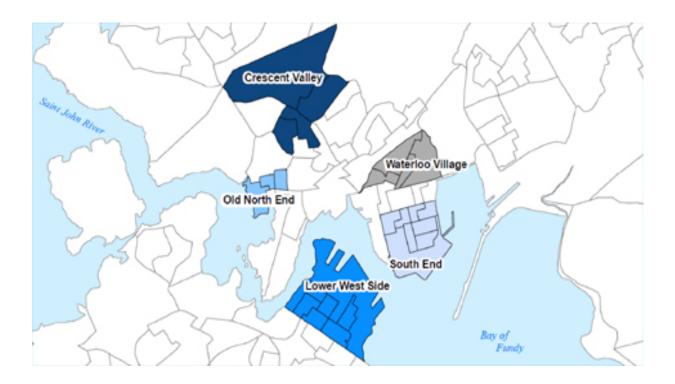
# **High School Graduation Rates**

In Five Priority Neighbourhoods Saint John, New Brunswick 2018 Report



# Prepared for the Business Community Anti-Poverty Initiative and Living SJ

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#### **Executive Summary**

This third report updates the previous 2016 report on high school graduation rates in the five priority neighbourhoods idenitified in the <u>Saint John Poverty Reduction</u> <u>Strategy</u>. For comparitive purposes this report uses high school graduation rates of students after 4 to 5 years in high school. This includes students entering high school from 2005 to 2013 and reports on priority neighbourhood students, nonpriority neighbourhood students and all high school students in the Saint John Education Center. Additionally, data on high school graduation after four years in high school and final graduation data for students entering high school from 2005 to 2012 are included.

#### **Key Findings**

On average 84% of Saint John Education Center students and 69% of priority neighbourhood students in the 2005 to 2013 classes completed their high school program in four to five years.

The Crescent Valley class of 2013 had a 1.2% increase in their graduation rate compared to the 2012 class.

South End and Waterloo Village students have had consecutive positive increases in their graduation rates with the classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013.

The South End class of 2013 had a 90.5% graduation rate.

The Old North End and Lower West Side neighbourhoods have had decreases in their graduation rates comparing the class of 2012 to 2013. The Lower West Side graduation rate for the 2013 class dropped 14.2%.

Graduation rates of the non-priority neighbourhoods has remained above 90% since the class of 2009.

There continue to be challenges in supporting all students to successfully graduate high school. A closer look at resources and support for students in the Old North End and Lower West Side could be a consideration in moving forward.

#### Introduction

This third report updates graduation rates in the previous 2016 report and includes additional graduation rates for the students who entered high school in 2013 and 2014. It includes graduation data for the five priority neighbourhoods identified in the Saint John Poverty Reduction Strategy – South End, Waterloo Village, Crescent Valley, Old North End and Lower West Side. Graduation statistics for the entire Saint John Education Center and the neighbourhoods not identified as a priority are also given.

High school graduation rates after four years in high school are presented for students entering high school from 2005 to 2014. Additionally, high school graduation rates after four to five years in high school are included for students entering high school from 2005 to 2013. The four to five years in high school graduation rate is used for comparative purposes in the five priority neighbourhoods and documented for each individual neighbourhood.

Some students take longer than five years to complete their graduation requirements. Students in the 2005 to 2012 classes are no longer active in the public school system. The 2016 report presented projected graduation rates for the 2011 and 2012 classes. This report provides final graduation rates for these students.

#### Method

A tracking of all Saint John Education Center students who first registered in Grade 9 each year on September 30 from 2005 to 2014 was conducted. These students were tracked or are being tracked to determine the number of students who graduate high school from 2009 to 2018.

The data was obtained from Anglophone South School District records for the Saint John Education Center and included Grade 9 registration information and graduation lists. Student addresses were used to identify students who resided in a priority neighbourhood (Appendix A) and these students were tracked to determine graduation rates for each of the five neighbourhoods. Students in priority neighbourhoods were defined as students who registered in Grade 9 and resided in a priority neighbourhood at the time of their high school registration. These students were tracked as priority neighbourhood students even if they moved out of the priority neighbourhood but continued to attend a high school in the Saint John Education Center.

The students who live in a priority neighbourhood do not necessarily attend the school located in that neighbourhood because of a difference in the drawing areas for the school and the priority neighbourhood or the program the student is following. For example, students who live in the South End could attend St. John the Baptist - King Edward School, Prince Charles School, Princess Elizabeth School (late French Immersion) or Millidgeville North School (early French Immersion).

Those students who entered high school after the Grade 9 official count were not included. For example, a Grade 10 student who transfers into a high school from another school in the Saint John Education Center, even if this student moved into a priority neighbourhood, would not be included. However, a student who moved out of the Saint John Education Center and subsequently returned to a high school in Saint John Education Center prior to graduation would be included.

#### **Data Revisions**

A review of all data found changes in the status of some students such as transfers in or out of the district, corrections to a coding error in the spelling of Maclaren Boulevard in the Crescent Valley neighbourhood, and suspended students returning to school to complete high school. These changes have been incorporated into this report.

#### Student Tracking

Adjustments to student enrollment numbers in each Grade 9 cadre were made to exclude students who transferred out of the Saint John Education Center to another school jurisdiction, died, or withdrew from school for medical reasons.

Students who were suspended from school, dropped out, left high school to seek employment or other educational opportunities or "disappeared" without any request being received from another school for their school record were included as non-graduates in this study.

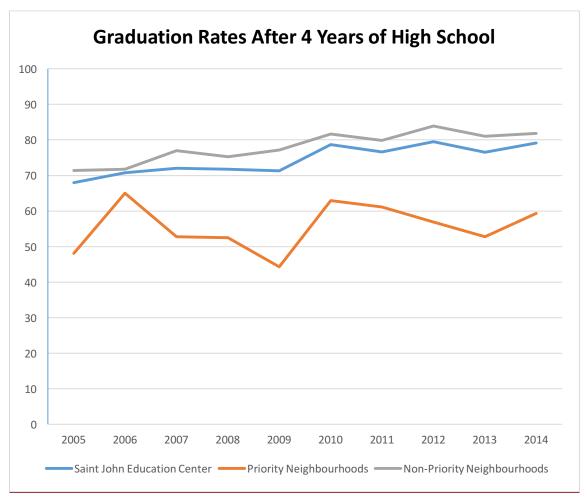
#### **Graduation Rates after 4 Years of High School**

On average 74% of students graduate after 4 years in high school compared to 56% of priority neighbourhood students. Graduation rates (percentages) for students in the 2005 to 2014 classes after four years in high school are presented below.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class	Class
Saint John	68.0%	70.8%	72.0%	71.8%	71 20/	70 70/	76.6%	79.5%		79.1%
<b>Education Center</b>	68.0%	70.8%	72.0%	/1.8%	71.3%	78.7%	70.0%	79.5%	76.5%	79.1%
Priority	48.1%	65.0%	52.8%	52.5%	44.3%	62.9%	61.1%	56.9%	52.8%	59.3%
Neighbourhoods	40.1%	05.0%	52.6%	52.5%	44.5%	02.9%	01.1%	50.9%	52.8%	59.5%
Non-Priority	71.4%	71.8%	77.0%	75.3%	77.2%	81.7%	79.9%	83.9%	81.0%	81.8%
Neighbourhoods	/1.4%	/1.8%	77.0%	75.5%	11.2%	81.7%	79.9%	83.9%	81.0%	81.8%

Table 1	L
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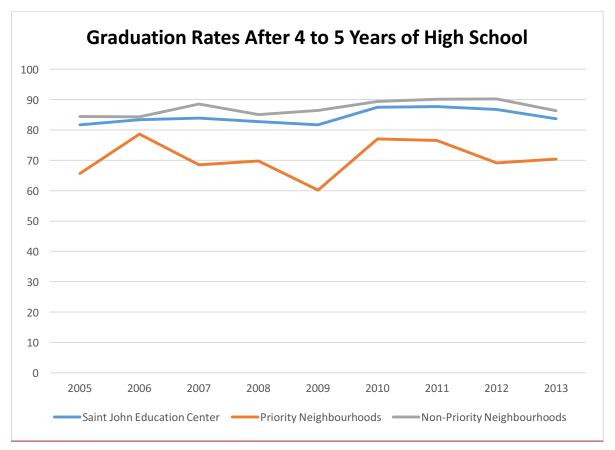
#### Graduation Rates after 4 to 5 Years of High School

On average 84% of the students graduate after 4 to 5 years in high school compared to 71% of priority neighbourhood students.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	Class	Class	Class						
Saint John	81.7%	83.4%	83.9%	82.7%	81.7%	87.5%	87.7%	86.8%	83.7%
<b>Education Center</b>	01.770	65.470	65.970	02.770	01.770	07.5%	07.770	80.8%	05.770
Priority	65.7%	78.6%	68.5%	69.8%	60.2%	77.1%	76.5%	69.2%	70.4%
Neighbourhoods	05.770	78.0%	08.5%	09.870	00.270	//.1/0			70.470
Non-Priority	84.4%	84.3%	88.6%	85.1%	86.4%	89.4%	90.1%	90.2%	86.3%
Neighbourhoods	04.470	04.5%	00.0%	65.1%	00.470	09.470	90.1%	90.2%	80.3%

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Graph 2



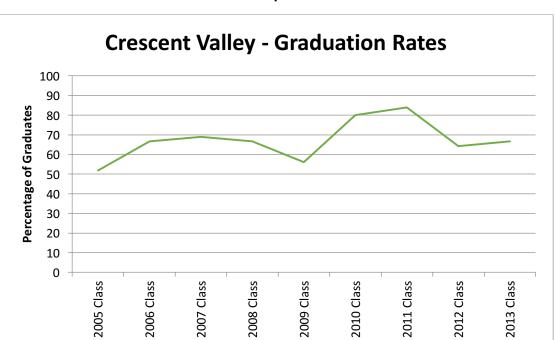
#### Priority Neighbourhoods – Graduation Rates after 4 to 5 years in High School

#### Crescent Valley

There were 229 students residing in the Crescent Valley neighbourhood who entered high school between 2005 and 2013 and were tracked for this report. A coding error in previous data was corrected and included in this update. Table 4 shows the number of Crescent Valley students by entry year and the graduation rates after 4 to 5 years in high school for these students. The graduation rates are displayed in Graph 4.

Crescent Valley	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
,	Class	Class	Class		Class				
Number of students	27	24	29	36	41	30	31	28	33
Graduation after 4-5 Yrs.	51.9%	66.7%	69.0%	66.7%	56.1%	80.0%	83.9%	64.3%	66.7%

Table 4



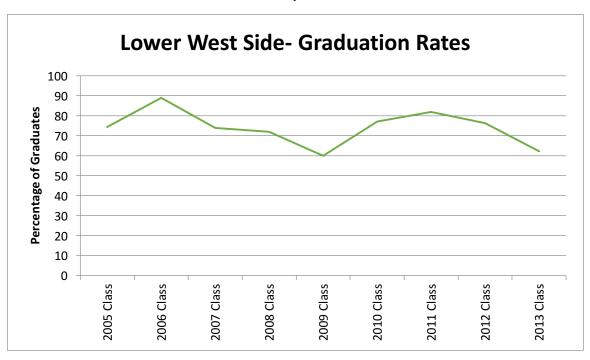
There are six Crescent Valley students in the 2013 class who are still working towards their graduation.

Graph 4

#### Lower West Side

There were 373 students residing in the Lower West Side neighbourhood who entered high school between 2005 and 2013. Table 5 shows the number of Lower West Side students by entry year and their graduation rates after 4 to 5 years in high school. The graduation rates are displayed in Graph 5.

Lower West Side	2005 Class	2006 Class	2007 Class		2009 Class	2010 Class	-	2012 Class	
Number of students	35	45	42	32	60	48	44	38	29
Graduation after 4-5 Yrs.	74.3%	88.9%	73.8%	71.9%	60%	77.1%	81.8%	76.3%	62.1%



Graph 5

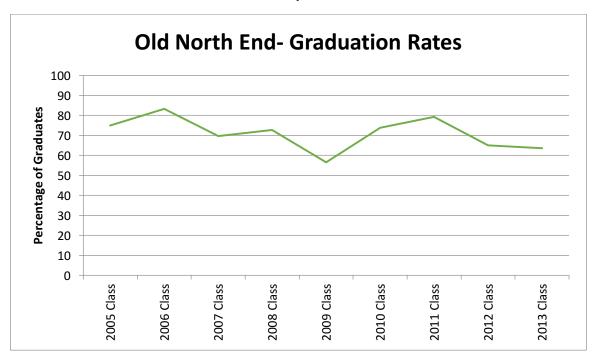
There are six Lower West Side students in the 2013 class still attending high school.

Old North End

There were 205 students residing in the Old North End neighbourhood who entered high school between 2005 and 2013. Table 6 shows the number of Old North End students by entry year and their graduation rates after 4 to 5 years in high school. Graph 6 illustrates these graduation rates.

Old North End	2005 Class	2006 Class	2007 Class	2008 Class	2009 Class		2011 Class	2012 Class	
Number of students	24	24	23	22	23	23	24	20	22
Graduation after 4-5 Yrs.	75.0%	83.3%	69.6%	72.7%	56.5%	73.9%	79.2%	65.0%	63.6%

Table 6



Graph 6

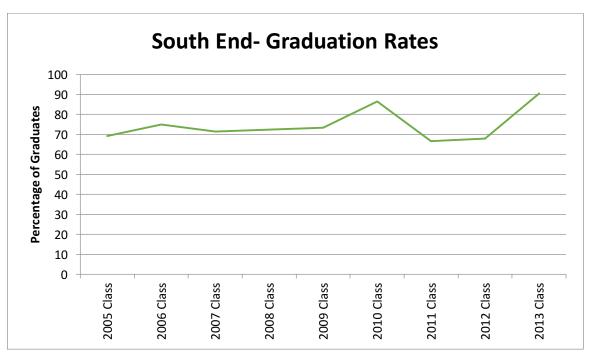
There are four Old North End students in the 2013 class still attending high school.

South End

There were 248 students residing in the South End neighbourhood who entered high school between 2005 and 2013. Table 7 shows the number of South End students by entry year, their graduation rates after 4 to 5 years in high school and Graph 7 illustrates these graduation rates.

South End	2005 Class	2006 Class	2007 Class	2008 Class	2009 Class		2011 Class	-	
Number of students	26	20	21	29	30	22	30	28	21
Graduation after 4-5 Yrs.	69.2%	75.0%	71.4%	72.4%	73.3%	86.4%	66.7%	67.9%	90.5%

Table 7



Graph 7

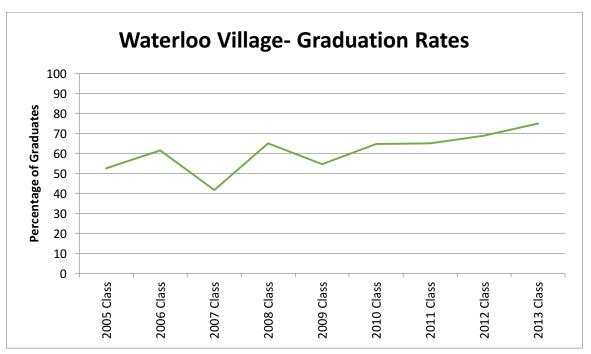
There are no South End students in the 2013 class attending high school.

Waterloo Village

There were 159 students residing in the Waterloo Village neighbourhood who entered high school between 2005 and 2013. Table 8 shows the number of Waterloo Village students by entry year, their graduation rates after 4 to 5 years in high school and the graph illustrates the final graduation rates for these students.

Waterloo Village	2005 Class	2006 Class	2007 Class	2008 Class	2009 Class		-	2012 Class	
Number of students	19	13	12	20	22	17	20	16	20
Graduation after 4-5 Yrs.	52.6%	61.5%	41.7%	65.0%	54.6%	64.7%	65.0%	68.8%	75.0%

Table 8



Graph 8

There are three Waterloo Village students in the 2013 class still attending high school.

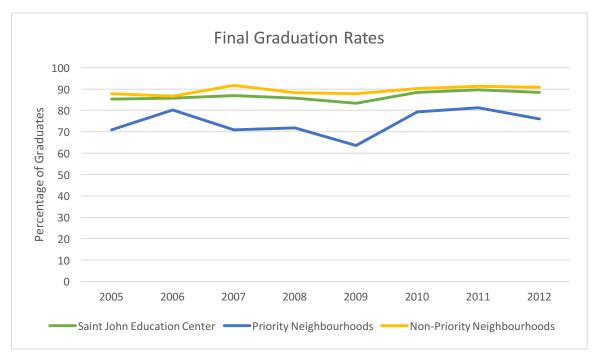
#### Final Graduation Results – High School Entry from 2005 to 2012

Students in the 2005 to 2012 classes are no longer active in the public school system. The following table (Table 8) gives the final graduation rates for the four high schools, the priority neighbourhoods and the non-priority neighbourhoods. Graph 8 displays the final graduation rates for these communities.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Class							
Saint John Education Center	85.3%	85.8%	86.9%	85.8%	83.4%	88.5%	89.6%	88.4%
Priority Neighbourhoods	70.0%	80.2%	61.2%	71.9%	63.6%	79.3%	81.2%	76.2%
Non-Priority Neighbourhoods	87.8%	86.7%	91.8%	88.3%	87.8%	90.2%	91.3%	90.8%

Table 8





#### Analysis and Summary

For the purposes of this report, high school graduation rates after 4 to 5 years in high school were used to compare priority neighbourhood, non-priority neighbourhood and the entire Saint John Education Center graduation rates for students entering high school from 2005 to 2013.

The data shows that both the Saint John Education Center and the non-priority neighbourhoods had a 3 to 4% decrease in their graduation rate for the 2013 class compared to the 2012 class. The priority neighbourhood class of 2013 experienced a 1.2% increase in their graduation rate compared to the 2012 class.

Crescent Valley had a 2.4% increase in their graduation rate in 2013 compared to the 2012 class. However, the Old North End and Lower West Side had decreases in their graduation rate when comparing the class of 2012 and 2013. The Lower West Side experienced a 14.2% decrease while the Old North End was 1.4%.

Both the South End and Waterloo Village have had positive increases in their graduation rates. The South End graduation rate has increased each year since the class of 2011 with a 90.5% graduation rate for the class of 2013. Waterloo Village has had increases each year since the class of 2010. Over the nine year period, the Waterloo Village graduation rate has gone from an average of about 50% to 70%.

It is noteworthy that many of the established resources that support students are centered primarily in the South End, Waterloo Village and Crescent Valley. Recent Statistics Canada data (Appendix B) shows that these are areas of high poverty and are neighbourhoods with students requiring support.

A closer look at supports for students in the Old North End and Lower West Side could be considered. Although the Lower West Side poverty rate of 54% is smaller than the other communities, the graduation rates in this neighbourhood have been falling since the class of 2011.

#### **Going Forward**

Challenges continue working with all students to achieve their high school graduation and community support of programs and services play an important role in this endeavour. There has been progress made in the key priority neighbourhoods especially with South End students meeting the 90% graduation

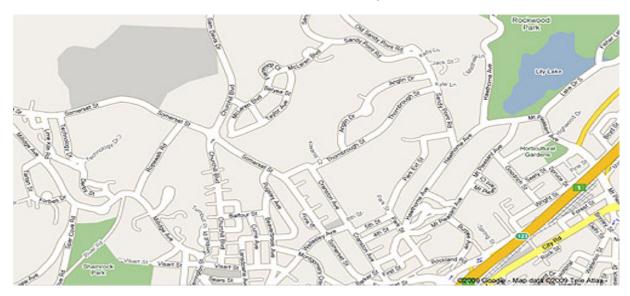
goal with the 2013 class. Waterloo Village has also experienced positive graduation rates in the four consecutive years with the classes 2010 to 2013.

Declining enrollments in the Saint John Education Center and in particular the priority neighbourhoods from 15.7% of the population to 13.6% could result in significant shifts in graduation rates due to small student enrollments in these areas.

The recent addition of immigrant students, many of whom live in the priority neighbourhoods, could for a time impact graduation rates - especially four to five year graduation rates. Learning English as a second language may result in several of these students taking longer to meet graduation requirements.

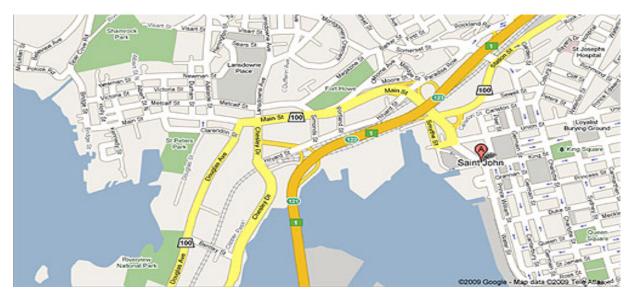
# Appendix A

# Crescent Valley



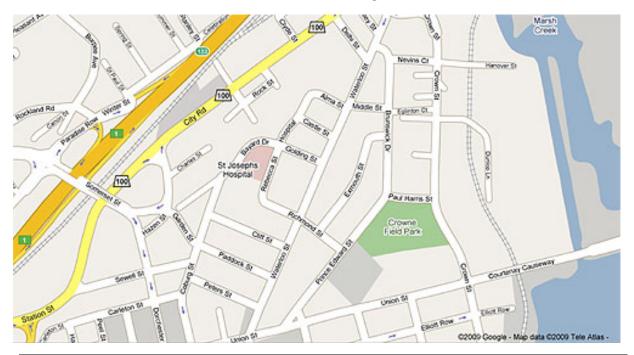
Balfour Street	Freedom Court	Roberts Court
Barry Court	Howard Court	Rope Walk Road
Beaverbrook Ave. 1-105	Hydro Place	Sandy Point Rd.
Belyea Street	Lansdowne Ave. 169-194	Somerset Street 357 and up
Cabot Court	Legion Court	Stephenson Tower Dr.
Charlton Place	Magee Place	Taylor Ave.
Chevron Court	Maclaren Blvd.	Turnbull Place
Churchill Blvd.	Memorial Court	Valour Court
Coronation Court	Millidge Ave 1 to 177	Veterans Court
Currie Ave. 1-39	Millidge Ave 397 to 461	Vimy Court
Elizabeth Court	Newport Cres.	Visart Street 16 and up
Flemming Court	Patterson St.	Wigmore Court
Foulis Court	Phillip Court	

# South End



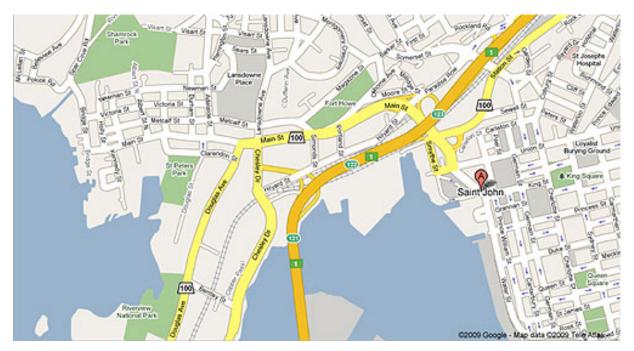
Britain Street	Orange Street
Broad Street	Pitt Street 101 & up
Broadview Avenue	Princess Street
Canterbury Street 65 and up	Queen Square North
Carmarthen Street 100 and up	Queen Square South
Charlotte St. 142 and up	Queen Street
Crown Street 349 and up	St. Andrews Street
Germain Street 139 and up	St. James Street
Harding St.	Sydney Street 70 and up
Horsfield Street	Vulcan Street
Mecklenburg Street	Wentworth Street 98 and up

# Waterloo Village



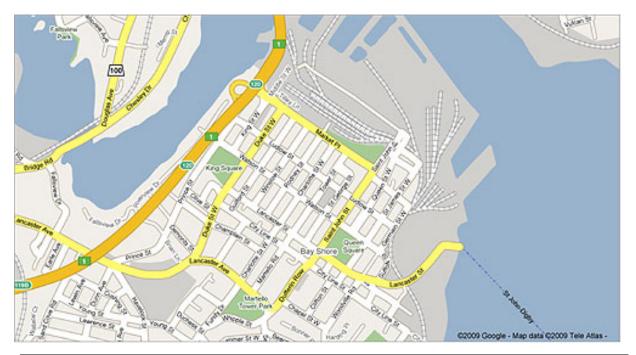
Agar Place	City Road	Garden Street	Richmond Street
Alma Street	Cliff Street	Golding Street	Ritchie Street
Bayard Drive	Coburg Street	Hanover Street	Rock Street
Blair Street	Crown Street 1 - 348	Hazen Street	Sewell Street
Brinley Street	Culloden Court	Middle Street	Stanley Street
Brunswick Drive	Delhi Street	Nevins Lane	Station Street
Carleton Street	Dorchester Street	Paddock Street	Stephen Park
Castle Street	Duncairn Court	Paul Harris Street	Union Street
Charles Street	Dunlop Lane	Peel Street	Waterloo Street
Chipman Hill	Eglington Court	Peters Street	Wellington Row
Chipman Street	Exmouth Street	Prince Edward St.	

## Old North End



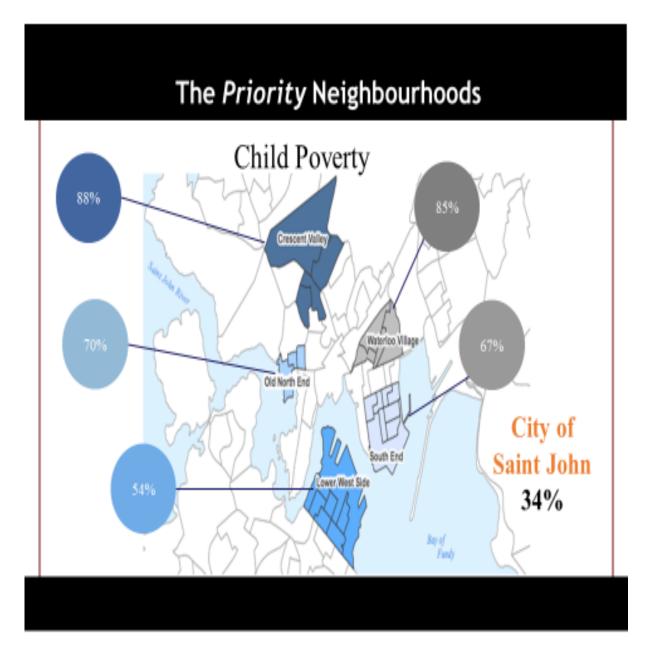
Adelaide Street	Kennedy Street
Albert Street	Main Street
Bridge Street	Metcalf Street
Bryden Street	Newman Street
Cedar Street	Rotary Court
Cunard Street	Shamrock Court
Durham Street	Victoria Street
Elgin Street	Victoria Lane
Holly Street	Waring Street
Kennedy Place	

### Lower West Side



Albert Street West	King Street West	St. James Street West
Blue Rock Court	Lancaster Street	St. John Street
Carleton Kirk Place	Ludlow Street	Suffolk Street
Charlotte St. West 1 - 294	Market Place	Tilley Lane
Christmas Lane	Middle Street	Tower Street
City Line	Prince Street West 1 - 317	Victoria Street West
Digby Ferry Drive	Protection Street	Watson Street
Dominion Court	Queen Street West	Windy Ridge
Duke Street West 1 to 294	Riverview Drive	Winslow Street
Germain Street West	Rodney Street	Woodville Road 1-296
Guilford Street	St. George Street	

#### Appendix **B**



Source: Living SJ Spring 2018 Report (Statistics Canada 2016)