

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON
RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

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DATE 11 May 1999

TO/DEST. Community Services Committee

FROM/EXP. Committee Co-ordinator

SUBJECT/OBJET **SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC TRENDS IN
OTTAWA-CARLETON**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Community Services Committee receive a presentation from the Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton and the United Way, Ottawa-Carleton for information.

BACKGROUND

A request has been received for the Community Services Committee to receive a presentation from the Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton and the United Way, Ottawa-Carleton, relative to the above noted matter.

The joint report entitled A Tale of Two Cities/Une histoire de deux mondes, will be released on 20 May 99. Copies will be provided to all Members of Council at that time.

Attached for advance information are the cover and introductory pages of both the English and French reports.

This report is respectfully submitted.

Approved by
M.J. Beauregard

West Carleton

Rideau

Goulbourn

Kanata

Gloucester

Osgoode

Vanier

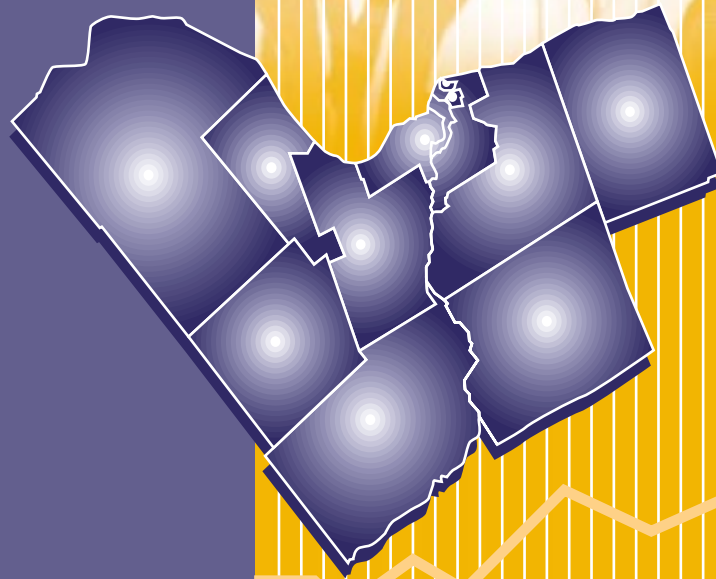
Ottawa

Cumberland

Nepean

Rockcliffe Park

A Tale of Two Cities



Socio-Demographic and Economic Trends in Ottawa-Carleton



Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton



United Way Centraide Ottawa-Carleton

Introduction



The Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton (RMOC) is the key economic region in Eastern Ontario and the Outaouais. For many years, Ottawa-Carleton has been above national and provincial averages in family and household incomes. The bilingual character of the region, its highly educated population, its vibrant range

of cultures, and its well developed social supports have all contributed to the quality of life of people who live here.

Changing economic, social and demographic realities mean that Ottawa-Carleton faces significant challenges in preserving this quality of life for all residents.

Changing economic, social and demographic realities mean that Ottawa-Carleton faces significant challenges in preserving this quality of life for all residents. Although the regional economy is relatively buoyant, little has improved and much has worsened for the disadvantaged, and for the working and non-working poor. Indeed, increasing numbers of people in our region see little hope of improving their lives. Community agencies, which are key players in delivering social support, are struggling to cope with funding reductions at a time when community needs are growing and changing.

A Tale of Two Cities presents highlights of a detailed study of medium and long-term socio-demographic and economic trends, undertaken in 1998 by the Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton in partnership with the United Way/Centraide of Ottawa-Carleton.

In the first chapter, the report looks at the changing human face of Ottawa-Carleton: who lives where, how old we are, the kinds of families and households we live in, where we come from, what languages we speak, our cultures and origins. The second chapter examines the economic picture, such as regional employment and unemployment trends, where our incomes come from, and the broad impacts of regional economic restructuring on individuals and groups such as women, the disabled, youth and seniors. In the third chapter, the report considers evolving social trends and funding issues. The conclusion summarizes key trends and implications raised in the report, and points to a number of gaps in information where more research and examination is required.

Many people and organizations in our region — community agencies, service clubs, schools and hospitals, businesses and entrepreneurs, local and regional governments — are concerned with preserving and enhancing the quality of living for all residents in the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton. Accurate and relevant information is crucial to this process. *A Tale of Two Cities* identifies patterns and trends that can assist in the discussions and decisions facing planners and service providers today, and in the coming years.

Sources

The report draws on data and information from a wide range of sources of national, provincial and metropolitan data, such as the census, Statistics Canada, Human Resources Development Canada, the Government of Ontario, and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton. A detailed bibliography of sources is included in the technical report of the same title, which is available upon request from the Social Planning Council of Ottawa-Carleton.

While the report seeks to identify socio-demographic trends and patterns of change in the RMOC over the past ten years or so, it must be kept in mind that not all the data is statistically comparable. Data collection and analysis methodologies and terms of reference may differ; for example, the geographic areas covered in a 1986 study may differ from a similar study conducted in 1996. It has also proved difficult to obtain recent and comprehensive demographic data on some of the equity-seeking groups at the local level, such as disabled persons, women, seniors, and the Aboriginal population. However, there is considerable data on these populations at the national level, and trends in Ottawa-Carleton almost assuredly reflect trends across Canada. The technical report provides an accounting of sources and identifies areas where data is not fully comparable, as well as where local data is incomplete or not available.

Clearly, more research and information is required in certain areas if social planning is to reflect accurately the changing profiles of the region and its population. A number of areas where more data is needed are identified at the end of this report.

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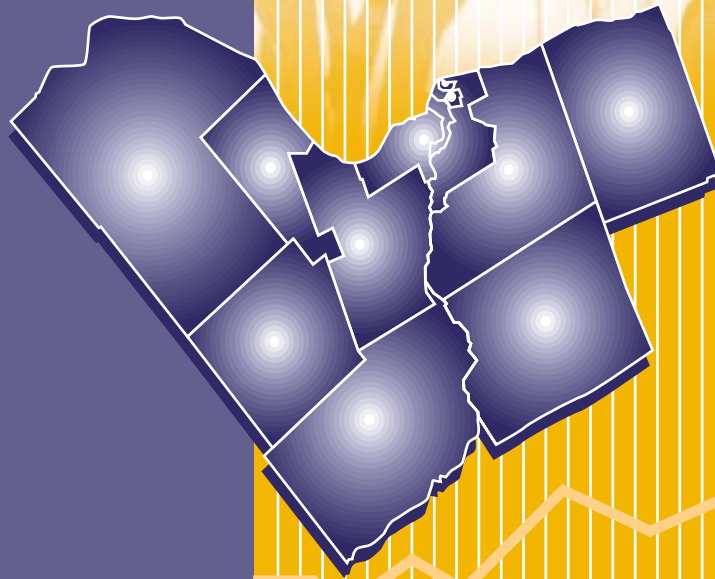
Ottawa

Cumberland

Nepean

Rockcliffe Park

Une histoire de deux mondes



Tendances économiques et sociodémographiques à Ottawa-Carleton



**Le Conseil de Planification sociale
d'Ottawa-Carleton**



**Centraide
United Way
Ottawa-Carleton**

Introduction



La Municipalité régionale d'Ottawa-Carleton (MROC), principale région économique de l'Outaouais et de l'Est ontarien, s'est longtemps maintenue au-dessus des moyennes nationales et provinciales au chapitre du revenu des familles et des ménages. Le caractère bilingue de la région, sa population très scolarisée, sa

riche palette de cultures et sa solide infrastructure sociale sont tous des éléments qui contribuent à la qualité de vie des gens qui l'habitent.

Dans l'actuel contexte de changement économique, social et démographique, Ottawa-Carleton a d'importants obstacles à surmonter pour préserver la qualité de vie de ses résidents et résidentes.

Dans l'actuel contexte de changement économique, social et démographique, Ottawa-Carleton a d'importants obstacles à surmonter pour préserver la qualité de vie de ses résidents et résidentes. Même si l'économie locale demeure relativement florissante, la situation ne s'est guère améliorée et bien des choses ont empiré pour les classes défavorisées, les gagne-petit et les pauvres sans travail. Un nombre croissant de résidents et de résidentes de la région ont en effet peu de raisons d'espérer une vie meilleure. Les organismes communautaires, qui jouent un rôle de premier plan dans la prestation des services de soutien social, doivent lutter pour s'adapter à des réductions de financement tout en faisant face à l'évolution et à l'aggravation des besoins de la population.

Une histoire de deux mondes présente les points saillants d'une étude détaillée des tendances sociodémographiques et économiques à moyen et à long terme, entreprise en 1998 par le Conseil de Planification sociale d'Ottawa-Carleton en collaboration avec Centraide/United Way d'Ottawa-Carleton.

Dans le premier chapitre, nous examinons la transformation de l'aspect humain d'Ottawa-Carleton — les gens qui y vivent, les endroits où ils vivent, leur âge, la structure de leurs familles et de leurs ménages, les régions d'où ils viennent, leurs langues, leurs cultures et leurs origines. Le chapitre deux dresse un profil économique de la région, notamment en ce qui a trait aux tendances de l'emploi et du chômage, aux sources de revenu et aux répercussions globales de la restructuration économique régionale sur des groupes comme les femmes, les personnes handicapées, les personnes âgées et les jeunes. Le chapitre trois traite de l'évolution des tendances sociales et des questions de financement. La conclusion résume les principales tendances et implications étudiées dans le rapport, et souligne un certain nombre de questions qui, en raison d'un manque d'information, nécessitent une recherche et un examen plus approfondis.

De nombreuses personnes et organisations de notre région — organismes communautaires, clubs philanthropiques, écoles, hôpitaux, commerces, entreprises, administrations municipale et régionale — se soucient de préserver et d'améliorer la qualité de vie de l'ensemble des résidents et des résidentes d'Ottawa-Carleton. Il est essentiel, pour ce faire, de disposer d'information exacte et pertinente. *Une histoire de deux mondes* révèle des tendances et des caractéristiques qui peuvent faciliter les discussions et les prises de décisions des planificateurs et des fournisseurs de services, dans l'immédiat et dans les années à venir.