

**SOCIOECONOMIC COMMITTEE**

**Canada Nickel Company —Crawford Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide Project**

**8th MEETING REPORT**

MEETING INFORMATION		
DATE	June 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	
TIME	13:30 – 15:00	
LOCATION	Videoconference—MICROSOFT TEAMS	
PARTICIPANTS	<b>Members</b>	<b>Presence</b>
	Monika Malherbe, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Cochrane	✓
	Devon Prevost, Economic Development Officer, Town of Cochrane	✓
	Ifeoma Kasimanwuna, Local Immigration Partnership Coordinator, Timmins District and Multicultural Centre	✓
	Phil Archambault, Timmins Chamber of Commerce Member - Owner of Fountain Tire Timmins	✓
	Brenda Camirand, Timmins Economic Development Corporation	✓
	Shannon Piper, Economic Development Officer, Town of Smooth Rock Falls	✓
	Patrick Roberts, Mayor of Smooth Rock Falls	✓
CANADA NICKEL	✓ Lauri Corlett, Sustainable Communities Coordinator	
FACILITATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Isaac Gauthier – Facilitator – Transfer Environment and Society (TES)</li> <li>✓ Elizabeth Robertson – Note taker – Transfer Environment and Society (TES)</li> </ul>	
EXPERTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Loren Knopper, Senior Principal, Environmental Services, Stantec</li> <li>✓ Lauren Stahl, Senior Socio-economic Specialist, Stantec</li> <li>✓ Chris Powell, Senior Environmental Planner, Stantec</li> <li>✓ Hilary Janes, Environmental Scientist, Stantec</li> </ul>	
MEETING HOLDER	Canada Nickel Company	
AGENDA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Welcome and Roundtable</li> <li>2. Meeting Agenda Review and Approval</li> <li>3. Open House Events</li> <li>4. Valued Components – Health</li> <li>5. Q &amp; A period</li> <li>6. Next Steps</li> </ol>	

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

ISSUES AND CONCERNS		
✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	There is concern about the spike in cancer rates in Porcupine between 2015 and 2016-2018. It may be a reporting error, but members want confirmation.
ACTION ITEMS		ID
✓	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Gauthier will reach out to the Porcupine Health Unit (PHU) to obtain their insight regarding the reported cancer rates, as well as information related to the other outstanding questions in the health evaluation.
		12Jun24-1

## 1. WELCOME AND ROUNDTABLE

Isaac Gauthier, the meeting facilitator, opens the meeting and welcomes the committee members.

Gauthier invites all the members to introduce themselves in a committee roundtable.

Lauri Corlett, the new Sustainable Communities Coordinator for Canada Nickel introduces herself and shares that she will be relocating to Timmins in November.

## 2. MEETING REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Gauthier presents the meeting’s agenda. The agenda is approved.

## 3. OPEN HOUSE EVENTS

Gauthier reminds everyone of the upcoming Open House events in Timmins and Cochrane on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, respectively. They will be informal events where people can learn more about the Crawford Project. There will be a BBQ and games for children. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

## 4. VALUED COMPONENTS - HEALTH

Gauthier gives a short recap of the last meeting, at which the concept of a Valued Component (VC) was defined. It was explained that VCs were developed specifically for the Crawford Project to support the Impact Statement submission. Gauthier shares a short summary of the committee’s feedback from that meeting.

Gauthier invites Knopper to present the results of the Health VC.

Knopper begins by explaining what they mean by “health”, based on the IAAC and the World Health Organization’s definitions. Health is not simply the absence of disease, but a complete state of physical, emotional, and mental well-being. Knopper’s team therefore takes a holistic approach when evaluating this VC, looking at:

- Physical well-being, i.e., the state of the human body and how well it functions
- Mental and social well-being, i.e., an individual’s psychological and emotional state and how that relates to the ability to communicate with others and build meaningful relationships in a community.

Three potential effects of the Project on health are evaluated: changes in physical health, changes in mental health and social well-being, and changes in community safety. The process is informed by Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA Plus).

In order to measure the changes, a baseline must first be established. To do this, Knopper and his team drew from many sources of information, including:

- The PHU’s 2021 Health Status Report<sup>1</sup>
- Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
- Reports submitted by Indigenous communities
- Information obtained from engagement sessions
- Statistics Canada
- Canadian Community Health Survey
- Public Health Ontario
- Cancer Care Ontario

Knopper shares a visual of the many health determinants that were examined, such as demographics, housing, air and water quality, mortality, chronic disease, domestic violence, etc.

A member comments that what they’ve heard gives them hope for the future and shows “we’re not forgotten up here”.

Gauthier thanks Knopper for presenting the information and invites members to share their initial reactions, questions and/or comments. Knopper asks the committee if there’s anything they overlooked and says he hopes to use this presentation as a springboard for discussion.

## 5. Q&A PERIOD

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS	ANSWERS	
<b>Q &amp; I 1</b>	A member comments that the presentation gives them hope for the future and shows “that we’re not forgotten up here”.	
<b>Q &amp; I 2</b>	Knopper mentions that some of the demographic data in the PHU’s 2021 report is from 2016 (Razaq. M. 2021). He asks if the PHU has current data they can use to fill in some blanks.	Gauthier says that there are no representatives from the Unit at the meeting today, but this presentation will be sent to them and their input will be solicited. <b>(ID: 12Jun24-1)</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Razaq. M. (2021). Health Status Report: Porcupine Health Unit. The Porcupine Health Unit, Timmins, Ontario. Online (<https://www.porcupinehu.on.ca/en/your-community/reports/health-status-report/healthstatus-report-mmxxi.pdf>)

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS		ANSWERS
		A member mentions that the different health units from Moosonee to North Bay will soon be combined into one.
<b>Q &amp; I 3</b>	Knopper provides an overview of data related to education. He says his team noticed a big difference between what was reported in 2016 and 2021, in terms of the number of people with a University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above: only 1% of PHU population in 2021 had a university certificate at bachelor level diploma or above compared with nearly 10% in 2016-. Every other element on the table is consistent except for these numbers which seem off.	Members of the committee are unable to explain the discrepancy.
<b>Q &amp; I 4</b>	Knopper says another piece of data they want to verify has to do with cancer mortality. According to the numbers reported by the PHU, there is a large increase (56% increase) in cancer mortality rates between 2015 and 2016- 2018. Prior to 2015, both Ontario and Porcupine showed a decreasing trend for cancer mortalities, but in 2016, there was a large increase in cancer mortality rates, but only in Porcupine. They don't know why and are seeking some clarity. He asks if this data makes sense to the members.	<p>A member answers that there must be something wrong with the data. They haven't seen anything that suggests this is the reality.</p> <p>Knopper shares his email address so people can reach out if they have thoughts: <a href="mailto:loren.knopper@stantec.com">loren.knopper@stantec.com</a>.</p> <p>Members can also write to <a href="mailto:community@canadanickel.ca">community@canadanickel.ca</a></p> <p>Gauthier invites members to take the time to digest this information and reach out with any suggestions in the coming days.</p>
<b>Q &amp; I 5</b>	Gauthier asks at what point in the Impact Assessment does the health evaluation come in?	Knopper answers that it's usually the last component of the process because everything affects health. For example, they're waiting for the water assessment so they can look at how any potential changes to water quality could affect population health (whether through fish or drinking water).
<b>Q &amp; I 6</b>	A member says that they find the increase in cancer rates alarming and	Knopper says the data is not specific to seniors. He cautions everyone not to be too

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS		ANSWERS
	would like to know what's behind the numbers. In Smooth Rock Falls, there are a lot of seniors, which the member suggests may have contributed.	<p>alarmed by these numbers because they don't know whether they are accurate yet. He thinks it may be a problem with the decimal placement. If that's the case, it brings the numbers down significantly.</p> <p>Stahl adds that they're not just looking at cancer morality rates, but also at mortalities related to diabetes and suicide. This additional information will allow personnel to develop a better understanding of the Porcupine region health status.</p> <p>Gauthier reiterates that they'll be reaching out to PHU to find out if there's an error in the numbers.</p>

## 6. NEXT STEPS

Gauthier thanks the members for their participation and explains the next steps. First, there will be Open House events in Timmins and Cochrane on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

The next socio-economic meeting will take place in the fall—date TBD. The Impact Statement will be submitted to the IAAC in the fall as well.

Gauthier thanks everyone for attending the meeting. He adds that technical consultants will be present at the Open House events to answer questions in depth on various topics.

# APPENDIX I PRESENTATION



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# **Socio-Economic Committee**

***Crawford Project – Canada Nickel***

June 12th, 2024

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- Welcome and Roundtable
- Meeting Agenda Review & Approval
- Open House Events
- Valued Components – Health
- Q&A Period
- Next steps





### CRAWFORD NICKEL PROJECT OPEN HOUSE & COMMUNITY BBQ

**Meet our team, get firsthand information, ask questions,  
and share your thoughts, ideas and feedback!**



Canada Nickel Company, a Canadian junior exploration company with properties located in the Northeastern Ontario, is undergoing a federal Impact Assessment and several provincial Class Environmental Assessments for the Crawford Nickel Project.

The Project aims to **develop, construct, operate, and progressively reclaim a new open pit nickel mine** located 42 km north of Timmins.

To allow interested parties to share feedback on the Crawford Nickel Project, Canada Nickel Company will be hosting **two in-person Open House events** in the Cochrane District.



#### Open House Details

##### Timmins

 Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

 4pm – 7pm

 Canada Nickel Core Shack  
170 Jaguar Drive N., Timmins, ON, P4R 0H1

##### Cochrane

 Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

 4pm – 7pm

 Cochrane Pavilion  
226 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Cochrane, ON, P0L 1C0

#### Event Highlights

 Meet-and-greet with the project team and experts

 Enjoy a complimentary BBQ and refreshments

 Family friendly: Colouring station, building blocks, and soccer balls

 Information about the Crawford Nickel Project and preliminary Impact Assessment details

 Opportunity to share your questions and/or feedback

#### ALL ARE WELCOME!

For questions or comments regarding the Open House or any of Canada Nickel's activities, please reach out to our team at [community@canadanickel.com](mailto:community@canadanickel.com) or visit our website for more information:



[canadanickel.com](http://canadanickel.com)



## **Social Conditions**

- healthcare/social services/emergency services, childcare, housing and temporary accommodations, local/regional infrastructure, land and resource use

## **Economic Conditions**

- Demographics, educational attainment, labour force, employment, labour capacity, etc.

## **Health & Well-Being**

- physical health, social determinants of health (health services, income and income inequity, housing, food insecurity, etc.)

## **Priority sub-components (per committee feedback)**

- Housing
- Project workforce requirements
- Healthcare and social services (accessibility & capacity)





### Definition

“elements of the natural and human environment identified as having scientific, social, cultural, economic, historical, archaeological or aesthetic importance. VCs are also tools used to measure the potential effects of a project on the environment. The ‘environment’ includes not only ecological systems, but also human, or social, cultural and economic conditions.”



- Independently assessing homelessness from mental health and substance use, while still considering their interrelated nature
- Assessing food access, emergency services and poverty
- Assessing VCs per community, as conditions and concerns may vary
- Assessing VCs through the lens of most likely impacted sub-population groups
- Consideration for region's mining history as it relates to certain VCs (acoustics, visuals, landscape)
- Assessing interrelation between VCs and regional attractiveness (immigration, tourism, economic development and infrastructure)
- Documents to consider for socio-economic baseline: 2021 population health status report; report on homelessness, substance use and mental health in Northern Ontario; and updated Timmins homelessness prevention plan
- Include racism and ethnicity in social determinants of health
- Language accessibility as important factor when assessing community services, socio-economic development and immigration retention
- Combine regional immigration with workforce requirements to capture inter-regional worker movements



- High pressure on the availability of short-term rentals and for those trying to find housing (government investments required)
- Strong demand for rental properties that are in short supply
- Housing is a concern when trying to attract, recruit and retain workers, and when trying to find them a home
- Strong interest in increasing the supply and capacity of childcare services and schools. Need to keep existing schools open to keep family-oriented workers
- Lack of schools and daycares (important issue for the community and workers)
- Access to physicians is an important concern (due to potential population increase as added pressure on health services) and importance to consider varied indicators when assessing the number of physicians (# of physicians per 100 000 residents isn't a statistically significant indicator)
- Additional data to consider (housing in SRF & Timmins) and importance to reach local actors for nuanced take on data (CDSSAB, child services, OPP, etc.)
- Stats Canada underrepresents housing data for Indigenous (caution and mindfulness on how data is presented)
- Suggestion to review data (demographics) to ensure it is consistent with local estimates
- Suggestion to include other communities in data review



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# Health as a Valued Component

Baseline Conditions  
Discussion

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**01**

**Health as a Valued  
Component in the  
Impact Assessment**

**02**

**Approach Being  
Taken**

**03**

**Existing  
Conditions-  
Community Health  
Profile**

**04**

**Seeking Your Input**

**05**

**Wrap up**



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# Health Definition

## Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines



CRAWFORD NICKEL PROJECT

MARCH 31, 2023

 Impact Assessment Agency of Canada / Agence d'évaluation d'impact du Canada

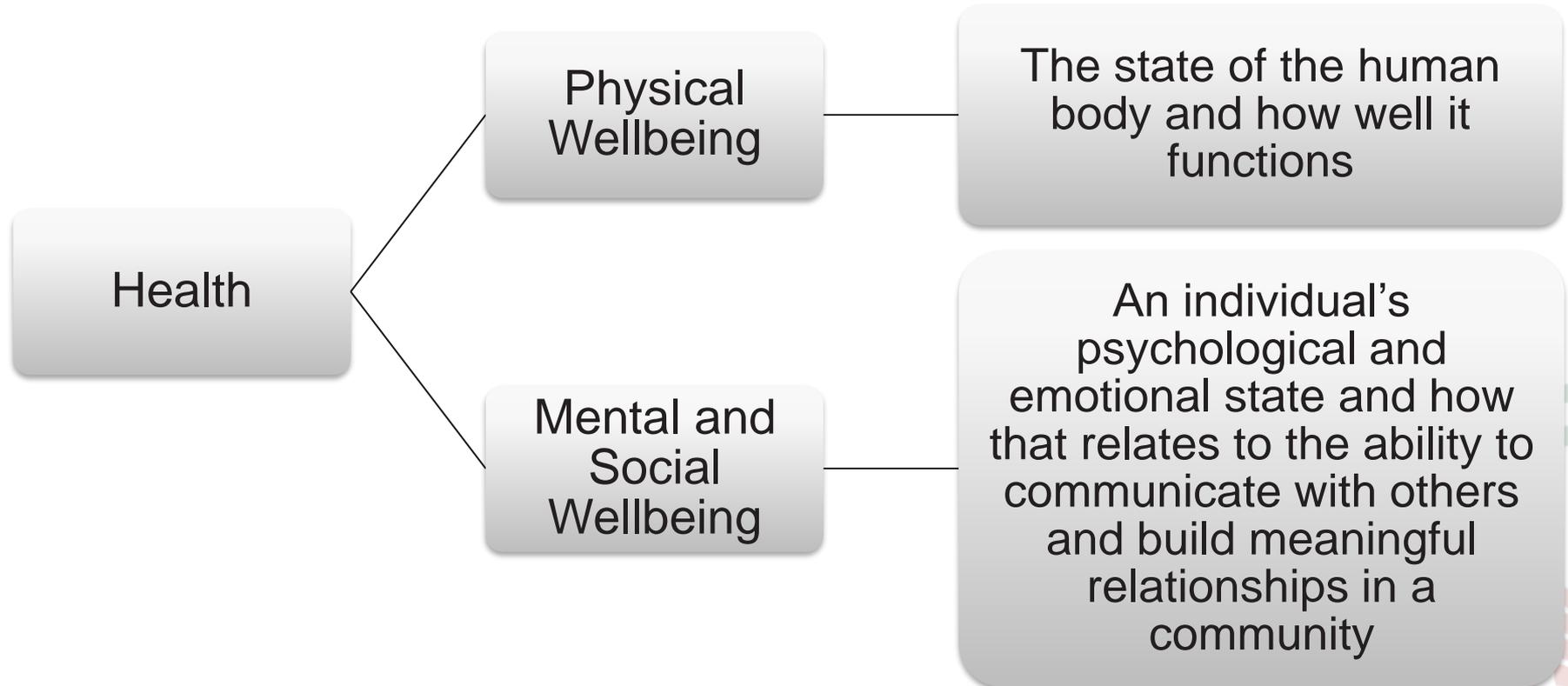
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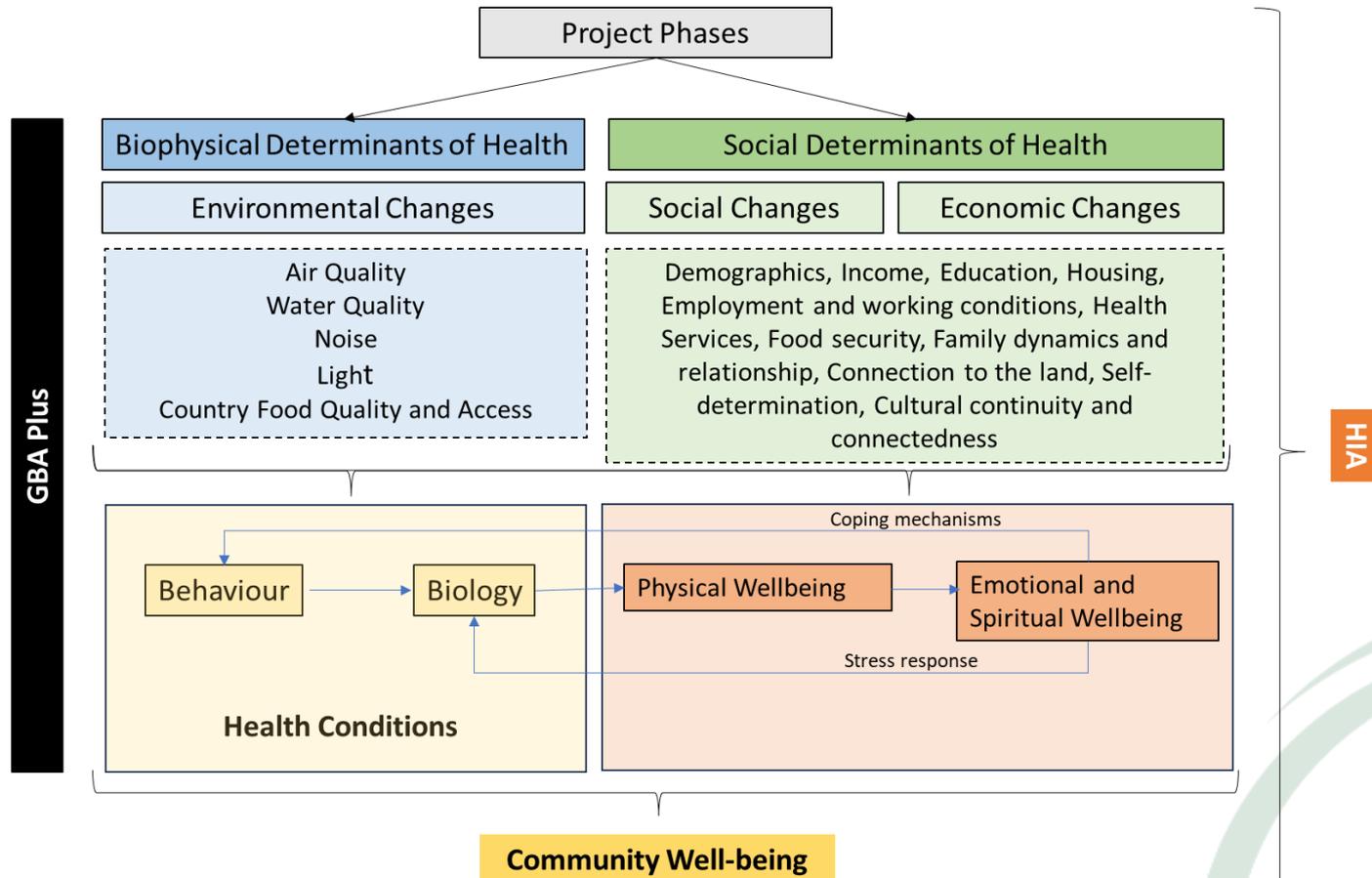
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## Health Definition







# Three Potential Effects of the Project on Health

Change in  
Physical  
Health

Change in  
Mental Health  
and Social  
Wellbeing

Change in  
Community  
Safety





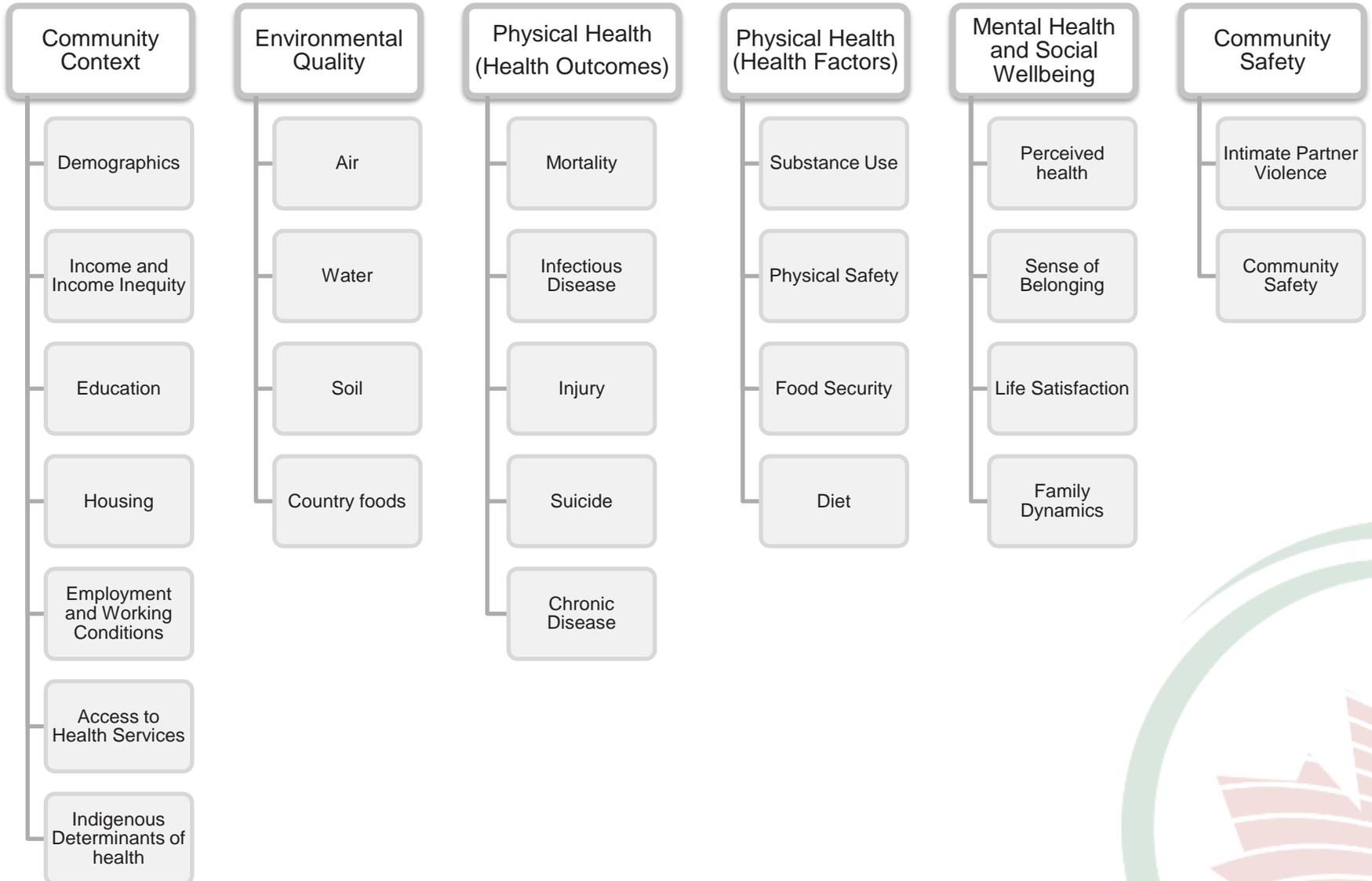
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# Community Health Profile



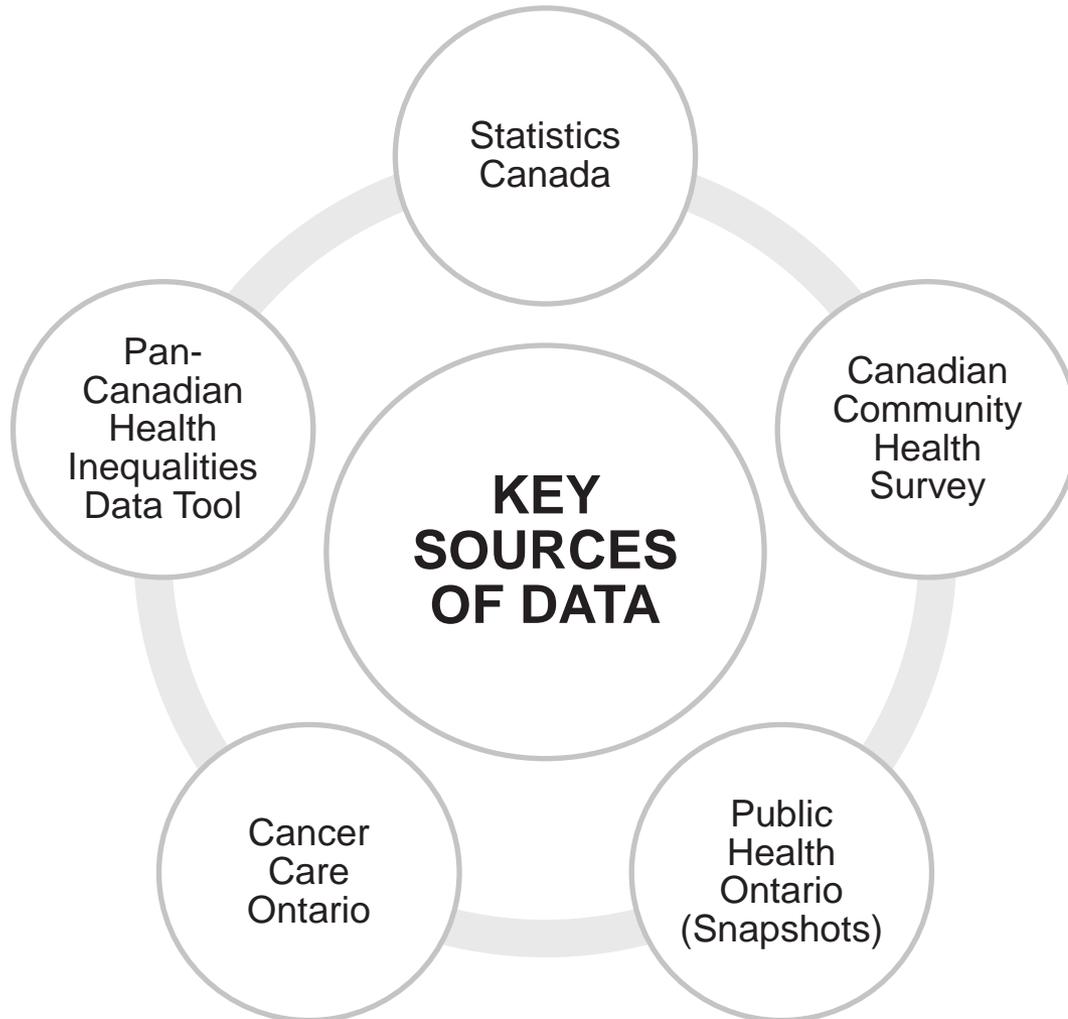
<https://www.porcupinehu.on.ca/en/your-health/sexual-health/>







# Key Sources of Data and Sources of Information



- Timmins Police Service
- The National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (2019)
- National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health (NCCDH)
- National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health (NCCIH)
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Porcupine Health Unit
- Women and Gender Equality Canada
- World Health Organization



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# Seeking Your Input

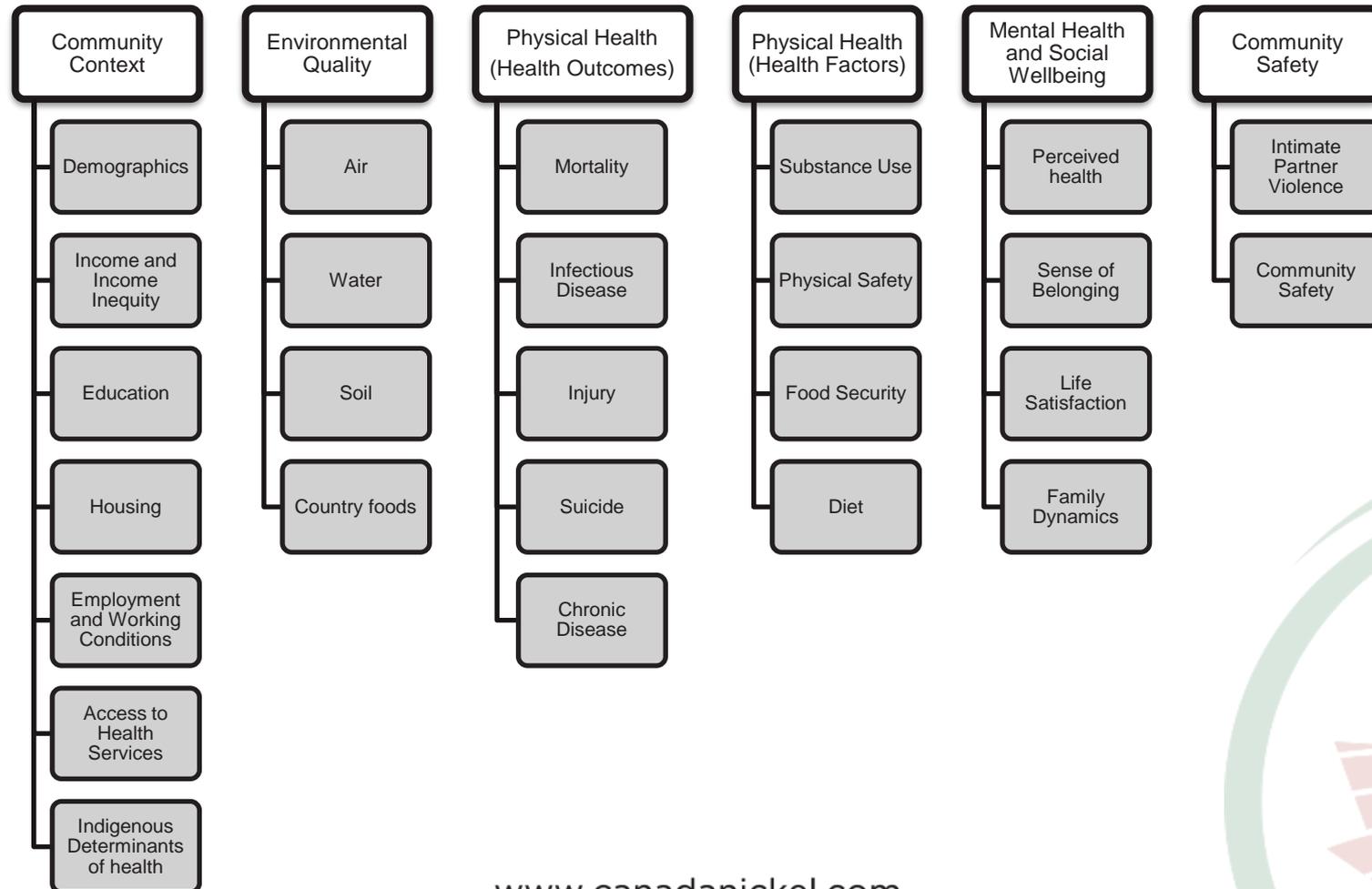


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# Have we Overlooked Anything?





## Data Availability - Demographics

Indicator	Porcupine Health Unit	Ontario
Size of Region (km squared)	-	892, 412
Population 2021	81,188	14,223,942
Population growth rate (% change from 2016 to 2021)	-	6
Population density (per square kilometre)	-	16
Immigrants (%)	2.9	30
Indigenous population (%)	21.0	2.9
Visible minority (%)	3.4	34.3
English mother tongue (%)	51	65
French mother tongue (%)	38	3
Other mother tongue (%)	6	27
Speaking neither English nor French (%)	0	2

Notes: “ - ” denotes information that is not available

Source: Statistics Canada 2023b



# Data Availability - Demographics

INDICATOR	PHU	ONTARIO
Size of Region (km squared)	271,922.4	908,699.3
Population (2016)	84,281	13,448,494
Population growth rate (2011 to 2016)	-0.03%	4.60%
Population density (persons/km <sup>2</sup> )	0.3	14.8
Immigrants (%)	2.7	29.1
Aboriginal population (%)	19.6	2.8
Visible minority (%)	1.6	29.3
Mother tongue (%)		
• English	50.1	68.8
• French	42.0	3.8
• Other	7.9	27.4
Speaking neither English nor French (%)	0.3	2.4
Rural population (%)	30.9-34.6	13.8
Dependency ratio (%)	67.9	64.5

Source: Statistics Canada, 2016 Census of Population

Porcupine Health Unit	Ontario
-	892,412
81,188	14,223,942
-	6
-	16
2.9	30
21.0	2.9
3.4	34.3
51	65
38	3
6	27
0	2



## Confirmation of Data - Education

<b>Educational attainment indicators (%)</b>	<b>Porcupine Health Unit</b>	<b>Ontario</b>
Less than high school	28	17
High school	72	83
Apprenticeship/trade certificate/diploma	8.2	5
College, CEGEP <sub>1</sub> or other non-university certificate/diploma	26	20
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	1.2	2.4
University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	1.0	2.0
Source: Statistics Canada 2023b		



# Confirmation of Data - Education

Table 2. Selected indicators of social determinants of health, PHU and Ontario, 2016

INDICATOR	PHU	ONTARIO
Unemployment rate (%)	9.6	7.4
Education (%)		
• Less than high school	28.9	17.5
• High school	25.5	27.4
• Apprenticeship/trades certificate/diploma	9.8	6.0
• College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate/diploma	24.4	20.8
• University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	1.5	2.2
• University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	9.9	26.0

Educational attainment in PHU	PHU	ONTARIO
Less than high school	28.9	17.5
High school	25.5	27.4
Apprenticeship/trade certificate or diploma	9.8	6.0
College, CEGEP, or other non-university certificate/diploma	24.4	20.8
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	1.5	2.2
University certificate; diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	9.9	26.0

Source: Statistics Canada 2023b

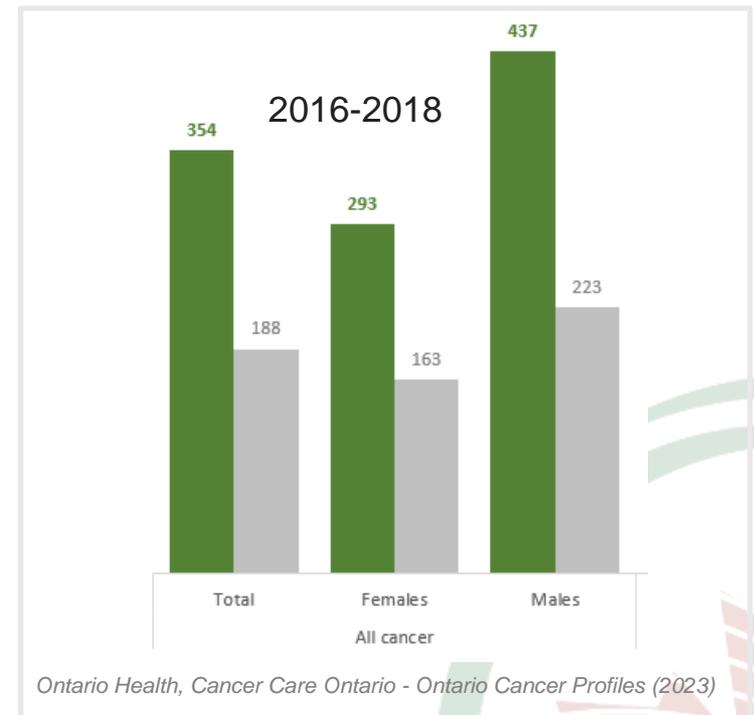
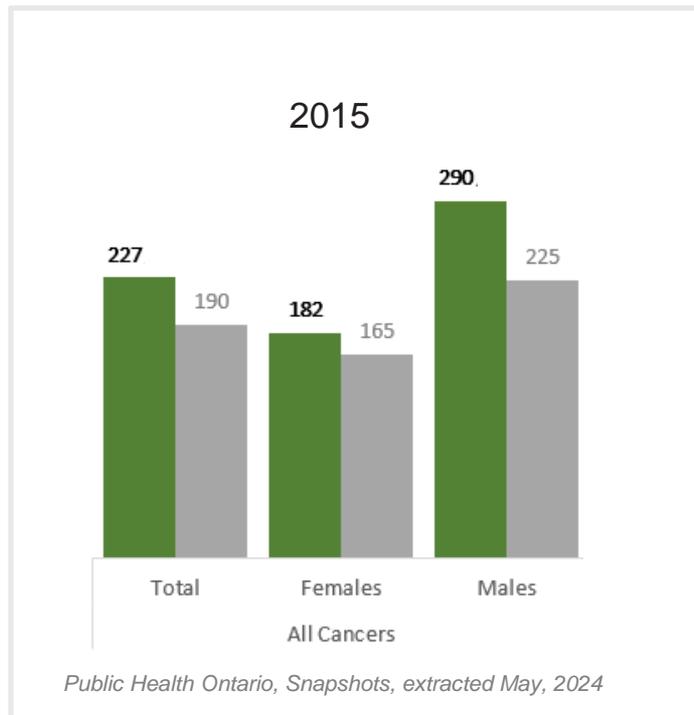
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# Data Correctness – Cancer Statistics

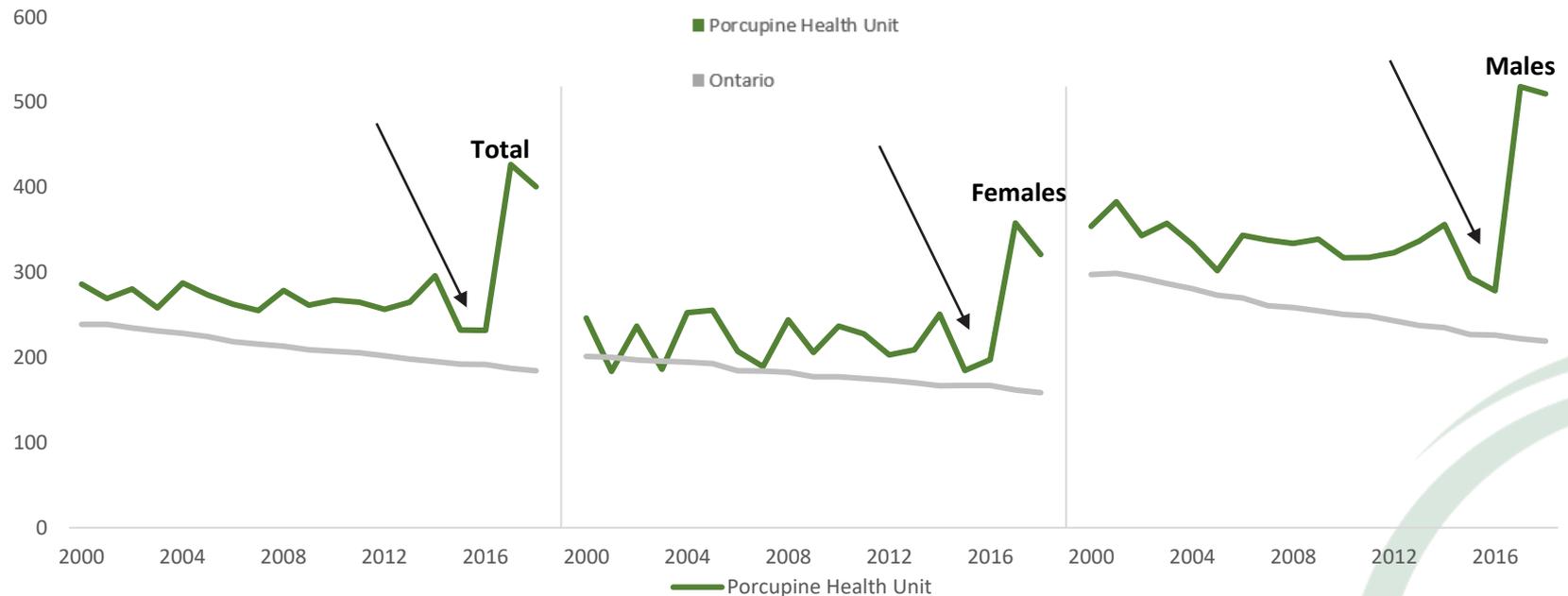
Cancer Mortality for Porcupine Health Unit and Ontario (age-standardized rates per 100,000 population)





# Data Correctness – Cancer Statistics

All Cancer Mortality for Porcupine Health Unit and Ontario (age-standardized rates per 100,000 population)



Ontario Health, Cancer Care Ontario - Ontario Cancer Profiles (2023)

04 Seeking Your Input



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## Thank you

Loren D. Knopper, B.Sc.,  
M.Sc., Ph.D.  
Senior Principal,  
Environmental Services  
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- CNC Community BBQ & Open House Events
  - Timmins – June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 4-7 PM, Timmins Core Shack
  - Cochrane – June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 4-7 PM, Cochrane Pavilion
- Next Socio-Economic Meeting: Fall 2024
- Impact Statement submission: Fall 2024





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# QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ?

**PLEASE CONTACT**

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS  
TEAM

[community@canadanickel.com](mailto:community@canadanickel.com)

[www.canadanickel.com](http://www.canadanickel.com)

