

**Town of Lake Cowichan
Official Community Plan Update 2023
Background Analysis
Part III: Social Economics
of the 2021 Census**



Prepared April 18, 2023

I. FAMILIES

- Children in one parent families: 250.
- Number of single parent families: 160; of which 120 are headed by women and 40 by men.

II. ECONOMIC BENEFITS

- Employment insurance benefits: 300 recipients
- Covid-19 benefit: 6.7% of population received government financial support
- Government transfers
 - 28.2 % of people aged 15 and above (set of 2,430) received transfers, inclusive of old age pension
 - There is no statistical category for low-income financial assistance.

III. INCOME AND INEQUALITY

- Median total pre-tax income of one parent families: \$59,600
- Gini index¹ adjusted for household after-tax income is 0.252 (0 is perfect equality, one is maximum inequality).
- For comparison, Canada's Gini index is 0.33. Lake Cowichan's equality index is better than Sweden's 0.293.

¹ a statistical measure of the degree of variation or inequality represented in a set of values, used especially in analyzing income inequality