Community School and is located at 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Main Street. The school has pre-kindergarten to grade 12 with a school population of approximately 500 students. Approximately 40 percent of students are bused in from Denare Beach and elsewhere<sup>19</sup>. The Creighton Community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

School offers a wide variety of sports programs and creative educational programs such as photography courses. The school also offers students a canteen where they can buy lunches and snacks.

The Creighton Community School is a source of pride for local residents. As a 'community school', it is somewhat unique in Saskatchewan. It has held Community School status for 10 years. The 'Community School Concept' allows for additional funding for staff and programs. It allows the school to have a Coordinator, Recreation Director, two Guidance Councillors, as well as snack and breakfast programs. The teaching base is strong with 70 teaching staff. The teachers range from being highly experienced to younger teachers with innovative ideas. Educational facilities in the Creighton area also provide special education and French immersion courses. This operates through the Flin Flon School Division at École McIssac School.

### Post-Secondary Education

There are a variety of educational training facilities in the area that cater to the mining industry and other resource-based trades. Creighton businesses and educational training facilities have a long tradition of providing on-site training for resource extraction and mining activities, which is beneficial for enterprises in the region.

In October, 2012 the Northern Manitoba Mining Academy and University College of the North (UCN) Regional Centre opened in Flin Flon. The Mining Academy is a partnership of UCN, HudBay Minerals, the Northern Manitoba Sector Council and municipal, provincial and federal governments.<sup>20</sup>



Photo 2: Northlands College in Creighton

Northlands College has its eastern region campus located in Creighton on King Crescent in the south industrial district. The college provides a range of programs including adult basic education, apprentice trades, business, forestry, health and community services, and mine training ('mining academy')<sup>21</sup>. It has

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> http://www.academica.ca/top10/stories/17151

a student residence for up to 15 occupants. The mining training program offers courses on diamond prospecting and oil/gas equipment operations. Courses offered in Northlands College's second campus in La Ronge include radiation monitoring technician and underground mining core training<sup>22</sup>.

#### Other Educational Opportunities

There are enriched educational programs at the Creighton Community School such as Practical Applied Arts, southern exposure trips and many sports and recreation programs. Extra-curricular and afterschool programs are offered in Creighton. After school programs in Creighton are offered by the local Boys and Girls Club, After School Alliance, Fight Crime and various sports clubs. Creighton Community School has a parent association. Faith groups also offer after school programs.

There are opportunities for general interest and adult learning in the area. General interest and adult learning programs are offered through Northlands College in Creighton. French and Cree language training is offered at Creighton Community School.

Creighton has access to high speed internet services. High speed internet is provided by Sask Tel Service in Creighton. Flin Flon has a public library that provides access to the internet.

### 2.2.1.4 Health and Safety Facilities and Services

Overall, Creighton residents are well aware of their health needs and opportunities. Residents have access to local health and safety facilities and services.

#### Number of Clinics

There are two clinics and one hospital in the Creighton/Flin Flon area (see Section 2.2.4.2 for more details). These include the Primary Health Care Centre, the Creighton Public Health Office and the Flin Flon Hospital. These facilities are well equipped and are able to assist with most medical matters except for more complex procedures. There are additional clinics in the offices of doctors located in the Flin Flon Hospital and private doctors offering health services.

#### Access to Health Care Services and Clinics

Creighton residents have access to a variety of health care facilities in their immediate vicinity that can provide services to the local population such as the regional hospital in Flin Flon. However, the regional health authorities have stated in their annual reports that there are challenges for improving the facilities and the provision of additional staffing in local facilities<sup>23</sup>. The number of specialists can be increased and equipment modernised.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Northlands College. Accessed Online: [http://www.northlandscollege.sk.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Northlands College. Accessed Online: [http://www.northlandscollege.sk.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region, 2010. Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region Facilities and Infrastructure requirements Strategy 2010., NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority. Accessed Online: [http://www.norman-rha.mb.ca/], May 2012.

Health care in Creighton is provided by the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region. Creighton's health centre is located in the provincial building on 1<sup>st</sup> Street East. The building also houses Public Health Nursing, Community Health, mental health, home care and a children's dental program. A report from 2010 by the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region identified the need for additional space to house all these facilities. The Kids First North Program provides support and assistance to families for the health and well-being of children.

The Flin Flon General Hospital is located 4 km east of downtown Creighton (at 84 Church Street, Flin Flon). This hospital is the regional hospital for communities in Northeastern Saskatchewan and Northwestern Manitoba. Saskatchewan and Manitoba have an interprovincial agreement which allows residents of northeast Saskatchewan to utilise the health facilities of Flin Flon. Flin Flon also has a Primary Health Care Centre as well as several care homes and dental offices. Please note that the Northern Health Region (formerly the NOR-MAN Regional



Photo 3: Flin Flon Hospital

Health Authority which amalgamated with the Burntwood Regional Health Authority) is charged with health care in the Flin Flon area<sup>24</sup>.

For more complex procedures not offered by the Flin Flon Hospital, Creighton patients go to Saskatoon, Price Albert and Regina hospitals.

#### Hospital Bed Capacities and Usage

The Flin Flon General Hospital is a 42 bed facility that provides a variety of acute care services such as emergency, pediatrics, surgery, obstetrics, psychiatry, dialysis, chemotherapy, and palliative care<sup>25</sup>. However, health care capacity has challenges in the area. Some of the beds at Flin Flon General Hospital are occupied by seniors waiting for long term care facility placement<sup>26</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> North Roots, 2012. New RHA formed. North Roots December 2012/January2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority. Accessed Online: [http://www.norman-rha.mb.ca/],May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Based on interview data.

#### Health Care Professionals

There are a variety of health care professionals that are available in the area. The Creighton Health Care Clinic has 22 staff members that consist of nurse practitioners and staff nurses<sup>27</sup>. In comparison to larger hospitals, the Flin Flon General Hospital does not have some of the some following medical staff: cardiologists, endocrinologists, gastroenterologists, geriatricians, hospitalists, infectious disease specialists, internal medicine physicians, nephrologists, neurologists, oncologists, respirologists, and rheumatologists. Treatment for mental illness among the adult and child population can be enhanced. These services are typically provided by specialists visiting the communities.

#### Emergency Services and Plans

Residents in the area have benefited from cross border requirements for fire and emergency response supports in each community. Including the services of HudBay, there are effectively four fire departments in the area. Unlike volunteer fire departments in southern communities struggling to attract volunteers, Creighton has a waiting list of people wanting to become volunteer fire fighters<sup>28</sup>.

Creighton has emergency services in place and is well situated to handle emergency situations. The Town of Creighton is policed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) with the detachment consisting of 2.5 full-time equivalent town members and 2.5 rural members. Flin Flon also has a detachment of the RCMP located on Hapnot Street. The Creighton detachment is located on Creighton Avenue. The Creighton fire hall is located on 1<sup>st</sup> Street next to the Town Hall and there are 20 volunteer fire fighters. In addition, there are fire departments and response teams in the following locations<sup>29</sup>:

- Denare Beach 15 volunteers;
- Flin Flon 28 volunteers; and
- HudBay (the company has a hazmat team, an emergency medical officer – in total 26 paid staff)<sup>30</sup>.

Emergency response equipment is modern (trucks are scheduled to be replaced) and up to date (e.g. jaws of life) and there is a replacement plan for aging equipment.



Photo 4: Creighton Fire Hall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region, 2010. Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region Facilities and Infrastructure requirements Strategy 2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Based on interview data.

In 2011, the City of Flin Flon authorized the expenditure and borrowing of money for purchase of a new fire truck as well as fire pumper truck for its fire hall on Hapnot Street and 1st Avenue. The Creighton Fire Department can meet most Provincial standards. However, they are unable to comply with the standard response time of 10 minutes to Pelican Narrows because it is 191 km away<sup>31</sup>.

Creighton has an emergency response plan regarding open burning; it does not have a community fuel management plan. Creighton's municipal water system has enough capacity to store twice the daily water demand required by firefighters and exceeds the Ministry of the Environment's minimum fire suppression requirements for pumping capacity and fire suppression for individual buildings<sup>32</sup>.

The Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region has an agreement with the Province of Manitoba to provide ambulance service to the residents of Creighton. Flin Flon and Creighton share a 'mutual handshake' agreement to share these services. In addition, Parkland Ambulance Care is a privately owned service based out of Prince Albert that provides emergency transport services in the Creighton and Flin Flon area. Surrounding regional communities such as Pelican Narrows, Deschambault Lake and Sandy Bay have private ambulance services. However, these outlying regional services are insufficient with long response times and many impediments to getting people to a hospital in an expeditious manner<sup>33</sup>.

### 2.2.2 Summary of Human Assets

The following summarizes our findings for human assets in Creighton.

# 2.2.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues

The population of Creighton has been in slight decline since 2001. Despite the decline in population, there is some growth. Generally, Creighton's population is slightly younger in age than the national median age. There is some aging of population and seniors are choosing to retire in the community. The communities are stable in terms of mobility status, and few people are moving in or out of the wider area. A priority is maintaining and/or growing the population and providing housing for seniors.

Since Creighton and Flin Flon function as a regional centre for various services including health care, there is a need to ensure that health and safety facilities are strong and offer appropriate breadth of services. At the Flin Flon General Hospital, there is an opportunity for improvement to facilities and the need for additional staff. More complex procedures require patients to go to larger provincial centres or wait for visiting specialists. Specialist health occupations can be enhanced (e.g. cardiologists, endocrinologists, etc.). A priority is maintaining and expanding health and educational services as well as attracting a broader range of professional occupations, and medical specialists<sup>34</sup>.

# 2.2.2.2 Community Aspirations

There is a sense of community pride, and residents state that Creighton is a great place to raise families. The population has managed a large project in the community and has addressed changes (e.g. closure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Based on interview data.

of the HudBay smelter). Seniors in particular are satisfied with the current quality of life in the community. There is a keen desire for the diversification of the local economy<sup>35</sup>.

#### 2.2.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community

In terms of human assets, the communities are managing a large mining project and other resource development activities in the area in a way that maintains their community well-being. Capabilities and capacities are reflected in a community's main occupations and industries. The top occupations in Creighton are sales and service, trades and transport, occupations unique to primary industry and business, finance and administration. The major employers are resource-based companies (e.g. mining and resource extraction). Moreover, the workforce in Creighton is highly adaptable and are used to changes in economic activity.

Educational facilities in the Creighton area provide special education and French immersion courses. Primary and secondary school graduation rates are high and Aboriginal student graduation rates from Creighton Community School are high given the challenges in a remote location. There are specialized educational programs available for students (language, urban visits) and committed teaching staff. Creighton's 'Community school' concept has high praise. In addition, there is a range of University College of the North and Northlands College programs and other educational opportunities in the area.

Emergency services in Creighton, Flin Flon and Denare Beach are strong and they are well equipped to handle emergency situations. The fire and emergency teams have response capability and modernised equipment with replacement plans. Moreover, emergency response services and private ambulance services are available. There is a commitment of local volunteers and HudBay also compliments the local services. However, there are problems in the regional communities and there is room for improvement. It is impossible to meet standard response times for rural communities due to distance.

# 2.3 Economic Assets

#### 2.3.1 Economic Asset Indicators

The following section depicts Creighton's economic assets. Economic assets include the monetary or financial related resources that people use to achieve their livelihood objectives. It includes the availability of cash or equivalents to individuals and the community as a whole gained from private or public sector sources, and the availability of financial related services that allow individuals and communities to manage their finances and wealth. Economic asset indicators include employment, business activity, income, tourism, economic development services, and governance and municipal finances.

# 2.3.1.1 Employment

#### Labour Force Activity

General labour trends in the area show more people are joining the workforce and unemployment is decreasing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Based on interview data.

The HudBay Union Labour Peace Agreement has brought relative stability to Creighton, Flin Flon and Denare Beach in terms of labour force activity<sup>36</sup>. In earlier years, economic growth had been strained because the community was uncertain about a prolonged strike or alternatively, mine closure. In addition, the economy is dependent on decisions made by private sector mining interests to support long-term stability. In contrast, government sector employment (e.g. schools and Federal/Provincial offices) provides for stability in the communities. Given the minimal economic effect of the recent recession, the area appears to have the ability to successfully address the challenges of national economic downturns.

Table 2 shows labour force activity in Creighton<sup>37</sup>. The labour force has decreased since 1996, mirroring the decline in overall population and the adoption of less labour intensive technology by HudBay. There has been an increase in the participation rate since 1996 with the 2006 rates at 70.3 percent. There has been an increase in the employment rate since 2001 with the 2006 rates at 65.3 percent. Unemployment has decreased since 2001 with a rate of 6.6 percent. This indicates that the communities are at the same level of the national unemployment rate of 6.6 percent, or faring better. More than half of people employed work full time. The retail and tourism jobs in the area may explain the prevalence of those working part-time.

Table 2 - Labour Fo	orce Activity	in Creighton <sup>38</sup>
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	Creighton		
Parameters	1996	2001	2006
Total Population 15 years and over	1,255	1,190	1,180
Employed	805	765	770
Participation rate (%)	67.9	69.6	70.3
Employment rate (%)	n/a	64.6	65.3
Unemployment rate (%)	5.3	7.3	6.6
Full time employment	490	495	455
Part time employment	395	n/a	n/a
Seasonal workers	n/a	n/a	n/a

20

#### **Employment Industry Sector**

As seen on Figure 5, 'Industries (NAICS) in Creighton' the top industries in terms of employment in the area are manufacturing and 'other', followed by retail trade, agriculture and resource based industries, and health care and social services<sup>39</sup>. Data for 2001 are not provided in Figure 5 as the labour force by industry is categorized differently than data provided for 1996 and 2006. Figure 15, 'Industries in the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Based on interview data

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

Region' (page 65) provides regional comparison data indicating that 'other' (including tourism and hospitality), agriculture, health care and social services, and educational services are more prominent.

'Other' industries have declined since 1996. The tourism sector is a major component within the retail trade and 'other' industry categories. The majority of people employed in the tourism sector own and work in the local fishing lodges. Many of the lodge owners live in neighbouring Flin Flon and employ workers from out of town<sup>40</sup>. There has been a decline in the manufacturing industry since 1996. The closure of the HudBay smelter and processing operations is reflected in the decrease in the manufacturing sector. Retail trade has remained stable since 1996 and has grown in Creighton. Retail trade growth is due to demands from the wider rural community and is a strength of the area. Moreover, Wal-Mart and Canadian Tire in Flin Flon are strong employers and they attract shoppers from the larger region. Agricultural (e.g. wild rice production) and resource based industry employment has grown. Although agriculture is limited in the area, resource growth is reflective of the increase in exploration activities. Health care and social services have remained stable or have slightly decreased in Creighton. Overall, the health care and social services sector is healthy despite the slight decline.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Based on interview data.





#### 2.3.1.2 Business Activity

Business activity in the area focuses on mining, smelting, retail and tourism.

#### Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company and Mining Operations in the Community

HudBay was founded in Flin Flon in 1927 and is currently the largest employer in the area. The metallurgical complex at Flin Flon includes a concentrator and a state-of-the-art zinc plant. The Town of Creighton leases approximately 300 acres (1.21km<sup>2</sup>) of land to HudBay<sup>42</sup>. HudBay also has facilities near Snow Lake, Manitoba.

HudBay closed the 80-year-old copper smelter in June 2010, and began selling copper concentrate to third party copper smelters<sup>43</sup>. There are mine tailings located within the Town of Creighton's borders.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Statistics Canada 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company. Accessed Online: [http://www.hudbayminerals.com/], May, 2012.

The smelter was integral to operations at the Flin Flon complex and its closure required HudBay to reconfigure infrastructure and processes at the site and to invest heavily in employee training to ensure continued safe and efficient operations. As a result of the smelter closure, approximately 235 jobs were eliminated. However, through attrition, early retirement and retraining, HudBay was able to limit the number of personnel reductions to about 85 personnel, and they continue to create jobs in the area (e.g. employment occurs at the 777 mine, the metallurgic complex, and the concentrator plant)<sup>44</sup>. The community reports that they were successful in weathering the impacts of the closure of the smelter.

#### Major Employers

Table 3 identifies the top private sector employers in the area. Various government services are also large employers in the area (e.g. schools, hospitals, provincial and federal offices, etc.).

Name	Location	Industry Sector
Hudson Bay Mining	Flin Flon / Creighton	Mining
North of 53 Consumers Group Co-op Ltd.	Flin Flon	Retail
Victoria Inn	Flin Flon	Hospitality/ Accommodation
Northern Bulk	Flin Flon	Trucking/transportation
Wal-Mart	Flin Flon	Retail
Canadian Tire	Flin Flon	Service/retail

#### Table 3 - Top Employers in Creighton and Flin Flon

#### Small, Medium and Large Businesses

The Creighton area has all the amenities and businesses that are needed in a mining community. Mining industry operations are sustained by institutions, support organizations and supply chain operations (e.g. equipment repair and rental, fuel, tires suppliers, etc.). Furthermore, since this is an active mining area, there is capacity to support other resource extraction activities.

There are many other businesses in the area that include grocery stores, financial institutions/planning, insurance, liquor stores, gyms and fitness clubs, convenience stores, various retail and service stores, automotive, contractors/electrical, restaurants, bars and cafes. The following are some prominent businesses in the Creighton area<sup>45 46</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company. Accessed Online: [http://www.hudbayminerals.com/], May, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Based on Interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Service Guide, 2011. Flin Flon, Creighton, Denare Beach, Cranberry Portage and Area Service Guide 2011-2012.

Table 4 - Additio	nal Businesses in	n Creighton and Fl	in Flon
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Name	Location	Industry Sector
MA Ironworks	Creighton	Contractors/metalwork
Alexander's Auto Ranch	Flin Flon	Automotive
Reliance Services	Flin Flon	Contractors/excavation
McKeen's Trucking	Flin Flon	Trucking/transportation
Major Drilling Group International Inc.	Flin Flon	Construction/primary industry
Dyno Nobel Canada Inc.	Flin Flon	Construction/primary industry
Sandvik Mining and Construction Canada	Creighton	Construction/primary industry
Atlas Copco Construction and Mining Canada	Creighton	Construction/primary industry
Denare Beach Mechanical	Creighton	Construction/primary industry
AJs Maintenance and Supply	Creighton/Flin Flon	Service/retail
Creighton Furniture	Creighton	Service/retail
Bob's Contracting	Flin Flon	Construction/primary industry
<b>RK's Metal Construction</b>	Flin Flon	Construction and primary industry
Preferred Sands of Canada	Hanson Lake	Silica Sand and Resin-coated Sand
Chicken Chef	Flin Flon	Hospitality/ Accommodation
Eddies Family Foods	Flin Flon	Service/retail

Generally, there is resiliency among local merchants, but they remain subject to outside pressure. The Flin Flon Credit Union is an important local support for residential and commercial financing. Schedule 'A' banks (e.g. Royal Bank, Bank of Nova Scotia and CIBC) are present and have more rigorous investment requirements in Creighton and Flin Flon. Moreover, there is a regional market area supporting a range of small and medium-sized enterprises.



Photo 5: Downtown Flin Flon Businesses

# 2.3.1.3 Income

#### Median Household/Family Income

Creighton is a fairly affluent community. Given high incomes and two-income families as well as a relatively low cost of living, disposable incomes tend to be high<sup>47</sup>. As of 2006, Creighton residents had median earnings, personal income, household income and family median income above the national average. Financially, the area is able to capitalise on the resource expansion opportunities in terms of support for local business and personal income.

As of 2006, Creighton residents 15 years and over had median earnings of \$50,343 (full time, full year), which increased since 2001 (\$41,944). Median personal income was \$27,389 (before tax), which increased since 1996. Household income before tax was \$62,179 which also increased since 1996. Families had a median income of \$75,684 (before tax, which increased since 1996). Eight percent of households in Creighton were identified as low income<sup>48</sup>. See **Appendix A**, Table A2 to A4 for detailed statistics.

#### 2.3.1.4 Tourism

#### **Tourist Attractions**

Tourism is one of the driving forces in the local economy. Most tourism activities are destination related or involve tourists who are visiting friends and relatives. Approximately 150 tourists signed the Town of Creighton guest book in 2012<sup>49</sup>. Visitors have come from France, Germany and Australia. The number of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Statistics Canada 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Based on interview data.

tourists has decreased in recent years due to the Canadian dollar being on par with the US dollar. Rising gas prices have also affected people travelling to Creighton<sup>50</sup>.

Tourists purchase fuel, food, fishing licenses and pay camp ground fees. They frequent hotels and restaurants, use the local laundromat and shop at local gift shops. Boat rentals are conducted through local outfitters. Tourism greatly contributes to Creighton's local economy<sup>51</sup>.

Tourism in the Creighton area is largely based on the area's natural environment, which features numerous attractive northern lakes (e.g. Amisk Lake [Beaver Lake]) and rivers offering great fishing, boating and other water-based and recreational opportunities. There are many cabin and campgrounds in the area as well. There are also a number of other tourist attractions in Creighton, Denare Beach and Flin Flon, including heritage sites and museums (e.g. Creighton Museum, North West Mounted Police Museum, Flin Flon Station Museum, Northern Gateway Museum in Denare Beach).

There are a variety of additional attractions including sporting clubs such as the Flin Flon Bombers Hockey Team, minor and recreational hockey, soccer, figure skating as well as several water sports clubs. Additionally, there is a petting zoo and wildlife sanctuary that appeals to young children. The Flintoba Shopping Centre located in Flin Flon has a Canadian Tire and Wal-Mart. People from the larger region utilise these shopping amenities.

#### Tourist Accommodation

There are numerous available accommodations in the community as well as a range of different types of lodgings. These lodgings can accommodate business travellers as well as tourists. There are several hotels, motels, bed and breakfast accommodations, cabins and camp grounds in Creighton, Denare Beach and Flin Flon. Nearby there are also a number of small lakeside resorts and fishing/hunting lodges.

#### **Tourism Plans**

The Town of Creighton's Recreation and Tourism Office is actively marketing tourism (e.g. at Snow Bird conventions)<sup>52</sup>. Additionally, the Greenstone Community Futures Development Corporation (GCFDC) and Tourism North Manitoba provide information on tourism in Flin Flon and the surrounding Manitoba communities. Through its Business Development Fund, GCFDC provides term and equity loans to small enterprises including tourism businesses<sup>53</sup>. Flin Flon and area also benefit from Manitoba's Northern Development Strategy, which provides funding for travel and ecotourism research, training, product development and marketing<sup>54</sup>. It also supports the Northern Tourism Co-ordinating Committee and Aboriginal tourism development initiatives in Manitoba's north.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Flin Flon and District Chamber of Commerce. Accessed Online : [http://www.flinflonchamber.com/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Community Futures Greenstone. Accessed Online: [http://www.cfgreenstone.ca/], May, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Government of Manitoba, 2011. Manitoba Northern Development Strategy. Accessed Online: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/ana/info/nds.html], June, 2011.

#### 2.3.1.5 Economic Development Services

This section profiles the economic development organizations in the local area and those that are regional.

#### Creighton Specific Organizations

The Creighton economic development function is located within the municipal offices.

#### Flin Flon and District Chamber of Commerce

The Flin Flon and District Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1948. The predecessor to the Chamber was an organization called The Board of Trade, dating from 1929<sup>55</sup>. Its objectives are to promote and improve trade and commerce and the economic, civic and social welfare of the district. The local Chamber represents the communities of Flin Flon, Creighton, Denare Beach, and Cranberry Portage<sup>56</sup>.

#### Churchill River Enterprise Region (disbanded March 2013)

The Churchill River Enterprise Region (CRER) was the Saskatchewan regional economic development organization encompassing the region that included Creighton, Denare Beach and other nearby communities<sup>57</sup>. It currently functions as a volunteer organization. In 2012, the Saskatchewan Provincial Government cut funding to all of the Province's Enterprise Regions. A successor organization may be able to operate if it is able to generate enough funding from the member communities and other sources. CRER's mission was to facilitate the attraction, creation, expansion and retention of business, wealth and investment to the region that benefit and contribute to the well-being of its people and communities by building on competitive advantages and building strategic and collaborative partnerships<sup>58 59</sup>.

#### Greenstone Community Futures Visions North

Greenstone Community Futures Development Corporation (GCFDC) is an initiative of the federal government, specifically the Community Futures Program<sup>60</sup>. This program allows communities in need to be the designers, leaders and directors in solving long term community concerns. The program gives communities the tools they require to address these problems and helps them plan a coordinated response to the demands of the changing economy<sup>61</sup>.

Creighton, Flin Flon and Denare Beach are among the communities in Northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba that are serviced by the GCFDC. It offers a range of business development services to businesses within the communities it serves including: technical services, business counselling,

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Flin Flon and District Chamber of Commerce. Accessed Online : [http://www.flinflonchamber.com/], May 2012.
<sup>56</sup> City of Flin Flon. Accessed Online [http://www.cityofflinflon.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Churchill River Enterprise Region. Accessed Online June, 2012. [http://www.churchillriverregion.com/]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Churchill River Enterprise Region. Accessed Online June, 2012. [http://www.churchillriverregion.com/]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Northern Economic Summit. 2012. Accessed Online [http://www.northerneconomicsummit.com/]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Community Futures Greenstone. Accessed Online: [http://www.rfgreenstone.ca/], May, 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Community Futures Greenstone. Accessed Online: [http://www.cfgreenstone.ca/], May, 2012

feasibility studies, business plan development, financial projections, and market analysis/research. It also provides relevant statistical information and resource materials for businesses and entrepreneurs. Financial assistance in the form of repayable loans, equity participation and loan guarantees is provided via four funds: 1) Investment Fund, 2) Repayable Fund, 3) Forestry Fund and 4) Challenged Fund (for entrepreneurs with disabilities)<sup>62</sup>.

#### 2.3.1.6 Governance and Municipal Finances

Creighton has a range of municipal programs and services. Growth would bring demands for enhanced municipal services (e.g. parks and recreation, finance, bylaws, planning, human resources and engineering).

#### Governance Structure of Creighton

Operations in Creighton are governed by the Town Council. There are six councillors. Creighton's Town Hall has the following departments:

- Administration (Town Administrator, Clerk's Office, Building Inspector, and Dog Catcher);
- **Public Works** (Foreman, Sub-Foreman, Employees, and Town Buildings);
- Fire Department (Fire Chief and Captains) and
- Recreation (Recreation Director, recreation facilities staff).

The Town of Creighton provides many services (e.g. public works and emergency services) with dedicated staff.

#### Municipal Organization

Creighton is chartered under 'The Northern Municipalities Act'. Flin Flon, Saskatchewan is incorporated under a separate Act in the legislature and is an organized municipally as part of Flin Flon, Manitoba. Under the Northern Municipalities Act, the outer boundaries of Creighton were set when incorporation occurred and there are arrangements where the municipality takes ownership of the lands. The surrounding lands remain as Provincial Crown lands. It is a unique situation because the enabling northern municipal legislation provides for cooperation for the purposes of municipal servicing, where municipalities border each other and are separated by the Provincial or territorial boundary. The Flin Flon boundary area means the boundary area as defined in The 'Flin Flon Extension of Boundaries Act' from the Definitions Section 2 (q) of the Northern Municipalities Act 2010. In the definitions section, the definition is provided for "other municipality". Under item (gg), "other municipality includes the Flin Flon boundary area and a municipality located in another province or territory"<sup>63</sup>. The definitions are provided to address circumstances where municipalities on both sides of a provincial or territorial boundary may want to enter into agreements to provide for servicing and other matters of mutual interest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Community Futures Greenstone. Accessed Online: [http://www.cfgreenstone.ca/], May, 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Government of Saskatchewan, 2010. The Northern Municipalities Act.
# Regional Organizations

Creighton has connections to regional governance organizations. Creighton's Mayor is part of the New North – SANC Services Inc. (Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities). New North is an organization formed to advocate for Northern Saskatchewan municipalities within the Northern Administration District. New North works on behalf of northern communities and is governed by a board of Northern Mayors with administrative staff located in La Ronge, Saskatchewan<sup>64</sup>.

New North is organized to<sup>65</sup>:

- Advocate the issues and concerns on behalf of the Northern Communities within the Northern Administrative District of Saskatchewan;
- Organize and co-ordinate capacity building training and development activities for the municipal governments and organizations; and
- Build and maintain strategic relationships.

New North's mission statement is to<sup>66</sup>:

- Promote fair and equitable policies and procedures for all Northern Communities;
- Speak and act on behalf of the Northern Communities in pursuit of both common objectives and issues of common interest;
- Provide leadership for Northern Communities and create a forum to raise public and government awareness of Northern specific issues;
- Support existing and future community initiatives; and
- Implement North Strategic Action Plan with its emphasis on community capacity building.

#### Municipal Revenue and Expenditures

Creighton's finances are in good standing. In general, the community has expressed a desire for additional provincial support for northern road maintenance and upgrading projects, community recreation and other municipal development projects<sup>67</sup>. The following discussion on municipal revenue and expenditures is based on financial statistics from the Town of Creighton<sup>68</sup> (see **Appendix B** for financial data tables).

Based on the Town of Creighton's 2012 working budget, Creighton's total revenues and expenses for the year ending December 31, 2012 were \$3,385,650 and \$3,385,650, respectively<sup>69</sup>. Creighton's reserve at

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> New North, SANC Services Inc. Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities. Accessed Online: [http://www.newnorthsask.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> New North, SANC Services Inc. Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities. Accessed Online: [http://www.newnorthsask.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> New North, SANC Services Inc. Saskatchewan Association of Northern Communities. Accessed Online: [http://www.newnorthsask.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> Data provided by Town of Creighton Officials.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> These accounts balance.

the end of the 2012 year is \$828,356.24 comprised of (Capital Trust Bank Account of \$99,000.; Property Sales Bank Account of \$622,313.24; Dedicated Lands Bank Account of \$7,043; and Fire Truck Account of \$200,000).

#### Voter Participation Rate

Voter participation for Creighton is at an estimated rate of 30 to 40 percent<sup>70</sup>.

#### 2.3.2 Summary of Economic Assets

The following summarizes our findings for economic assets in Creighton.

#### 2.3.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues

The key priorities are diversification of the economy and achieving economic growth. Taking better advantage of junior mining exploration spending in the area is also a priority. The priorities and issues in relation to economic assets relate to the strength of the labour force, employment opportunities and main businesses. Furthermore, labour force activity in the area is strong. More people are joining the workforce and unemployment is decreasing.

Generally, there is resiliency among local merchants, but they are still subject to outside pressure. It is hard to obtain financing for commercial expansion. There is a regional market area supporting a range of small and medium sized enterprises. It can however be challenging to attract new construction in the communities due to the environmental conditions (e.g. rock outcrops) that make it expensive to build. The distance from major centres is a factor as well as the condition of the roads. However, regularly scheduled air service at the Flin Flon Airport is a strength for investors.

Residents have median earnings, personal income and household income over the national average. Income levels are relatively high and people with skilled occupations are well paid. Disposable income allows for travel and discretionary spending in the communities. The priority is maintaining affluence and the level of disposable income. Pensioners are choosing to retire in Creighton and they support the economic base.

#### 2.3.2.2 Community Aspirations

The economy is supported by the natural and resource-based environment. Maintaining and preserving the natural environment is a community aspiration for local use and enjoyment as well as tourism activities<sup>71</sup>. Tourism is an important part of the economy and many people are employed in tourism related jobs.

The community strongly aspires to diversify the economy and have another large industry or business locating in the area. They also aspire to continue to have a strong labour force, more mining and exploration companies in the area, and stronger municipal finance to help pay for infrastructure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Based on interview data.

## 2.3.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community

In relation to capabilities and capacities, Creighton has the capacity to take on new enterprises and the community is entrepreneurial. The area is receptive to economic development, supported by agencies such as the Greenstone Community Futures and the Flin Flon Chamber of Commerce.

There is a strong governance structure in Creighton with the Mayor and Council, supported by staff. The community and area is capable of taking on economic growth. Creighton's finances are in good standing. Municipal taxes are reasonable with minimal requirement for tax increases. Commercial and residential revenue ratios are good. The area has had some difficulty in getting Provincial support for northern road maintenance and upgrading projects, community recreation and other municipal development projects.

# 2.4 Infrastructure

#### 2.4.1 Physical Asset Indicators

This section provides a description of Creighton's physical assets. Physical assets include the basic infrastructure needed to support livelihoods and the tools or equipment that people use to function more productively. Infrastructure is a public good that is used without payment or some other infrastructure for a fee related to usage. Increased access to such infrastructure improves community well-being, human health and quality of life. The opportunity costs associated with poor quality infrastructure can preclude education, access to health services and income generation. Physical assets indicators include land use, housing, municipal infrastructure and services and transportation infrastructure.

#### 2.4.1.1 Land Use

One of the principal physical assets Creighton and the surrounding communities have is land. The land use and resources management systems are very different. The two systems are based on Provincial legislation and policy while the third is based on traditional knowledge. A general understanding of these systems is required as background for the subsequent assessment of physical assets.

The principle systems are those that apply to Crown lands in unorganized territories and private lands within organized municipalities. While there appears to be no Crown lands within the organized municipalities, there are privately owned lands and subdivisions in unorganized territories.

In Creighton, land use is planned under the Northern Municipalities and Planning and Development Acts. Official Plan and Zoning Bylaws are in place to provide for decision making for lands which have been placed under municipal jurisdiction under provisions of the Northern Municipalities Act. Municipal decision making applies to relatively small areas of land which have been transferred to the municipality.

Within unorganized territories, Crown lands are planned and disposed of under the provisions of the Provincial Lands and Forest Resources Management Acts. The legislation and policy guides set out how the Ministry of the Environment is to prepare Integrated Forest Land Use Plans. These Plans apply to Crown lands and address resource allocations such as forestry and land sales. These Plans do not apply to privately owned lands or subdivisions, municipally organized lands or Reserve lands. The plans

address in policy, which resources will be developed and where and how. The Ministry of the Environment also addresses dispositions in the form of leases, licenses and permits. Crown lands are sold from time to time to private interests. For example tourism recreation development and cottage lot subdivisions can be undertaken in this manner.

#### Commercial

Commercial development in Creighton is primarily concentrated on Main Street (between 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenues) and along Creighton Avenue (Highway 167)<sup>72</sup>. Creighton's Council would like to rejuvenate the Main Street commercial area to create an attractive community centre that is well designed and pedestrian friendly. The intent is for the area to encourage retail, financial, government, professional, entertainment and hospitality uses. Currently, there are no vacant lots for commercial development in this area, but there is potential for infill and densification of existing lots. The close proximity to Creighton's principal community and recreational assets would help to provide a core market base for any retail development.

The majority of lots in the Highway Commercial area are located on Creighton Avenue (Highway 167) between Coronation Drive and Knight Street. There are two other Highway Commercial areas located on either end of Creighton Avenue. Currently, there is a surplus of vacant parcels and lots in the Highway Commercial areas. The current range of commercial activity in Creighton is limited because of proximity to the larger centre of Flin Flon, which is the commercial hub of the region<sup>73</sup>.

#### Industrial

*Heavy Industrial* - Industrial uses in Creighton are located in the north and south ends of the community. HudBay is the largest consumer of industrial land within the Town's boundary. Over two sections of



**Photo 6: HudBay Operations** 

land are utilized by the mill for the dumping of spoil material. This land is north of the developed area of Town and east of Highway 106. Much of the land used by the company is owned by the Town<sup>74</sup>.

*Light Industrial* - Light industrial activities are primarily located in the south end of the community along King Street, King Crescent and Bearskin Avenue. This industrial area accommodates the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure works yards, the Town's garage and various private storage and manufacturing facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

#### Municipal Constraints

Creighton is located within the Pre-Cambrian shield. The physical layout of the community is dictated by developable lands between rock outcrops. The community has therefore grown in an irregular pattern and does not adhere to a conventional grid layout<sup>75</sup>. The mining activity has been an influence on development towards the northern portion of Creighton. Mining activities require setbacks from residential and commercial uses to prohibit development to the north. Creighton is also located on the Saskatchewan/Manitoba border which prohibits development to the east<sup>76</sup>.

Creighton's water source is Douglas Lake to the south of the Town. The lake is approximately one kilometre south of the light industrial area located on Kings Crescent. Expansion to the south is constrained by setback requirements for municipal water sources<sup>77</sup>. There are no natural gas services in Creighton.

#### Amount of Land in Planning Pipeline

Creighton's 'Future Land Uses' areas are identified in the Town of Creighton's Official Community Plan<sup>78</sup>. According to the Plan, the development of housing in Creighton is scattered due to physical constraints. Typically, wherever there is space between rock outcrops, residential lots have been developed<sup>79</sup>. Servicing constraints provide the biggest restriction to new residential development in Creighton. Servicing is expensive due to physical constraints<sup>80</sup>. Providing servicing to the most affordable lots has shaped Creighton's development.

Creighton Council purchases land for urban subdivision and development under provisions in The Northern Municipalities Act. Creighton's Official Community Plan<sup>81</sup> identifies areas where there is potential for new residential development and identifies a surplus of new lots. AE Engineering has been retained by Creighton to support new housing development. They estimate the cost of a new serviced lot to be approximately \$70,000. Creighton is developing 30 additional housing lots and will release those 10 at a time<sup>82</sup>. The Province has provided an interest free loan so there is a pass through cost to Creighton with no ongoing financial liability. Creighton is looking to outside developers and consultants to provide necessary support for more significant growth.

#### Presence of Official Plan and Land Designations

Creighton's Official Community Plan is recent (e.g. 2011). Creighton's Official Community Plan has mapping depicting 'future land uses' within town boundaries.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> Based on interview data

## 2.4.1.2 Housing

The discussion on housing includes data from Creighton.

## Type of Dwellings

There is a mix of housing types in Creighton. However, housing choice is centered on single family low rise housing. As of 2006, the dominant housing style in Creighton is the single detached home which accounts for 75.2 percent of all dwellings. 10.3 percent of all dwellings in Creighton are semi-detached homes. The remaining housing consists of modular, mobile and apartment style dwellings. The Town of Creighton owns and operates a trailer court<sup>83</sup>. Between 1996 and 2006, the occupation of dwelling types by residents in Creighton has not changed substantially. In 1996 only five of the seven types of private dwellings existed in Creighton (single detached, semi-detached, row houses, apartments five of fewer stories and other). By 2006 a sixth 'apartment / duplex' building was added to the mix. There are few apartment housing options available in Creighton. Housing development in Creighton and area is strained by physical constraints. Increased apartment development would not require as much space as single and semi-detached home development.



#### Figure 6 - Type of Private Dwelling in Creighton<sup>84</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

#### Dwelling Characteristics and Tenure

This section describes the characteristics of dwellings in Creighton.

The majority of residents in Creighton and area own their homes. Most homes in Creighton were constructed before 1986 (classified by Statistics Canada as pre-1930s and post-1930s housing)<sup>85</sup>. The highest demand is for new housing.

Rental housing in Creighton (22.2 percent) and area is relatively low. Nation-wide, rental housing accounts for 31 percent of the tenure type. In addition to apartment housing availability, rental housing is an asset for an incoming population. Therefore, there is an opportunity to increase the number of rental properties in the area. Conversely, home ownership is high in the area which is indicative of a commitment to stay in the community. There has been little change between 1996 and 2006 regarding dwelling characteristics and tenure in the communities.

There is little available land for new housing and more lands for development are being generated. Where land is allocated for new housing in Creighton, engineering for new lot servicing is underway. Local contractors have some capability to develop residential lots but larger developers would have to come from larger centres to build subdivisions or multiple family buildings.



Figure 7 - Dwelling Characteristics in Creighton<sup>86</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

Figure 8 - Age of Dwellings in Creighton<sup>87</sup>



#### Residential Property Value

Since 1996, the average value of homes in Creighton and area has been increasing. In 2006, the average home value in Creighton was \$84,274<sup>88</sup>. Recent interviews within the community<sup>89</sup> suggest that the average home price in 2013 has risen to \$100,000 to \$110,000, with new homes selling for approximately \$300,000. Affordable homes are available in the area.

#### Table 5 - Average Home Value in Creighton <sup>90</sup>

Home Value	1996	2001	2006
Creighton	\$66,912	\$67,625	\$84,274

#### 2.4.1.3 Municipal Infrastructure and Services

Creighton's waste water facility and water servicing is relatively new and is serving the current population. Creighton's community centre, schools and sports arena are also in good shape, although some replacements and new facilities (e.g. a sports-plex) are desired by community members.

#### Water Supply Systems

Creighton's water supply comes from Douglas Lake which is located 2 km southwest of the community. A screened intake pipe extends 200 m into the lake and draws water to the pump station, wet well and water treatment plant. Creighton's water treatment plant was constructed in 1993 and is located at the corner of King Crescent and Creighton Avenue. It has the capacity to handle a population of approximately 2,000 and has enough space to hold a second treatment unit inside the current building.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

Creighton has two potable water storage reservoirs. The main reservoir is located at the water treatment plant and has a capacity of 1,965,000 litres<sup>91</sup>. The second reservoir has a capacity of 278,000 litres. The capacity meets the requirement of twice the daily demand for firefighting capabilities. The pumping capacity also meets provincial standards for firefighting guidelines<sup>92</sup>. Creighton ceased water fluoridation in 1990. In summary, Creighton's water supply system is adequate in terms of capacity.

#### Waste Water System

The Creighton sewage treatment plant was constructed in 1993 and consists of four underground concrete tanks and a control building. Treated effluent is discharged into a lagoon which flows to Mylo Lake, a shallow wetland that drains into Phantom Lake<sup>93</sup>.

Creighton has a domestic gravity sewer that serves all residential buildings in the community. Sewage is directed to four pump stations and is carried to the sewage treatment plant by force mains. The system is 40 years old, which may require upgrading. The following is a description of the Town of Creighton's pumping stations:

Pumping Station No.	Commission Date	Upgrade Date	Location/ Servicing Area	Percentage of Waste Water (%)
1	1964	1998	Located at the intersection of 1 <sup>st</sup> Street East and 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue, receives sewage from the northeast side of the Town.	62
2	1964	1989	Located at the corner of Broderick Avenue and Park Street.	25
3	1964	1989	Located on Creighton Avenue on northeast side of Town.	2
4	1980	N/A	Located on King Crescent near sewage lagoon (used to lift backwash and sewage from water treatment plant to sewage treatment plant).	13

#### Table 6 - Creighton's Pumping Stations<sup>94</sup>

#### Landfill

The Creighton landfill has adequate capacity and is located within municipal limits.

#### Electricity Supply

Electricity is supplied to Creighton by Sask Power. The electricity supply comes from Island Falls Hydro Electric Station at Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011. Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.

#### 2.4.1.4 Transportation Infrastructure

There are challenges with regional roads in the area. The municipal roads are good, but Provincial highways are in relatively poor shape. Having suitable roads is important for safe driving, goods movement, and attracting tourists to the area. Residents would like to see their roads improved. There is scheduled air service at the Flin Flon Airport.



#### Presence of Transportation Infrastructure

Creighton is accessible by road from both Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Creighton is accessible from Highway 106 in Saskatchewan and Highway 10 in Manitoba. Bus access to Creighton is by Greyhound Canada/Grey Goose Bus Lines and Saskatchewan Transportation Company. Flin Flon Transit has a local public transit bus line. Transportation is a big concern in the communities and resource transportation subsidies have been

Photo 7: Flin Flon Transit

dropped for bus and freight. As a result, the bus services have become a freight service that carries passengers<sup>95</sup>.

Flin Flon Airport is located 20 kilometers southeast of the City of Flin Flon and occupies a land area of approximately 210 hectares (518 acres)<sup>96</sup>. The Flin Flon Airport is served by two scheduled air carriers: Calm Air and Bearskin Airlines - providing several trips a day to Winnipeg and The Pas. In addition, the airport serves both private and commercial operations and serves as a tanker base for Ministry of Natural Resources water bombers. The Airport is owned and operated by the City of Flin Flon. The runway is constructed of asphalt and is capable of supporting aircraft up to Boeing 737 size. The Airport has one main air terminal building providing space for airline, car rental, airport operations and general public use<sup>97</sup>.

#### 2.4.2 Summary of Physical Assets

The following summarizes our findings for physical assets in Creighton.

#### 2.4.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues

Priorities and key issues regarding physical assets involve areas for development. Priorities include maintaining and upgrading existing infrastructure, achieving new infrastructure and upgrading regional and provincial roads.

It is also a priority to achieve more lots for commercial and industrial development. A challenge for Creighton is that it has constrained growth ability based on the physical layout of outcrops in the Pre-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> City of Flin Flon. Accessed Online [http://www.cityofflinflon.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> City of Flin Flon. Accessed Online [http://www.cityofflinflon.ca/], May 2012.

Cambrian shield. This has in the past, deterred development in the area particularly for the construction of new homes and businesses, and especially those that require larger tracts of land. Furthermore, the cost of servicing commercial or industrial lots is high.

# 2.4.2.2 Community Aspirations

A community aspiration involves the provision of suitable housing for existing residents as well as new residents. The housing stock in Creighton and area is aging. The dominant housing style is the single family detached home, with few apartment dwellings and modular homes. Homes in Creighton are affordable and the community aspires to keep it this way.

Creighton has a community centre, schools and a sports arena, although some replacements and new facilities are needed. The community aspires to have a modern sports-plex.

#### 2.4.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community

Whether the community has the capacity to grow depends on its physical assets. The physical assets most relevant are water, waste water and waste management infrastructure services. The area is capable of absorbing increased demands for housing. Housing a larger workforce would require an expansion of housing stock and water and waste water infrastructure. Creighton is accessible by road, rail and air, although it is removed from larger centers.

# 2.5 Social Assets

#### 2.5.1 Social Assets Indicators

This section identifies the social assets of Creighton. Social assets include the social and community activities in which people participate and the resources that they draw upon in pursuit of their livelihood objectives. These activities and resources create networks within the community and between communities; increase connectivity and cohesion, and generate trusting relationships and community pride. These activities and resources allow people to better cope with shock, provide an informal safety net, and may compensate for a lack of other types of capital within the community. Social asset indicators include diversity of population composition, cultural heritage resources, community facilities and programs, and social services and organizations.

# 2.5.1.1 Diversity of Population Composition

#### Aboriginal Identity Population

Since 1996, there have been an increasing number of residents in Creighton and area who identify themselves as Aboriginal. As of 2006, in Creighton 16.3 percent of residents identify as Aboriginal<sup>98</sup> (see Table A5 in **Appendix A** for detailed statistics).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

#### Immigrant Population

Since 1996, the percent of residents in Creighton who immigrated to Canada have remained relatively stable. In 2006, in Creighton, 3.0 percent of residents were immigrants<sup>99</sup> (see Table A6 **Appendix A** for detailed statistics). Provincially, 5.0 percent of Saskatchewan's residents are immigrants<sup>100</sup>.

#### Seasonal Residents

There are seasonal residents in the wider area including Denare Beach and on lakes outside of Flin Flon. These residents mostly reside in cabins, cottages and summer homes.

# 2.5.1.2 Cultural Heritage Resources Archeological Sites

Heritage resources include all of Saskatchewan's historic and pre-contact archaeological sites, architecturally significant structures, and paleontological resources. Heritage resources are property of the Provincial Crown, and as such, are protected under The Heritage Property Act. The database for previously recorded heritage resources maintained by the Ministry of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport was consulted to identify recorded heritage resources found within the Creighton area<sup>101</sup>.

The results of the database search indicate that eight aboriginal archaeological sites have been recorded in the Creighton area (see Table 7 below). Artifact scatter sites are the most common, the remaining sites are artifact find sites and artifact/feature combination sites. None of these sites contained diagnostic artifacts to indicate a potential temporal or cultural affiliation<sup>102</sup>.

Site Type	Definition	No. of sites
Artifact Find	Archaeological sites consisting of five or fewer artifacts. An artifact is any object used or modified by people (e.g., projectile point, pottery sherds, lithic flakes).	
Artifact scatter	Archaeological sites consisting of six or more artifacts.	5
Artifact/Feature combination	Archaeological sites consisting of both artifacts and features.	1

#### Table 7 - Heritage Resources in the Creighton Area<sup>103</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>99</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>101</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

#### Euro-Canadian Heritage Resources and Cultural Landscapes

Creighton and area are historically significant for the early settlement of the region. Creighton and Flin Flon were sites used by the Meridian Voyageurs during the fur trade of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition, there are several Museums in Creighton and Flin Flon that curate local artifacts and compile records of local historical events.

The Flin Flon Heritage Project was created in March 2012 by two former Flin Flon residents to document the history of Flin Flon and surrounding areas. The website is a central repository for old photographs and historical accounts by present and past community pioneers<sup>104</sup>.

#### Arts and Multicultural Groups

Creighton and area's cultural assets set them apart as a unique place to live, work and play. Communities that are lively places with cultural and entertainment options attract and retain creative people. This creative workforce in turn generates wealth in an expanding knowledge economy. A community with engaging cultural and entertainment opportunities and amenities will be successful in attracting and retaining families, workers and tourists. Furthermore, the vitality of a community's cultural participation and engagement relates directly to its overall quality of life.

Creighton and area have a vibrant local arts and cultural scene that includes:

- Artists and painters (e.g. Northern Palette Art Club, Flin Flon Pottery Club, North Star Quilter's Guild);
- Plays, actors and theatre groups (e.g. Ham Sandwich Theatre Group);
- Royal Winnipeg Ballet performs with local groups;
- Northern Visual Arts Centre (NORVA);
- Musicals, Flin Flon Glee club and Flin Flon Community Choir;
- Historians; and
- Horticulturalists.

Furthermore, the Flin Flon Arts Council is a significant force in promoting arts and culture by supporting local artists, touring groups, art, other arts organizations as well as offering varied workshops and classes<sup>105</sup>. The Council has been instrumental is spearheading the annual Flin Flon Culture Days event in September that showcases a variety of art and performances that draws artists and participants from Northern Manitoba and across Canada.

Media plays an important part of the cultural life of Creighton residents. The Reminder newspaper (Eagle Printers) is published three times per week and has a circulation of 1,236 subscribers that includes Denare Beach<sup>106</sup>. There are also the Cottage North and North Roots Magazines. In addition to the two national CBC radio stations (English and French); CIFF-FM 101.1FM is a First Nations community

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>104</sup> Flin Flon Heritage Project. Accessed Online: [http://flinflonheritageproject.com], July 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>105</sup> City of Flin Flon. Accessed Online [http://www.cityofflinflon.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> City of Flin Flon. Accessed Online [http://www.cityofflinflon.ca/], May 2012.

radio broadcast by Native Communications Inc. which operates across Manitoba. The local radio station is CFAR 590 AM. Each provides on-air and as well as on-line news and entertainment. Television channels are provided by Shaw Cable Systems and Bell ExpressVu. The community also has a community notice board channel. The community also has access to Missinippi Broadcasting network radio.

## 2.5.1.3 Community Facilities and Programs Service and Social Clubs

Creighton and Flin Flon share a variety of service and social clubs such as the local Rotary, Lions, Masons, Elks, and Kinsmen clubs. Flin Flon has various sporting clubs including a ski club, hockey team and soccer club. The presence of service and social clubs illustrate the levels of volunteerism in a community as well as cultural participation.

#### **Recreational Facilities**

There are many recreational facilities in Creighton and Flin Flon. Such facilities are a community asset, encourage local residents to stay in the community and serve as an attraction for future potential residents.

Most of Creighton's recreational facilities are centrally located and surround the Sportex Ice Arena. The school yard adjacent to the arena contains a lighted baseball diamond, tennis courts and basketball courts. Lions Park is also located in the vicinity which contains a skateboard park and soccer field. The Amisk Lake Recreational Site is located approximately 11 km southwest of the settlement area of Creighton along Highway 167 on the northeast shore of Amisk Lake and covers an area of about 350 ha<sup>107</sup>.

The Phantom Lake area has a nine-hole golf course and a recreational beach area accessible to the public. Hundreds of lakes in the area attract boaters, canoeists and anglers. Moose hunting also draws tourists to the area.

Creighton and Flin Flon have a wide variety of recreational facilities that provide both seasonal and year round use. Creighton has baseball diamonds and tennis courts, a skateboard park and ice rinks. Flin Flon has a curling club and Aqua Centre as well as campgrounds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Town of Creighton, 2011, Town of Creighton Official Community Plan.



Photo 8: Creighton Community Centre

#### Park Areas

Creighton has a variety of parkland and green space within the town boundaries. There are two significant Manitoba Provincial Parks located nearby that draw numerous visitors to the region<sup>108</sup>:

- Bakers Narrows Provincial Park Located south of Flin Flon on Lake Athapapaskow, the Park is 145 ha and consists of Pre-Cambrian boreal forest. The park is a popular angling location and has a campground that contains more than 70 campsites<sup>109</sup>.
- Grass River Provincial Park This Park has untouched wilderness, wildlife and navigable lakes and rivers that are well-suited for canoeing and fishing. The Park is located where the Manitoba Lowlands and Pre-Cambrian Shield meet the Grass River. There are three developed lakeside campgrounds with more than 120 campsites<sup>110</sup>.

#### 2.5.1.4 Social Services and Organizations Social and Affordable Housing

There are some social assistance households in the area and functional social housing programs. More social housing assistance is required in the broader region.

There are organizations in Creighton that coordinate social housing programs. Creighton has the North-East Housing Authority and Flin Flon has the Flin Flon Housing Authority. For affordable housing, the North-East Regional Housing Authority has duplex rentals, low income housing, and senior's houses in Creighton. The North-East Regional Housing Authority has 200 social housing units in total<sup>111</sup>. There are:

• 91 units are in Creighton and Denare Beach (42 units are seniors units);

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>108</sup> Manitoba Provincial Parks, 2012. Accessed online: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks], July 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> Manitoba Provincial Parks, 2012. Accessed online: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks], July 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> Manitoba Provincial Parks, 2012. Accessed online: [http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks], July 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>111</sup> Based on interview data.

- One unit is in Pelican Narrows;
- 108 units in Sandy Bay (eight are seniors units and eight are singles);
- Six of the units have accessible housing; and
- There are approximately 3.5 people per household<sup>112</sup>.

In addition, there is a need for more senior care centres and housing in Creighton and Flin Flon. This is especially important in light of the increase in the number of senior citizens in the communities and seniors occupying long-term hospital beds. North Sask Seniors care home is located in Creighton. There are a few senior care homes in Flin Flon (e.g. Northern Lights Manor, Flin Flon Personal Care Home and St. Paul's Residence)<sup>113</sup>. Local developers have plans to build seniors housing<sup>114</sup>.

#### Child Care Services

Daycare in Creighton is available, but limited. Creighton Community Daycare Inc. provides this service in Creighton. Flin Flon has a Non-Governmental Organization called the Flin Flon Family Resource Centre that is run by the Flin Flon Parent Child Working Group. They provide online resources for children's programs and daycare facilities. There are four community daycare centres in Flin Flon and eight privately run day care centres<sup>115</sup>. Private daycare facilities have been constrained due to various regulations and permitting processes, however a new facility is scheduled to open in Flin Flon.

#### Social Assistance and Support Programs

There are a variety of social assistance and support programs offered in Creighton and area. The support networks provide for increased quality of life in the community and assist those residents in need or in crisis.

Creighton has support programs for families and children such as Kids First North and Best Beginnings Baby and Me. Flin Flon has the Canada Employment Centre, Flin Flon and District Assessment and Referral Service, and the Greenstone Community Features Development Corporation (GCFDC). As mentioned in Section 2.3.5, the GCFDC offers funding for local businesses and entrepreneurs. The Women's Safe Haven/Resource Services centre in Flin Flon provides a shelter for abused women and runs an 'Entry to work in the North' work program. Counselling services are offered from Alcoholics Anonymous, Creighton Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council and the Employee Family Assistance Program.

There is a Community Youth Resource Centre, NOR-MAN Community Services and the Northern Neighbours Foundation and Neighbourhood Revitalization Corporation located in Flin Flon. The Neighbourhood Revitalization Corporation advocates for the creation of affordable, adequate, and safe housing as well as fosters the development of recreational, arts and cultural opportunities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority. Accessed Online: [http://www.norman-rha.mb.ca/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> City of Flin Flon. Accessed Online [http://www.cityofflinflon.ca/], May 2012.

#### 2.5.2 Summary of Social Assets

The following summarizes our findings for social assets in Creighton.

#### 2.5.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues

Overall, the area is well equipped to accommodate growth. There are a range of non-profit and volunteer organizations supporting community well-being in relation to social assets. Quality of life is high in the area.

#### 2.5.2.2 Community Aspirations

Creighton is interested in attracting creative and artistic endeavors. Creighton's identity and cultural assets set it apart as a unique place to live, work and play and the community encourages the development of its creative scene. Creighton has a vibrant arts and cultural scene with many arts, musicians and historians actively involved in community life. There is also a variety of sports clubs and voluntary organizations. There is volunteerism and community involvement in Creighton and Flin Flon with many service clubs (e.g. Rotary Club, Lions, Kinsmen, Masons, Elks, etc.) actively participating in the community. Creighton and Flin Flon aspire to increase community well-being through new sports, arts and meeting complexes.

Cultural heritage is also prevalent in Creighton. Residents aspire to maintain as well as enhance cultural heritage features such as local museums.

#### 2.5.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities Within the Community

There are recreational opportunities for both indoor and outdoor activities. The recreational facilities in Creighton cater to a variety of interests including sporting facilities and park space. However, the area has struggled in terms of capability for obtaining finance for additional facilities.

There are some social assistance households in the community and functional social housing programs. In any community, there is always a need for more social housing. Provisions for seniors housing and care facilities are also required in the communities. They appear to have the capability of achieving more seniors housing through local private investment<sup>116</sup>. There are social support institutions in Creighton. There may need to be the provision of more childcare services. There is affordable housing available, although there may be room for improvement. Additionally, there is access to social services (e.g. employment support, women's shelters, facilities unique to Aboriginal Peoples, etc.).

# 2.6 Natural Environment

#### 2.6.1 Natural Asset Indicators

This section provides data on Creighton's natural assets. Natural assets include the natural resource stocks from which livelihoods are derived. There is potentially a wide range in such resources, from intangible goods (e.g. air quality and biodiversity) that are used directly by people (e.g. water, trees, land, and wildlife). Natural assets indicators include parks and protected areas, natural areas and areas of significance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> Based on interview data.

#### 2.6.1.1 Parks and Protected Areas

There are a number of Provincial Parks in the region surrounding Creighton.

#### 2.6.1.2 Natural Areas and Features of Significance

Creighton has a healthy ecosystem with variety of landscapes. People participate in various outdoor recreational activities such as fishing and hunting. Moreover, tourists travel long distances to experience the area's lakes and forests.

#### **Biophysical Features**

The Town of Creighton and area are located in the Canadian Shield physiographic region. The land surface elevation ranges from about 340 meters above sea level (masl) to 370 masl in the north, decreasing to about 300 masl towards the south near Amisk Lake<sup>117</sup>. Creighton is located in the Boreal forest on the Flin Flon Plain Landscape Area of the Churchill River Upland Ecoregion. The physiography of the Creighton area is dominated by bedrock and glaciolacustrine deposits. The terrain in bedrock areas north of Amisk Lake is relatively rugged and is scattered with lakes and streams. In contrast, in the glaciolacustrine areas that are found east of Amisk Lake, the topography becomes flatter with numerous lakes and peatlands<sup>118</sup>. Peatlands are most prevalent in an area southeast of Creighton. Amisk Lake is the largest lake in the area.

#### Drainage and Hydrogeology

The Creighton area lies mainly within the Sturgeon-Weir River watershed of the Saskatchewan River basin, whose main course flows eastward through Saskatchewan and Manitoba, until it enters the north basin of Lake Winnipeg<sup>119</sup>. The outlet of Lake Winnipeg is the Nelson River, which flows into Hudson Bay. The drainage divide for the Churchill and Saskatchewan River basins occurs north of Amisk Lake. The northernmost portion of Creighton belongs to the Churchill River Basin, and the remaining areas to the south belong to the Saskatchewan River Basin<sup>120</sup>.

Quaternary aquifers within the Creighton area occur within sand and gravel layers within the glacial till deposits. These aquifers are widespread, but discontinuous in the Creighton area, and are used as the water source for all known groundwater wells in the Creighton area<sup>121</sup>. Douglas Lake is the water source for Creighton's municipal waterworks system. This water body is located outside of the southern

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>118</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>120</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

boundary of Creighton in the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District. Land use and development of lakes in the municipality is restricted to ensure that source water is protected<sup>122</sup>.

#### Climate

Creighton has a humid continental climate and experiences a wide range in seasonal temperatures, with warm summers and cold winters. Temperatures in January have an average low of -25 °C (-13.0 °F) and an average high of -16 °C (3.2 °F). Temperatures in July have an average high of 24 °C (75.2 °F) and an average low of 13 °C (55.4 °F)<sup>123</sup>.

#### Mineral Resources

The following provides an overview of the HudBay mining operation in Flin Flon and the surrounding area. The 777 mine is located in Flin Flon. In 2010, HudBay

'Began the \$20 million 777 North expansion, which involves driving a ramp from the surface to the 440-metre level to access zinc and copper zones and facilitate the development of an underground exploration platform to evaluate further exploration opportunities. Upon completion, the 777 North expansion is expected to supply additional ore feed to the Flin Flon concentrator and zinc plant. Production is scheduled to begin in 2012 at a rate of 330 tonnes per day'<sup>124</sup>.

The 777 mine in Flin Flon has zinc, copper, gold and silver resources and employs 237 employees. It has an expected mine life until 2021.

The Trout Lake Mine was located 6km northeast of Flin Flon had zinc and copper resources. It employed 145 people and closed in June, 2012. The Chisel North Mine in Snow Lake has copper, gold and silver resources and was located 215km north of Flin Flon. It employed 74 people and closed in September 2012.

In anticipation of the increase in production associated with HudBay's Lalor project, HudBay invested \$263 million to construct a new concentrator and paste backfill plant at Snow Lake<sup>125</sup>.

'The new concentrator will enable an enhanced production rate of 4,500 tonnes per day and allow for an extended mine life. Construction of the concentrator, to be built adjacent to the previously planned 985-metre production shaft at Lalor, is expected to commence in early 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>122</sup> Golder, 2011. Initial Screening for Siting a Deep Geologic Repository for Canada's Used Nuclear Fuel, Township of Creighton, Saskatchewan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> National Climate Data and Information Archive (2008-11-01). "Canadian Climate Normals 1971–2000, Flin Flon". Environment Canada. Accessed online: [http://www.climate.weatheroffice.gc.ca/Welcome\_e.html], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> HudBay, 2012. Accessed Online [http://hudbayminerals.com/English/Our-Business/Operations/Flin-Flon/default.aspx].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> HudBay, 2012. Accessed Online [ http://hudbayminerals.com/English/Our-Business/Operations/Snow-Lake/default.aspx]

and is scheduled for completion in late 2014 to coincide with the completion of the production  $shaft'^{126}$ .

#### 2.6.2 Summary of Natural Assets

The following summarizes our findings for natural assets in Creighton.

#### 2.6.2.1 Priorities and Key Issues

In relation to natural assets, the most important things to note about Creighton is the rich natural resources and outdoor environment. Creighton has a healthy ecosystem with variety of landscapes.

#### 2.6.2.2 Community Aspirations

Maintaining and preserving the natural environment is an aspiration for Creighton<sup>127</sup>. Tourists and local residents value the intrinsic nature of their setting within northern Saskatchewan and northern Manitoba's vast wilderness. There are many lakes and forests, where people participate in various outdoor recreational activities such as ATVing and fishing.

#### 2.6.2.3 Capabilities and Capacities within the Community

The Creighton area is noted for their mineral deposits, which provide the natural resources for the various extraction activities in the region. This is a vast natural setting that provides many opportunities for tourists and residents to participate in outdoor activities. Furthermore, there are opportunities to preserve and enhance the environmental attributes. Where there were once mine tailings from the various mining industry activities, the areas are being remediated.

# 2.7 Unique Characteristics

This section profiles the unique characteristics of Creighton.

#### 2.7.1 Community Character

#### Attitudes About the Community and Community Character

Residents like the extended hours of daylight in the summer which gives people plenty of time to participate in outdoor activities<sup>128</sup>. They enjoy the vast landscape, picturesque lakes and closeness to nature. Residents contend that Creighton is a great place to raise children. The community is safe and residents trust their neighbours.

Creighton and Denare Beach are the only areas in Saskatchewan that are on Central Daylight Savings Time. This was done many years ago because the HudBay mine is located in Manitoba and made it easier for the workers from Saskatchewan to be in the same time zone. Moreover, having this additional hour of daylight, allows those living in the area to enjoy the outdoors later in the evening.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup>HudBay, 2012. Accessed Online [ http://hudbayminerals.com/English/Our-Business/Operations/Snow-Lake/default.aspx]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> Based on interview data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> Based on interview data.

## 2.7.2 Environmental Values

There is awareness and concern regarding environmental issues. Residents have strong values regarding the protection and preservation of the environment. The natural environment holds intrinsic meaning to most residents and they are proud of the natural heritage.

#### Flin Flon/Creighton Green Project

In the 1920's and 1930's HudBay cut down a large portion of the boreal forest in Creighton and Flin Flon for fuel and lumber. Forest fires have also damaged vegetation in the area and mining activities have increased the acidity and metal content in the soil which has reduced the ability of the vegetation to recover. Moreover, much of the exposed topsoil has been washed away, exposing bedrock . In response, the Flin Flon/Creighton Green Project was formed. The Project is a community based initiative intended to restore the natural vegetation around Creighton and Flin Flon to their natural state. The Project was inspired by similar initiatives in Sudbury Ontario that treated barren land with crushed limestone. The Project began in 2000 and by 2007, over 34 hectares of barren land has been treated .

The Committee that leads the Project consists of the Creighton and Flin Flon School Division, HudBay, Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Industry, Trades and Mines, Daprock Enterprises, Flin Flon and District Environment Council, and Saskatchewan Environment. The Project also has various local and provincial sponsors that include the aforementioned organizations as well as the Town of Creighton and the City of Flin Flon, Manitoba Hydro, and McKeen's Trucking . Each year approximately 800 volunteers help spread limestone throughout the barren areas of Flin Flon and Creighton (e.g. students of Flin Flon and Creighton School Divisions, Flin Flon Junior Bombers, Cubs and Beavers, and Army Cadets, etc.).

#### Flin Flon and District Environmental Council Inc.

The Flin Flon and District Environmental Council Inc. is a non-governmental organization that promotes the 'protection of the environment and encourages people to act in an environmentally friendly way by providing education programs and policy critique' in Creighton and Flin Flon<sup>129</sup>. The organization also runs recycling programs and events in the local community. Creighton Town Council, Flin Flon City Council, HudBay and membership fees provide funding for the organization.

#### Flin Flon Soils Study

When a 2006 Manitoba Conservation soil study reported elevated concentrations of some metals in area surface soils, HudBay began the Human Health and Risk Assessment (HHRA) to better understand the nature of soil conditions in the area, and to determine if exposure to these soils may present unacceptable, long-term health risks to residents and visitors<sup>130</sup>. Some of the elements found include arsenic, cadmium, lead, copper, thallium, selenium, zinc and mercury. HudBay is conducting the HHRA in cooperation with the Manitoba and Saskatchewan provincial governments<sup>131</sup>. Community input was gathered by a community advisory committee. A technical advisory committee was also formed that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> Flin Flon and District Environmental Council. Accessed Online: [www.flinFlonrecyling.org], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> Flin Flon Soils Study. Accessed Online: [www.Flinflonsoilsstudy.com], May 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>131</sup> Flin Flon Soils Study. Accessed Online: [www.Flinflonsoilsstudy.com], May 2012

included members from Manitoba Conservation, Manitoba Health, Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines, Saskatchewan Environment, Saskatchewan Health and Health Canada<sup>132</sup>.

# 2.7.3 Community Goals

Creighton and area have a shared set of goals and aspirations. The community wants to maintain or enhance their current quality of life and surrounding natural environment. They would like to encourage the younger population to live and work in the community as well as provide meaningful and equitable employment opportunities for all local residents. Moreover, there is a desire to provide economic diversification, assist entrepreneurs and encourage the development of industries that provide stable and well-paying jobs and attract more professionals.

The area is interested in encouraging new high quality development, recreation facilities, more retail shopping outlets, upgrading medical facilities and increasing the number of health care specialists. They also support the development of new infrastructure (roads, highways and water/wastewater). Enhancing the promotion of tourism and outdoor recreational opportunities in Creighton are also a community goal. Finally, the provision of more new homes and affordable housing for seniors and young families are important to Creighton.

Also, see Section 2.1.3 for Creighton's community vision.

# 2.8 Community Profile Summary

This section provides a summary of the human, economic, physical, social and natural assets for Creighton. Creighton has committed residents who take on leadership roles. There are active volunteers who support the quality of life of the communities (e.g. active in arts, school, sports, and community programs). Creighton residents have deep community roots. Overall, Creighton has demonstrated an ability to successfully work through local and global challenges.

#### 2.8.1 Overall Priorities and Key Issues

The population of Creighton (as well as surrounding area) has been in slight decline since 2001. The demographics (communities and region combined) are comparable to other Canadian communities. Despite the decline in population, there is some growth. Residents note that there are many people in outlying areas that are also part of the population base. There is some aging of population and seniors are choosing to retire in the community. The communities are stable in terms of mobility status, and few people are moving in or out of the wider area.

Health care is a key issue in the area. The health care facilities and services in Creighton serve the local population but there is room for improvement, especially in terms of providing more bed capacity. There is an opportunity for expansion of health services and the need for additional staff. More complex procedures require patients to go to larger provincial centres or wait for visiting specialists. Specialist health occupations can be enhanced (e.g. cardiologists, endocrinologists, etc.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>132</sup> Flin Flon Soils Study. Accessed Online: [www.Flinflonsoilsstudy.com], May 2012

The key priorities are diversification of the economy and achieving economic growth. Taking better advantage of junior mining exploration spending in the area is also a priority. Priorities and issues in relation to economic assets also relate to the strength of the labour force, employment opportunities and main businesses.

It can be challenging to attract investment in the communities due to the environmental conditions that make it expensive to build and it is hard to get financing for commercial expansion. The distance from major centres is a factor as well as the condition of the roads.

Income is another key priority in Creighton. Income levels are relatively high and people with skilled occupations are well paid. The priority is maintaining affluence and the level of disposable income. Poverty and low income is prevalent in wider region. The economy still has a long way to go to provide broad employment benefits.

Priorities and key issues regarding physical assets include maintaining and upgrading existing infrastructure, achieving new infrastructure and upgrading regional and provincial roads. Currently, a priority is to achieve more lots for commercial and industrial development. A challenge for Creighton is that it has constrained growth ability based on the physical layout of outcrops in the Pre-Cambrian shield. This has deterred development in the area particularly for the construction of new homes and businesses, and especially those that require larger tracts of land.

Quality of life is high in Creighton. The area's arts and cultural scene is outstanding for communities of this size. The availability of seniors housing is an issue and priority.

# 2.8.2 Summary of Community Aspirations

The community strongly aspires to diversify the economy and have another large industry or business locate in the area. Other aspirations include continuing to have a strong labour force, attracting more mining and exploration companies, and having stronger municipal finance to help pay for infrastructure.

Maintaining and preserving the natural environment is a community aspiration for local use and enjoyment as well as tourism activities. Tourism is an important part of the economy and many people are employed in tourism related jobs.

Another community aspiration involves the provision of suitable housing for existing residents as well as new residents. The housing stock in Creighton is aging. Homes in Creighton are affordable and the community aspires to keep it this way. The community also aspires to have a modern sports-plex.

The area is interested in attracting creative and artistic endeavors. Creighton aspires to have a strong arts and sports scene. There is volunteerism and community involvement in Creighton and Flin Flon with many service clubs actively participating in the community. They aspire to greatly increase community well-being through new sports, and arts and meeting complexes. Cultural heritage is also prevalent in Creighton. Residents aspire to maintain as well as enhance cultural heritage features such as local museums.

# 2.8.3 Summary of Community Capabilities and Capacities

In terms of human assets, the community and area is currently managing a large mining project in a way that maintains their community well-being. Moreover, the workforce in Creighton is well-skilled, highly adaptable and used to changes in economic activity. Even though Creighton and Flin Flon have the one major industry, it functions as a government and administration, health and retail service centre and a variety of other employers are prevalent in the communities.

Educational facilities in the Creighton area provide special education and French courses. Primary and secondary school graduation rates are high as are Aboriginal student graduation rates from Creighton Community School. There are specialized educational programs available for students (language, urban visits) and committed teaching staff. In addition, there are training programs at the local colleges for residents furthering their careers in resource extraction and mining activities.

Emergency services in Creighton, Flin Flon and Denare Beach are well equipped to handle emergency situations. The fire and emergency teams have response capability and modernised equipment with replacement plans. There is commitment of local volunteers and HudBay also compliments the local services.

Creighton and area has the capacity to take on new enterprises and the area is entrepreneurial. There is a strong governance structure in Creighton with the Mayor and Council, supported by staff. Creighton's finances are in good standing. Creighton had some difficulty in getting Provincial support for northern road maintenance and upgrading projects, community recreation and other municipal development projects.

Capabilities and capacities for physical assets are centred on municipal infrastructure and servicing since these are important cost items for municipalities. Creighton has water and wastewater infrastructure that services the population. The area is capable of absorbing temporary increased demands for housing. Housing a larger workforce would require an expansion of housing stock. Creighton has shown that they are capable of taking steps towards achieving this.

The recreational facilities in Creighton cater to a variety of interests including sporting facilities and park space. However, Creighton has struggled in terms of their capability of obtaining finance for additional facilities.

There are some social assistance households in the communities and functional social housing programs. There is affordable housing available, although there may be room for improvement. Provisions for seniors housing and care facilities are required in the communities. Additionally, there is access to social services (e.g. employment support, women's shelters, etc.).

# 3.0 Regional Profile

# 3.1 Overview

The definition of the regional context of a community is subjective. The regional boundaries of a community, such as Creighton, are defined differently by various entities. For the specific purpose of this Community Profile, the regional context has not been defined, as further dialogue with community members and members of surrounding communities is required. Established regional areas that have been used in this report for comparative purposes include those created by Saskatchewan Environment (The Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan), the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region and the NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority (now part of the Northern Health Region).

## 3.1.1 Location – List of Communities

The following communities surround Creighton:

- Flin Flon, MB
- Denare Beach, SK
- Cumberland House, SK
- Amisk Lake, SK
- Deschambault Lake, SK
- Kinoosao, SK
- Pelican Narrows, SK
- City of Prince Albert, SK
- Sandy Bay, SK
- Southend, SK
- Sturgeon Landing, SK
- The Pas, MB
- Sherridon, MB
- Snow Lake, MB
- Cranberry Portage, MB
- Herb Lake Landing, MB

There are also settlements in proximity to the Flin Flon Airport and Amisk Lake cabins at Denare Beach. See Figure 9 for a map of the regional communities.

**Figure 9: Regional Communities** 



#### 3.1.2 Land Size and Uses

#### Land Area

Table 8 indicates the land area of Creighton and the surrounding regional communities.

Location	Land Size (Km <sup>2</sup> )	
Creighton	14.39	
Denare Beach	5.84	
Flin Flon	13.88	
The Pas	47.83	
Sherridon	19.58	
Snow Lake	1,211.89	
Cumberland House Northern Village	15.69	
Cumberland House Reserve	16.48	
Cranberry Portage	8.31	
Herb Lake Landing	7.6	
Amisk Lake*	n/a	
Kinoosao	0.42	
Southend	37.64	
Pelican Narrows Northern Village	3.70	
Pelican Narrows Reserve	5.46	
Sandy Bay	14.85	
Sturgeon Landing*	n/a	
Prince Albert	65.74	
Deschambault Lake*	n/a	

\*Statistics Canada census data is not available.

#### Land Uses -Regional Land Use Planning and the Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan

Land use at a regional level is governed by the Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan (The Plan; Integrated Forest Land-Use Plan). The Plan is a Provincial Plan prepared under the Forest Resources Management Act which is administered by the Saskatchewan Ministry of the Environment and addresses resource allocations and land sales. The Plan applies to Provincial Crown lands and addresses resource allocations and land sales<sup>134</sup>. The Plan does not apply to privately owned lands or subdivisions, municipal lands or Reserve lands and is integral to development in the larger regional community. The Plan also addresses which resources will be developed and what lands will be allocated for forestry. The Ministry of the Environment addresses dispositions in the form of leases, licenses and permits. The Plan is produced under the auspices of:

"Section 14 of the Forest Resources Management Act" that "states that the Minister shall ensure that an integrated forest land use plan is prepared for every management unit for the purpose of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>133</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Saskatchewan Environment, 2003. The Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan.

coordinating policies, programs and activities to guide and regulate existing and potential uses of land within that management  $unit^{^{\prime 135}}$ .

The Integrated Forest Land-Use Plan organizes land into three categories: protected areas; sensitive areas and resource management areas and includes a strategy for tourism, economic and a strategy for education, monitoring, enforcement, compensation and consultation. The Plan clearly states that it does not limit the discretion of Provincial Ministers to make decisions under the various Provincial Resource Acts in each of these subject areas.

In the Plan, a 'community use' area for both Denare Beach and Creighton is identified as a single area. This Plan functions as a regional plan to a large extent. It shows intentions, especially where communities are concerned, without much legislative authority. The Plan does not bind the various Ministries that have responsibilities for resource allocations. Moreover, it sets out local, regional and aboriginal intentions where resource and land dispositions are being considered. Creighton's economic well-being and that of the surrounding communities such as Denare Beach are contingent in part on how the Integrated Forest Land Use Plans propose to license Crown land resources. The Amisk-Atik Plan displays a community use area that applies to both Denare Beach and Creighton and topics of mutual concern, (e.g. recreational cabins) are to be the subject of discussions between interested members of each community.

Special attention is given to community traditional needs which are addressed when resources are licensed and lands are sold. While mining and the development of petroleum resources are addressed in general terms, staking and site development are addressed in other legislation.

#### Traditional Land Use and the Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan

Aboriginal communities, Métis and First Nations, use their traditional territories for food and cultural purposes. The Plan provides for Aboriginal subsistence hunting and fishing and a clearer set of provisions for trapping. It also addresses the cultural, heritage and spiritual concerns of First Nations and Métis communities and provides a framework for compensation where Aboriginal uses are displaced. Harvesting cabins are identified and provision is made for the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation (PBCN) to license the forest resource. Subsistence harvesting is recognized along with the needs of trappers.

The Plan also states that:

"Traditional land use is vital to many residents of the Amisk-Atik land use planning area. The value of activities such as trapping, subsistence hunting and fishing, and gathering of forest products for medicinal purposes, must be measured not only as a means of financial income, but as a lifestyle for many people"<sup>136</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> Saskatchewan Environment, 2003. The Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> Saskatchewan Environment, 2003. The Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan.

The Plan shows the distribution of traditional resource use permits that exist. Two conservation officers are also established in each of Creighton, Pelican Narrows, Deschambault, Sandy Bay, Southend Reindeer and Cumberland House.

It should be noted that Reserves are Federal lands while traditional territories include Reserve and Crown lands, and to a lesser extent privately owned lands. Consultation is guaranteed where Crown lands and resources are planned, allocated or disposed of. Consultation guidelines have been prepared and approved by the Province and are in use. These are intended to help the Province meet its constitutional obligations to consult where resource allocations, plans and land sales occur. In addition, a Treaty Land Settlement and Framework Agreement exists which helps implement a land claim agreement. The Agreement provides for the acquisition of more Reserve lands in order to remedy deficiencies when the Reserves were originally established. The signatories to the Agreement have developed novel ways of acquiring new Reserve lands including the acquisition of lands in organized municipalities so as to add to Reserve lands at locations where business development opportunities can also be achieved. These arrangements point to good working relationships between Aboriginal and municipal organizations and are becoming more sophisticated and well developed.

#### Additional Regional Land Use Planning Activities

The Province of Saskatchewan is beginning to develop District Integrated Land Use Management Plans to expand upon the land and resource management plans being prepared under the Forest Resources Management Act. The first such plan has been prepared for La Ronge and surrounding Crown lands and organized municipalities. Creighton and some surrounding municipalities have requested the preparation of such a District Plan for the Creighton area. The preparation of such a plan would be a considerable asset when it comes to larger scale economic development projects in the immediate area. It would also provide greater coordination between the management and development of Crown lands and resources and the area municipalities. Figure 10 - Amisk-Atik Planning Area<sup>137</sup>



Amisk-Atik Planning Area

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>137</sup> Saskatchewan Environment, 2003. The Amisk-Atik Integrated Forest Land Use Plan.

# 3.1.3 Maps

#### 3.1.3.1 Points of Interest and Social, Economic

Figure 11 presents points of interest as well as social and economic features in the Creighton area and surrounding region. Please note that 'known heritage resources' are archeological sites (see Section 2.5.1.2).

#### 3.1.3.2 Natural Resources

Figure 12 presents natural resources in the Creighton area and surrounding region.

Figure 11: Map of Points of Interest and Social and Economic Features



#### Figure 12: Map of Natural Resources



Draft Community Profile - Creighton, Saskatchewan

# 3.2 Communities

The following surrounding communities are larger urban centres and service centres for Creighton:

- The Pas, MB
- Prince Albert, SK
- Saskatoon, SK
- Winnipeg, MB
- Regina, SK

# 3.2.1 Non-Aboriginal Historical Context

#### Creighton, Flin Flon and Surrounding Region

The French-Canadian voyageurs expanded west of the Great Lakes using Aboriginal trade routes in the late 1600's and early 1700's to find new sources of fur and Aboriginal trading partners<sup>138</sup>. The North West Company was directed by traders based in Montreal and supervised by the voyageurs. They moved northwest through the Saskatchewan and the Churchill River systems. The Hudson's Bay Company established its first inland post at Cumberland House in 1774 for fur trading purposes<sup>139</sup>. When the fur trade industry dissipated in the late 1800's, other activities maintained the economy of Saskatchewan. Scientific surveys identified agricultural lands in the southern portions of the province and in the more northern regions ore mining operations had started by the early 1900s<sup>140</sup>.

In 1915, David Collins and Thomas Creighton found a substantial amount of ore at Flin Flon Lake. Excavation activities began in 1916 at the Mandy Mine southeast of the present day community of Flin Flon. Miners and labourers lived in lodgings at the Mandy Camp<sup>141</sup>. The mine employed approximately fifty workers and three hundred handlers. The workers resided in The Pas or in work camps in the area<sup>142</sup>. The first ore body that was discovered was not large enough to warrant the construction of a smelter, but the copper prices at the time made it viable to transport the ore to The Pas. The ore was then shipped to British Columbia for smelting<sup>143</sup>. Because of its accessibility by boat, The Pas developed as a distribution site (e.g. groceries) for centres in the north such as Flin Flon and Creighton<sup>144</sup>. The mining of ore at the Mandy Camp was finished by 1920, but the community remained a prospector

[http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/history\_of\_saskatchewan.html],May 2012 <sup>140</sup> The Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan. Accessed Online :

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>138</sup> The Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan. Accessed Online :

<sup>[</sup>http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/history\_of\_saskatchewan.html],May 2012 <sup>139</sup> The Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan. Accessed Online :

<sup>[</sup>http://esask.uregina.ca/entry/history\_of\_saskatchewan.html],May 2012

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>141</sup> Flin Flon Net. Accessed Online: [http://www.flinflon.net/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>142</sup> Flin Flon Net. Accessed Online: [http://www.flinflon.net/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>143</sup> Flin Flon Net. Accessed Online: [http://www.flinflon.net/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>144</sup> Manitoba Historical Society, 2012. Accessed Online:

<sup>[</sup>http://www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/mb\_history/15/thepas.shtml], May 2012

camp. Gold was found near Amisk Lake in 1913 and at Herb Lake in 1914<sup>145</sup>. A railway was then constructed to connect the community to The Pas<sup>146</sup>.

In 1925, the Whitney family of New York formed the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company, which took over the Flin Flon mining property<sup>147</sup>. By 1930, the mine, smelter, hydroelectric dam and railroad were in full operation<sup>148</sup>. After WWII, the Saskatchewan Department of Natural Resources surveyed the Creighton site, and residential as well as business property became available. The Town of Creighton was incorporated as a village in 1952, and was given town status in 1957<sup>149</sup>.

# **3.3 Aboriginal Communities and Organizations**

The information in this section reflects readily available information from publically available sources and does not reflect conversations or dialogue with Aboriginal communities or organizations unless otherwise noted.

The Aboriginal communities included here are those which have been provided information by the NWMO and in some cases meetings have been held to provide additional information.

- First Nations: The following First Nations are all part of the Prince Albert Grand Council.
  - Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, SK; and
  - Cumberland House Cree Nation, SK.
- Métis: Creighton is in the Métis Nation Saskatchewan Eastern Region I and nearby Métis Locals include:
  - Cumberland House Métis Local #42;
  - Beaver Lake / Creighton / Denare Beach Métis Local #89; and
  - Sandy Bay Métis Local #90.

# 3.3.1 First Nations

The following provides a brief introduction to the First Nations communities and organizations in the Creighton area.

#### 3.3.1.1 Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation

The Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation (PBCN) is located in Treaty #6 and has a population of 4,601 on reserve and 4,378 off reserve. PBCN is a strong community in the regional area with ownership in several commercial enterprises. At Pelican Narrows, PBCN have several new schools, a grocery store and range of community services.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>145</sup> Bruce, E.L. 1918. Amisk-Athapapuskow Lake District. Geological Survey of Canada Mem. 105, p57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>146</sup> Flin Flon Net. Accessed Online: [http://www.flinflon.net/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>147</sup> Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company. Accessed Online: [http://www.hudbayminerals.com/English/About-Us/Heritage/default.aspx] May, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>148</sup> Town of Creighton. History. Accessed Online: [http://www.townofcreighton.ca/history.html], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>149</sup> Town of Creighton. History. Accessed Online: [http://www.townofcreighton.ca/history.html], May 2012.

## 3.3.1.2 Cumberland House Cree Nation

The Cumberland House Cree Nation is located south east of the City of Prince Albert on the Saskatchewan River. It shares the same island as the Northern Village of Cumberland House. The Hudson's Bay Company trading post known as Cumberland House was also located on Cumberland Island, to the south of Cumberland Lake<sup>150</sup>. Cumberland House Cree Nation is located in Treaty #5 and has a population of 641 on reserve and 546 off reserve.

## 3.3.1.3 Prince Albert Grand Council

The 12 First Nations in central and northern Saskatchewan are part of the Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC)<sup>151</sup>. 'The PAGC First Nation members are Wahpeton Dakota Nation, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, James Smith Cree Nation, Montreal Lake Cree Nation, Lac La Ronge Indian Band, Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation, Cumberland House Cree Nation, Shoal Lake Cree Nation, Red Earth Cree Nation, Lac La Hache Dene Nation, Black Lake Dene Nation and Fond du Lac Dene Nation'<sup>152</sup>. There are 26 communities with approximately 30,000 members in the PAGC, which is the largest tribal council in Saskatchewan. The Treaties that are part of and overlap the boundaries of the PAGC include Treaties #5, 6, 8 and 10 as well as the Pre-Confederation Peace and Friendship Treaty<sup>153</sup>.

#### 3.3.2 Métis Organizations

Most of the hamlets, villages and towns in northern Saskatchewan have affiliated Métis locals. Creighton is located in the Métis Nation Saskatchewan Eastern Region I. The following Métis locals in Eastern Region I are in the vicinity of Creighton:

- Cumberland House Métis Local #42;
- Beaver Lake / Creighton / Denare Beach Métis Local #89; and
- Sandy Bay Métis Local #90.

# 3.4 **Population Dynamics (by Community)**

#### 3.4.1 Trend Over Time

Table 9 indicates the regional population changes from 2001 to 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>150</sup> Public Works and Government Services Canada, 2012. Cumberland House Cree Nation. Accessed Online: [http://dsp-psd.pwgsc.gc.ca/collection/rc31-28-2005e.pdf.]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>151</sup> Prince Albert Grand Council eculture portal, 2013. Accessed Online.

<sup>[</sup>http://eculture.pagc.sk.ca/eculture.php?pid=Overview&tp=slnk&language=&ver=] <sup>152</sup>Prince Albert Grand Council eculture portal, 2013. Accessed Online.

<sup>[</sup>http://eculture.pagc.sk.ca/eculture.php?pid=Overview&tp=slnk&language=&ver=]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>153</sup> Prince Albert Grand Council eculture portal, 2013. Accessed Online.

<sup>[</sup>http://eculture.pagc.sk.ca/eculture.php?pid=Overview&tp=slnk&language=&ver=]
Location	% change from 2006 to 2011	2011 Population	% change from 2001 to 2006	2006 Population	2001 Population
Pelican Narrows Reserve	42.5	1,913	-17.9	1,342	1,153
Deschambault Lake	39.0	1,641	-18.2	1,181	1,486
Sturgeon Landing	39.0	1,641	n/a	1,181	n/a
Pelican Narrows	31.9	790	-13.2	599	690
Cumberland House Reserve	20.2	715	51.8	595	392
Sandy Bay	4.9	1,233	7.6	1,175	1,092
Prince Albert	2.9	35,129	-1.4	34,124	34,291
Creighton	-0.3	1,498	-3.5	1,502	1,556
Southend	-0.7	904	30.7	910	696
The Pas	-1.4	5,513	-3.6	5,589	5,800
Flin Flon	-4.1	5,363	-6.8	5,594	6,000
Cumberland House Northern Village	-4.7	772	28.2	810	632
Cranberry Portage*	-13.2	572	n/a	659	615
Snow Lake	-13.6	723	-30.7	837	1,207
Denare Beach	-14.8	669	0.1	785	784
Sherridon	-18.4	80	-13.3	98	113*
Kinoosao	-29.8	40	-5.0	57	60
Herb Lake Landing	-77.3	10	n/a	44	n/a

Table 9 - Regional Population Changes (2001 to 2011)<sup>154</sup>

\*Statistics Canada boundary change in 2001 affects percentage change in population.

This data indicates that the population is declining in some regional communities as well as increasing in some of the regional communities. The largest population declines between 2006 and 2011 were in Herb Lake Landing at 77.3 percent and Kinoosao at 29.8 percent. However, the populations of these communities are both under 50 people in 2011.

There were considerable increases in population in the Pelican Narrows reserve and settlement in Saskatchewan (31.9 and 42.5 percent) between 2006 and 2011. Similar growth patterns were observed for Deschambault Lake and Sturgeon Landing (39 percent each). In addition, Cumberland House's population increased by 20.2 percent between 2006 and 2011.

#### 3.4.2 Age Profile

Table 10 indicates the median ages of the regional communities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>154</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

#### Table 10 - Age Profile of Regional Communities<sup>155</sup>

Location	Median Age
Sherridon	45.9
Cranberry Portage	42.0
Snow Lake	41.9
Flin Flon	40.7
Sturgeon Landing	38.2
Deschambault Lake	37.8
Denare Beach	37.6
Creighton	37.5
Prince Albert	35.4
The Pas	33.5
Cumberland House Northern Village	24.0
Kinoosao	22.2
Cumberland House Reserve	20.6
Southend	20.4
Pelican Narrows Reserve	17.9
Sandy Bay	17.4
Pelican Narrows	16.3

Many of the regional communities tend to have a similar median age (between 33.5 to 38.2) except in the communities of Flin Flon, Sherridon, Cranberry Portage and Snow Lake where the median age is above 40 years. The populations of Cumberland House, Pelican Narrows, Kinoosao, and Sandy Bay have median ages under 25 years. This is the result of a high birth rate in these communities. The northern Saskatchewan birth rate is almost double the provincial rate<sup>156</sup>.

The younger population in some of the regional communities indicates that few young people are moving out of the area for work and that the birth rate is increasing. There needs to be employment opportunities in the area that will be able to sustain the younger population.

## 3.5 Labour Force (Region as a Whole)

Please note that for the purpose of this discussion, the 'region' is bounded by the catchment areas for the two regional health authorities that service Creighton (Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region) and Flin Flon (former NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority which is now part of the Northern Health Region). Data in this section is from Statistics Canada census data for each of the health regions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>155</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>156</sup> Population Health Unit – Northern Saskatchewan, 2011. Northern Saskatchewan Health Indicators Report. Athabasca Health Authority, Keewatin Yatthe Health Region, Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region.

The NOR-MAN Health Authority had a population 23,040 and covered a land area of 36,124.33 km<sup>2</sup>. The Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority has a population 19,569 and covers a land area of 93,427.73 km<sup>2</sup>.

## 3.5.1 Population By Education/Training

Figure 13 depicts the regional education and training for those communities in the catchment area of the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region and the NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority. Both regions have a relatively high number of high school graduates and number of residents who have some form for training, apprenticeship or certification. However, there are some residents without a high school diploma. The national average of residents with university certificates, degrees or diplomas is 18 percent. The percentage of residents in Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region (6 percent) and the NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority (8 percent) is lower.





#### 3.5.2 Employment By Activity and Sector

The employment rate in the Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region's catchment area is 45.4 percent and the unemployment rate is 18.2 percent<sup>158</sup>. The employment rate in the NOR-MAN Health Authority's catchment area is 58 percent and the unemployment rate is 10.9 percent<sup>159</sup>.

Figure 14 depicts the top occupations in the regions. The top occupations are:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>157</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>158</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>159</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

- Sales and service (this is the largest group and includes many tourism industry occupations);
- Trades, transport and equipment operation;
- Social science, education, government service and religion; and
- Business, finance and administration.

Sales and service occupations include retail and tourism related activities – which is a significant economic driving force at a regional level. Trades and transport occupations are prevalent within the communities. Primary industry reflects the mining and related activities in the area (e.g. HudBay and Cameco operations) and the secondary industries that cater to these activities. It also indicates that there are many people with skills specific to primary industry activities, which is beneficial for future developments in this field. Finance and administration opportunities indicate there is capital available, financial advice opportunities, and accountants in the region. Occupations in social sciences, education, government services and religion indicate there are many people employed as civil servants, consultants and educators in the region.



#### Figure 14 - Occupations in the Region<sup>160</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>160</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

Figure 15 identifies the top industries in the regions. The top industries are:

- Other services (includes tourism and hospitality);
- Agriculture and resource based;
- Health care and social services;
- Retail and trade; and
- Educational services.

The top industries at a regional level are similar to those of Creighton and Flin Flon. 'Other services' that include tourism and hospitality are the largest occupational category. Tourism activities linked to outdoor activities are prevalent throughout the region. Retail trade prevalence is due to serving the wider rural community and is a strength for the area. Resource prevalence in the area is reflective of the increase in exploration activities (e.g. traditional mining activities as well as precious metal and gemstone exploration start-up companies) at a regional level. The prominence of the educational sector indicates opportunities for training for regional youth.



#### Figure 15 - Industry in the Region<sup>161</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>161</sup> Statistics Canada, 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

## 3.6 Business Activity

#### 3.6.1 Main Businesses

The main businesses and occupations in the region cater to the mining and resource extraction sector and their ancillary services<sup>162</sup>.

The regional businesses consist of:

- Electrician, explosives, furniture, fast food;
- Insurance, storage;
- Trucking, industrial/mechanical, construction, convenience stores;
- Tourism, including restaurants, motel/hotel, bars; and
- Mining and exploration.

As with the main businesses, regional occupations relate to the mining and resource extraction sector as well as well as health care and social services<sup>163</sup>. The main occupations in the region are:

- Mine labourer, heavy equipment operator, truck driver;
- Welder, construction/carpentry, contracting;
- Retail and service;
- Firefighter (seasonal);
- Various professional occupations in government-funded; and
- Agencies (e.g. health, education, corrections, social services etc.).

#### 3.6.2 Public and Private Sector

The key industries in Creighton, Flin Flon and the surrounding region are mining, commercial services, forestry and tourism<sup>164</sup>. There is also activity in the tourism sector, which also includes visits by seasonal residents using their own or rental cottages. For example, in Denare Beach the local population typically doubles in the summer with the presence of cottagers. The region's numerous lodges, small resorts, motels and cabin rental operations are popular with boaters, anglers, family vacationers, hunters, and other outdoor recreation enthusiasts. There is also winter tourism activity focused around recreational activities such as snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, hockey tournaments, curling bonspiels and other special events. Therefore, tourism is a major component of the regional economy, even though it does not show up as a specifically identified sector in highly aggregated Statistics Canada data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>162</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. Accessed online June, 2012. [http://www.northernbusinessdirectory.ca]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>163</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. Accessed online June, 2012. [http://www.northernbusinessdirectory.ca]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>164</sup> Northern Saskatchewan Business Directory. Accessed online June, 2012. [http://www.northernbusinessdirectory.ca]

#### Private Sector

At a regional and local level, HudBay is the largest private employer. In addition, another large private company in the north is the Cameco Corporation, a uranium mining and exploration company. Cameco is one of the largest uranium producers in the world with operations in Canada, the United States and Australia. Most of Cameco's operating experience has been acquired in the Athabasca Basin of northern Saskatchewan, home to the world's richest high-grade uranium deposits. Cameco has operations at the following project mining facilities in locations in northern Saskatchewan's Athabasca Basin:

- Key Lake;
- Rabbit Lake;
- Cigar Lake;
- Reed Lake;
- McArthur River;
- Dawn Lake;
- Virgin River; and
- Moon Lake<sup>165</sup>.

AREVA Resources Canada Inc., a French integrated nuclear company (which has world-wide operations in mining, engineering, building and operating nuclear power plants) has uranium exploration and mining operations in McArthur Lake and Cigar Lake<sup>166</sup>.

Some residents use Creighton as a home base and commute to the uranium mines (e.g. AREVA and Cameco) as well as to gold and diamond mining operations (e.g. Diavik). A report entitled 'The Socio-Economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan' indicates that 1.1 percent of Creighton residents, 4.6 percent of Cumberland House residents, 1.0 percent of Denare Beach residents, 0.1 and 0.3 percent of residents from Pelican Narrows and Sandy Bay respectively, are employed in uranium mining activities in Northern Saskatchewan<sup>167</sup>.

See Section 2.3.1.2 for a listing of major private businesses in Creighton and Flin Flon.

#### Public Sector

Institutions are the main public sector employers in the region (e.g. hospital, clinics, schools, colleges, and municipal and provincial government) (see Section 2.2.1.3 and 2.2.1.4 for a listing of schools and hospitals in Creighton and area).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>165</sup> Saskatchewan Mining Association, 2011. Uranium in Saskatchewan. Accessed Online: [http://www.cameco.com/uranium 101/uranium sask/], May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>166</sup> Areva, 2013, Accessed Online.[ http://us.areva.com/EN/home-451/areva-resources-canada-uranium-mining-and-production.html].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>167</sup> InterGroup Consultants Ltd., 2013. The Socio-Economic Impacts of the 'Modern Era' of Uranium Mining on Northern Saskatchewan.

#### 3.6.3 Investment Trends and Projections

The region's principal investment trend is the continuation of investment in ongoing mining operations, mineral exploration activity and forestry activity, which are the natural resource mainstays of the regional economy. The various business and economic development agencies have a focus on enhancing all sectors of the economy and, in particular, facilitating business retention and expansion, small business start-ups and entrepreneurism. There is some ongoing investment by successful tourism and hospitality industry operators in upgrading and expansion of their operation. However, many operators are struggling in the current economic environment, and are not investing in the region<sup>168</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>168</sup> Based on interview data.

# 4.0 Comparison of the Community Patterns with the Region and Province

This section provides a comparison of the community's trends and patterns to those of the regions as outlined in Section 3.0 and the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

## 4.1 **Population Dynamics**

## 4.1.1 Trends Over Time

Table 11 indicates population trends in the region and in the Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Location	% change from 2006 to 2011	2011 Population	% change from 2001 to 2006	2006 Population	2001 Population
Saskatchewan*	6.7	1,033,381	-1.1	968,157	978,933
Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority**	N/A	N/A	3.8	19,569	18,846
Manitoba*	5.2	1,208,268	2.6	1,148,401	1,119,583
NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority**	N/A	N/A	-4.1	23,040	24,020

Table 11- Population Trends at a Regional and Provincial Level<sup>169</sup>

\*2011 Statistics Canada data

\*\*2006 Statistics Canada data only available

The population of Saskatchewan and Manitoba is growing. From 2006 to 2011, the Province of Saskatchewan grew by 6.7 percent and the population of Manitoba grew by 5.2 percent. At the community level, Creighton has a population that is in slight decline.

## 4.1.2 Age Profile

Table 12 provides the median ages in the region and in the provinces of Manitoba (38.1 years) and Saskatchewan (38.7 years)

Table 12 - Median Ages in Region and Provinces<sup>170</sup>

Location	Median Age
Saskatchewan	38.7
Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region	22.7
Manitoba	38.1
NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority	33.0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>169</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2011. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>170</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

The regions (Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region at 22.7 years and the NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority at 33.0 years) have a median age that is younger than the provincial median ages of 38.1 (Manitoba) and 38.7 (Saskatchewan).

## 4.2 Labour Force

## 4.2.1 Population By Education/Training

Figure 16 illustrates the educational and training characteristics of the health regions and the Provinces. The Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region and NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority have a relatively large number of high school graduates which are close to the provincial averages for residents with high school diplomas. They also have a relatively high number of residents who have some form of training, apprenticeship or certification. These numbers are near the provincial averages. Both Provinces have a percentage of university degree holders that are almost level with the national average of 18 percent<sup>171</sup>. The Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region has less (6.0 percent) than the provincial average of 12.9 percent of residents with a university degree. The same can be said of the NOR-MAN Regional Health Authority region with eight percent of residents having a university degree (less than the Provincial average of 15 percent). At a regional level, there is a greater disparity between those who hold a university degree and those who do not. Therefore, similar to other rural and remote areas across the country, the Region's local population base has generally lower educational levels than for Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

At a local level, education in Creighton is more comparable to the provincial trends than the regional figures. This is due to the variety of educational opportunities that are offered locally which provide students with speciality programs at an elementary, high school and college level. Linkages to universities are also available in the communities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>171</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.





## 4.2.2 Employment By Activity and Sector

In 2006, the Saskatchewan employment rate was 64.6 percent and unemployment rate was 5.6 percent. Manitoba's employment rate was 63.6 percent and unemployment rate was 5.5 percent<sup>173</sup>.

Figure 17 indicates the top regional and provincial occupations. The top occupations are:

- Sales and service (includes tourism);
- Trades, transport and equipment operation; and
- Business, finance and administration.

The top provincial and regional occupations are similar to those of Creighton (see Section 2.2.1.2). This indicates that the communities are responding positively to provincial and regional trends and are mobilizing their work force accordingly.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>172</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>173</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.





Figure 18 identifies the top regional and provincial industries which are:

- Other services (Includes tourism and hospitality);
- Health care and social services;
- Retail and trade;
- Educational services; and
- Business services.

Similar to the occupation profiles of the provinces and regions, Creighton's industries are reflective of its corresponding larger area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>174</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>175</sup> Statistics Canada, 2006. (Adapted from) Statistics Canada, www.statca.gc.ca Accessed May 2012.

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The following data tables supplement the information presented in Section 2.0. *Please note that there are some data categories with 'unavailable' information.* 

Parameters	1996	2001	2006
	1 year ago		
Total Population	1,675	1,530	1,480
Lived at the same address 1 year ago	1,345 (80.3%)	1,370 (89.5%)	1,280 (86.4%)
Changed addresses within the same census subdivision	70 (4.2%)	n/a	75 (5.1%)
Changed addresses from another census subdivision within the same province or territory	65 (3.9%)	n/a	65 (4.4%)
Lived in a different province or territory	185 (11.0%)	n/a	60 (4.1%)
Lived in a different country	10 (0.6%)	n/a	0
	5 years ago		
Total Population	1,570	1,455	1,415
Lived at the same address 5 years ago	1,065 (67.8%)	1,075 (73.9%)	950 (67.1%)
Changed addresses within the same census subdivision	160 (10.2%)	n/a	165 (11.7%)
Changed addresses from another census subdivision within the same province or territory	115 (7.3%)	n/a	125 (8.8%)
Lived in a different province or territory	230 (14.7%)	n/a	175 (12.4%)
Lived in a different country	0	n/a	0

#### **APPENDIX A: DATA TABLES**

Parameters	2001	2006
Persons 15 years and over with earnings	845	880
Median earnings - Persons 15 years and over (\$)	31,338	29,480
Persons 15 years and over with earnings who worked full year, full time	495	455
Median earnings - Persons 15 years and over who worked full year, full time (\$)	41,944	50,343

## Table A2: Median Personal Earnings in Creighton (Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2006)

## Table A3: Median Personal Income in Creighton (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006)

Parameters	1996	2001	2006
Persons 15 years and over with income	1,145	1,130	1,140
Median income before tax - Persons 15 years and over (\$)	21,996	23,488	27,389
Median income after tax - Persons 15 years and over (\$)	n/a	n/a	24,513
Composition of total income (%)	100	100	100
Earnings as a percent of total income	83.8	82.9	81.1
Government transfers - As a percent of total income	10.6	11.6	10.4
Other money - As a percent of total income	5.6	5.7	8.4

#### **APPENDIX A: DATA TABLES**

Parameters	1996	2001	2006
Total private households	595	570	585
Average household size	2.8	n/a	2.6
Median income before tax in 2005 - All private households (\$)	49,712	53,504	62,179
Median income after tax in 2005 - All private households (\$)	n/a	n/a	52,470
Total number of census families	460	455	450
Average number of persons in all census families	3.2	n/a	3
Median income before tax in 2005 - All census families (\$)	55,565	61,056	75,684
Median income after tax in 2005 - All census families (\$)	n/a	n/a	62,055
Income status of all persons in private households	n/a	n/a	1,500
% in low income before tax - All persons	n/a	n/a	8
% in low income after tax - All persons	n/a	n/a	6

## Table A4: Median Household and Family Income in Creighton (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006)

## Table A5: Aboriginal Identity Population in Creighton (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006)

Population Characteristic	1996	2001	2006
Aboriginal Identity	120	210	245
Non-Aboriginal Identity	1,565	1,345	1,260

## Table A6: Immigrant Population in Creighton (Statistics Canada, 1996 to 2006)

Population Characteristic	1996	2001	2006
Immigrant	45	35	45
Non-immigrant	1,640	1,520	1,460

## APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL DATA

The following tables provide a breakdown of the financial data available for Creighton.

Sources of Revenue	Creighton
Municipal taxes	\$1,079,076
Fees and charges	\$448,983
Utility revenue	\$293,417
Unconditional grants	\$930,707
Conditional grants	\$135,783
Grants in lieu of taxes	\$31,414
Land sales	\$32,509
Investment income and commissions	\$49,146
Other revenues	\$18,200
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,019,235

Consolidated Statement of Operations - Expenses	Creighton
General government services	\$341,634
Police protection	\$81,791
Fire protection	\$96,156
Transportation services	\$1,593,990
Environmental health services	\$159,810
Public health and welfare services	\$5,225
Planning and development services	\$99,946
Recreation and culture services	\$483,594
Utilities	\$849,930
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,712,076

## APPENDIX B: FINANCIAL DATA

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56
6,627

Source: Town of Creighton (2011)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>176</sup> Including assets.