

Sudbury

Economic conditions directly affect migration into and out of most cities. Sudbury, like many northern communities, sees its population decline and recover with the market value of regional natural resources: After peaking in the early 1970s, the city's population declined by about 7% in 1986, mainly because of downsizing in the mining sector. This trend was reversed from 1986 to at least 1996, when the 1996 Census population returned to 97% of the 1986 peak.

On the first day of 2001, the City of Greater Sudbury was formed by amalgamation of the towns and cities in the former Regional Municipality of Sudbury and several adjacent unincorporated townships. Based on StatCan's 2006 Census, the population of the City of Greater Sudbury is 157,857; that of Sudbury "proper", 88,855 (just over half of its 1971 or 1986 population).

About 94% of the people in Greater Sudbury are non-Aboriginal; 3.5%, self-identified as Metis; and 2.5%, "North American Indian"; and fewer than 0.05%, Inuit.

Over 27% of the people in the City of Greater Sudbury indicate French as their mother tongue, and 38.9% identify themselves as bilingual (2006 Census). This proportion far exceeds Ontario's average.

The size of Greater Sudbury's households (of which there are 64,940 – 60% in the former city of Sudbury) has declined significantly, from an average of 4 persons per household in 1971 to 2.4 in 2006. The average income per household (in 2001, at least) was \$54,646 per annum; the median, \$45,225.

In 2001, people in the City of Greater Sudbury whose occupations are in art, culture, recreation and sports composed just under 2% of wage-earners.

The Greater Sudbury Arts and Culture Charter

Given the historical importance of Anglophone, Francophone and Aboriginal cultures in Sudbury, the city recognized the bilingual and diverse nature of the municipality early on, and shows a regard of local arts and cultures as being important elements of its identity.

In addition to its galleries, performance venues and plans for a large new performing-arts centre, Sudbury features a broad range of types of museums that reflect Sudbury's support of multiculturalism and heritage preservation. Local theatre groups are active, such as Theatre Cambrian, a well-regarded charitable community theatre company, and a professional creative franco-Ontarian theatre, Le Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario, which presents productions by Franco-Ontarian and Québécois playwrights and cabaret performances.

A variety of associations are already in existence that support arts and culture; for example,

- **The Sudbury Multicultural and Folk Arts Association** promotes multiculturalism in the region. In addition to a range of services useful to immigrants and newcomers, the Association maintains a Cross Cultural Education Program, encourages community development, and assists groups in preserving, promoting and sharing their cultural heritage.
- **The Sudbury Craft and Arts Foundation** is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of artists and craftsmen in Sudbury and the Northern Ontario Region. SCARF also operates Sudbury's Annual Studio Tour.
- **The Sudbury Arts Council** is a non-profit umbrella service organization with a mandate to promote and celebrate art and culture in the Greater Sudbury area. It directs a grant program. The Council supports all areas of artistic endeavours, including performing arts, theatre arts, literary arts, musical arts, visual arts and new media.

The city has formed a number of advisory panels made up of interested citizens, to improve communication between the public and the Sudbury City Council, create greater opportunities for discussion of public issues, and provide for citizen involvement in City government. Relevant examples include a Diversity Advisory Panel, a Healthy Community Cabinet Advisory Panel, and a six-member Arts & Culture Grant Advisory Panel. This last panel has three primary objectives:

- To develop an understanding of the City's arts and culture charter, strategy and grant policy, and to evaluate funding applications in accordance with the City's goals for arts and culture;
- To advocate for arts and cultural issues as they pertain to the City's Arts and Culture Grant Program; and,
- To maintain active links with arts and culture community groups in an effort to ensure the goals are achieved.

Municipal structures that participate in and support cultural heritage-related matters include the city's Greater Sudbury Library/Heritage Museum Board and the Municipal Heritage Committee.