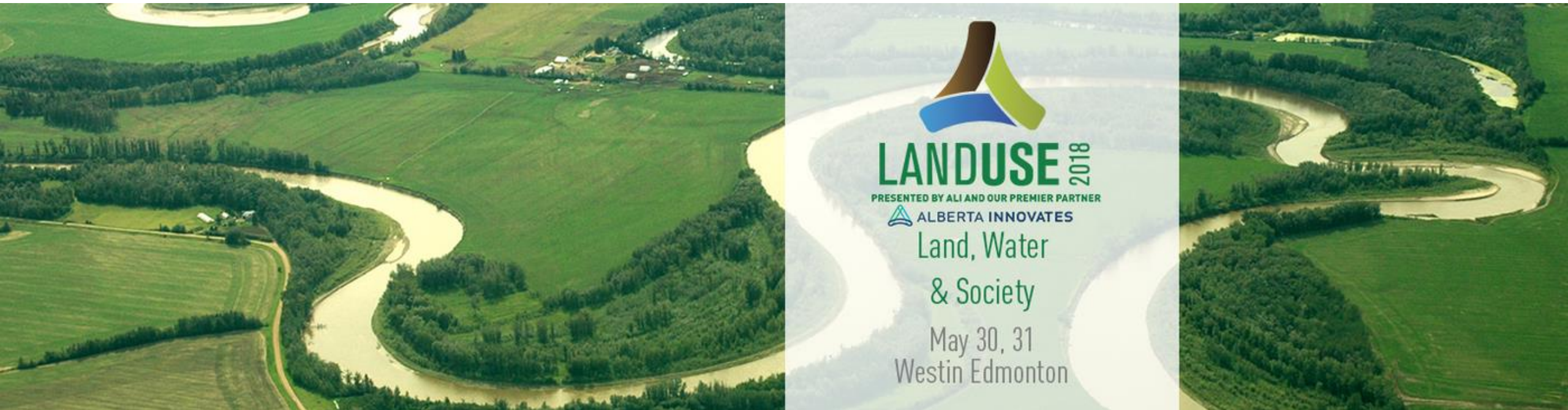


Land Use Tools as Part of a Long-Term Strategy for Local Development: *Possibilities for Contextual Learning*



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The University of Alberta
Faculty of Science & Faculty of Extension

Presentation outline

- Context
 - *Sustainable community planning development*
- Today's focus:
 - Land Use Tools as Part of a Long-Term Strategy for Local Development: *Possibilities for Contextual Learning*
 - [Preliminary] Results
 - Take home messages
 - Next steps



Peace River, Alberta; Photo credit: Might Peace Tourism)



(Crowsnest Pass; Photo credit: Blairmore)



(Flagstaff County; Photo credit: unknown)

Community	Population (2011)	Primary Industries (including historical)
Fort McMurray, AB	61,374	Oil and Gas
Drumheller, AB	6,723	Coal, Tourism
Edmonton, AB	812,200	Oil and Gas, Petrochemicals, Service
Kitimat, BC	8,335	Oil and Gas, LNG
Grande Prairie, BC	55,032	Oil and Gas, LNG, Agriculture
Prince George, BC	71, 975	Pulp and Paper, Oil and Gas
Prince Rupert, BC	12, 508	Tourism, Shipping, LNG
Terrace, BC	15,569	Forestry, Pulp and Paper, Sawmilling
Smithers, BC	5,224	Fishing, Hunting, Tourism
Crowsnest Past, BC	5,565	Lumber
Port Hardy, BC	4,008	Lumber, Aquatic farming
Revelstoke, BC	7,139	Lumber
Blue Cover, NL	60	Fishing
Corner Brook, NL	19,886	Fishing, tourism
Deer Lake, NL	4,995	Pulp and paper, forestry
Gander, NL	11,688*	Fishing, tourism
Port au Choix, NL	839	Fish processing
Rocky Harbor, NL	979*	Tourism, fishing
St. Anthony, NL	2,418	Fishing, container shipments, tourism
St. Barbe, NL	180	Fishery
St. John's, NL	108,860*	Fishery, tourism, processing, government
St. Paul's, NL	258	Fishing
Whitehorse, NT	25,085*	Government
Yellowknife, YK	19,569*	Mining, government
Iqaluit, NU	7,740*	Government, tourism



This project is about gathering information and developing practical tools based on local knowledge and experience to support the development of sustainable communities.

3 year investigation

Qualitative in-depth interviews (N=180)

- Purposeful sampling into snowball sampling, focus groups, participant observation, document analysis

25 communities across Canada

- Western Canada
- Eastern Canada
- Northern Canada

Community planning as a stabilizer

1. Economic resilience – *completed example*
2. Social resilience – *completed example*
3. Environmental resilience – *in progress*
4. Legislative resilience – *in progress*

- **Economic resiliency:** *the ability of communities and individuals to respond to shocks that may impact economic stability and well-being at the individual, household, business, or market level.*
- **Societal resiliency:** *the capacity of societies to cope with many kinds of challenges that impact well-being and is an essential characteristic of what we call "success stories".*
- **Environmental resiliency:** *the magnitude of environmental transformation that can be absorbed by communities using key planning infrastructure and policy prior to critical thresholds being surpassed.*
- **Governance/legislative resiliency:** *a community's long-term strategies, plans, and policies - the formal and informal mechanisms adopted by governing institutions that highlight the importance of good governance, maintain long-term perspectives, and advance community development, stability, and diversity using an inclusive and transparent approach.*

Central research question

How can a realistic role for land use tools towards sustainable development be articulated?

Who are we?

We are a group of interdisciplinary scholars from the University of Alberta developing research on land use tools, governance adaptations and long-term perspectives. As much as we would like to visit all of Alberta's municipalities and communities we are not able to do so, we have therefore designed this survey and with the support of AUMA and RMA hope to reach as many places in Alberta as possible.

Data Acquisition

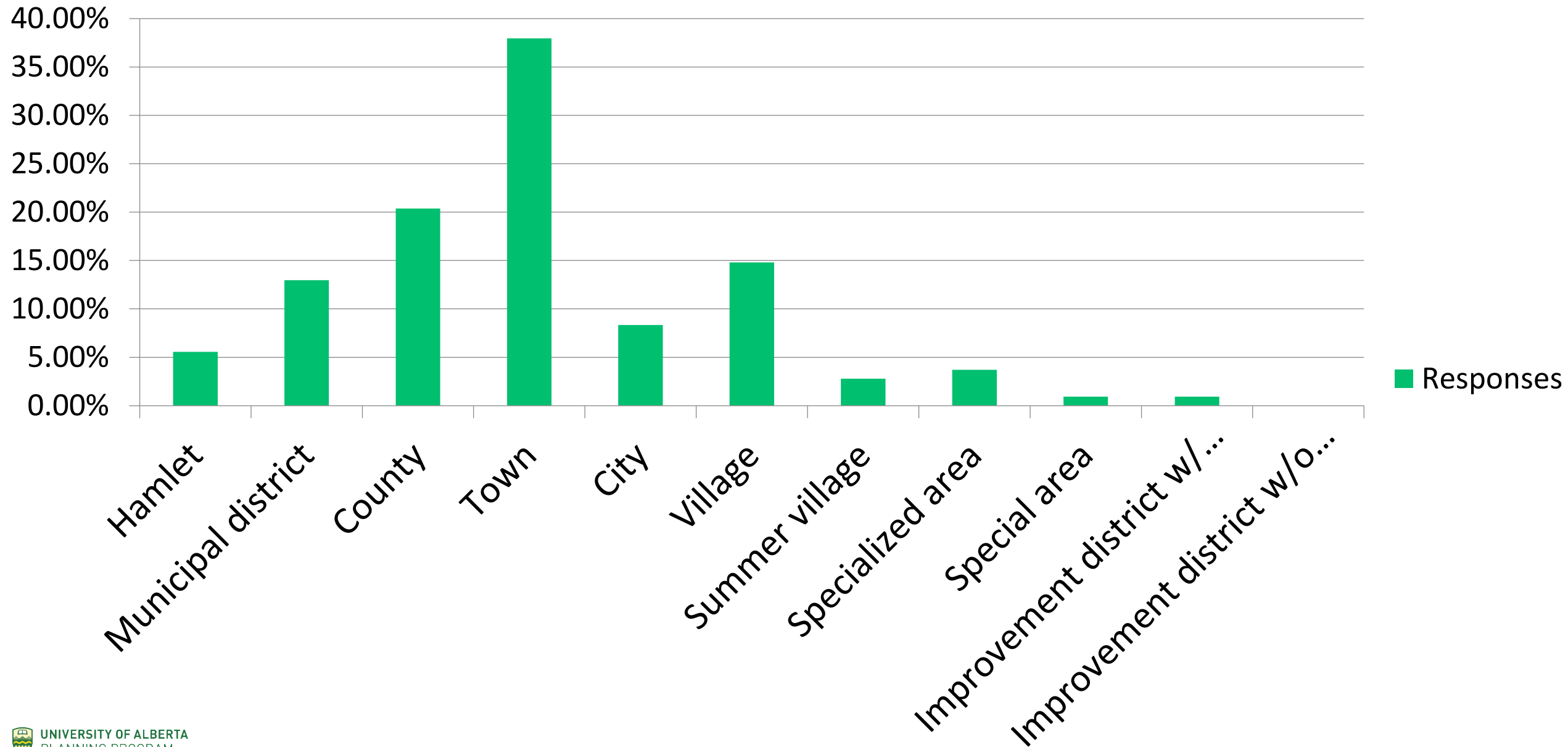
- 30 questions
- ~1000 surveys sent out (email)
 - Alberta Urban Municipality Association, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, Alberta Development Officers Association
- 106 responses (10.6%)
- 69% completed questions
- Not the sole method of data acquisition – follow-up with site (Peace Region, Crowsnest Pass, Flagstaff County (flagstaff united))

An aerial photograph showing a wide, light-colored river meandering through a lush green landscape. The river has several sharp curves and is bordered by dense green forests and open green fields. In the upper right, there is a small cluster of white buildings, possibly a farm or a small village. The overall scene is peaceful and rural.

Preliminary Results

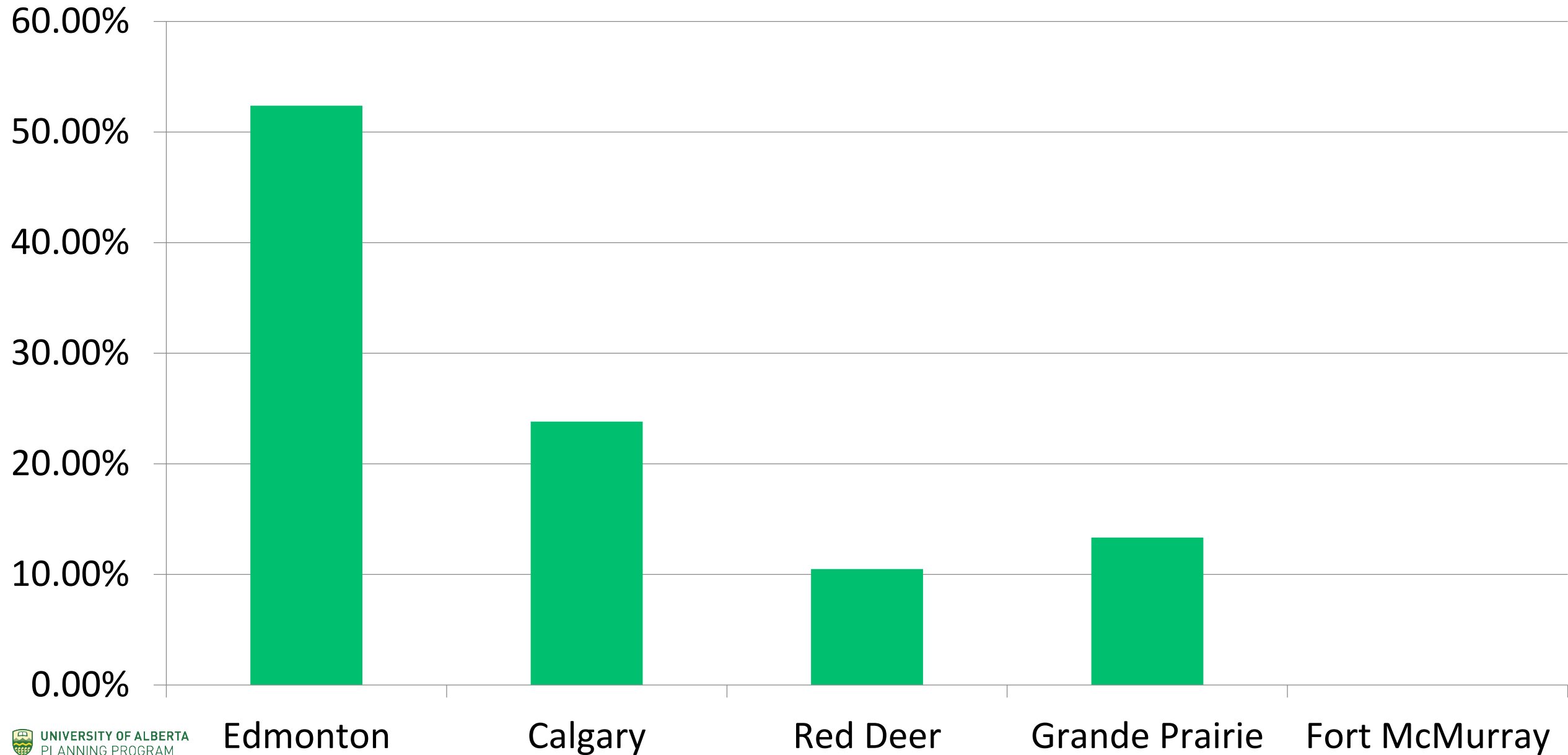
Context:

Type of municipality or community that you live in (please check all that apply)



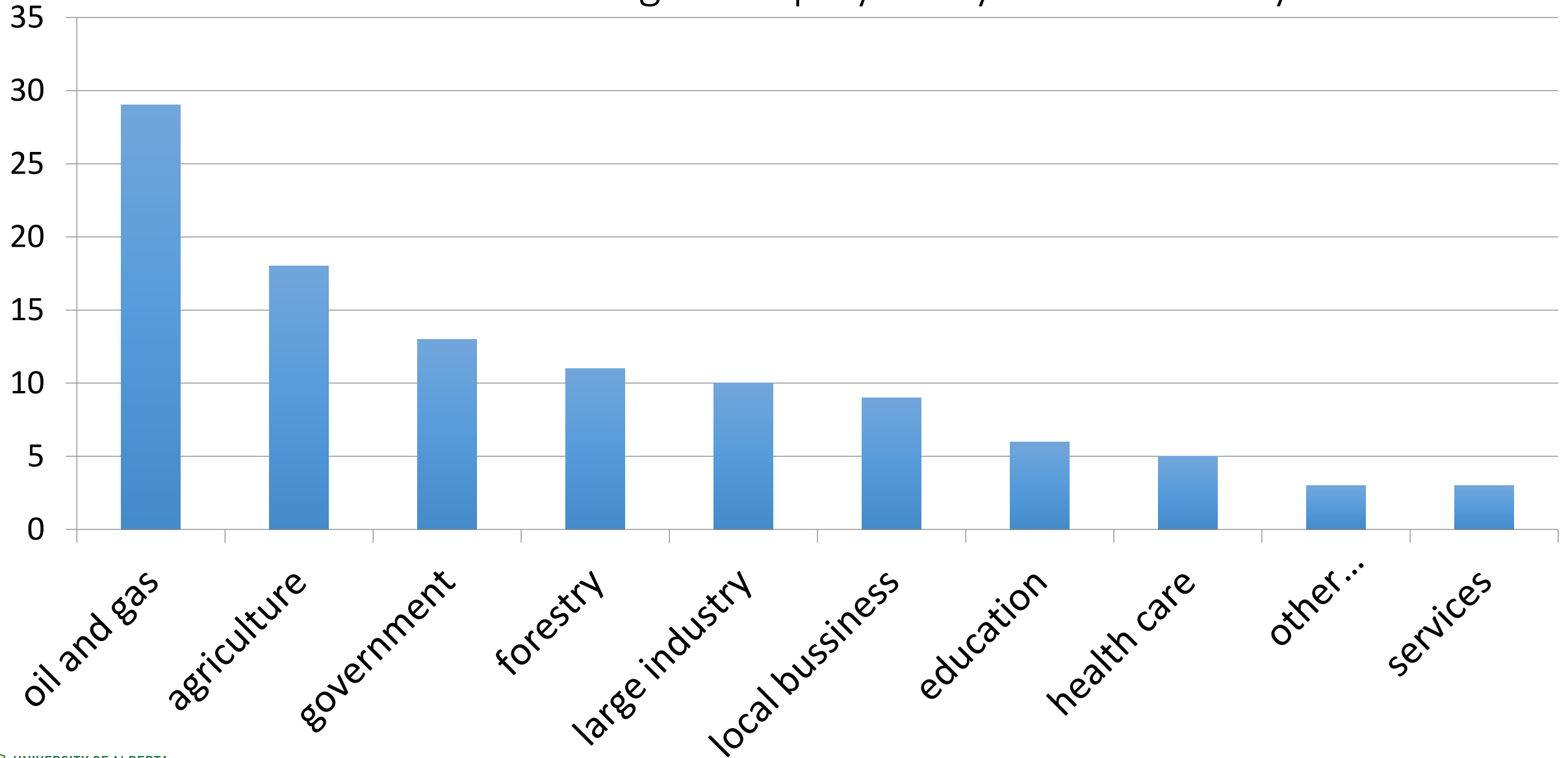
Context:

Which of these large urban settlements is closest to the community by road?



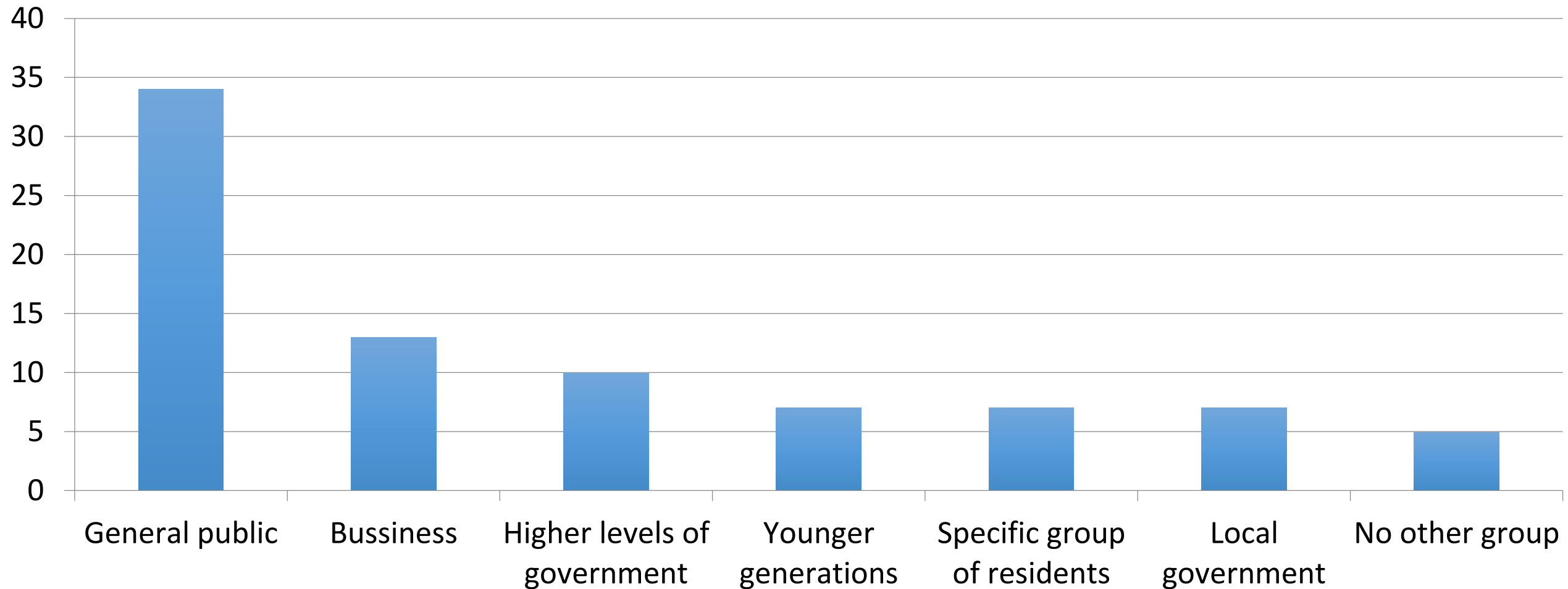
Context:

What is the largest employer in your community?



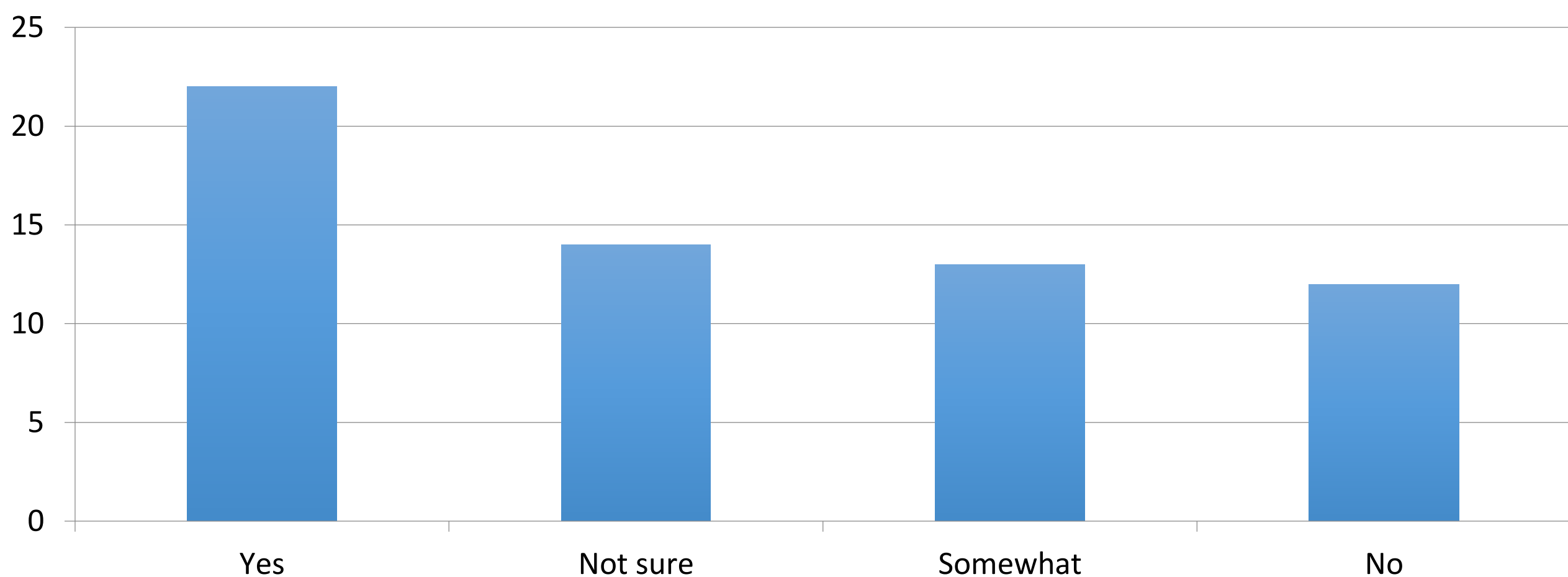
Context:

Who should be more actively involved in the community's decisions?

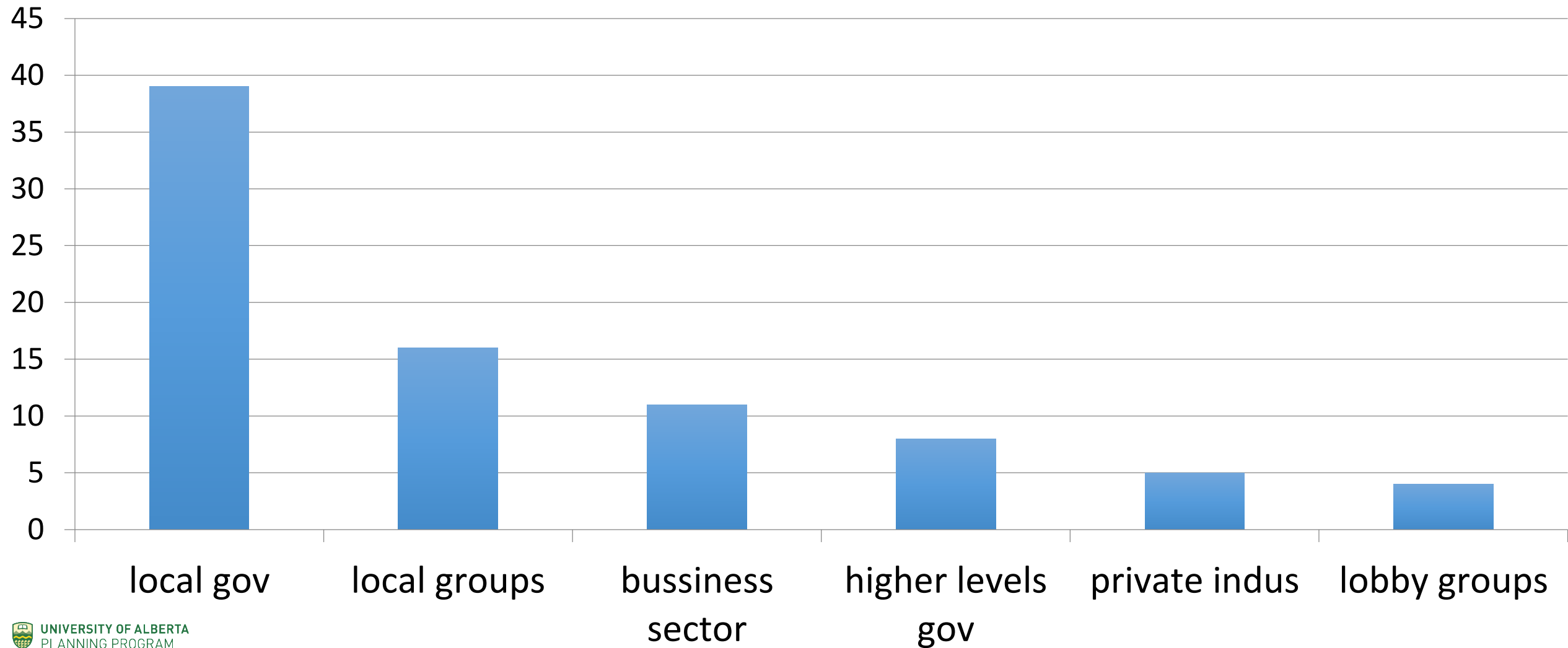


Context:

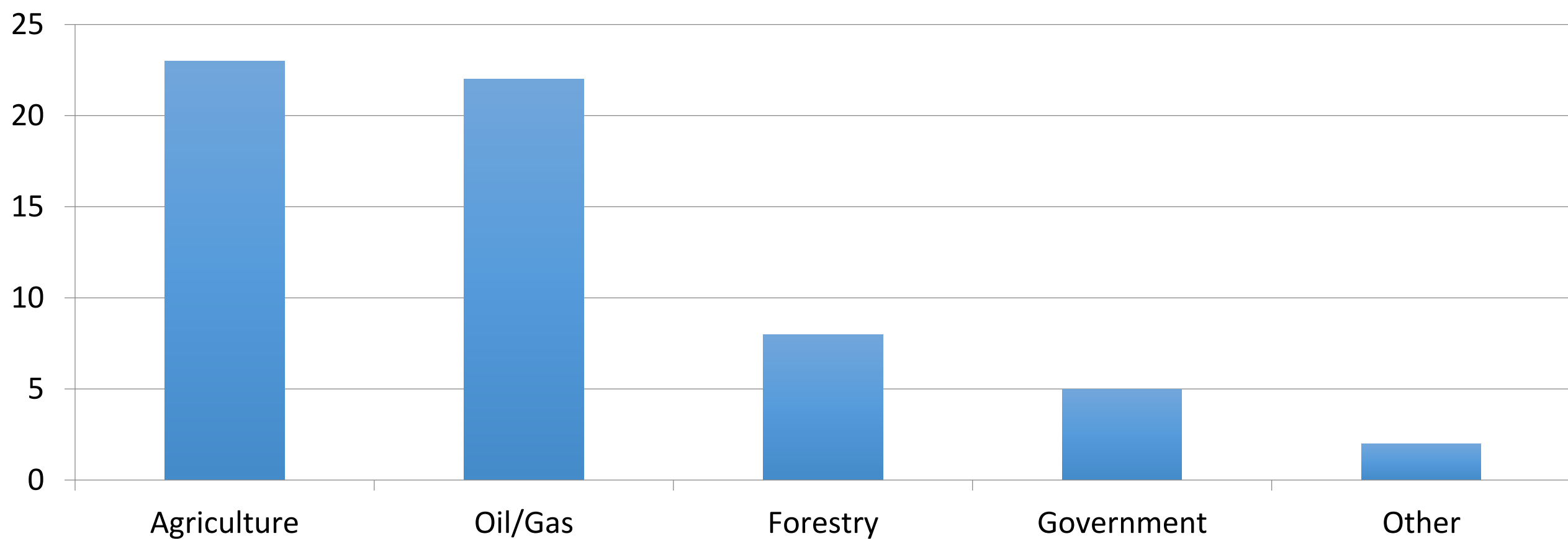
Is the current development strategy or plan effective in coordinating important decisions for the community?



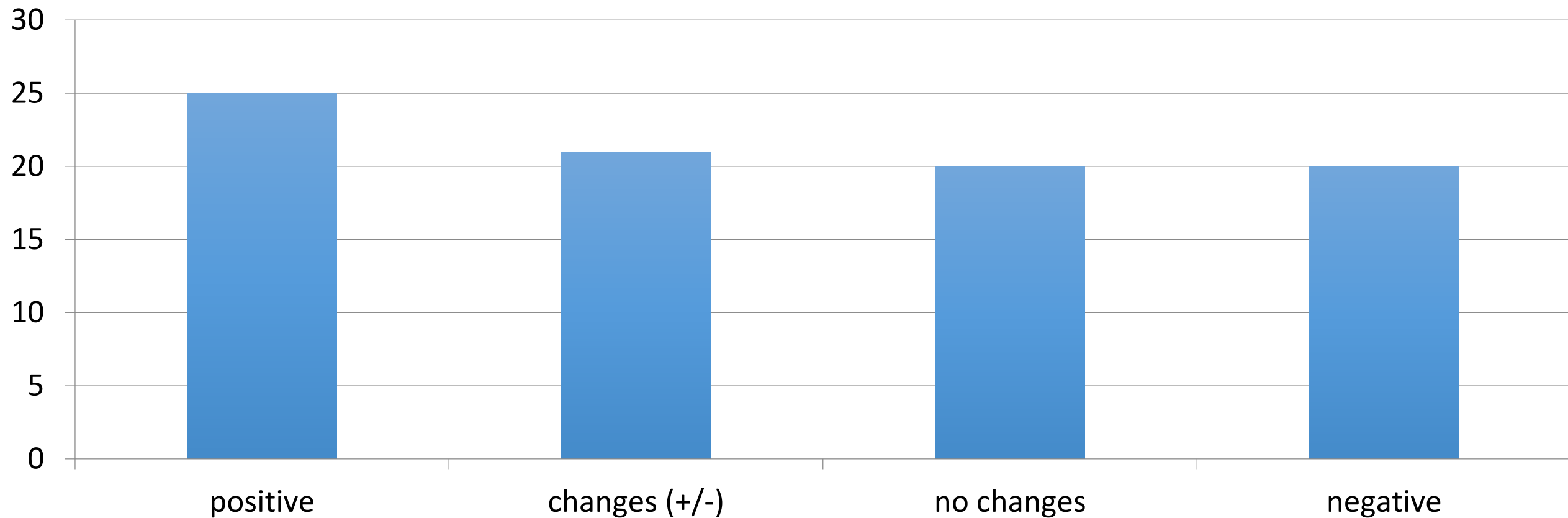
Past planning:
In the past 10 years, who (individual or organization) played a decisive role in guiding the community's development strategy?



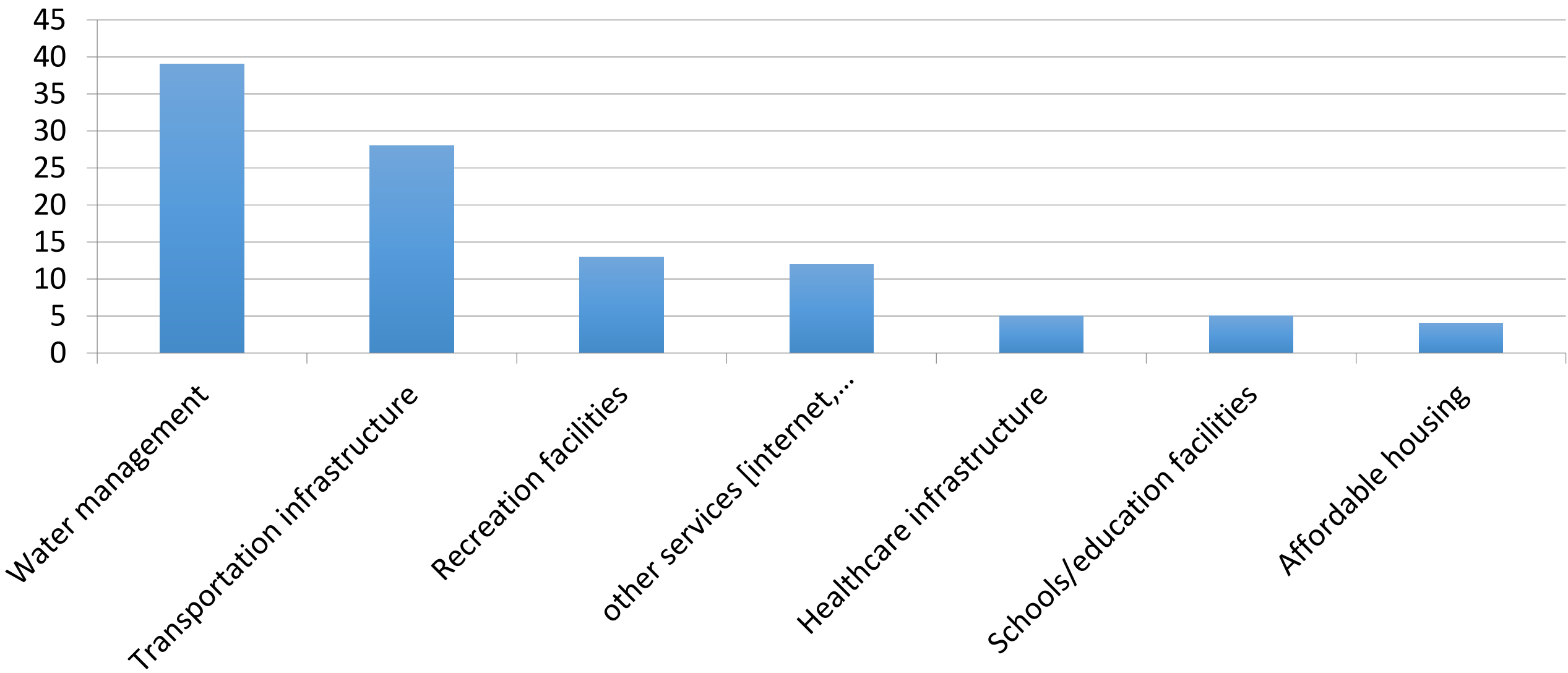
Past Planning: What used to be the largest employer or industry in the community?



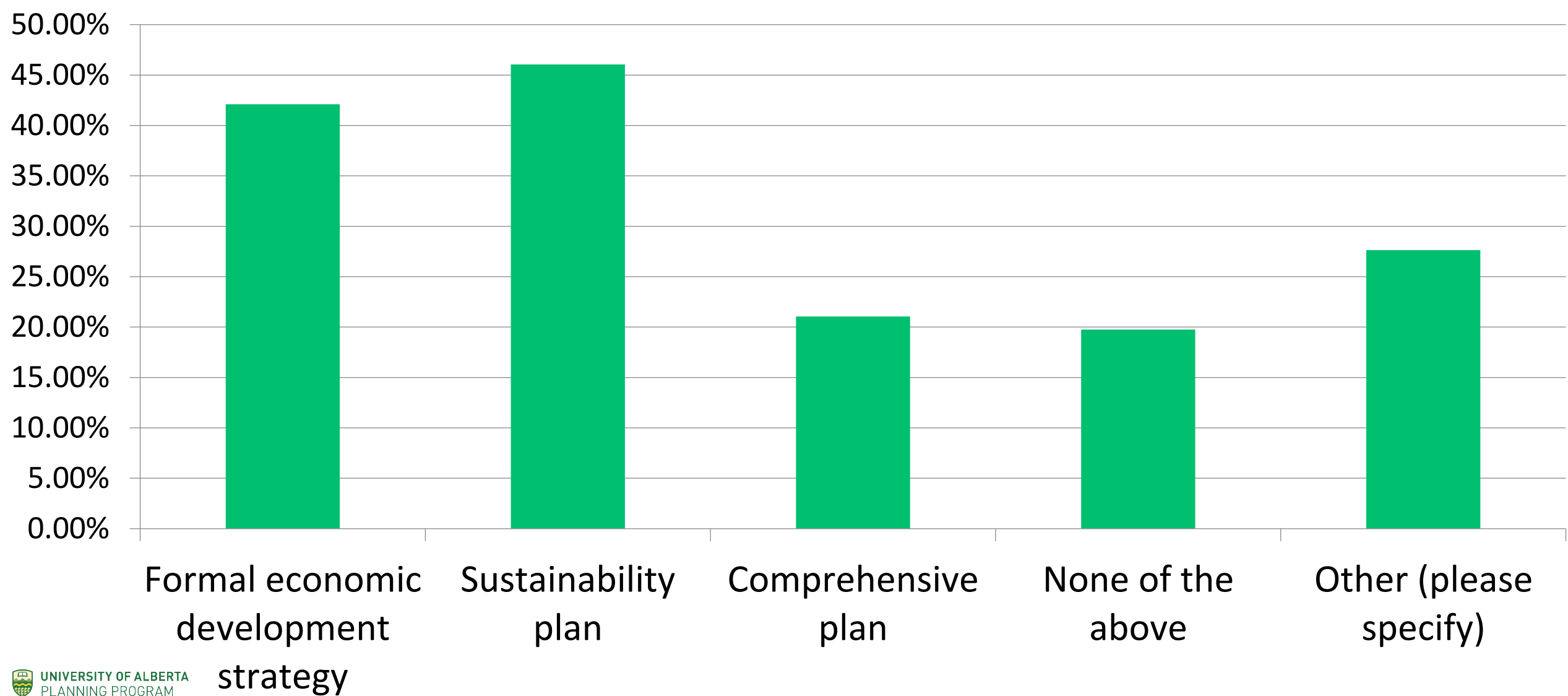
Past Planning:
Briefly describe how [activities that have helped shape the community identity]
have changed over the last 30 years



Future Planning:
What key infrastructure investments, if any, do you consider urgent/important for the community in the coming 5 years?



Future Planning:
Does the community have any of the following formal plans or strategies in place?



Take home ideas

- Not fully analyzed
- Oil and gas remain a critical component [at least in perception]
- Significant areas of concern about who or what is driving the development trajectory and identity of a community (e.g. public? Government? Interest groups?)
- The use of long-term strategies – more than five years is weak
- Planning and planning departments have an opportunity to become more involved in the development of rural communities across Alberta



(Source: Dublin City Council)

Next steps

- Complete data analysis from the surveys
- Identify a complete list of case study communities
- Develop an interview guide
- Qualitative case communities
 - Four graduate/undergraduate research assistants
 - Interviews will be conducted during Summer 2018 & Fall 2018
 - Thematic data analysis
 - Knowledge mobilization



New Norway, Credit: Authentic Alberta Photo Contest)

Thank you.



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