BRIEFING
Subject: 2017 Municipal Census

Presented to: Council Date: January 8, 2018
Submitted by: Darren Enns, Manager of Development Services Agenda #: 7.3

This report is submitted for Council’s information.

BACKGROUND
Reason for Report
Section 57 of the Municipal Government Act authorizes the Town of Banff to conduct a census. The primary purpose for conducting a census is to produce a total population count. That count, amongst other things, provides the basis for calculating per capital provincial grants for municipalities. It can also provide the Town with information to aid in the development of future plans, policies and programs.

Council motion COU17-82 approved a municipal census with a census date of June 12, 2017:

COU17-82 Moved by Mayor Sorensen that council conduct a municipal census in 2017 that includes the shadow population with a census date of June 12, 2017.

Summary of Issue
The permanent population count submitted to the province from the 2017 municipal census was 8,865 and the shadow population submitted was 793 for a total submitted population of 9,658.

With respect to shadow population, the provincial Determination of Population Regulation (AR 63/2001) states (emphasis added):

2.1(1) A municipal authority may apply to the Minister to have the shadow population included as part of the municipal census if the shadow population in a municipality is (a) greater than 1,000 persons, or (b) less than 1,000 persons but greater in number than 10% of the permanent population.

Banff’s shadow population is both less than 10% of the permanent population and less than 1,000 persons. Despite not meeting the letter of the regulation, the Town of Banff requested that the Minister recognize the shadow population given its importance to the community and impacts on municipal infrastructure and services. This request was denied and as a result Banff’s official population is 8,865.

Schedule A contains a list of graphics and other tables to illustrate key data points from the 2017 census results.

Response Options
This report is submitted for Council’s information.
OTHER INFORMATION

Budget
Many provincial grants are issued based on per capita population. Each resident counted represents approximately $213 in provincial funding. Therefore, the omitted shadow population of 793 residents represents $168,909 in annual provincial funding.

Attachments
- Appendix A – 2017 Census Results

Circulation date: December 18, 2017

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Reviewed By: On original
Robert Earl, Town Manager
The distribution of population by census division has remained consistent with 2014, with census division #6 (central Muskrat Street area) remaining as the most populated district. The few notable increases in population were in census division #8 (Banff Centre) which increased by 109 residents and census division #4 (west downtown) which increased by 108 residents. Notable declines include census division #5 (Deer Street) which decreased by 142 residents, census division #10 (Banff Springs Hotel) which decreased by 75 residents, and census division #2 (Marmot Crescent) which decreased by 70 residents.

There were no identifiable trends from shifting to individual unit enumeration vs. collective enumeration for census divisions containing large, communal staff accommodations:

- Census Division #8 (Banff Centre): +109 residents from 2014
- Census Division #10 (Banff Springs Hotel): -75 residents from 2014
- Census Division #11 (YWCA and Spray): -24 residents from 2014
- Census Division #14 (Cave and Co-op): -81 residents from 2014

The omission of the shadow population (793 residents) had the biggest impact in the following census divisions, which are traditionally home to larger percentages of service sector workers:

- Census Division #10 (Banff Springs Hotel): 147 omitted due to shadow
- Census Division #6 (Central Muskrat): 134 omitted due to shadow
- Census Division #3 (400 Marten): 98 omitted due to shadow
- Census Division #7 (100 / 200 Beaver): 87 omitted due to shadow
The change in population over time has remained consistent, although the absence of the shadow population in 2017 creates an unfortunate anomaly. However if the shadow population of 2017 had been counted, the annual growth rate between 2014 and 2017 would have been 1.0%.
The municipal census data reflects a 6% increase over 2014 in the percentage of residents who work in Banff. This increase appears to have come at the expense of people identifying as working in “Banff National Park”. The shift in terminology (e.g. “Banff National Park” vs. “Lake Louise”) may be playing a role in the responses received. Regardless, the high percentage of residents who live and work in Banff is important for a number of reasons, most notably in the commute to work data below.
The municipal census data reflects a 4% shift in the percentage of Renters to Owners in Banff over the last 3 years.

2014 data for reference
Owner Occupied 43%
Not Owner Occupied 57%
The municipal census data reflects an increase in summer commute to work in the areas of walking (+4%) and transit (+1%) whereas decreases were seen in own motor vehicle (-3%), and bicycle (-2%). Banff continues to have higher percentages of its labour force commuting to work by walking and cycling, which is likely due to its compact footprint and high percentage of locally-housed labour.
The municipal census data reflects an increase in winter commute to work in the areas of walking (+2%) whereas decreases were seen in own motor vehicle (-4%). Transit and cycling were both static.
The 2017 municipal census once again counted “vehicles per unit” as an indicator to be used in policy discussions around residential parking. This metric was not captured in a census since 2007, however property-specific vehicle surveys and inventories have been used since then in policy discussions. Other points of interest might include vehicle ownership rate differences between renters and owners, or vehicle ownership compared to number of units on-site (e.g. large staff accommodations).