Lax Kw'Alaams Community Report FFESC Skeena Community Adaptation Project

Social Science Team Report

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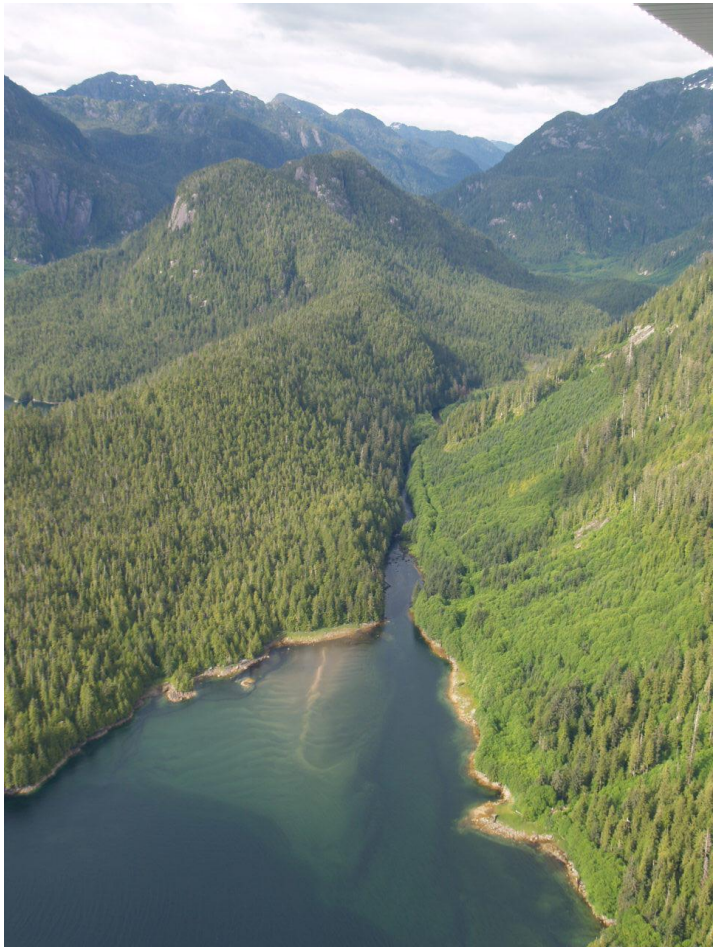
Overview of your Community Report

1. Intro. – about the project
2. Respondent Characteristics
3. Valued Resources
   - Community-Level Resources
   - Environmental Resources
4. Issues and Concerns
   - General Community Issues
   - Environmental Issues
   - Forestry Issues
5. Context of Change
6. Climate Change Knowledge
7. Visions of the Future
8. Institutions and Adaptation

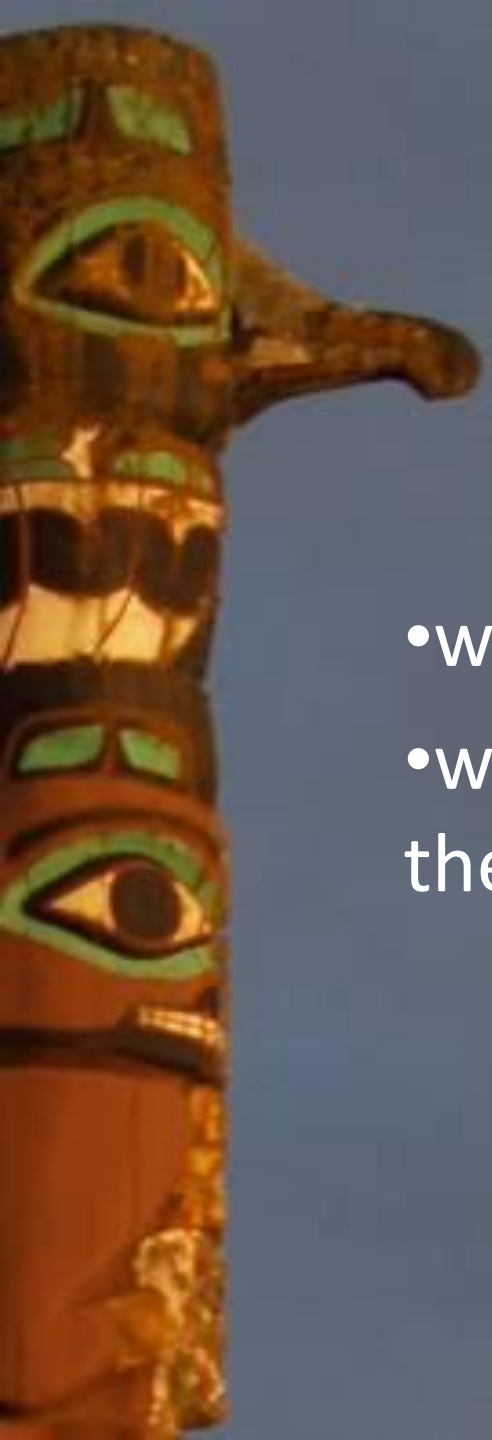


Recap of field work

- Interviews carried out in: Summer, 2011
- Purposive sampling
- Sample/population of people in key positions of resource management and leadership
- 50 interviews in each community
- 1-3hrs for each interview

In our interviews we talked to:

- 18 women and 32 men from the community
- Between the ages of 25 and 75
- People who :
  - have knowledge and experience about natural resources, the environment, and other issues that are important to the community
  - have a level of responsibility to deal with these issues
  - are holders of traditional knowledge (elders)



Valued resources

- what people care about
- what ‘matters’ to the wellbeing of the community

Valued Resources: What's important in the community and in Nature

- The really big issue, *jobs* and *fish*: "We are fish people" – jobs and culture are casualties of declining fisheries
- The *past* is important dimension of current social context
- *Education*, seen as vital to the future of young people and the community, is not without risks and costs for families and the community
- People are concerned about the *governance* of their community.
- *Culture* is a unifying theme

Valued Resources and Issues

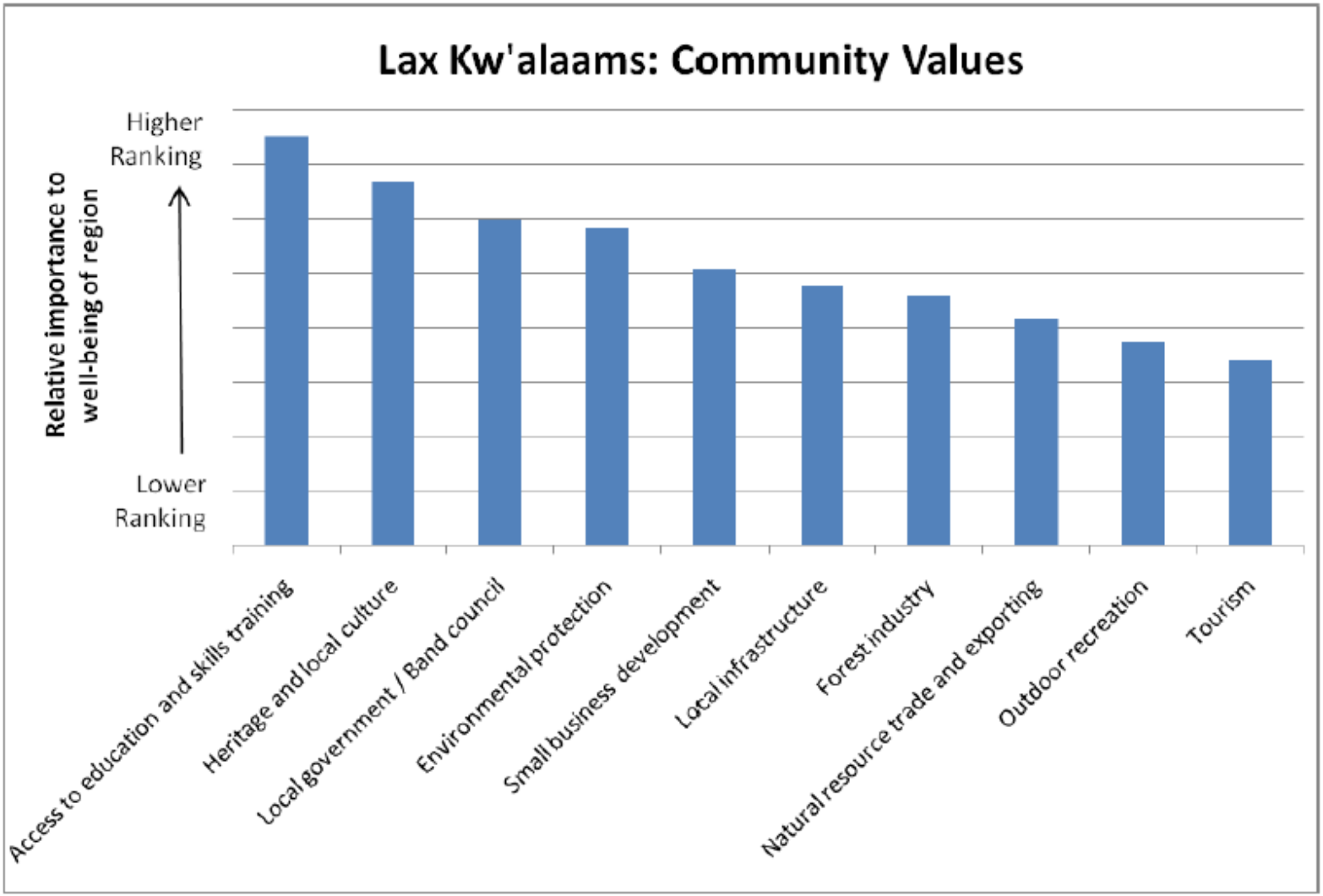
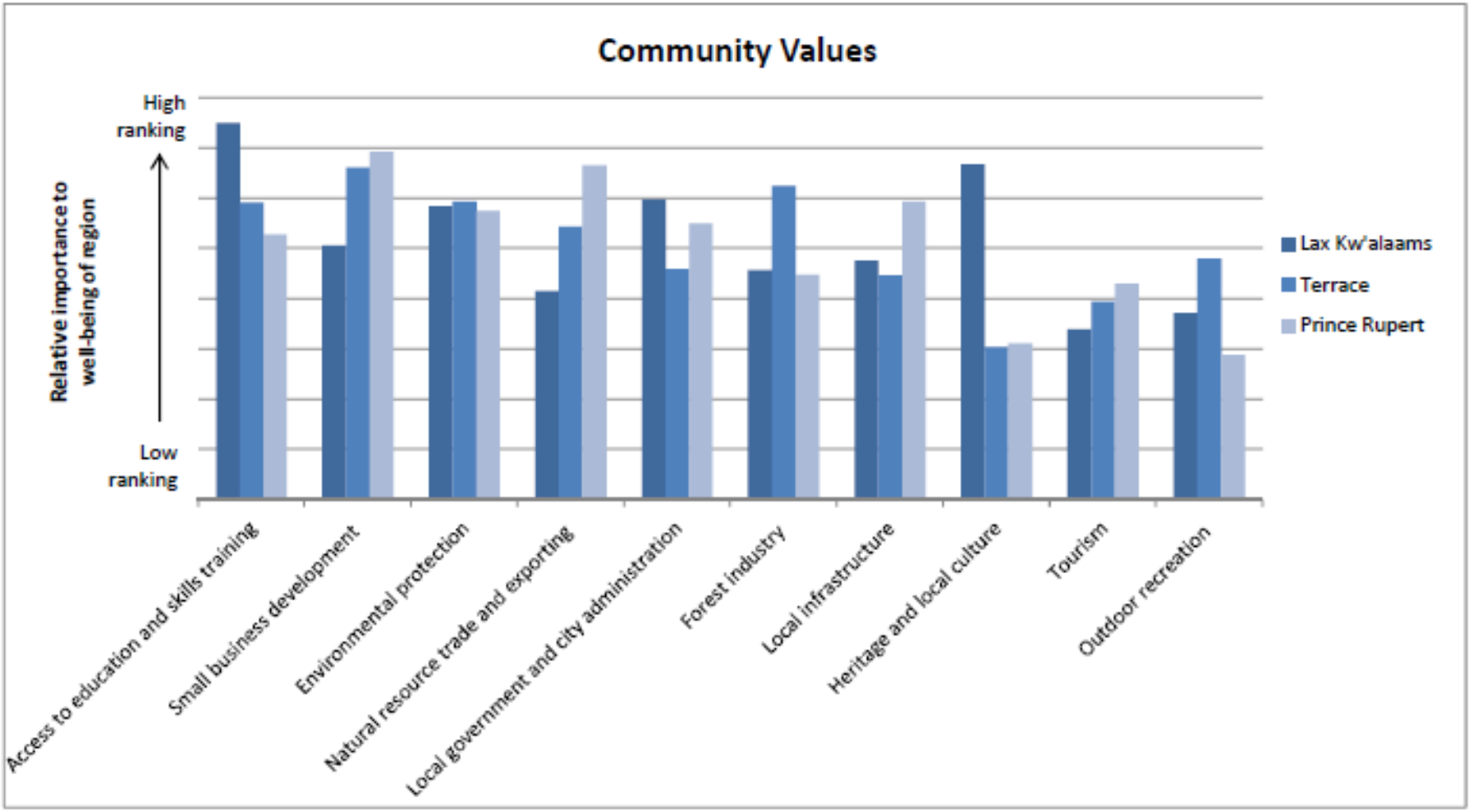


Figure 1 in your Community Report

Valued Resources and Issues



All study communities combined

Valued Resources and Issues

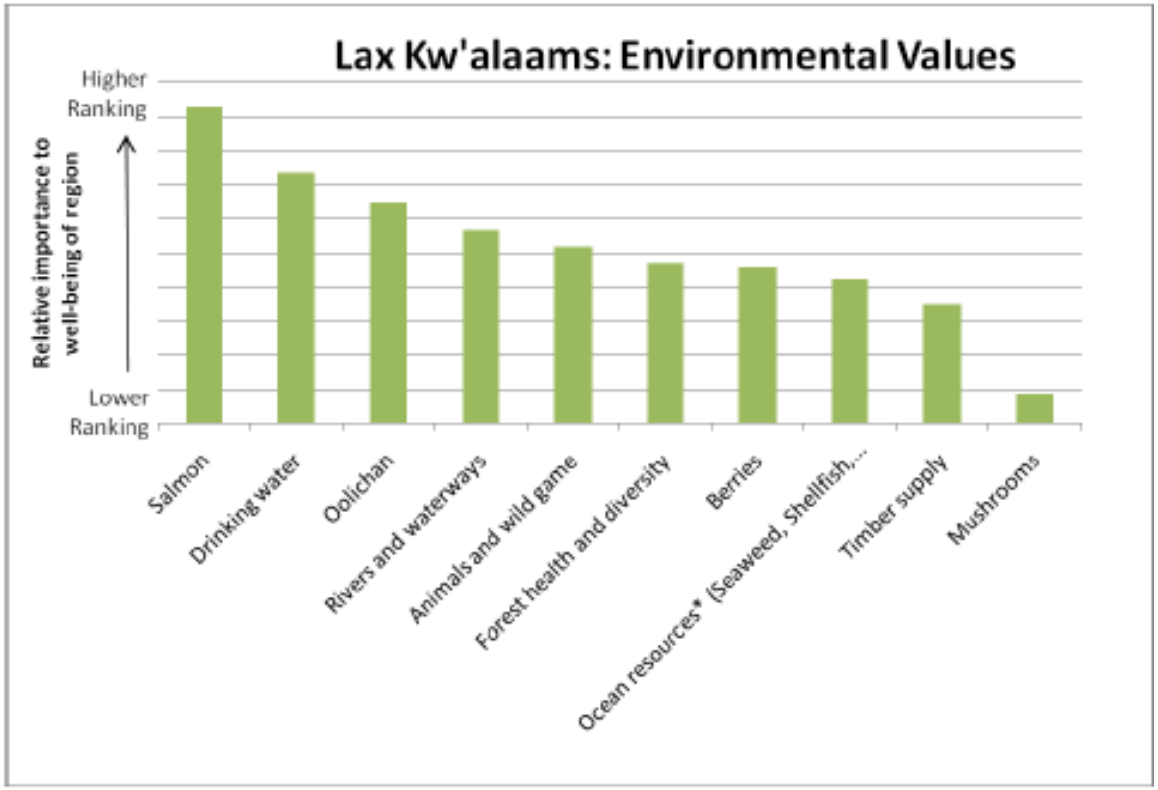
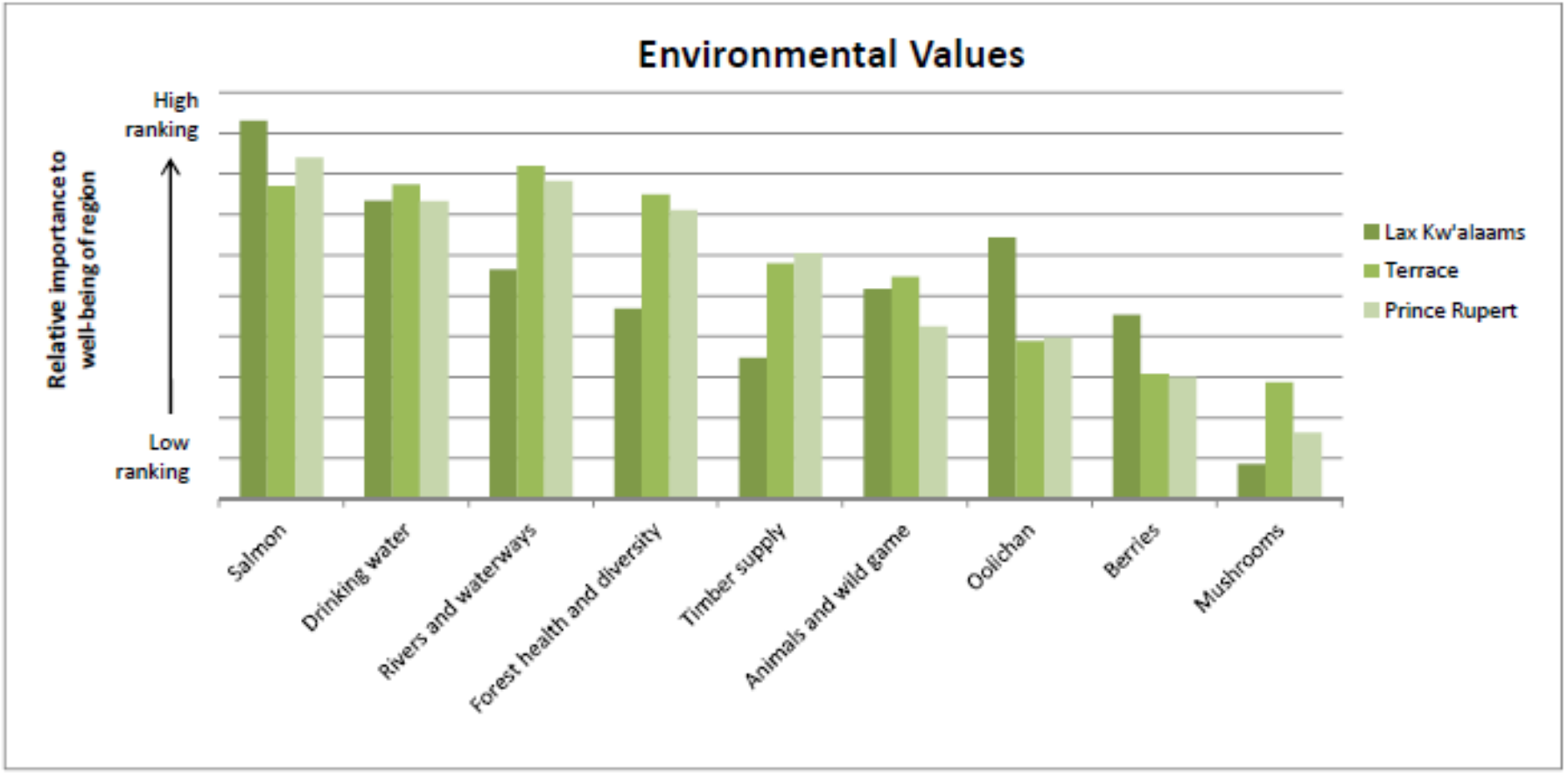


Figure 4 in your Community Report

Valued Resources and Issues



All three communities combined

Context of Change

- What's important
- Perceptions of change
- Are things getting better or worse

Are things ‘flourishing’ or ‘under threat’?

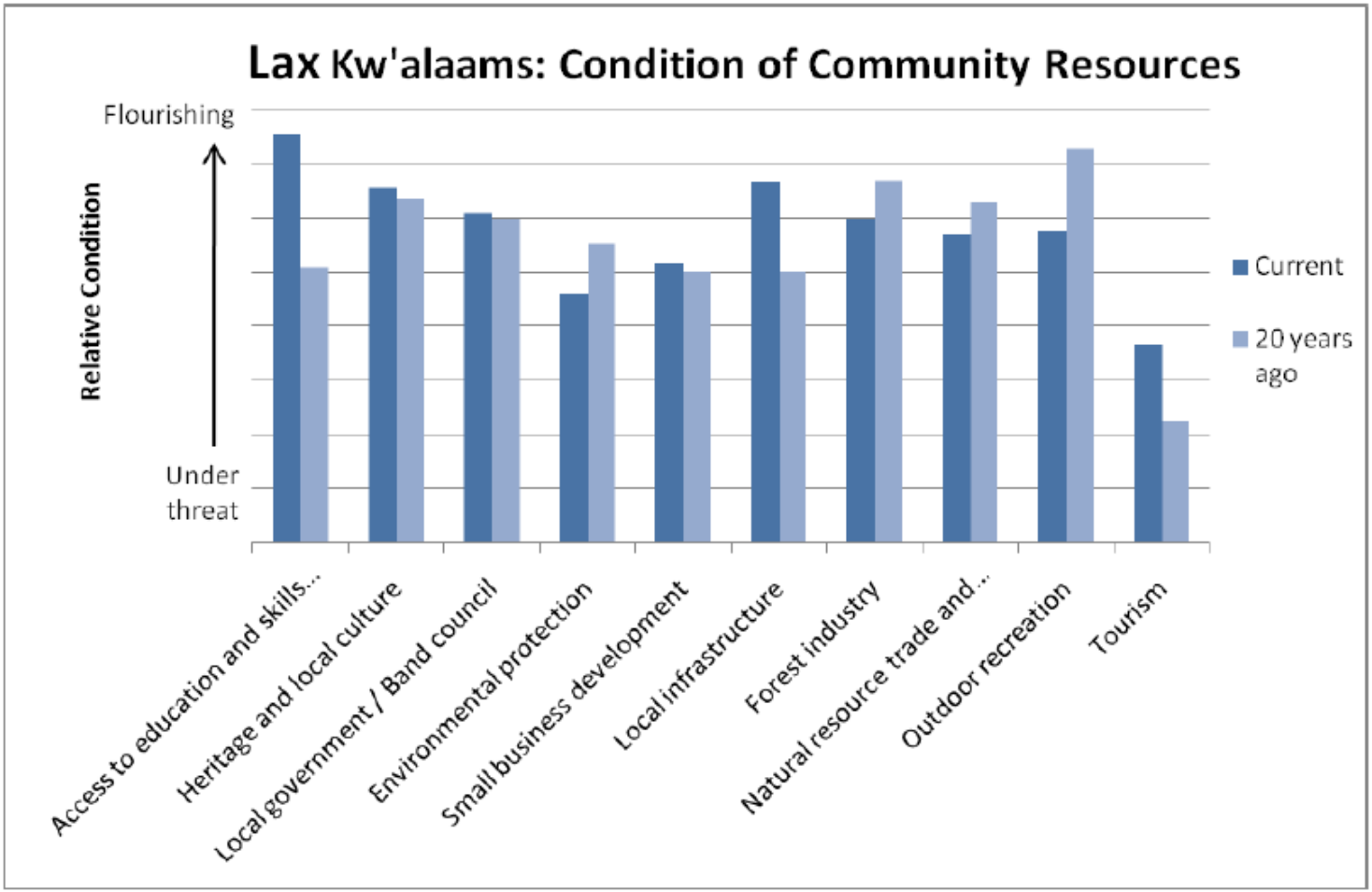
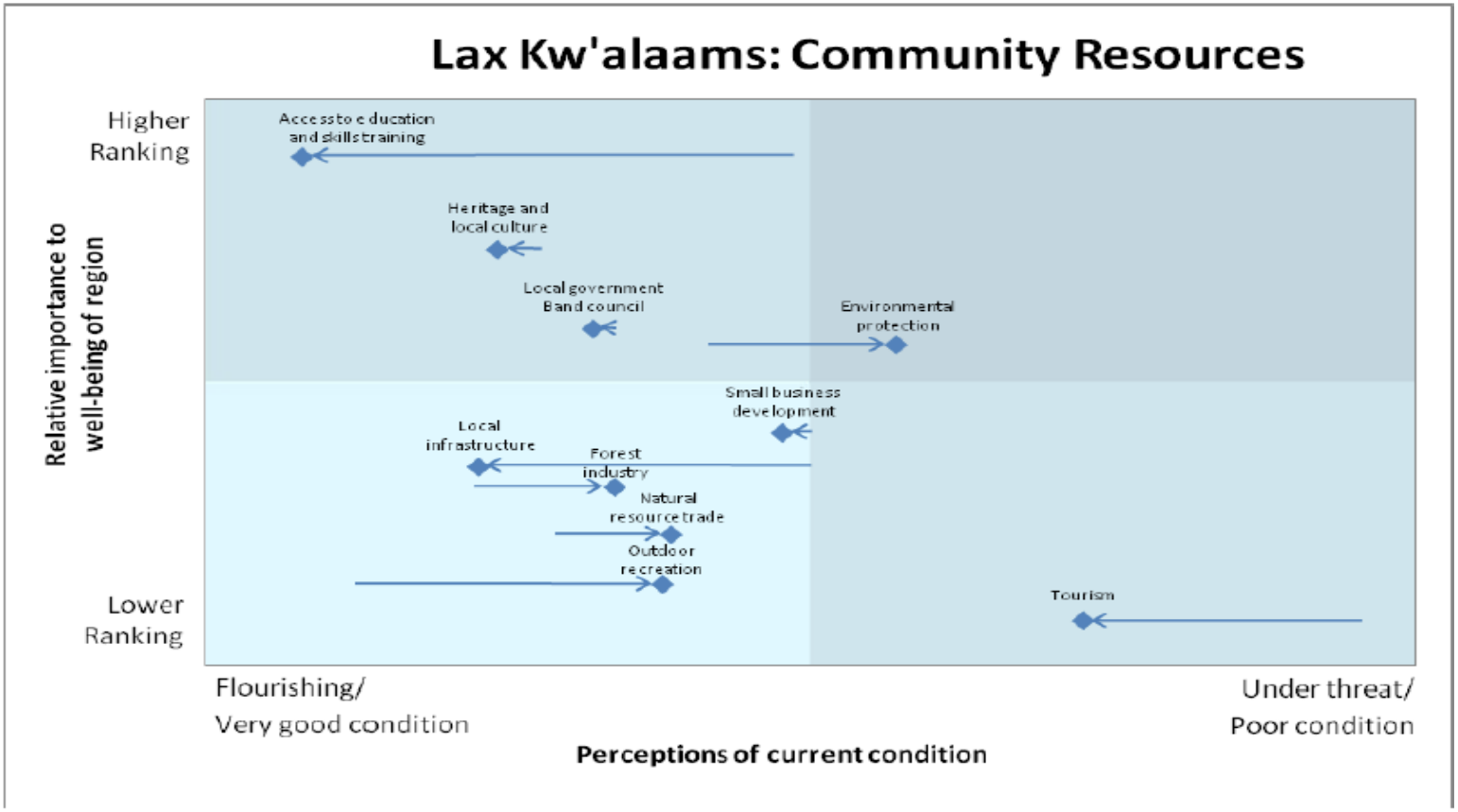


Figure 2 in your Community Report

Context of Change in Community Resources



Key:

→ = perceptions of direction and magnitude of change in condition over the past 20 years

◆ = perceptions of current condition

Figure 3 in your community report

Perceived condition of environmental resources: ‘flourishing’ or ‘under threat’?

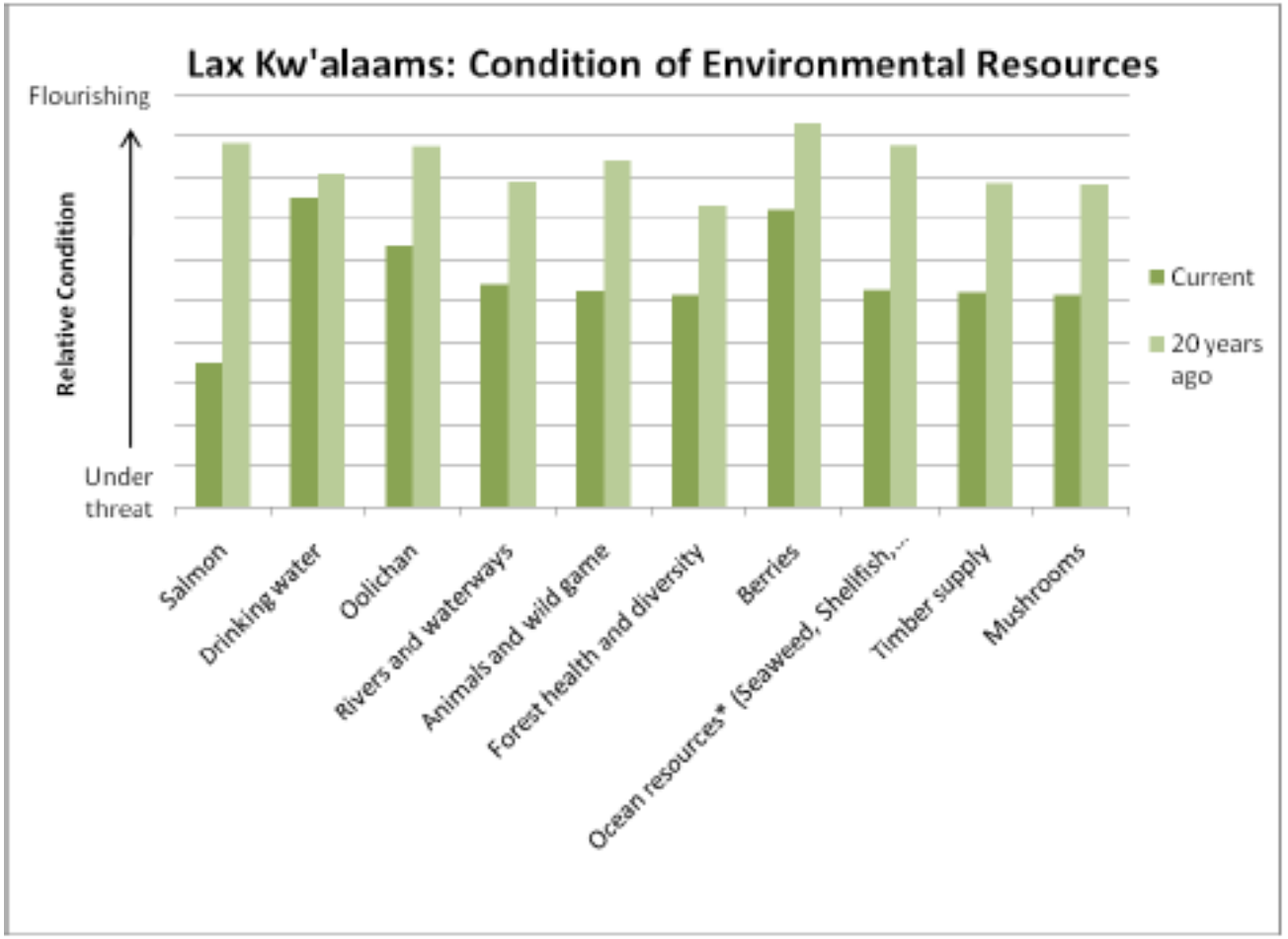
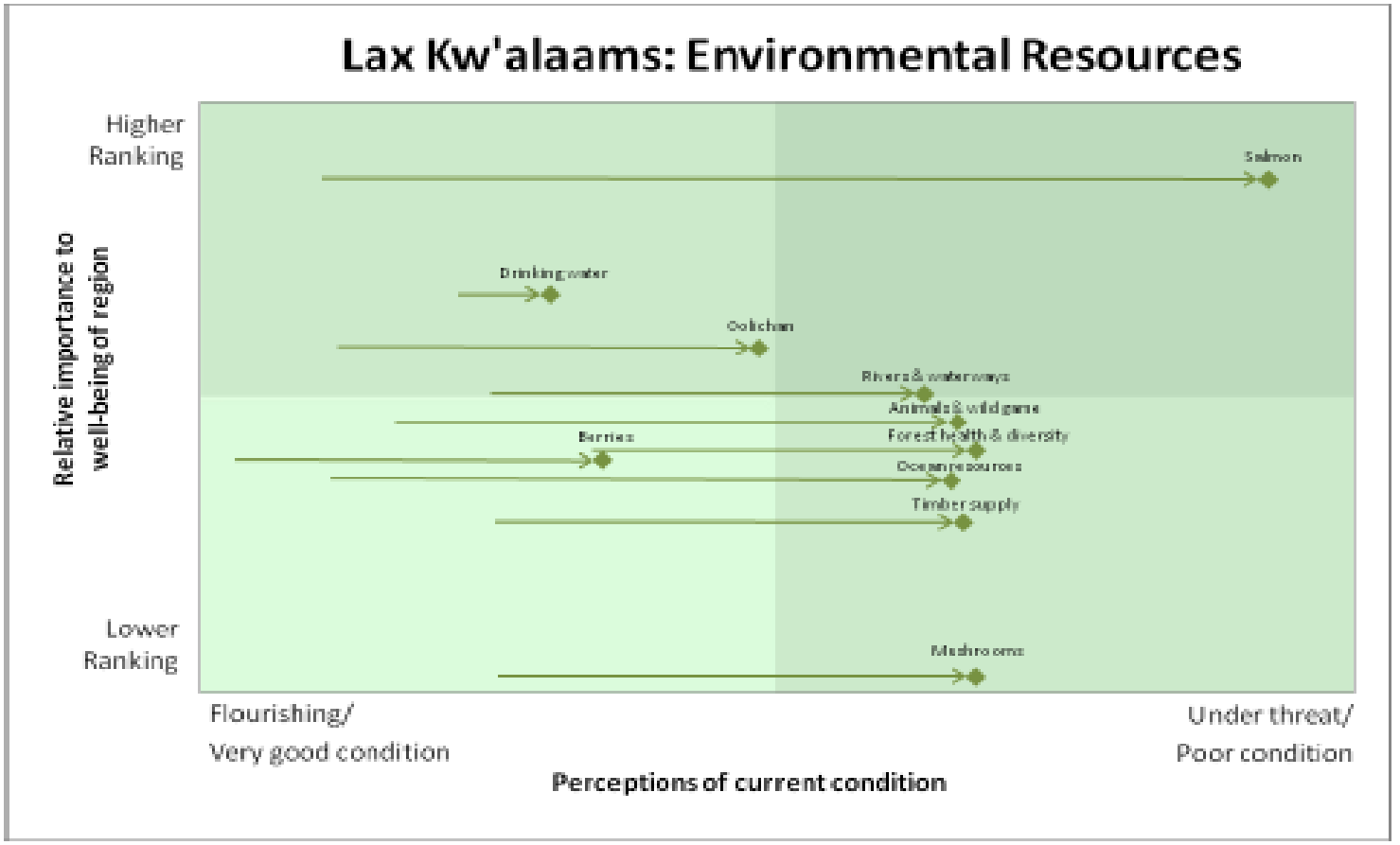


Figure 5 in your Community Report

Context of Change in Environmental Resources



Key:
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- ◆ = perceptions of current condition

Figure 6 in your Community Report

Connections to Climate Change

- 3/4 of respondents see a climate change relationship with key issues
- But people also feel uncertain about what it means for the future
- Climate change competes with other key issues (social, environmental and economic) in the region for attention and resources.

Climate Change Knowledge

- People get information from a wide range of sources (media, observations, internet, agencies, personal and formal contacts).
- Trust in scientific sources of information is higher than trust in generic information.
- Most people think that computer models are a useful tool for describing climate change.
- Specificity of data does not necessarily equate with belief in the ability to plan for climate change.

About the Future

Visions of Future

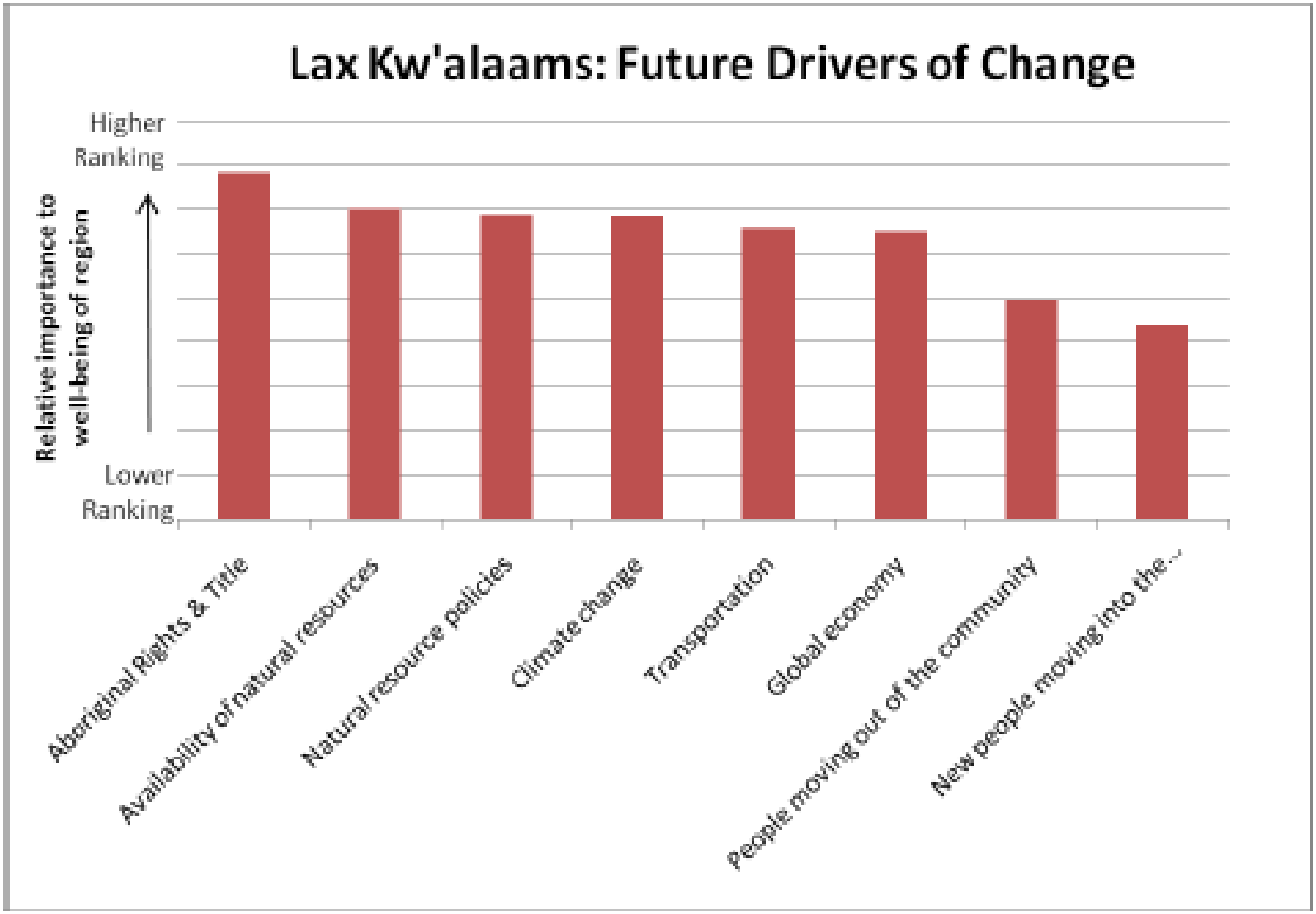


Figure 7 in your Community Report

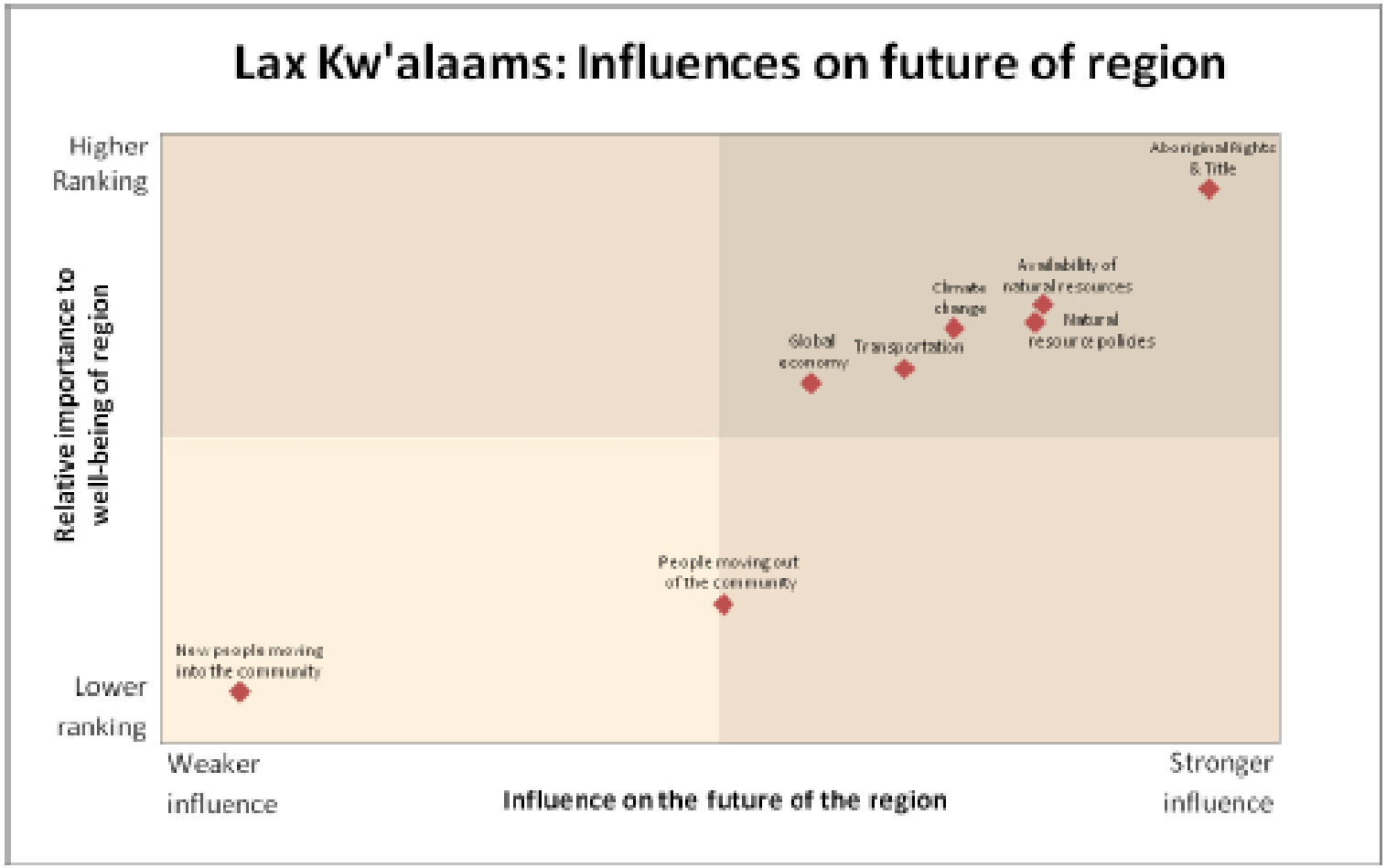
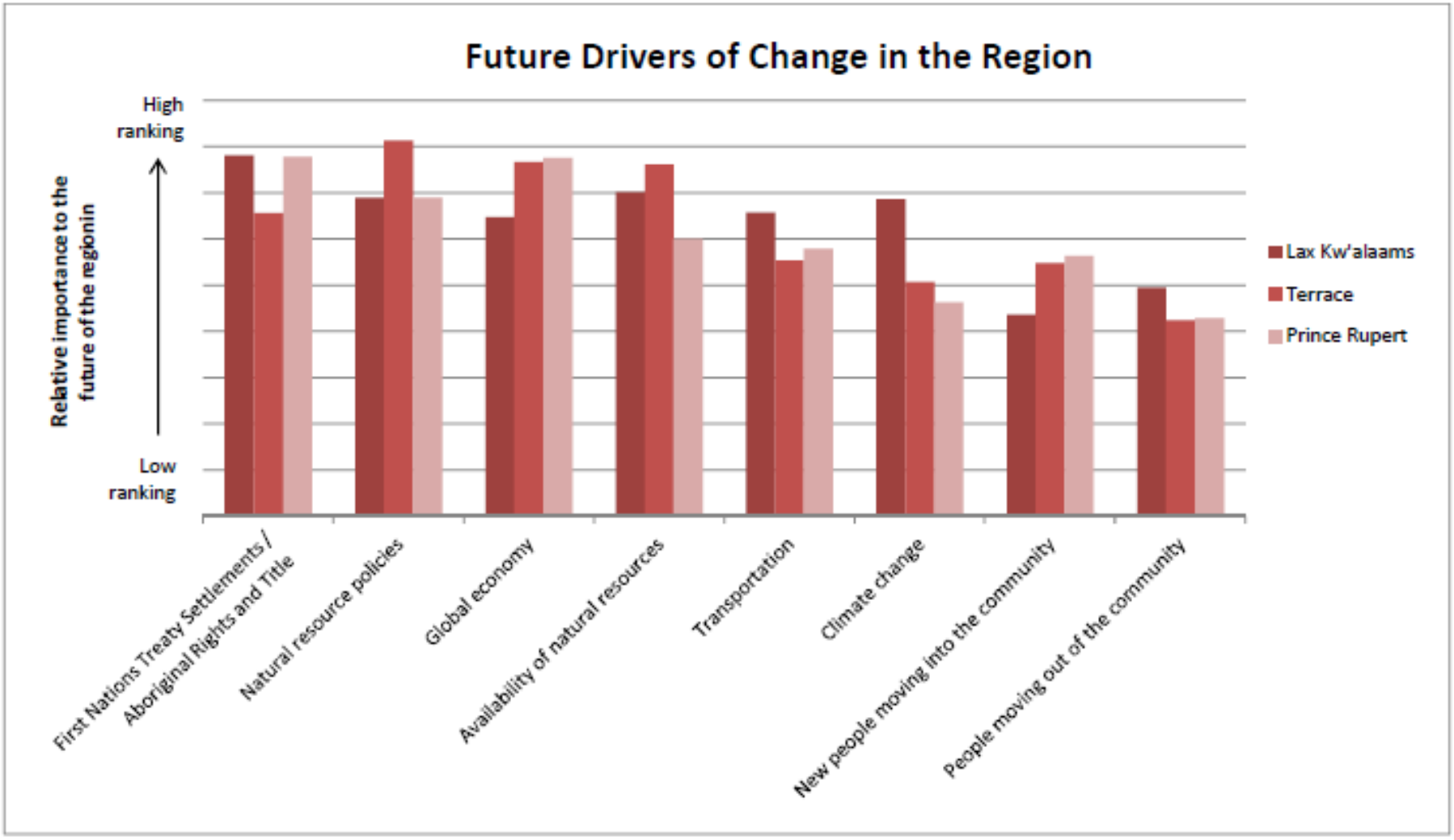


Figure 8 in your Community Report

Visions of Future



Visions of Future

Do you think that the future is most likely to be determined by what goes on within the community and by the actions of local leaders, OR do you think the future will be determined more by external factors that may be largely outside local control?

	Internal	External	Both
Lax Kw'alaams	**37**	**12**	**1**
Terrace	9	35	4
Prince Rupert	12	31	7
TOTAL	**58**	**78**	**12**

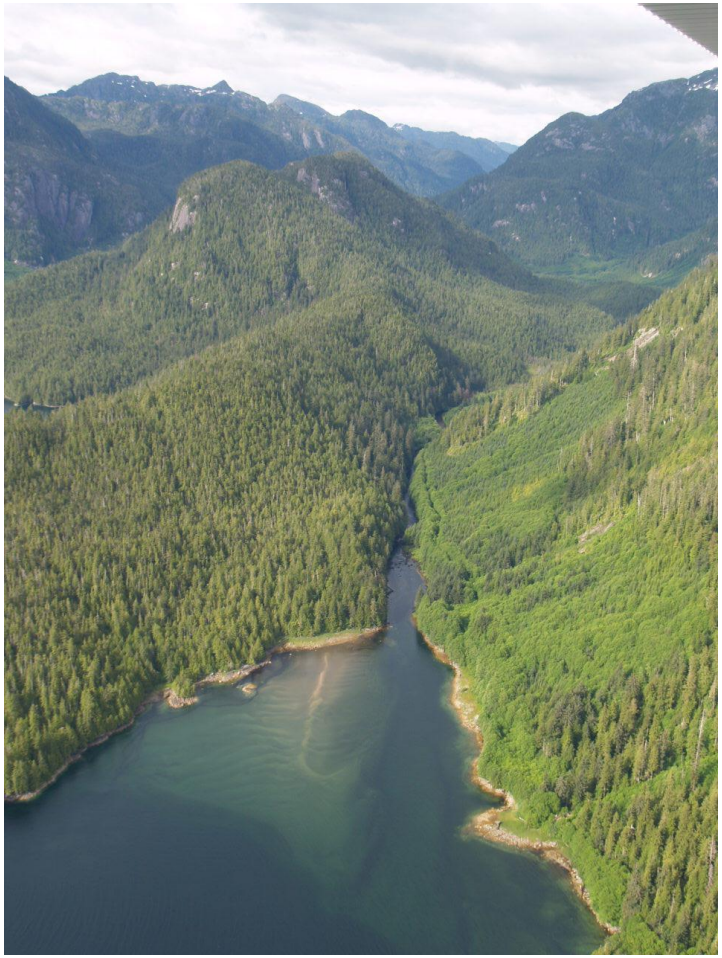
Institutions and Adaptive Capacity

Suggestions for moving towards adaptation planning

- It's less about the "tool kit" [off the shelf solutions]
- It's more about cultural relevance, about understanding and working with:
    - local issues
    - local impacts
    - local concern
    - local capacity

Suggestions for moving towards adaptation planning

- Climate change remains an abstract concept for many, yet competes with very real issues that impact their day-to-day lives.
- Contextualize climate within existing values and issues of the community.
- the community needs more than information.
- Adaptive planning depends on other social factors such as:
  - Proper alignment of problems and local institutional capacity to deal with them
  - Partnerships and resources to interpret, make use of external climate knowledge, models and adaptation tools

Thank you!

Please view the “FFESC-SCAP Lax Kw’alaams Community Report”