



# PLAN NANAIMO

## DEMOGRAPHIC GROWTH AND CHANGE

You are invited to help decide where we live, work and play. The 10-Year Review for the City of Nanaimo Official Community Plan (Plan Nanaimo) is a public process intended to reaffirm and build on strategies for meeting the many growth challenges the City continues to face.

This review is intended to update the City's Official Community Plan (OCP), which will guide Council in making development decisions for the next 25 years.

This is the final backgrounder, discussing **Growth and Change**, leading up to the 2006-NOV-18 Community Conference. Watch the newspapers and City website next week for another "Backgrounder" summarizing the events of the Community Conference.

### What Is An Official Community Plan?

The BC *Local Government Act* defines an Official Community Plan (OCP) as "a statement of objectives and policies to guide decisions on planning and land use management, within the area covered by the plan, respecting the purposes of local government."

In broad terms, an OCP sets out the location, type, and density of all types of land use, from residential and commercial to industrial, utilities and parks. An OCP can also include policies relating to social needs, agricultural activities, and preservation, protection, and restoration of the natural environment.

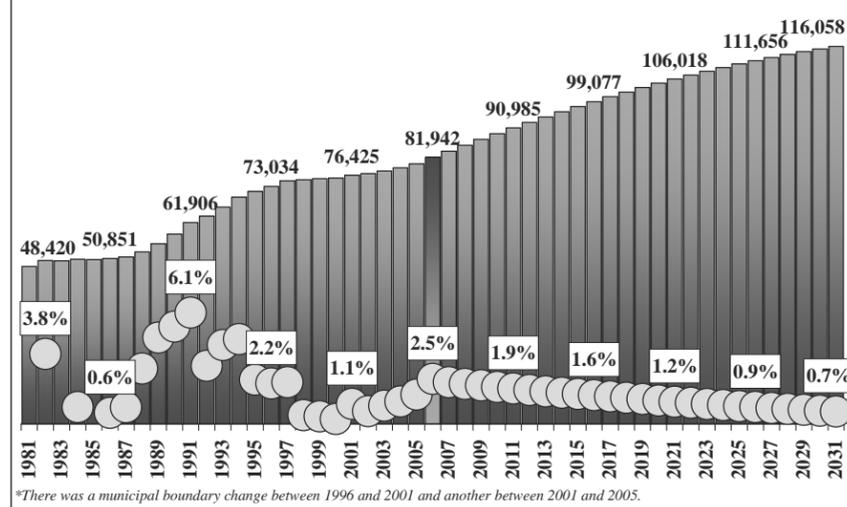
The 10-Year Review is intended to determine:

- How well have we done in meeting the **PLAN NANAIMO** goals for shaping development, land use and other aspects of living in Nanaimo?
- Where are the successes and the shortcomings?
- Are these the right goals to carry forward through the next 25 years?

The City of Nanaimo needs citizen involvement to help answer these questions.

**Plan Nanaimo** sets policies to guide how the City will develop in the future. To do this, we need to project how the population is likely to grow and change.

Total Population, City of Nanaimo, 1981 to 2031\*



### We Are Now 82,000 Strong

This current estimate of Nanaimo's population is up seven (7) percent from the last available Census (2001), which counted 76,425 residents.

Over the next 25 years we expect to add 34,000 new people, for a total population of 116,000 by 2031. This is a significant increase, but at a slower rate than Nanaimo experienced in the 1980s and 1990s.

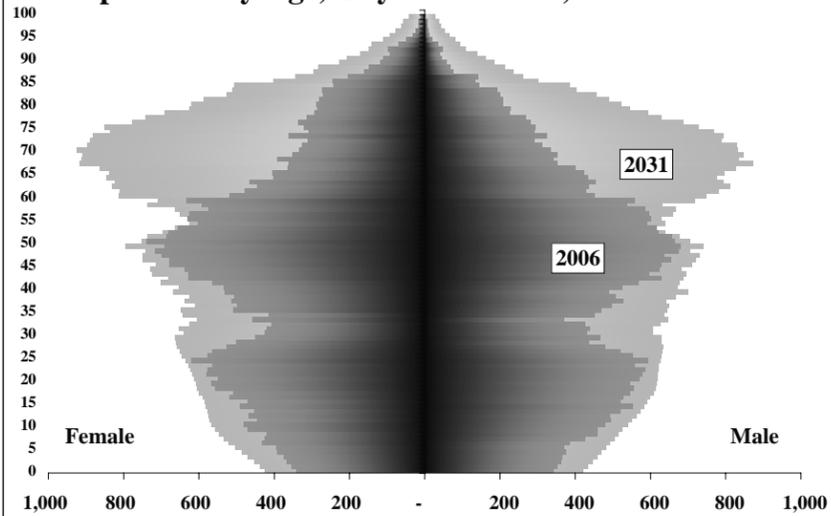
### The Changing Face Of Nanaimo....

As we embark on the **Plan Nanaimo** review, we not only need to plan how to accommodate the forecasted growth, we need to understand **who** will make up our City.

Over the coming decades the greatest increase in population will be in the over 65 age group. This is due to the aging of Baby Boomers into the "empty nest" and retirement stages of the life cycle. Nanaimo will have almost 20,000 new senior citizens by 2031.

At the same time, growth in other age groups will be much smaller – about 11,000 new people in their prime working years (20 to 64) and about 3,000 of age 20 or younger.

Population by Age, City of Nanaimo, 2006 and 2031



### New Housing Will Be Needed

Based on this estimate of population growth and change, about 17,000 new homes of various types will be needed by 2031. About two-thirds will likely be single detached homes and the remainder apartment or ground-oriented attached housing.

### Get Involved!

#### Attend a Free One-Day Community Conference

Saturday, 2006-NOV-18

8:30 am – 4:00 pm

Malaspina University-College

The conference will feature guest speakers, focusing on social, environmental, urban design, and smart growth topics.

Workshops will also be held to share your ideas for the community.

Pre-registration is required to confirm availability.

Register early to guarantee a seat.

Online at [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca), or

By phone at (250) 755-4473

#### Need More Information?

Want to express your views but can't attend the Community Conference?

Contact us to find out about other ways to obtain information or participate in the **PLAN NANAIMO 10-Year Review**.

Email: [plan.nanaimo@nanaimo.ca](mailto:plan.nanaimo@nanaimo.ca)

Web: [www.nanaimo.ca](http://www.nanaimo.ca)

Phone: (250) 755-4483

Fax: (250) 755-4479

Mail: City of Nanaimo Community Planning  
455 Wallace Street  
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5J6

View **PLAN NANAIMO** on the City website, or at the Vancouver Island Library downtown branch, Malaspina University-College library, or City Hall (copies available for purchase).

### Things to Think About

- An older population has different housing and service needs. Should **Plan Nanaimo** put less emphasis on single detached homes and more on multi-family dwellings in growth centres?
- Do you see your housing preference changing in your life cycle?
- What additional community services or design considerations does **Plan Nanaimo** need to encourage for an aging population?
- Does Nanaimo need to encourage new types of businesses / industries for the future working population?

