

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
October 7, 2014

GDCF Publish Golden & Area A's Vital Signs for 2014 *13 Issue Areas remain steady or improve over last 3 years*



The Golden & District Community Foundation's Ryan Watmough and Nola Milum look over the newly-printed community indicator report, "Golden & Area A's Vital Signs 2014." A team of local volunteers collected and analyzed data sets to better understand how the community is performing across 13 Issue Areas and then outline what can be done to improve.

(Golden, BC) – The Vital Signs® Report provides a snapshot of Golden & Area A that continues to “tell it like it is” – highlighting areas of concern and reasons for celebration. Vital Signs® 2014 is the 2nd Report (the 1st was published in 2011) of a long-term review initiative and one that this community intends to revisit every 3 years.

In 2011, over 300 citizen survey respondents became graders for Golden & Area A's Vital Signs®. The Report delivered a sobering wakeup call that our authentic adventure community includes challenges that threaten the quality of life for many local residents, businesses and organizations.

Three years later, 400 citizen graders confirm that the Economy and Work are still the community's top priorities. The issue area Getting Started & Staying has moved up to 3rd priority, suggesting that more should be done to help newcomers and long-time locals.

Golden & Area A's Vital Signs® 2014 reveals that after the economic crisis of 2009, the community is still trying to advance and flourish.

With that in mind, one must ask, "How will Kicking Horse Country perform in 2017?"

Survey respondents in 2014 expect the community's performance to hold steady on 6 issue areas and improve on the remaining 7. This optimism is encouraging, and the opportunity will be in ensuring that all residents can participate and benefit from the community's success.

This Report was only possible with our volunteer Project Team members who donated their time, their skills and their expertise for the Golden & District Community Foundation. Volunteers are the backbone of our community.

The GDCF would like to thank organizations that provided local data sets and their volunteer Project Team that analyzed the data. In the coming months, the findings from Vital Signs 2014 will be presented to groups like Rotary and at the Local Intelligence Gathering.

After reviewing a copy of the Report, if your group would like to book a presentation or engage in a discussion about any one of the 13 Issue Areas, please contact Ryan Watmough through www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca.

About the Golden & District Community Foundation

The Golden & District Community Foundation's mission is to attract and effectively grow permanent funds; provide leadership and administration that helps in addressing significant community needs; and help donors fulfill their philanthropic interests.

To learn more about your community foundation and Golden & Area A's Vital Signs project, please bookmark www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca.

-30-

For more information contact:

Ryan Watmough, Executive Director
Golden & District Community Foundation
PO Box 1485 Golden, BC V0A 1H0
Phone: 1-250-344-8610
Email: admin@goldencommunityfoundation.ca
Website: www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca