



KAMLOOPS BACKGROUND

February 2014

Development and Engineering Services

City of Kamloops



Let's Talk

KAMPLAN REVIEW & UPDATE

Call: 250-828-3568

Email: kamplan@kamloops.ca

Web: www.kamloops.ca/kamplan



Canada's Tournament Capital



KAMLOOPS BACKGROUND

Regional Context

Kamloops is situated in the Southern Interior of British Columbia in the Thompson Valley within the Thompson Nicola Regional District. The central core of the city is located in the valley near the confluence of the north and south branches of the Thompson River.

Neighbourhoods stretch for several kilometers along both north and south branches, as well as to the steep hillsides along the south portion of the city and lower northeast hill sides. Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc areas begin just to the northeast of the downtown core but are not located within the city limits. These lands are not subject to City policies and regulations.

To leave Kamloops' city limits, it is necessary to pass through the band lands before re-entering the city limits to access the communities of Rayleigh and Heffley Creek. Kamloops is surrounded by the smaller communities of Cherry Creek, Pritchard, Savona, Scotch Creek, Adams Lake, Chase, Paul Lake, Pinantan and others.

The climate of Kamloops is semi-arid due to its rain shadow location. Kamloops is subject to short cold snaps where temperatures can drop to around -20°C (-4°F) when Arctic air manages to cross the Rockies and Columbia Mountains into the Interior.

Kamloops is accessed via major highways 5A, 5 (Yellowhead) 1 (TransCanada) and 97. Kamloops is approximately 350 km northeast from Vancouver, 170 km northwest of Kelowna and 620 km west of Calgary. The CN and CP railways also transect the City and are important factors in the early settlement and growth of the City.

Local Context

The history of Kamloops is strongly connected to the progression of transportation technologies – the confluence of the river, the meeting of the railways and the major provincial highways.

The name Kamloops comes from the Secwépemc word Tk'emlúps meaning "the meeting of the rivers."

The City of Kamloops' economy is strong and diverse. Forestry, mining, retail and agriculture have always anchored the economy of Kamloops as core, or driver, industries and now the emerging areas of technology, bioenergy, sustainable industry and tourism are strengthening our economic base and contributing to the City's dynamic growth.

With its well established transportation networks, infrastructure and growing university, Kamloops is attracting and supporting an ever increasing number of large businesses and major corporations in many sectors. The accessibility to markets, unparalleled natural environment, cosmopolitan urban areas and unique lifestyle all play a significant role for choosing to do business in Kamloops.

Today, the City of Kamloops spans approximately 311 square kilometers ranging from a centralized downtown core to suburban and rural neighbourhoods. Kamloops is on the meeting point of the South Thompson and the North Thompson which, together, create the Thompson River.

The City consists of these primary planning neighbourhoods

City Centre	Batchelor Heights
North Shore	Westsyde
Valleyview	Juniper Ridge
Dallas	Mount Dufferin
Raleigh	Rose Hill
Heffley Creek	Campbell Creek
Sahali	Barnhartvale
Aberdeen	Mission Flats
Knutsford	Tranquille on the Lake
Brocklehurst	

Kamloops was incorporated as a city of 500 people in 1893 shortly after the completion of the CP Railway. The modern Trans Canada Highway was opened in 1962, and the Yellowhead Highway in 1970. Kamloops, at the junction of four transportation systems, has been justifiably called the "Hub City".

In June, 1967, North Kamloops was amalgamated with the older south shore Kamloops, and in May, 1973, the municipalities of Valleyview, Brocklehurst, unincorporated areas of Westsyde, Dallas, Rayleigh, Barnhartvale and Mount Dufferin, as well as the remaining unincorporated area, were also added. Today Kamloops is 119 years old but still young and growing fast.

What is KAMPLAN?

KAMPLAN, the Official Community Plan (OCP) of the City is a general statement of the broad objectives and policies of the local government respecting the character of existing and future land use and servicing requirements within the political boundaries of the City of Kamloops.

KAMPLAN, first developed in 1974, has been updated over the years with the most recent version comprehensively updated in 2004. Since 2004, revisions and additions to KAMPLAN have taken place on an individual policy basis only. KAMPLAN plans for 20-30 years at a time accommodating increasing levels of population.

The Local Government Act requires that municipalities have an Official Community Plan to guide future land use and development for the area associated with the Plan.

The following topics must be addressed within an Official Community Plan per the Local Government Act:

- Proposed land use and density;
- Transportation, water and wastewater infrastructure;
- Environmentally sensitive areas, parks and open space;
- Housing needs and policies;
- Location of housing to meet a 5 year demand
- Public facilities, including schools, health care, etc.;
- Neighbourhood character;
- Social policies;
- Economic development;
- Targets, policies and actions for the reduction of GHG emissions;
- The regulation of development;
- Building and landscape design guidelines.

The Act also requires regular periodic municipal reviews of OCPs to ensure their continued relevancy to the community as times, issues and priorities change. Public consultation is a requirement of OCP development and

review that provides residents with an opportunity to participate in the planning of their community and weigh in on policy statements drafted.

The OCP is the basis for all policies, regulations, and decisions related to land use and development in the City.

The Plan provides guidance for:

- Economy;
- Environment;
- Physical characteristics;
- Design and development; and
- Social considerations.

The Plan promotes:

- Quality of life;
- Future growth;
- Community development;
- Economic development;
- Environmental sustainability;
- Social well-being;
- Provision of amenities and services; and
- Sustainable transportation systems.

Vision

The City's Official Community Plan (2004) says Kamloops will continue to provide the best quality of life for all residents by:

- Building strong and diverse neighbourhoods;
- Providing a variety of housing types;
- Encouraging healthy and active lifestyles;
- Supporting cultural and athletic pursuits;
- Diversifying economic and educational opportunities; and
- Maintaining sustainable environmental stewardship.

The OCP is the overarching policy document from which other, more detailed secondary plans can be developed. The following neighbourhood and themed plans stem from the Official Community Plan:

Neighbourhood Plans

Aberdeen Area Plan
 Batchelor Hills Land Use Plan
 City Centre Plan
 Juniper/Rose Hill Land Use Plan
 Juniper West Plan
 Kamloops Airport Land Use Plan
 McDonald Park Neighbourhood Plan
 McGill Corridor/Southgate Project
 MacKenzie Island Design Charrette
 North Shore Neighbourhood Plan
 Mount Dufferin Land Use Plan
 Southeast Sector Plan
 Southwest Sector Plan
 Tranquille on the Lake
 Neighbourhood Plan
 Westsyde Neighbourhood Plan

Themed Plans

Parks and Recreation Master Plan
 Social Plan
 Sustainable Kamloops Plan
 Agriculture Area Plan
 Airshed Management Plan
 Bicycle Master Plan
 Intersection Master Plan
 Pedestrian Master Plan
 Trails Master Plan
 Transit Future Plan
 TravelSmart Plan

Background Report

The purpose of these series of background reports is as follows:

- Provide the historical overview of KAMPLAN through the years;
- Provide a review of existing data relative to the City's land use patterns;
- Guide development of the KAMPLAN update by focusing on current issues and challenges;
- To support staff and the KAMPLAN Advisory Committee in sound decision-making with regard to the KAMPLAN Update;
- Provide background information that will help the community understand the planning process to help individuals provide meaningful input toward the Update;
- Generate discussion on land use planning in Kamloops.

KAMPLAN Update

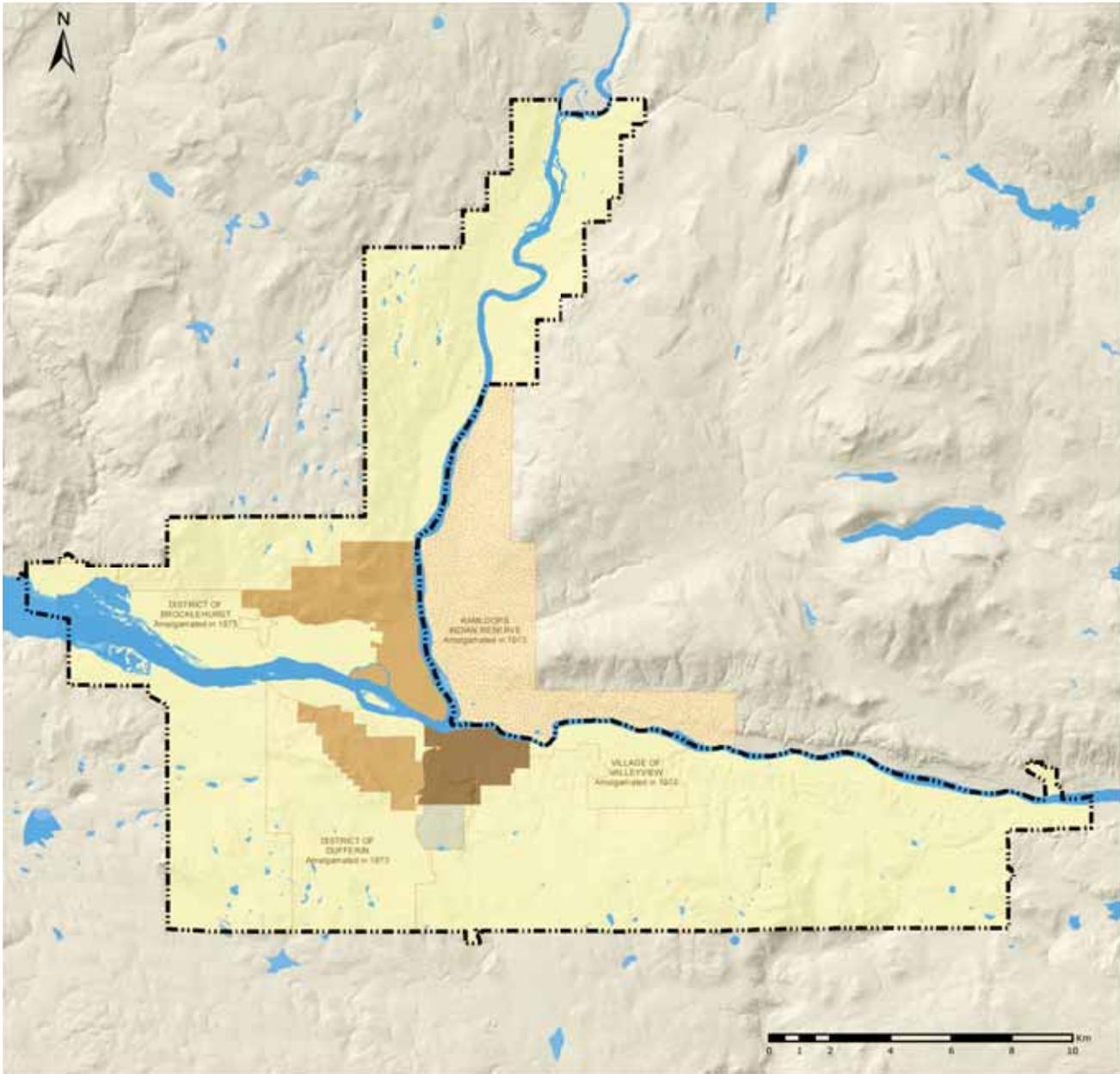
OCPs are typically reviewed every 5 to 10 years, but their long term vision means they set a course for several decades. Why must we update KAMPLAN and why now?

The City of Kamloops is now reviewing KAMPLAN, looking forward to 2036, to update policies to reflect current challenges related to climate change, growth, affordability concerns and planning for sustainability. It has been 10 years since the last update to KAMPLAN in 2004 and since then, the City's population has grown by 6%.

Starting with a base population of 75,000 in 1994, land use scenarios were analyzed through the years for KAMPLAN at the 100,000 and 120,000 population horizons. Using existing growth rates, it is anticipated that the population of Kamloops may reach 120,000 by the year 2036. As such, it is important to revisit KAMPLAN from time to time to ensure there is sufficient land designated for development to accommodate a growing population.

In an effort to raise awareness about the existence and value of KAMPLAN, efforts will also be made to recreate the document in a more visually appealing, user-friendly way.

City of Kamloops Amalgamation Map



- Pre-1967 City Boundary
- Amalgamated in 1967
- Amalgamated in 1970
- Amalgamated in 1973
- Amalgamated in 1973 (Excluded in 1976)
- Current City of Kamloops Boundary
- Water Features