

## Community Studies Webinar - Questions

### Topic 5 – Health Services

#### Recorded Questions

- 1. The NWHU covers the district of Kenora, the population of the district of Kenora is 66,000 as per the census in 2021. On one of the first slides you have mentioned that the health unit services 80000+ in population. Can you clarify this statistic?**

It has been confirmed that the North Western Health Unit and Kenora District boundaries do not align.

- 2. This study has a direct link to the "Growing the Population" study for changes in the population. That study does not take into consideration the population that resides within the LSA within the unincorporated areas. This population is roughly 4000 in size. Northern Policy Institute conducted this research and the report is published on their website. This population needs to be included at the root of these community studies and has ties to every study that has been completed and has yet to be completed. It was said at a previous meeting that the population contained within the unincorporated area was "virtually impossible to obtain" - however it is 100% obtainable and not considered. How can this be rectified as it has a large impact on the results of these studies.**

From a health services lens it is important to understand that anyone who accesses services at the Mary Berglund Community Health Centre Hub is included in the numbers that are there. It does not matter where the person resides, the numbers are based off of where they go to receive services – It is not based on residency, it is based on service provision. Further, if there is someone who has high health needs and visits 18 times, then that gets counted 18 times.

- 3. Is there any explanation as to why there is a spike in the numbers on the graph on slide 11 between 1999 and 2000?**

Some of that is the counts, it could be population changes that occurs in that timeframe as well. From a health services standpoint, we could ask the question, what happened in 1999 and 2000 to create this change in data.

- 4. The workcamp that will be constructed could potentially place added strain the ambulance services in the LSA. Furthermore, the workcamp will be constructed in the unincorporated area. Today, there is an immense amount of pressure on ambulance services and additional resources are at times needed to address the demand on the service today. Has this been taken into consideration?**

Emergency services are addressed in another study, and that presentation will take place on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

- 5. Do you anticipate the work site medical services to draw resources away from current facilities?**

A medical services plan for the work camp would be established prior to construction that works with stakeholders what is available, what capacity is, and what emergency response needs to look like. There will be a Medical Services working plan that will describe what it will need to look like to meet the needs of the workers on site so there isn't a need to access services in the LSA. This needs to be examined in more detail.

## Part 2:

- 1. In Section 2 - the study states: The study's primary source of data collection was from interviews and questionnaires. As a result, the data collection process for this study had significant limitations. Although a number of questionnaires were distributed to knowledge holders, few were received back. In addition, the interviews did not necessarily provide complete information to develop a comprehensive picture of the community recreation facilities in the LSA for the baseline analysis. In addition, there was also no method to qualify / confirm the information received through these interviews and questionnaires in order to ensure the information was fact rather than opinion. Secondary data sources, which included community reports, studies, as well as information found online also had limitations as there was no assurance that these sources of information were current, complete, or correct. Given this information, how confident can we be with the data presented within this study and how will it be used?**

The data that informed our project included interview with knowledge holders, questionnaires, secondary data sources. We believe that the findings of our study are accurate based on the subject matter expertise, and the review of literature, as well as professional knowledge holder interviews. We reference an option to prepare that Recreation and Culture Master Plan. the intent with that is to reinforce that our study is not a one stop shop – this project is a living project and that process is also a living process. With that context in mind, the Recreation and Culture Master Plan would add further meat to the bones. It is also important to note that there are two separate reports – one on recreation programming and one on recreational infrastructure.

- 2. Many families travel extended distances during the winter for hockey, ice fishing, and to take advantage of skiing and snowboarding at regional ski hills - is distance as much of a challenge as the report outlines?**

This information is to provide an overall context. The distance and the winter driving was something that we heard and was included in our secondary data sources which is why we had included that note in our infrastructure report.

- 3. Under Community Recreation Facility Weaknesses, there is mention of the City of Dryden's Community Capacity study - referencing a lack of a seasonal sports complex. This note has been taken out of context and contained within the full report are additional footnotes that need to be taken into consideration to provide additional clarity to the report.**

This has been noted by the Consultants.

- 4. Have impacts to ancillary recreational services (sale of boats, sale of snowmobiles, demands on products and services related to accessing recreational activities etc.) been considered within this report with the added population in the LSA? Additionally, have you considered the impact to local and regional boat launches and lake accesses with the added population and potential increase in demand? Some of the recreational activities people take part in here include RV'ing and there are limited spaces available at local and regional seasonal camping grounds.**

With respect to residents and employment growth, a qualified yes, there is going to be an increased demand for services and use. The extent to which, given where we are currently at, is hard to tell at this point and time, but this can be added to the Recreation and Culture Master Plan in terms of Environmental stewardship and land resource use. In terms of boat launches and lake access, in our

baseline inventory, we do include some of those. Within our secondary source review of data and interviews, that wasn't something that came up, so it is not highlighted in our report.

- 5. The region has an active snowmobiling community and culture with several clubs and groups that use and maintain local and regional trail systems. Did the study look into these trails as they are used for recreation by locals and tourists alike.**

Again, in our baseline inventory data, a few trails had been mentioned within Ignace and the LSA. That sort of recreation activity is respective of Ignace and LSA Connections to Nature.

- 6. The social services study is under the same data limitations as stated within the recreation infrastructure study. How will this study be used going forward considering the aforementioned data limitations?**

For our study we used knowledge holders interviews, questionnaires, review of secondary source data reports. We believe these findings are accurate based on the information we gathered in review of literature. Our data was limited. We did not perform detailed analysis of the buildings but that was no part of the scope of this project.

- 7. You stated that there are childcare spaces available in Ignace but there are no children facilities in Ignace aside from a nursery school which is a preschool program operating 4 half days/week. Curious to know where you found this information?**

Based on our recollection, the nursery school was included in that inventory along with the EarlyON Centre which I believe referenced 100 spaces, but we will review this information. The new childcare facilities that will be opening I believe are in the school.