

Foundations of Cottage Culture

Methodology Report

from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia

Prepared by

Julia Schwamborn and Greg Halseth
Community Development Institute
University of Northern British Columbia

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Acknowledgements

This summer, a research team from the Community Development Institute (CDI) at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) distributed surveys among the cottage property owners of Norman Lake, British Columbia with the purpose of addressing two research questions. The first explores “what ‘human-nature’ relationships attract cottagers to their second home properties”; the second examines “changing and conflicting cottage cultures”.

We wish to thank the Norman Lake cottagers who took the time to fill out the questionnaire and return it to us. Their response and enthusiasm demonstrate the importance which the issues addressed in the survey have within the community.

Special thanks to George and Shannon MacKay, who personally distributed the surveys and supported the development of this study, to Rosemary Raygada for her assistance with entering data, to Laura Ryser for assisting with the preparation of the survey and the database, and to Kyle Kusch for providing the map of Norman Lake and the surrounding area.

Greg Halseth and Julia Schwamborn
Prince George, BC
December 2010

Availability

Copies of the Summary Report “Foundations of Cottage Culture” have been deposited at the UNBC Geoffrey Weller Library and have been distributed to the Norman Lake Association and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George.

All related reports can also be accessed on the CDI website:
<http://www.unbc.ca/cdi/research.html>

Halseth, G. and J. Schwamborn. 2010. *Foundations of Cottage Culture: Master Report from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Halseth, G. and J. Schwamborn. 2010. *Foundations of Cottage Culture: Summary Report from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Schwamborn, J. and G. Halseth. 2010. *Foundations of Cottage Culture: Methodology Report from a Survey of Cottage Owners at Norman Lake, British Columbia*. Prince George, BC: Community Development Institute, University of Northern British Columbia.

Contact Information

For further information or questions about this topic and the project, feel free to contact Greg Halseth, Acting Director of UNBC’s Community Development Institute.

Greg Halseth
Geography Program
University of Northern BC
Prince George, BC
V2N 4Z9

Phone: 250-960-5826
Fax: 250-960-6533
Email: halseth@unbc.ca
<http://web.unbc.ca/geography/faculty/greg>
<http://www.unbc.ca/cdi>

Foundations of Cottage Culture – Norman Lake, British Columbia

1.0 Project Description

Recreational cottage properties are a common part of the rural Canadian landscape. This study is interested in understanding the changing nature of cottage property development and use. The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of the human and natural landscape connections that attract cottagers to their recreational properties, and also of the changing nature of cottaging communities. In addition to this study at Norman Lake, a companion study is underway in the ‘Cottage Country’ lakes area of central Finland.

Surveys were distributed among cottage residents of Norman Lake with the purpose of addressing two research questions. The first explores what ‘human-nature’ relationships attract cottagers to their second home properties; the second examines changing and conflicting cottage cultures.

The work was carried out by a research team from the Community Development Institute (CDI) at UNBC with the goal to understand the changing nature of cottage property development and nascent land use conflicts that may result. Funding was provided by the CDI.

Table 1.1 Timeline

May 2010	Project planning UNBC Research Ethics Board process completed
June 2010	Questionnaires hand-delivered to all cottage properties along Norman Lake, BC
August 2010	Cut-off date for acceptance of completed questionnaires Data compilation Data analysis
September 2010	Data analysis
October 2010	Draft Final Report
November 2010	Review and editing process
December 2010	Publication of Final Report

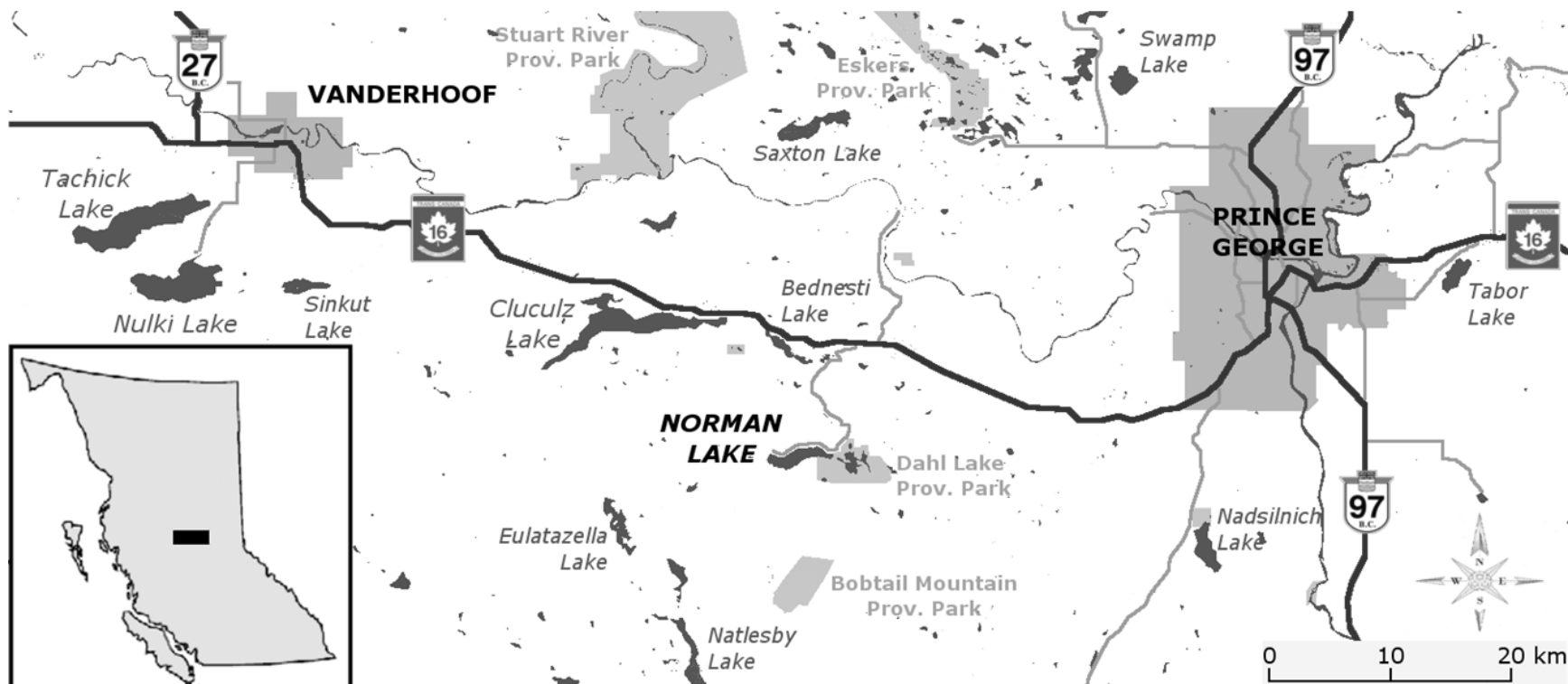


Figure 1.1: Map of Norman Lake
 Map Credit: Kyle Kusch

Case Study Introduction

Figure 1.1 shows the location of Norman Lake within the Province of British Columbia and specifically between Prince George and Vanderhoof. It is part of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, Electoral Area C.

According to 2006 BC Statistics census data, Prince George has a population of 70,981, and the Vanderhoof population is at 4,064. The driving distances from downtown Prince George as well as from downtown Vanderhoof to Norman Lake are 64km respectively (Google Maps).

Year-round road access to Norman Lake is limited to Norman Lake Road connecting to Highway 16 about 43km west of Prince George, leading approximately 20km south from the highway, then west along the north shore of the lake, and connecting to the Forest Service road system approximately 4km northwest of Norman Lake (Google Maps; BC Parks DL). Norman Lake Road is featured in Figure 1.1 showing the connection to the Highway, as well as in Figures 1.2 and 1.3 situated along the north shore of the lake. There is no public transportation to the lake. The nearest VIA Rail station is located in downtown Prince George. The closest public airport is YXS in Prince George, which provides passenger services mostly for in-province air travel (Prince George Airport Authority).

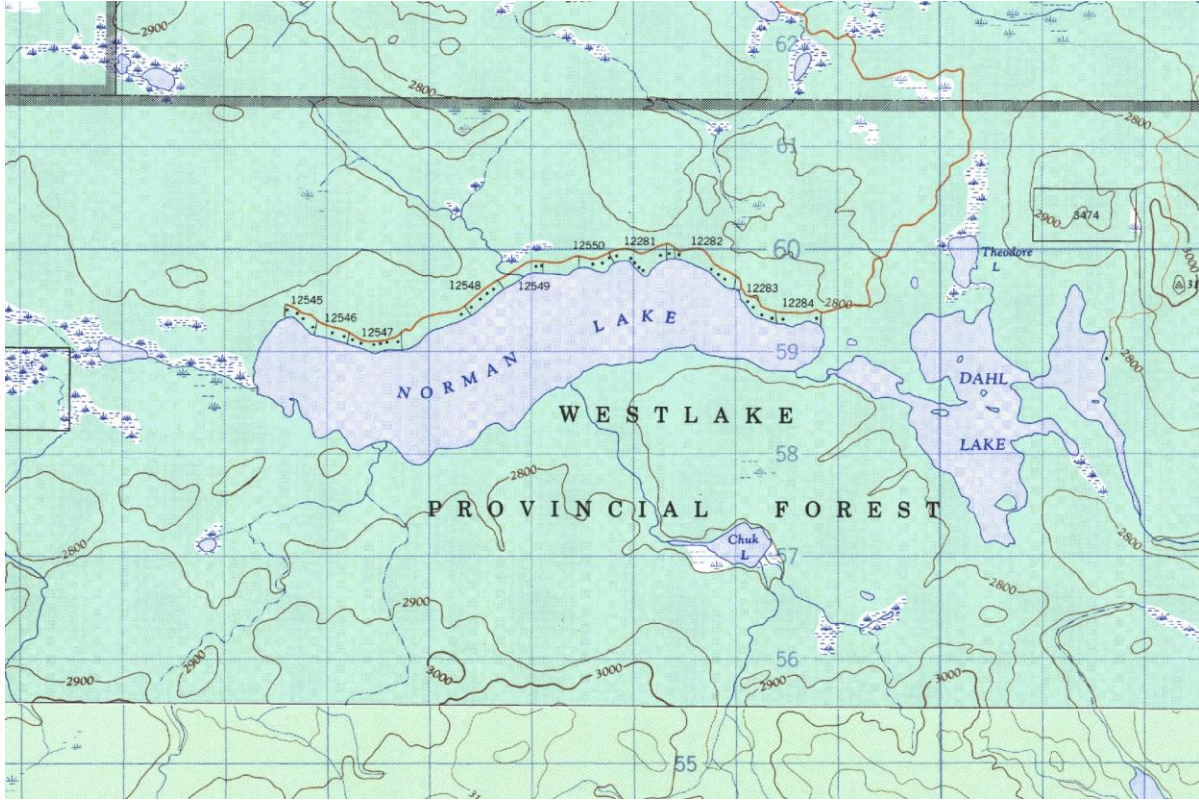


Figure 1.2 Norman Lake – Dahl Lake
Source: Digital Topo-Maps

Dahl Creek connects the eastern end of Norman Lake to Dahl Lake (Figure 1.2; iMapBC). Figure 1.3 shows that the southeast shore of Norman Lake is adjacent to Dahl Lake Provincial Park, a 1,583 ha day-use park established in 1981 (BC Parks 2003).

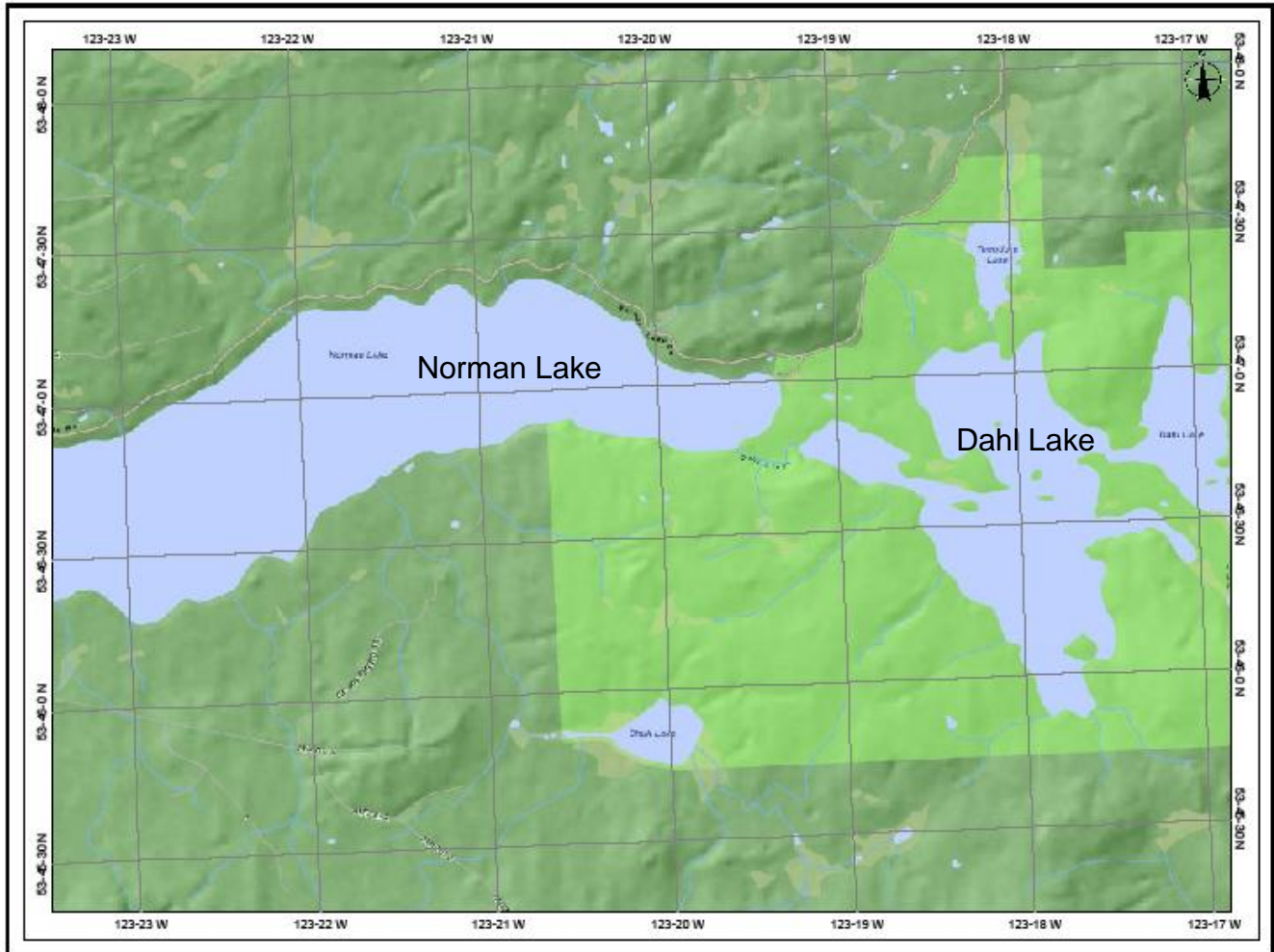


Figure 1.3 Dahl Lake Provincial Park

Source: iMapBC

In a 1992 study, Carmichael reports 138 residences along the north shore of Norman Lake and recommends no further development of the lake area. The 2004 Lakeshore Guidelines of the Regional District classify Norman Lake as *Limited Development* for its “high aesthetic, recreational, or an ecological importance such as fish or wildlife values that could be negatively impacted by significant development but can handle a limited amount of subdivision. Generally, these lakes have road access (may be seasonal) and no electricity is available” (p.31 & 36). An additional comment points out that development has reached its maximum.

Approximately 19km west of Norman Lake and just south of Highway 16, Cluculz Lake is the closest lake with lakefront property development. Cluculz Lake is roughly 20km long and has a shoreline of approximately 53km (BC Volunteer Lake Monitoring). Land use in the Cluculz Lake watershed area “includes lakeshore development, forestry and agriculture” (p.2). Of 659 lakeshore lots reported in 1999, close to 460 featured summer or permanent residences. Like Norman Lake, Cluculz Lake attracts Prince George and Vanderhoof residents for recreational activities. See Figure 1.4 for land use around Cluculz Lake and in its entire watershed.

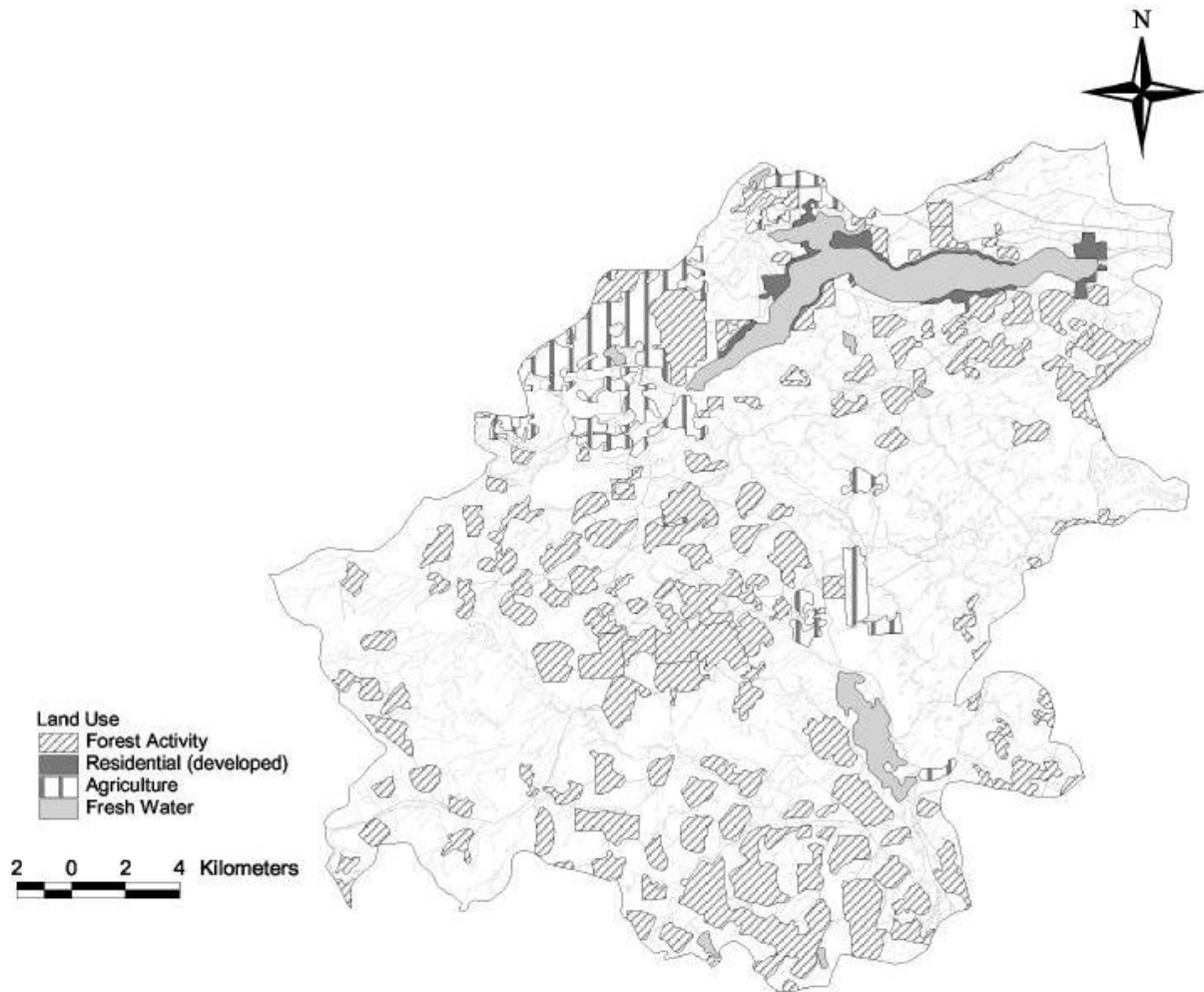


Figure 1.4 Cluculz Lake Watershed

Source: BC Volunteer Lake Monitoring, p.2.

2.0 Methodology

This research involved a questionnaire survey of cottage property owners along Norman Lake, west of Prince George, BC. The purpose of the questionnaire was to collect information to address the core research questions noted in the project description.

Survey Implementation

The survey was developed in the spring of 2010 in concert with a research team at the University of Eastern Finland. The 106 questionnaires were hand delivered to all properties along Norman Lake early in June 2010. Completed surveys could be returned by mail through an enclosed postage paid envelope or dropped into a locked return mailbox at a designated property along the lake. The survey was accompanied by a cover letter that described the purpose of the project and outlined the Research Ethics Board issues (Appendix A). This included outlining the voluntary nature of participating in the study, as well as issues of confidentiality and anonymity.

A total of 50 surveys were completed and returned. This results in a response rate of approximately 47 percent (Table 2.1). For a survey of this type, this response rate is considered very good. In statistical terms, a response rate of approximately 50 percent in a sample of this size yields a typical error rate of +/- 6 to 9 percent, 19 times out of 20.

Table 2.1 Response Rate

Distributed surveys	106
Total completed surveys	50
Response rate	47.2%

Source: Norman Lake Survey “Foundations of Cottage Culture”, 2010.

Survey Content

The survey addressed two research questions exploring the relationships between humans and nature which influence and attract cottagers, and the changes arising within cottage culture (Appendix B).

The survey was divided into six thematic parts. Part A asked for information on cottage property features and the respondents’ use of their property. Status and duration of ownership, property and cottage size, built-in services and amenities, as well as the respondents’ ties to the area, place of permanent residency, and frequency of their

cottage property visits were explored. For most questions in this part, respondents were given a selection of options to choose from with opportunities to further elaborate on their answers.

Part B contained more open ended questions about environmental services and impacts of cottaging. Respondents were prompted to give information on their use of, and rate their satisfaction with, water, sewage, and waste disposal services, and about their employment of environmentally friendly activities and features at their cottage.

In Part C, respondents were asked to rate the importance of cottage activities as well as their personal connections with the area. They were also given a chance to describe their favourite activities, name cottage activities that are missing, and list negative issues that impact their ability to enjoy their cottage setting.

Part D of the survey focused on the cottage community, community activities, community composition and cohesion, use of local community services, and conflicts within the community.

Part E collected information about the gender, age, marital status, education, income and employment status of the respondents, while Part F provided an open ended opportunity for respondents to address any issues that were not covered in the survey.

Analysis

In general, the reported results give totals for respondent answers to various questions. Responses to closed ended questions were entered into an SPSS database in order to complete a quantitative analysis. In undertaking an analysis of these responses, it is typical to explore facets that may explain possible differences in responses across the survey sample. As a result, the analysis used a set of evaluative variables, including household income and employment status. These differences are highlighted in the text. For household income, we compared households reporting annual incomes of less than \$45,000, households reporting an annual income between \$45,000 and \$95,000, and those reporting more than \$95,000. For employment status, we contrasted those respondents who were retired with those still in the labour force. Throughout the report, reference is made to these evaluative variables where they point out differences from the 'overall' pattern of responses.

For open ended questions, a qualitative analysis was done to identify, code, and categorize themes from the data. Once themes were identified, responses were tallied and entered into qualitative tables consisting of theme headings and sub-headings. The theme headings are bolded and have a numerical count beside them of the total number of comments received for that particular topic. Under each theme are sub-headings with a numerical count of the total number of respondents who raised a specific issue.

References

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Appendix A – Questionnaire Cover Letter

Hello,

Recreational cottage properties are a common part of the rural Canadian landscape. This study is interested in understanding the changing nature of cottage property development and use. The goal of this study is to gain a better understanding of the human and natural landscape connections that attract cottagers to their recreational properties, and also the changing nature of cottaging communities. In addition to this study at Norman Lake, a companion study is underway in the 'Cottage Country' lakes area of central Finland. To accomplish this task, we need your help in completing the enclosed questionnaire.

You will find that the questionnaire is divided into several parts. Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and, as such, you may choose not to participate. If you do participate, you may choose to not answer any questions that make you uncomfortable. Ideally, I would like you to answer all of the questions which apply to you.

I would like to stress that any information you provide will be kept confidential. If you examine the questionnaire you will see that there is no way to identify individual respondents and no information will be published which may be used to identify individuals. All information shared in this questionnaire will be held in strict confidence by the research team. All records will be kept in a locked room at UNBC and will be accessible only to the research team. The information will be kept until the final project report is complete. After this time, all questionnaire materials will be destroyed.

The questionnaire is being hand delivered to all properties along Norman Lake early in June 2010. This study is being conducted by the UNBC Community Development Institute. The questionnaire will take about 20 minutes to complete. A pre-paid return envelope is enclosed for your convenience – or you can drop the completed survey into the locked reply box at cottage property 100.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to help us with our research, your response will be of great assistance. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. This project has been assessed by the UNBC Research Ethics Board. The project team does not consider there to be any risks to participation. Any complaints about this project should be directed to the Office of Research, UNBC (250) 960-5820; email is reb@unbc.ca.

Upon completion of the project, we will provide a summary report to all who received the blank questionnaire package.

Sincerely,

Greg Halseth
Professor, Geography Program
Canada Research Chair in Rural and Small Town Studies
Director, Community Development Institute at UNBC
University of Northern British Columbia
3333 University Way
Prince George, B.C. V2N 4Z9
tel: (250) 960-5826 fax: (250) 960-6533 email: halseth@unbc.ca

Appendix B – Questionnaire

“Foundations of Cottage Culture” Questionnaire

This questionnaire explores issues related to cottage properties. All properties along Norman Lake received a hand delivered questionnaire package. While your participation is voluntary, your assistance in answering the following questions would be greatly appreciated.

The survey has six sections. Most of the questions may be answered by simply placing an “X” in the appropriate box; other questions ask for written answers.

All responses are confidential.

The survey should take about 20 minutes.

Once completed, please use the reply envelope or drop at cottage lot #100.

Part A: Cottage property description and use

These first questions are about your cottage property and its use.

Do you own or rent your cottage property?

- Own
- Rent
- Other explain: _____

If the property is owned, is it held:

- By your household
- By a group of households
- Other explain: _____

Did you build the cottage yourself?

- Yes
- No
- Other explain: _____

How long have you owned your cottage? _____ years

Are you originally from the area?

- Yes
- No

Is your spouse/partner originally from the area?

- Yes
- No

How many years have you been coming to Norman Lake?

_____ years

Why did you choose this area? How important were the following reasons?

- 1=not important at all
- 2=not very important
- 3=somewhat important
- 4=quite important
- 5=very important

	1	2	3	4	5
Friends/relatives in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attractive natural landscape/area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Possibility to engage in certain activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good supply of services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friendly community/neighbourhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Born in the area/roots in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inheritance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good location/accessibility from permanent residence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attractive property/good price-quality ratio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good investment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Previous experiences of/visits in the area as a tourist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you (does your household) own or use other second homes/leisure properties?

- Yes Where: _____
- No

Do you own RVs / boats / ATVs?

- Yes
- No

Location (town) of your permanent residence:

How many days per month (on average) do you spend at your cottage?

January	<input type="text"/>	days/month
February	<input type="text"/>	days/month
March	<input type="text"/>	days/month
April	<input type="text"/>	days/month
May	<input type="text"/>	days/month
June	<input type="text"/>	days/month
July	<input type="text"/>	days/month
August	<input type="text"/>	days/month
September	<input type="text"/>	days/month
October	<input type="text"/>	days/month
November	<input type="text"/>	days/month
December	<input type="text"/>	days/month

How many people regularly use your cottage?

Do you or a member of your household do distance work at the cottage?

- Yes, regularly
- Yes, occasionally
- No

How do you think you'll be visiting your cottage during the next 5-10 years (choose one)

- I've plans/I've decided to move there permanently
- I'd like to move there permanently
- I'll use the cottage more often
- I'll use the cottage like now
- I'll use the cottage less
- I'll give up the place
- Cannot say

What is the approximate size of this cottage property (acres)? _____

What is the cottage floor area (sq. ft.)? _____

Over the last 5 years, have you made any improvements/major investments in the cottage structure?

Yes

No

If yes, please list:

Is your cottage winterized/can the cottage be used year-round?

Yes

No

No, but I am planning to winterize it

Services / equipment at the cottage (mark all that apply)

Electricity

Running water

Sewerage

Indoor Bathroom

TV

Computer with Internet access

Washing machine

Dishwasher

Boat dock

What is the distance from your cottage to your permanent residence (kilometers and/or meters):

Part B: Environmental Services and Impacts

This next set of questions asks about environmental issues at the cottage

Do you think cottaging (in general or as a way of life) poses negative environmental impacts?

- Yes
- No
- Cannot say

If yes, please explain why?

Have you noticed any environmental problems in the cottage area?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please identify the problems and who is responsible for them?

Please 'rate' how environmentally sound you consider your own cottage lifestyle?

- not at all environmentally sound
- not very environmentally sound
- somewhat environmentally sound
- environmentally sound
- very environmentally sound

Explain why? _____

How do you normally travel to your cottage property (i.e.: private car, car pool, taxi etc.)?

When do you usually visit your cottage (choose all appropriate options)

- Occasionally
- Weekends
- Weekdays
- Holidays
- Summer vacation

What is the principal source of water supply on the property?

What is the method of sewage waste disposal on this property?

What is the method of solid waste disposal on this property / in this area?

How satisfied are you with the following services? Please circle one.

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Water supply	1	2	3	4	5
Sewage waste disposal	1	2	3	4	5
Solid waste disposal	1	2	3	4	5
Regional District services to cottagers	1	2	3	4	5

Do you have / do you use any of the following at your cottage?

	Yes	No
Compost	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar panels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy-efficient cottage design	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy-efficient windows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy-efficient appliances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water saving technology (i.e. shower / toilet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use locally grown vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avoid use of pesticides / herbicides	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part C: “Human-nature” relationships that attract cottagers

This set of questions explores how you use the cottage and the landscape. They also ask about what attracts you to your cottage property.

How important are the following activities at the cottage?

- 1=not important at all
- 2=not very important
- 3=somewhat important
- 4=quite important
- 5=very important

	1	2	3	4	5
Garden, lawn, vegetable garden	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Building/renovation/maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Firewood, forest work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing/hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picking berries/mushrooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being outdoors in the nature	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snowmobiles, ATVs, mopeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waterskiing, jet skis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motorboating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hiking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canoeing, rowing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jogging, walking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skiing/snowshoeing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eating and drinking, barbecue etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watching TV	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being idle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

What kind of activities would you like to engage in at the cottage / what kind of opportunities for activities are missing in the area?

What is the best and most important reason for spending time at the cottage?

Are there any issues that negatively impact your ability to enjoy your cottage property?

How much do you feel “at home” in the following places?
 (Please mark the number below that best corresponds to your answer).

	Strongly not at home 1	Not at home 2	Neutral 3	At home 4	Strongly at home 5
Your cottage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cottage community/village	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Permanent residence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town of your permanent residence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reflect on your personal relationship with the cottage area/place. Mark the number that best corresponds to your answer.

- 1= totally disagree
- 2= somewhat disagree
- 3= do not disagree or agree
- 4= somewhat agree
- 5= totally agree

	1	2	3	4	5
This is the best place for what I like to do	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No other place can compare to this area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
This place is very important to me	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would be sad if I couldn't come here any longer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Here I can be myself	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
This place expresses who I am	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel like I belong here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I'd be ready to make sacrifices to help to protect this place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have no particular feelings for this place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There are sad memories related to this place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I get bored here	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part D: Cottage community

This set of questions ask about your cottage “community”.

Do you or your spouse/partner have relatives/friends in the cottage area?

Yes

No

Do you know most of your neighbours (including permanent residents and other cottagers)?

Yes

No

Do you participate in the local associations (such as...)?

Yes, please name: _____

No

How often do you use the following local services?

	Never	Sometimes	Nearly every time I visit the cottage
	1	2	3
Grocery store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and other natural sights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Snowplow service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renovation and construction services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plumbing and electrical services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Restaurant services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Buying firewood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How active are your contacts with the following groups in the area? How often are you on average in contact with the following groups in the area?

	Never	Sometimes	Time- to-time	Often	Very Often
	1	2	3	4	5
Permanent residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cottagers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visiting friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relatives living in the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Would you like to have more contacts/socialize more with the following groups?

	Much Less 1	Less 2	Same 3	More 4	Much More 5
Permanent residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cottagers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Visiting friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How would you describe your relationship with the following groups?

	Very Bad 1	Bad 2	Neutral 3	Good 4	Very Good 5
Permanent residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cottagers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

How important is it for you to have good contacts with the following groups?

	Not at all Important 1	Not very Important 2	Neutral 3	Quite Important 4	Very Important 5
Permanent residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cottagers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourists	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In case you have been in contact with the local residents, please evaluate how much it has been about the following things:

- 1=not at all
- 2=a little
- 3=somewhat
- 4=mostly
- 5=very much

	1	2	3	4	5
They've visited me/I've visited them	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourly help	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local events	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through hobbies/activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through collective water supply, sewer, or waste disposal services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through collective road maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saying hello occasionally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify _____					

Do you know if there is discontent between certain groups/people in the cottage area?

Yes

No

If yes, what is/was the dispute over (e.g. road maintenance, property borders, land use):

Have you personally had disagreement/discontent/conflict with somebody or have you been disturbed by other's behaviour or plans in the area (e.g. road maintenance, property borders...)?

Yes

No

If yes, what is/was the dispute over:

Has cottage/second home tourism become more important/significant in the area?

Yes

No

If the amount of cottages was to increase in the area, how do you think it would affect the following things?

	Make Much Worse 1	Make Worse 2	No Change 3	Improve 4	Considerably Improve 5
Business opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise and pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community cohesion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road & infrastructure maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreation facilities/opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My own attachment to the area	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part E: Socio-demographic information

In this section we would like to ask some questions about you and your family. They are very much like the questions asked in the Canada Census and they help to create a profile of the cottager community. As a reminder, the answers are completely confidential.

Members of the household (mark details of children who live with you)

Person 1:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Year of birth: _____
Person 2:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Year of birth: _____
Person 3:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Year of birth: _____
Person 4:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Year of birth: _____
Person 5:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Year of birth: _____
Person 6:	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Year of birth: _____

(if there are more than six people, you can continue on the reverse side)

What is your marital status?

- Single (never married)
- Married/Common-law
- Separated/Divorced
- Widowed
- Other: Please specify _____

What is your highest level of educational attainment?

- High school diploma/GED
- Trade/vocational/technical institute certificate or diploma
- Community college/ diploma
- University degree
- Post-university studies

What is your spouse/partner's highest level of educational attainment?

- High school diploma/GED
- Trade/vocational/technical institute certificate or diploma
- Community college/ diploma
- University degree
- Post-university studies

What is your annual household income (before taxes), including income from all members of your household? (*Please mark ONE*).

- Up to \$20,000
- \$20,000 to \$44,999
- \$45,000 to \$69,999
- \$70,000 to \$94,999
- \$95,000 to \$119,999
- \$120,000 to \$144,999
- \$145,000 or more

What is your **primary** employment status? (*Please mark ONE*).

- Working full-time
- Working part-time
- Self-employed full-time
- Self-employed part-time
- Not employed
- Student (including students who are working part-time)
- Homemaker
- Retired

- Other _____

Profession: _____

What is your spouse/partner's **primary** employment status? (*Please mark ONE*).

- Working full-time
- Working part-time
- Self-employed full-time
- Self-employed part-time
- Not employed
- Student (including students who are working part-time)
- Homemaker
- Retired

- Other _____

Profession: _____

Type of permanent residence

- Detached house
- Apartment building
- Row house
- Other

Floor area

Part F:

Concluding Questions

From your experiences as the owner/user of a cottage property, do you have anything else on this topic that has not been touched on here that you would like to comment on?