

VERNON SETTLEMENT STRATEGY

VISION:

Vernon is a diverse and welcoming place where we collaborate to build and share a future of meaningful opportunities

GUIDING PRINCIPALS:



BROAD COMMUNITY SUPPORT – While some elements within the strategy will focus on the attraction and retention of immigrants and newcomers, these efforts will be designed to ensure synergy with existing community/regional strategies.



DATA-SUPPORTED – The strategy and subsequent action planning and implementation will be based on systematically gathered and analyzed information.



REGIONAL ORIENTATION – The strategy will, in order to be impactful, ensure to take into consideration and search for alignment and synergies between the LIPC and other community strategies be they those of local governments, the private sector or NGO's



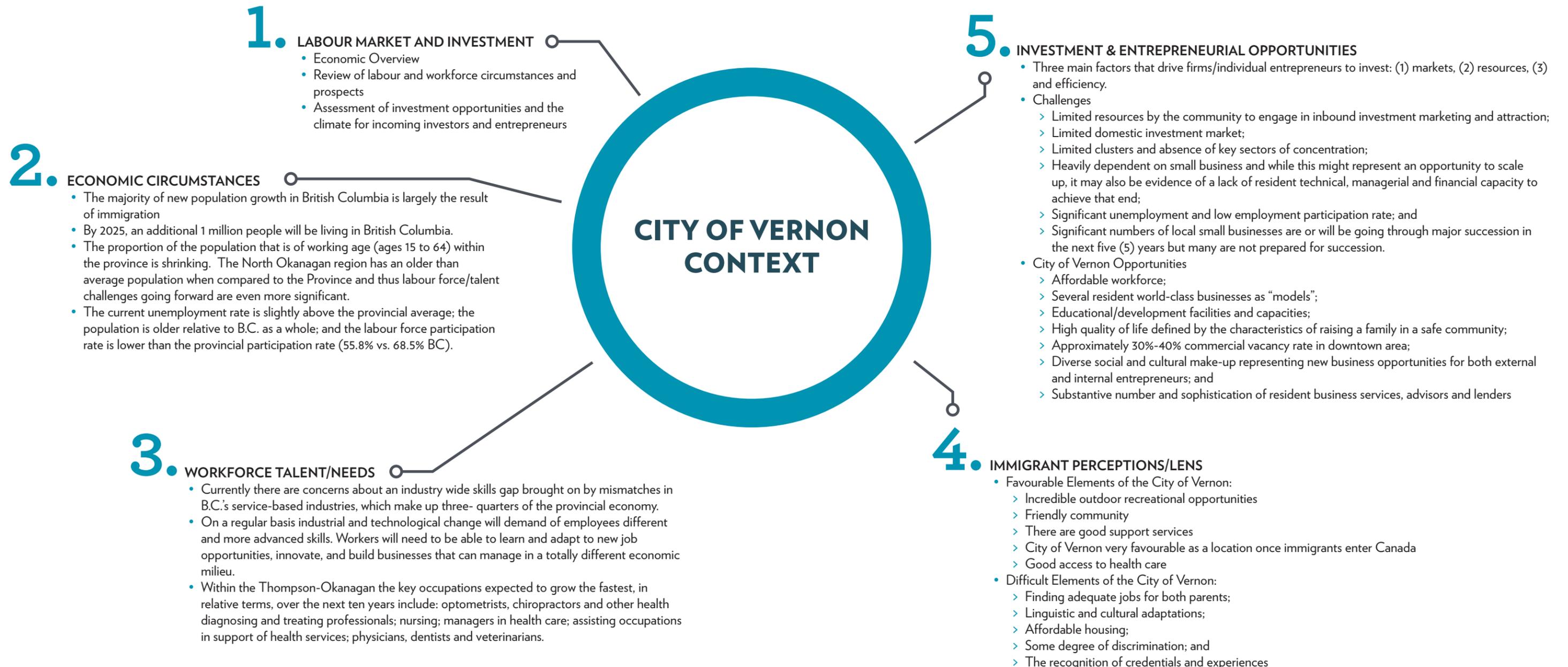
NEWCOMER FOCUSED – The needs and priorities of newcomers will drive the design and implementation of strategies and associated actions.



SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY – The LIPC is well represented by a diverse array of key agencies and individuals, each of whom will need to play a role in implementation if success is to be realized. To this end the strategy has sought to ensure engagement of all key stakeholders not only in the process of planning but in the implementation of actions.



ACTIONABLE – The strategy will provide a reasonable and sufficient foundation from which supportable operational action plans can be developed and executed.



STRATEGIC FOCUS

ECONOMIC IMMIGRANTS - those coming to Canada or Vernon for their skills and education to work in the City and help build the economy;

FAMILY CLASS IMMIGRANTS - those who come to Canada or Vernon join their families; and

REFUGEES - those who come to Canada or Vernon to rebuild their lives.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES/GOALS

- 1.** Target and promote immigrant/newcomer engagement in opportunities that enhance economic and investment circumstance locally.
- 2.** Support newcomers and local citizens at large in their collective cohorts to create a healthy and resilient community.
- 3.** Ensure Vernon is a welcoming community that supports inclusion and engagement of all newcomers.
- 4.** Promote and foster enhanced newcomer attraction and retention within the Vernon area.

OBJECTIVES & ACTION PLANS



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – target Economic Immigrants

- Objective 1 – Work collaboratively to promote the region as a place for sound investment by newcomers;
- Objective 2 – Ensure newcomers are integrated into the local business community;
- Objective 3 – Promote ongoing business support for retention of newcomers (investors/entrepreneurs).



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

- Objective 1 – Work Collaboratively to celebrate newcomers' contribution to make Vernon a vibrant community;
- Objective 2 – Ensure newcomers feel welcomed and successfully transitioned into the community;
- Objective 3 – Strengthen the match between existing newcomer programs with the needs and interests of newcomers.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

- Objective 1 – Work Collaboratively to build a multicultural approach to local programs, buildings and services;
- Objective 2 – Ensure a better understanding and connection through comprehensive education and citizen awareness of cultural diversity in the region.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – target Family Classification of Immigrants

- Objective 1 – Work collaboratively to promote the region as a place to live, work and play;
- Objective 2 – Work collaboratively to promote and support newcomers via such initiatives as networks of newcomer clubs/organizations;
- Objective 3 – Celebrate the multicultural assets (arts, culture and heritage) and resources of the newcomer community.