

TOWN OF NEEPAWA

OUR OBJECTIVE:

In our effort to study and build Age Friendly Communities, we have been tasked with producing a report on your town.

Our mission in Neepawa is to learn from the community what towns in Manitoba can do to create thriving, accessible and inviting environments for adults of all ages. We have compiled our first impressions, with the hope that you can help us identify what we might have missed.

Our study is based on the World Health Organization’s guidelines to Active Ageing and Age Friendly Cities. The study-areas of focus are housing, transportation and mobility, outdoor spaces and buildings, and social participation.



HOUSING



TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY



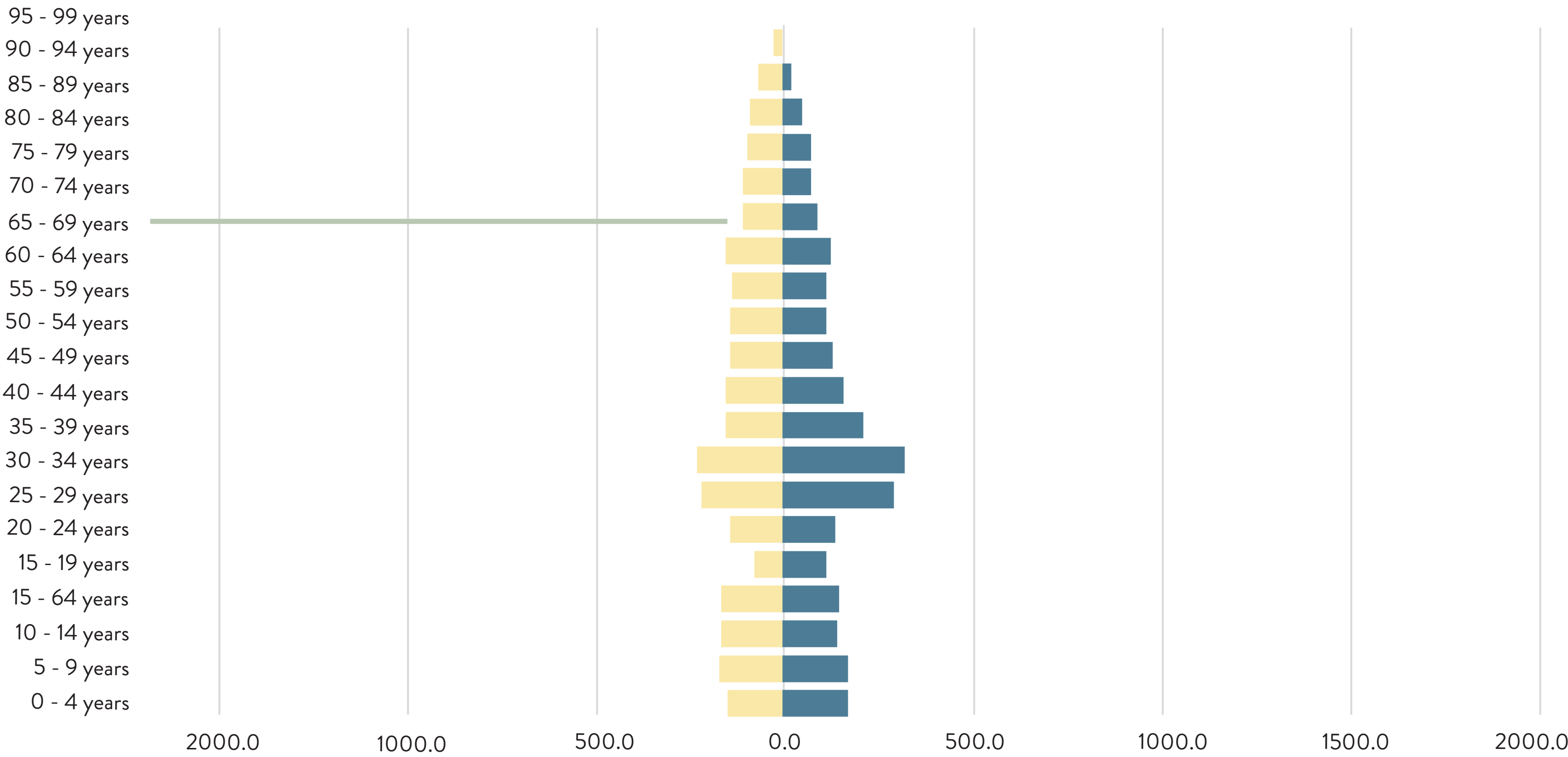
OUTDOOR SPACES & BUILDINGS



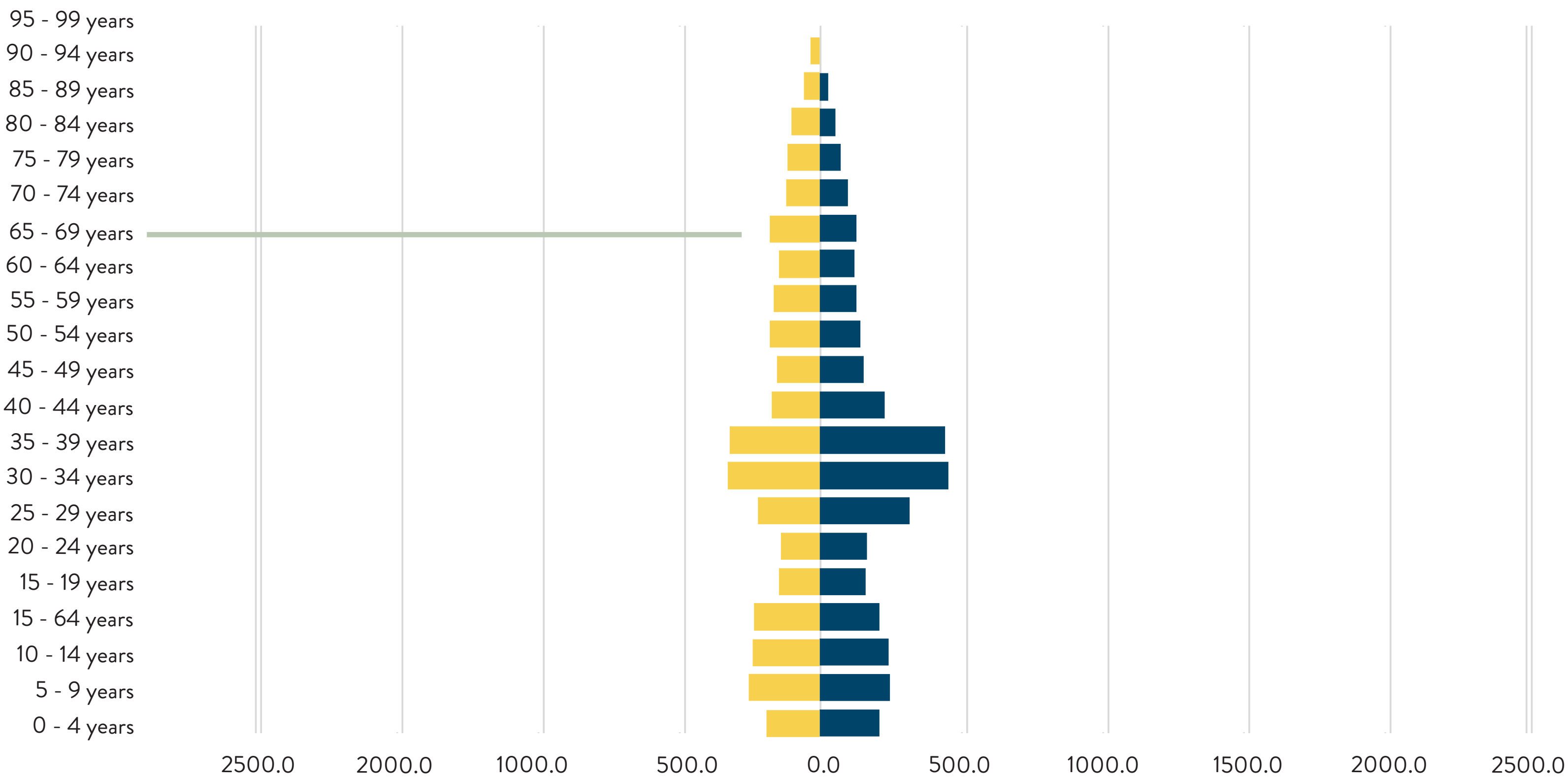
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES:

2016 POPULATION



2021 POPULATION



GROWTH

Named after the Cree word for 'Land of Plenty', Neepawa is the third fastest growing community in Manitoba. The town boasts a burgeoning manufacturing sector, substantial agricultural production, and a rapidly swelling population.



2021 TOTAL POPULATION: 5,680

2016 TOTAL POPULATION: 4,610



2021 POPULATION OVER 65+: 1,020

2016 POPULATION OVER 65+: 930



2021 FEMALE 65+: 600

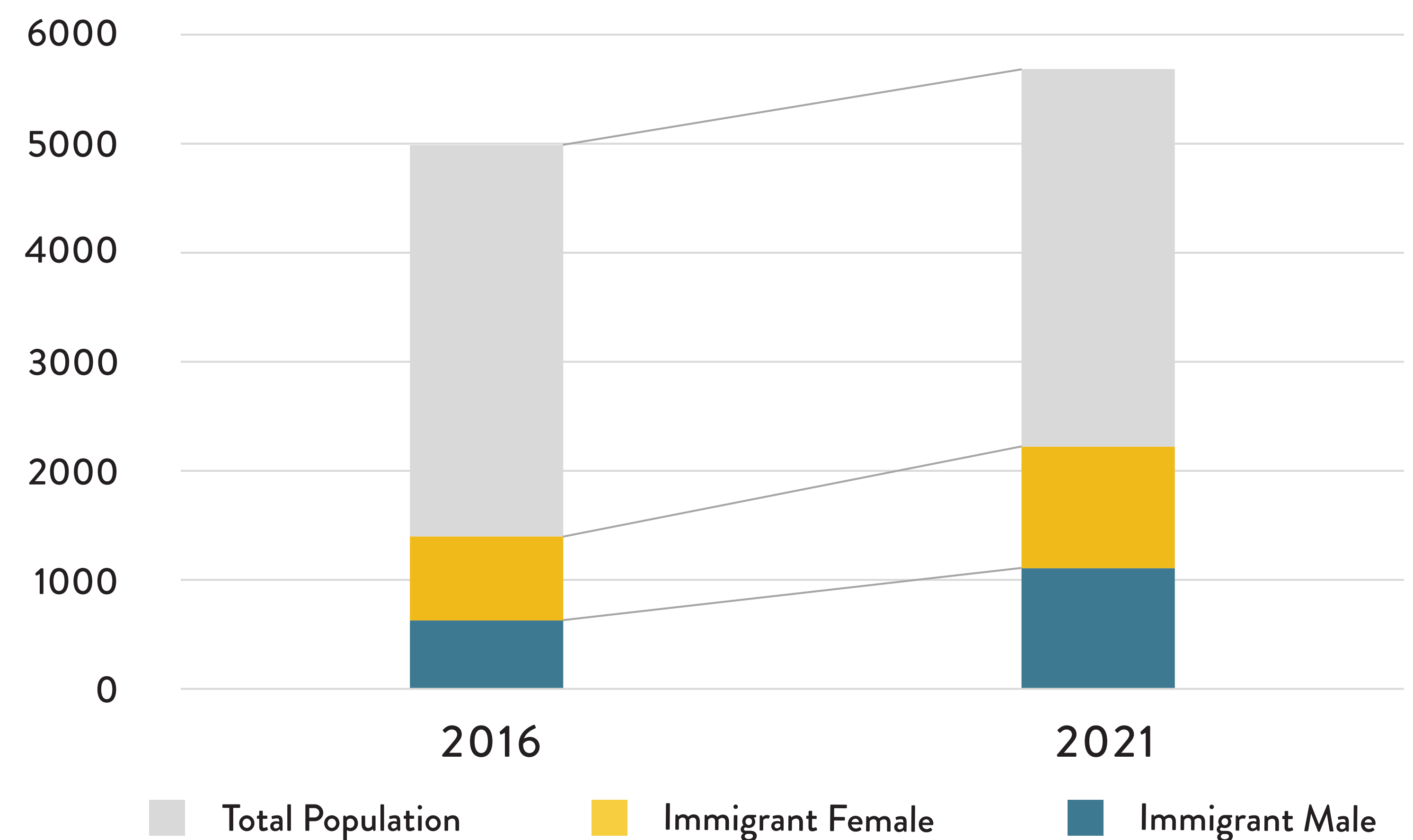
2016 FEMALE 65+: 545



2021 MALE POPULATION 65+: 420

2016 MALE POPULATION 65+: 385

IMMIGRANT POPULATION





HOUSING

HOUSEHOLDS 2021 CENSUS

- Total Occupied Dwellings: 1865
- Single Detached: 1240
- Rowhouses: 160
- Apt in Building < 5 floors: 230
- Apt in Building > 5 Floors: 105
- Movable Dwelling: 85



TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS:
1865

1 PERSON:
540

2 PERSON:
530

3 PERSON:
195

4 PERSON:
235

5+ PERSON:
370

AVERAGE: 3.0

RENTERS:
580

OWNERS:
1290



RESIDENTIAL OPTIONS FOR OLDER ADULTS

- Kinsmen Kourts I & II
- Yellowhead Manor
- Country Meadows
- Elks Manor
- Osborne Units, Burke St.



STRENGTHS

- ✓ Excellent options for downsizing and assisted living
- ✓ Kinsmen Kourts well integrated community
- ✓ Mix of housing types for different lifestyles
- ✓ Development areas exist for new housing
- ✓ Different levels of assisted living available



NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- ✗ Lack of affordable homes for families and workers
- ✗ Growing pool of single person households needing accommodations
- ✗ Eventual need for more assisted living facilities
- ✗ Country Meadows separated by highway
- ✗ Rapidly growing community needs more new housing



WHAT DID WE MISS?

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- Is affordable housing difficult to find?
- Are you able to visit friends that do not live nearby?
- Are there ways to make homes more accessible?



OUTDOOR SPACES & BUILDINGS

SIDEWALKS, PATHWAYS AND TRAILS

- Many sidewalks and roads need to be repaved
- Snow clearing is done on time and allows older adults to get around
- Sidewalks beyond Mountain Ave. and surrounding areas are not interconnected



PUBLIC RESTROOMS AND REST AREAS

- There are more public benches found in the town centre than other areas
- There is only one public washroom located at The Flats and it is not accessible



BUILDING ACCESS

- Some buildings have ramps, however most have stairs leading to entrances
- There are many parking spaces in front of building entrances in the town centre



PERSONAL SAFETY

- There is low vehicular traffic in residential areas
- Street lights on Mountain Ave. may need updating to accomodate road width



STRENGTHS

- ✓ Easy access to services
- ✓ Evenly distributed outdoor seating in the town centre
- ✓ Adequate parking
- ✓ Good sense of safety



NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- ✗ Non-continuous sidewalk network
- ✗ Potholes and uneven streets
- ✗ Cyclists make it difficult for older adults to use sidewalks
- ✗ Not enough green space/parks, especially downtown
- ✗ Inadequate pedestrian crossings
- ✗ Few public washrooms



WHAT DID WE MISS?

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- Are the other buildings accessible?
- Is there adequate outdoor lighting?
- Are there enough traffic calming measures in place?



TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY

HANDY VANS

- Handy vans to access services and destinations within Neepawa and the surrounding areas
- Users pay \$5 per trip on weekdays and \$10 on weekends
- NEW: Seniors Tuesdays - free rides on Tuesdays



INFRASTRUCTURE

ROADS

- Heavy traffic and high speeds of the Yellowhead Highway dangerous for crossing pedestrians
- Pedestrian crossings along Mountain Ave. are not visible



ON-STREET PARKING

- There is diagonal on-street parking on and around Mountain Ave.



CYCLING

- No bike lanes cause users to ride on the sidewalks which endangers pedestrians
- Cycling Without Age: a program allows those with low mobility to get rides

WALKING

- Many residents living centrally walk for their daily errands
- Recreational walking

SIDEWALKS

- Many sidewalks and roads need to be repaved and pose a challenge to navigate with a mobility assistive device.
- Not all sidewalk intersections have tactile surface indicators



MOBILITY ASSISTANCE

- Kinsmen Kourts II is accessible for residents who use wheelchairs, canes, and walkers
- Some older adults use scooters to get around
- Kinsmen Kourts has special parking for scooters

DRIVING

- Many older adults have their own cars
- Others are oftentimes driven by family and/or friends
- No transit lines

STRENGTHS

- ✓ Affordable handy vans - free on Tuesdays for seniors for grocery shopping at Freshmart and Co-Op
- ✓ Convenient parking
- ✓ Timely snow clearing services



NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- ✗ No public transit services
- ✗ Potholes on the road
- ✗ Diagonal parking on Mountain Ave. causes blind spots
- ✗ Cyclists make it difficult for older adults to use sidewalks
- ✗ There are not enough pedestrian crossings



WHAT DID WE MISS?

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- How is traffic at rush hour?
- How safe is it to walk in snowy conditions?
- What would encourage you to walk more?



SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

ACTIVITIES

INFORMAL

- Games:
 - Cards
 - Billiards
 - Board games
- Coffee or meal
- Picking up mail
- Grocery shopping
- Walking
- Pick-up sports/exercise
- Craft groups
- Swimming
- Hosting at home

FORMAL

- Live music
- Cultural events
- Festivals
- Sport leagues and tournaments
- Dancing classes
- Exercise classes
- Volunteering
- Church
- Movies



INFORMATION SOURCES

- Word of mouth
- Neepawa Banner & Press
- Newsletters
- Radio
- Television
- Facebook
- Online
- Bulletin boards located at:
 - HAND
 - Post office
 - Arts Forward
 - Restaurants



ORGANIZATIONS

- Organizations that offer senior programming and activities include:



WAYS TO ACCESS ACTIVITIES

- Drive yourself or get a ride
- Walking
- Handy Van
- Scooter/Mobility Assistive Device



STRENGTHS

- ✓ Amenities are centrally located
- ✓ Good variety of activities
- ✓ HAND offers senior-specific activities



NEEDS IMPROVEMENT

- ✓ No mid-priced clothing stores
- ✓ Greenspaces are generally far from town centre
- ✓ No four-season pool
- ✓ Lack of free gathering spaces



WHAT DID WE MISS?

GUIDING QUESTIONS:

- If you don't live centrally, how do you hear about activities?
- Are there rides for activities that are located far away?
- How affordable are the activities you engage in?
- What activities succeed in bringing out new and young members of the community?

NEEPAWA

LEGEND

- Assisted Living and 55+ Apartments
- Greenspaces
- Recreation and Leisure Facilities
- Churches
- Public Washroom
- Post Office
- Grocery Stores
- Restaurants

