

SIGN POSTS 2007

We connect philanthropy to community needs through endowment building and donor service, grant making and community leadership in the areas of arts and culture, education and training, environment, health and social services, heritage, multiculturalism and recreation.



CAMBRIDGE & NORTH DUMFRIES
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Phone: (519) 624-8972 Email: foundation@in.on.ca

150 MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR
CAMBRIDGE, ON N1R 6P9



Social Planning Council
of Cambridge and North Dumfries

We actively and impartially participate in building and strengthening our community through social change, innovation, research, analysis and facilitation.

Phone: (519) 623-1713
Email: jana@socialplanningcouncil-cnd.org

GAUGING COMMUNITY TRENDS IN CAMBRIDGE AND NORTH DUMFRIES

The Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Foundation and the Social Planning Council of Cambridge and North Dumfries have partnered for the second year on the Sign Posts project with the intention of initiating dialogue about local trends and bringing light to community issues.

The City of Cambridge and the Township of North Dumfries are exciting and dynamic places to live and work. As designated growth areas, the City of Cambridge and the Township of North Dumfries are projected to reach 174,175 and 14,745 by 2031 respectively. With a current population of 120,371 in the City of Cambridge and 9,063 in the Township of North Dumfries, our communities are undergoing significant changes not only in our population make-up but in the resulting health and well-being of our residents.

We encourage you to take a minute to read this bulletin to discover more about our community—and reflect on how you or your organization can actively harness our communities' strengths to enhance all residents' quality of life.

For a complete copy of *Community Trends in Cambridge and North Dumfries 2007* visit: www.socialplanningcouncil-cnd.org. For information about the Community Foundation visit: www.cambridgefoundation.org.

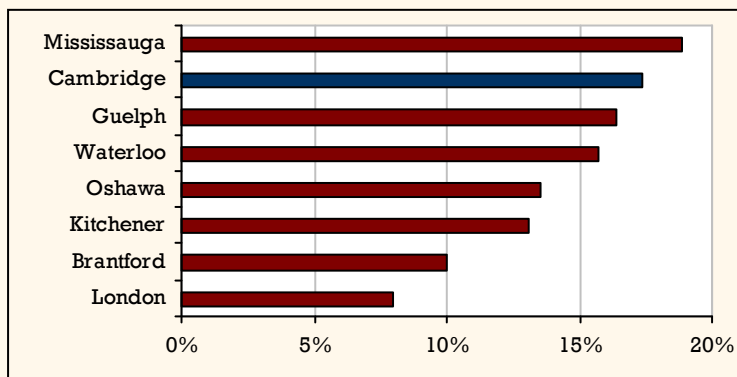


Learning and Work

Preparing for the future is important.

- **Educational Attainment:** 8% of secondary students in the Waterloo Region District School Board left school before graduation in 2003-04. In 2001, 46% of the Cambridge population aged 25-64 had some form of post-secondary education compared to 56% in North Dumfries and 53% in Canada.^a
- **Trades Employment:** In Waterloo-Wellington, graduates of trade programs have the highest employment rate relative to graduates of other levels of study.^b
- **EDI Scores:** 10 out of 15 neighbourhoods showing the greatest vulnerability are located in Cambridge according to the 2004 Waterloo Region wide EDI survey. The EDI (Early Development Instrument) is a teacher-completed questionnaire that measures kindergarten children's readiness for school across several areas of child development.^c
- **Child Care:** Only 10.6% of Cambridge children can access licensed, regulated child care. In Peel Region this figure is lower at 9.4%, and in Toronto it is higher at 15.5%. Working parents want their offspring to be in a safe and enriching environment.^d

GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE EMPLOYED, 1995-2000



Source: Chart adapted from the *City of Cambridge 2007 Economic Analysis Update*, p.14.

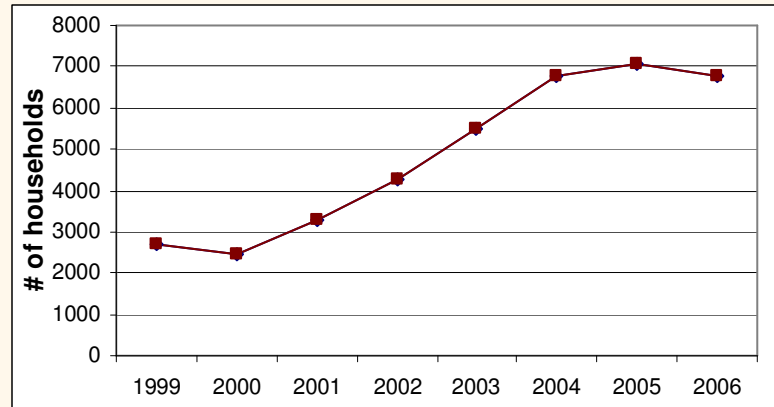
Sources for text: a) Waterloo Region District School Board, October/November 2004, *Strive for Excellence*; Statistics Canada 2001 Census; b) Waterloo-Wellington Training and Adjustment Board, March 2007, *Workforce Focus*; c) Region of Waterloo Public Health, September 2006, *Compilation of Data Relating to Urban Neighbourhoods in Waterloo Region*; d) Region of Waterloo Social Services Department, July 2007, personal communication; Statistics Canada 2006 Census; www.successby6peel.ca; City of Toronto Children's Services - *Facts and Figures*.

Belonging

Healthy societies are those that include vulnerable populations.

- **New Immigrants:** The number of new immigrants in the Kitchener Census Metropolitan Area (including Cambridge and North Dumfries) grew by 69% from 1997 to 2006, while the percentage increase for the province as a whole was only 7%. According to a recent survey by Cambridge YMCA Immigrant Services, the most pressing issues for newcomers are housing, health/health care, and education and training.^a
- **Poverty:** 15,330 people were living in poverty in Cambridge in 2005 with a median income of \$12,300 before taxes.^b
- **Social Assistance:** 1,713 households in Cambridge and North Dumfries received social assistance in 2006. The average length of time spent on social assistance in Waterloo Region in 2005 was 17.6 months as compared to 12 months in Halton and 18.9 months in London.^c
- **Food Hampers:** 16% of households accessing food hampers at the Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank in 2006 were employed, (the provincial figure is 16.9%), with the majority employed full-time. 48% of households accessing the Food Bank include families with children (similar to the provincial figure of 52.5%).^d

TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING FOOD HAMPERS



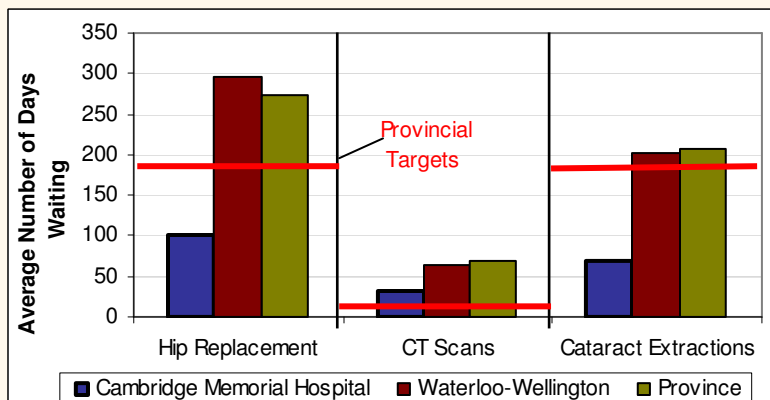
Sources: Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank, program statistics, 2006.

Sources for text: a) Citizenship and Immigration Canada (2006), *Facts and Figures 2006: Immigration Overview* and YMCA Immigrant Services, personal communication, April 2007; b) **Compiled using a Low Income Measure** Statistics Canada: Small Area and Administrative Data (2005), *Neighbourhood Insights: Family Table 17*; c) Region of Waterloo, Social Services, Social Planning, Policy and Program Administration, personal communication April, 2007 and Ontario Municipal CAO's Benchmarking Initiative (2005), *2005 Performance Benchmarking Report*; d) Cambridge Self-Help Food Bank, program statistics, 2006 and Canadian Association of Food Banks (2007), *HungerCount 2006*.

Health and Supports

Our community is at risk of not meeting targets for improvement.

HOSPITAL WAIT-TIMES IN DAYS: HIP REPLACEMENTS, CT SCANS AND CATARACT EXTRACTIONS, APRIL 2006-APRIL 2007



Sources: Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (2007), *Hospital Comparison Report*.

Sources for text: a) Region of Waterloo Public Health (2004), *A Glance at Health in the Early Years*; Region of Waterloo Public Health (2006), *2004 Integrated Services for Children Information System Epidemiology Extract Indicator Report*; and, McMaster University (2006), *Preemies defy odds and overcome difficulties by adulthood: study*; b) Region of Waterloo Public Health (2007), *A Glance at Oral Health in Waterloo Region and Region of Waterloo*, personal communication August 10, 2007; c) Canadian Community Health Survey Cycle 3.1 (2005), *Public Use Microdata File*.

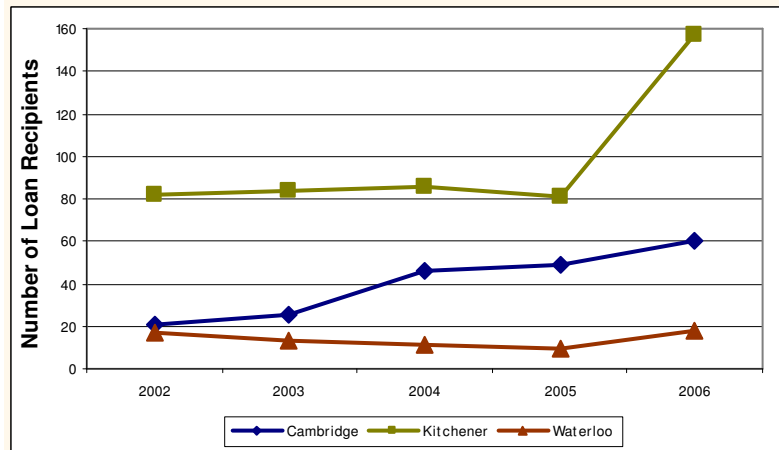
- **Low Birth Weight Babies:** In Cambridge in 2004, the low birth weight rate (babies born under 2500 grams) was 5.8% and the Region was 5.6% (Kitchener's rate was 5.74% and Waterloo was 5.53%). The province has a goal of reducing the rate to 4% by 2010. "More than a quarter of low birth weight children have development difficulties such as cerebral palsy, blindness and delayed development, compared to two per cent of normal birth-weight infants."^a
- **Dental Health:** 33% of 5 year olds screened by Public Health in Cambridge in the 2005-2006 school year had experienced dental decay, with 32% in Waterloo and 44% in Kitchener. In Waterloo Region, 54% of people with low-income do not have dental insurance.^b
- **Physical Activity:** 41.3% of people in Waterloo Region in 2005 completed some form of physical activity for more than 15 minutes every day. 9.5% of people in Waterloo Region reported that they do not engage in any physical activity in a month's time period. The Canadian Physical Activity Guide recommends that adults complete 60 minutes of physical activity a day.^c

Housing

Affordable housing continues to be a need in the community.

- ▣ **Rent Bank:** 60 households in Cambridge received loans to make rental payments in 2006 from Lutherwood's Rent Bank and Eviction Prevention Program. This program has seen a 186% increase in the number of households in Cambridge receiving assistance since its inception in 2002.^a
- ▣ **Emergency Shelter:** In 2006, the Cambridge Shelter Corporation provided 14,351 overnight stays in their emergency shelter to 2,702 people in need. Of those accessing emergency shelter services 26% were women, 23% were under the age of 25 (53 children had overnight stays) and 10% were over the age of 50. Since opening, the shelter has often had to operate at up to 20% over its regular capacity.^b
- ▣ **Rental Stock:** The average monthly rent in Cambridge for a two bedroom apartment was \$805 in 2006 as compared to \$812 in the City of Kitchener. The vacancy rate was 3.3% which is considered a healthy vacancy rate (as compared to 4.3% in Hamilton, 3.2% in Toronto).^c

RENT BANK TOTAL NUMBER OF LOAN RECIPIENTS



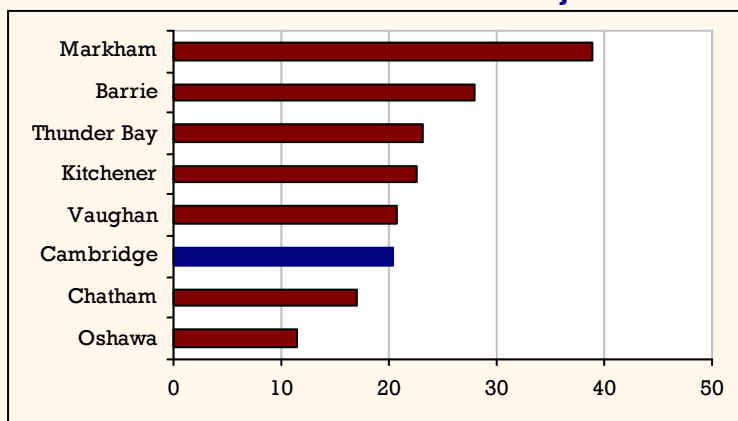
Source: Compiled from Lutherwood, *Rent Bank and Eviction Prevention Program Quarterly Report*, 2002-2006.

Sources for text: a) Lutherwood, *Rent Bank and Eviction Prevention Program Quarterly Report*, 2006; b) Cambridge Shelter Corporation, personal communication, August 2007 and Region of Waterloo (2005), *Inventory of Services for the Housing Stability System in Waterloo Region*; c) Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (2006), *Rental Market Report Kitchener CMA*.

Arts and Culture

A strong arts base is vital to a strong community.

TOTAL LIBRARY USE PER CAPITA IN SELECT ONTARIO CITIES, 2005



Source: Municipal Performance Measurement Program – 2005 Results.

Sources for text: a) Canadian Library Association and 2006 Canadian Public Library Statistics; b) Hill Strategies Research Inc. (March 2006) *Artists in Large Canadian Cities*; c) City of Cambridge Community Services Department, personal communication, August 2007; City of Cambridge Corporate Services Department, personal communication, September 2007.

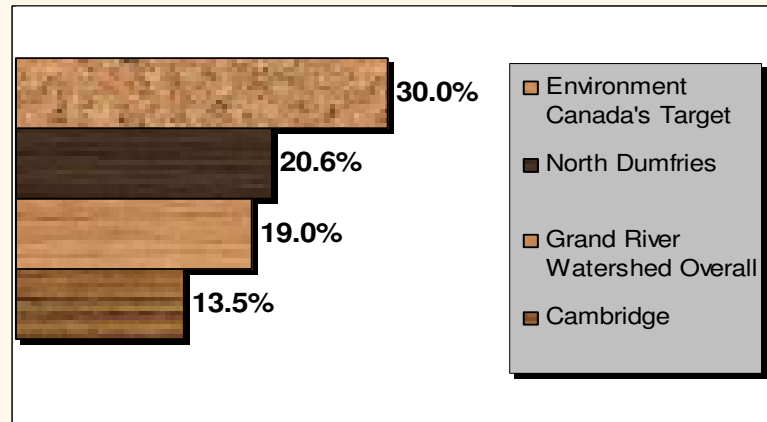
- ▣ **Library Usage:** 58% of Cambridge residents have library cards compared to 45% in Kitchener and 53% in Waterloo. Nationally, 67% of Canadians carry a membership card from a public library.^a
- ▣ **Artists in the Labour Force:** Cambridge residents who were working as artists in 2001 earned an average income of \$20,100, which was 40% less than the average income of other workers in the city and 14% less than Canada's arts and cultural workers as a whole. While the arts are a growth sector in many other large Canadian cities, the percentage of artists in Cambridge's labour force decreased between 1991 and 2001.^b
- ▣ **Local Financial Support:** Municipal support for arts and culture in Cambridge (excluding libraries, parks, recreation, and amateur sports) amounts to approximately 0.6% of the city's annual operating budget.^c

Environment

Environmental concerns continue to require attention.

- **Waste Diversion:** 41% of residential waste was diverted (recycled, reused, composted) in Cambridge in 2006 and 29% was diverted in the Township of North Dumfries. The Region as a whole diverted 43% of its residential waste in 2006. A provincial goal has been set to divert 60% of residential waste by 2008.^a
- **Green Bin Program:** In both Cambridge test areas of the Green Bin Program (pick-up of organic food compost), the number of garbage bags put out per week has decreased since the pilot began. In one pilot area, there has been a 30% increase in the number of households that put out less than one bag of garbage per week.^b
- **Water Consumption:** Average monthly residential water consumption per household was 20.80 cubic meters in Cambridge and 20.26 cubic meters in North Dumfries as compared to an average of 16.27 cubic meters in the Region.^c
- **Forest Coverage:** Cambridge is 55% away from reaching Environment Canada's target for forest cover. Forest coverage refers to the percentage of total land in a community covered by a larger grouping of trees.^d

PERCENTAGE OF FOREST COVERAGE, 2004



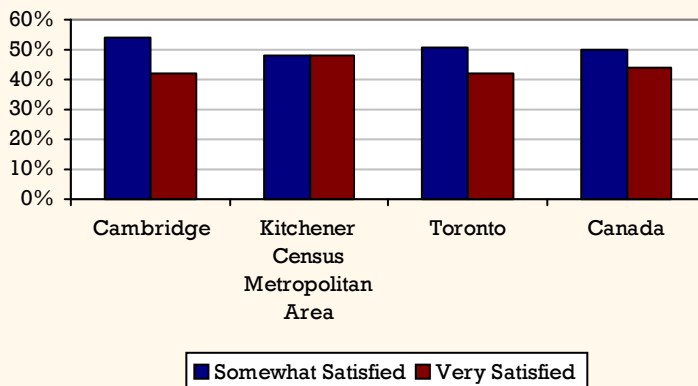
Sources: Solris Woodlands Data, 2004 provided by GRCA, personal communication, August 3, 2007.

Sources for text: a) Region of Waterloo, personal communication August 3, 2007; b) Region of Waterloo, personal communication August 3, 2007; c) City of Cambridge and Region of Waterloo personal communication July 18, 2007; d) Solris Woodlands Data, 2004 provided by GRCA, personal communication, August 3, 2007.

Safety

Our community is safe... but could be safer still.

GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH PERSONAL SAFETY, 2004



Source: Statistics Canada, custom tabulation based on the 2004 General Social Survey; 2004 General Social Survey, cycle 18 overview.

Sources for text: a) Statistics Canada, custom tabulation based on the 2004 General Social Survey; 2004 General Social Survey, cycle 18 overview; b) Durham Regional Police, September 2006, *Crime Prevention Monitoring Report*; c) Waterloo Regional Police Service 2006 Annual Report.

- **Satisfaction with Safety:** 96% of Cambridge residents are satisfied with their personal safety while nationally 94% of the population is satisfied with their safety from crime.^a
- **Crime Rate:** With a crime rate of 4,916 per 100,000 population, the Waterloo Regional Police Service ranked 5th against eight comparator police services in 2005. The services with higher total crime rates were the Ottawa Police Service, Niagara Regional Police Service, Hamilton Police Service and Toronto Police Service.^b
- **Nature of Crime:** Despite an increase in violent crimes such as assault and sexual assault, the total number of crimes reported in the Waterloo Regional Police Service Division 2 patrol area (which covers Cambridge and North Dumfries Township) fell 1% in 2006 from 2005. The overall reduction was due to a 6% decrease in property crime, led by an 18% decrease in break-and-enters. Police attribute this decrease in break-and-enters to the efforts of the recently-formed Division 2 Break and Enter Enforcement Team.^c