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Survey finds it's safer to live in Winnipeg's suburbs

Sat Jun 17 2006

By Mia Rabson

LIVING in suburbia is a utopian paradise compared to life in the inner city, a new survey says.

The Winnipeg Quality of Life community report, released this week, found if you live in the Winnipeg suburbs, you feel safer, are healthier and are far less likely to die prematurely, compared to Winnipeggers who call the streets of the core their home.

According to the survey, more than three in every four inner-city residents don't feel safe in their communities, compared to just three per cent of suburban Winnipeggers who don't feel safe.

And the likelihood you feel comfortable going to a neighbour for help goes down the closer you get to the inner core.

Shirly Forsyth, project co-ordinator for the survey, said she wasn't surprised suburbanites feel safer, but she was surprised by how much the feelings of safety changed the closer you get to the inner core.

The report is based on a survey of Winnipeggers taken in 2001 and 2002. There were 69 questions on the survey relating to everything from quality of housing and health status to feelings of safety and education levels.

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