

## Welcome to Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta Canada

This information is provided to assist Trades personnel who are new to Alberta and Canada and are considering working in Fort Saskatchewan. Alberta is one of the major hubs of economic growth in Canada and the world. Alberta's energy sector is the engine that drives the province's economy.

Welders, pipefitters, insulators, boilermakers, carpenters and operating engineers are in high demand to support the maintenance of these investments. The estimated workforce hours for maintenance and turnaround exceed 20 million annually in the region.

"Safety of all Workers is a Core Value", and we strive to ensure that every worker goes home safely at the end of the day.

### Location

**Fort Saskatchewan** is a city of 19,501 (2011 municipal census) in Alberta, Canada, located 25 kilometres (16 mi) northeast of downtown Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, along the North Saskatchewan River.

Fort Saskatchewan is bordered by Strathcona County to the south and east, Sturgeon County to the north and west, and the City of Edmonton to the southwest. Sturgeon County and Edmonton are both located across the North Saskatchewan River.

The city is most well-known for its proximity to petrochemical facilities, including Dow Chemical, Sherritt International, Agrium and Shell Canada. It is also known for its flock of 50 sheep that roam its downtown park throughout the summer months eating the grass. The city mascot is a sheep named Auggie.

The population of the City of Fort Saskatchewan according to its 2010 municipal census is 18,653, a 6.8% increase over its 2009 municipal census population of 17,469. In 2006, Fort Saskatchewan had a population of 14,957 living in 5,825 dwellings, a 14.0% increase from 2001. The median income for private households in 2005 was \$89,699 but the median earnings for individuals over the age of 15 was \$33,947.

The city has a land area of 48.12 km<sup>2</sup> (18.6 sq mi) and a population density of 310.8 /km<sup>2</sup> (805/sq mi).

Residents work mostly in trades (2,130), retail (1,840) or business/finance (1,575).

According to the 2006 census, the largest visible minorities in the community were Chinese with 95 residents followed by Filipino with 55 residents.

English is the first language of 91.7% of the population. French (2.2%) is the second most common first language.



## Recreation & Culture

The centrepiece of Fort Saskatchewan's recreation and culture is the Dow Centennial Centre (DCC), a multi-use facility that includes an ice arena, gymnasium, fieldhouse, indoor track and fitness centre. The facility, which opened in September 2004, also features a 550-seat performing arts theatre, a permanent art gallery with monthly shows, a banquet hall and the local Pottery Guild.

The city also has two other indoor ice arenas—the Jubilee Recreation Centre and the Sportsplex—that are used during the winter months by hockey, ringette and figure skating associations. In the summer months, the lacrosse association uses them.

Fort Saskatchewan also has Harbour Pool, which is an indoor swimming pool that includes a hot tub, sauna and slide.

Over 30 km of paved trails meander through the city's dozen parks, including Legacy Park, which is the city's main gathering place and hosts festivals in the summer.

There is one nine-hole golf course located within the city's boundaries with three others within a 10-minute drive.

The Fort Saskatchewan Museum (c. 1909) is on the Canadian Register of Historic Places. The museum, which sits adjacent to Legacy Park along 101 Street, features a red brick courthouse, a historic school, church and house that were relocated to the site from their respective locations around the region.

Fort Saskatchewan is served by the Fort Saskatchewan Public Library located on 102 Street next to City Hall.

The city's west end features a boat launch into the North Saskatchewan River, called Red Coat Landing, and a provincially preserved natural area, called the Fort Saskatchewan Prairie.

Elk Island National Park is located immediately southeast of the city.

## Climate

Fort Saskatchewan has warm summers and cold winters. Winter months are from November to March, and vary greatly in length and severity. Winter temperatures average -11.7 C with the lowest recorded at -45.6 C. Spring and autumn are both short and highly variable. Typically summer months are from late June until late August. Summer temperatures average 17.5 C with the highest being recorded 36 C.



## Places of Worship

Numerous religious faiths are represented in Fort Saskatchewan / Edmonton area, including but not limited to Lutheran, Baptist, United, Catholic, Anglican, Jewish and Muslim.

## Transportation

- Edmonton has an international airport with daily scheduled flights and charter carriers to major cities including Calgary and Toronto, which can connect to destinations around the world.
- Highway #21 is a paved, all-season roadway connecting Edmonton to Fort Saskatchewan. Passenger motor coach services connect Edmonton to Fort Saskatchewan and other destinations in Alberta. There is no passenger rail service.

## Driving

- You will need a valid driver's license to drive a vehicle in Canada. A foreign driver's license or international license may be valid for a short period of time. Please check with your employer.

## As a worker you will need to know:

- Turnaround durations range from 40 to 55 days.
- Normal hours worked per shift are ten (10) hours – day and night shift are normally scheduled. Shift schedules can vary for days worked, Alberta Employment Standards will be followed relating to consecutive days worked.
- Travel Protocol is in place for reimbursement of travel costs. This protocol will provide arrangements to Edmonton.
- All new hires will be required to attend a site orientation as well as a Safety orientation from your employer.
- A valid Identification card is required for site access which is issued immediately following the orientation sessions.
- Trade certificates will be verified by your employer during sign-on. Welders must have valid tickets and may be required by their employer to complete a job site test for special alloys or processes.
- Security Personnel are present at all sites and may perform random checks of your personal possessions when arriving or departing from site, in addition to identification card checks.



- Smoking is permitted in designated areas only. Smoking is not permitted in buildings, vehicles or on equipment.
- Alcohol and Drugs – A zero tolerance policy exists in the work place at all sites as well as the requirement for pre-access testing. The pre-access testing is carried out by an independent laboratory and is arranged by your employer. There is no site access without passing this test. Reference to the Canadian Model incorporated into the Construction Owners Association of Alberta through the information link summary following.
- Personal vehicles are not permitted on site.
- Passport and work permit is a must at the Port of Entry.
- Canada Immigration will review your personal information for entry into Canada, be aware if you have a Criminal record you could be denied entry. Prior to seeking entry, you should contact immigration or legal counsel to avoid denial.

Acts of Misconduct - All sites have Zero Tolerance for acts of misconduct and will result in corrective action up to and including dismissal. It is your responsibility to review and familiarize yourself with the information that will be provided to you by your employer. Here are a few examples:

- Leaving work area without prior approval
- Tardiness and Absenteeism without authorization
- Insubordination
- Sleeping on the job
- Safety violation
- Theft
- Threatening or harassing behavior
- Fighting on the job
- Refusing to submit to drug and alcohol tests pursuant to the Canadian Model

## Population

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## **Economy**

Fort Saskatchewan's main industries are commercial and heavy industry. Fort Saskatchewan is part of Alberta's Industrial Heartland, the largest Canadian industrial area west of Toronto. Companies with operations in the area include Dow Chemical, Sherritt International, Agrium and Shell Canada. These plants are major employers for residents of Fort Saskatchewan and the surrounding area.

With the city's growth in recent years, the commercial service sector has also grown. Multi-national corporations with stores in Fort Saskatchewan include Wal-Mart and Home Depot, with Canadian Tire, Safeway and Sobeys acting as some of the other major employers.

## **Education**

Fort Saskatchewan currently has no post-secondary schools. Most residents commute or move into Edmonton to attend post-secondary classes at the University of Alberta, Grant MacEwan University, or Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

Fort Saskatchewan's schools are governed by two different school boards -- Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) and Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS). Both school boards have their head offices located in Sherwood Park.

Fort Saskatchewan's elected trustees on the EIPS board are Pat McLauchlan and Glen Buchan. Gerald Mykytiuk is the lone Fort Saskatchewan trustee on the EICS board.

The following schools are located in Fort Saskatchewan:

### **Elementary Schools**

- Fort Saskatchewan Elementary School (Grades K-6)
- James Mowat Elementary School (Grades K-6)
- École Rudolph Hennig (French Immersion K-9)
- Win Ferguson Community School (Grades K-6)
- Fort Saskatchewan Christian School (Grades K-9)



- Pope John XXIII Catholic School (Grades K-4)
- Our Lady of the Angels Catholic School (Grades 5-8)

### **Junior High Schools**

- Fort Saskatchewan Junior High (Grades 7-9)
- École Rudolph Hennig School (Grades K-9, in either English or French)
- Our Lady of the Angels Catholic School (Grades 5-8)
- Fort Saskatchewan Christian School (Grades K-9)

### **High Schools**

- Fort Saskatchewan High School (Grades 10-12)
- John Paul II High School (Grades 9-12)
- Next Step Senior High School (Grades 10-12; Alternative)

### **Health care**

Fort Saskatchewan has one hospital—the 32-bed Fort Saskatchewan Health Centre. A new 38-bed hospital is currently under construction.

The city also has a 58-bed, public-operated, supportive-living seniors lodge, called Dr. Turner Lodge. Southfort Bend, a privately operated facility, also has supportive living for seniors. The lone assisted-living facility in Fort Saskatchewan is the Rivercrest Care Centre.

### **Sports**

The Fort Saskatchewan Traders, of the Alberta Junior Hockey League, were long a part of the city. After the 2006-07 season, the team relocated to St. Albert and was renamed the St. Albert Steel.

The Pyramid Corp. Hawks of the Capital Junior Hockey League and the McEwen Chiefs of the Chinook Hockey League are currently the only professional hockey teams in the city. Both use the Jubilee Recreation Centre as their home rink. The Edmonton Chimos female hockey team of the Western Women's Hockey League also played some home games at the JRC during the 2008-09 season.



Fort Saskatchewan is also home to the Fort Saskatchewan Athletics of the Sunburst Baseball League. Former college and professional baseball players make up the core of the baseball club.

Fort Saskatchewan has youth sports associations for hockey, soccer (indoor and outdoor), baseball, ringette, indoor lacrosse, figure skating, cross-country skiing<sup>[dead link]</sup> and swimming.

## Media

Fort Saskatchewan has two local newspapers. Both are free.

Fort Saskatchewan Record (*The Fort Record*), which is a weekly newspaper with home delivery, was first published Wednesday, Apr. 5, 1922. It took over the offices and plant of The Conservator, the previous weekly newspaper.

The Sturgeon Creek Post, (which is a weekly newsletter only) available from local businesses, was established in 1997.

Other newspapers commonly read in Fort Saskatchewan are the *Edmonton Journal* and the *Edmonton Sun*. Fort Saskatchewan has no television or radio stations of its own due to its close proximity to the Edmonton broadcasting market.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta

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### [Atb Financial, Telephone Banking](#)

9964 99 Avenue  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L4G8  
Phone: (780) 998-5161

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### [Atb Financial, Suburban Branches, Fort Saskatchewan](#)

9964 99 Avenue  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L4G8  
Phone: (780) 998-5161

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### [Bmo Bank of Montreal, Westmount Village, Out of Town, Fort Saskatchewan](#)

Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L  
Phone: (780) 998-1678

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### [Bmo Bank of Montreal, Westmount Village, Out of Town, Fort Saskatchewan](#)

8725 94 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L4P7  
Phone: (780) 998-4488

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### [Bmo Bank of Montreal, Branch & Instabank Service](#)

8725 94 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L4P7  
Phone: (780) 998-4488

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### [Bmo Bank of Montreal, Branch & Instabank Service](#)

Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L  
Phone: (780) 998-1678

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### [C I B C, Branch](#)

9903 101 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L1V6  
Phone: (780) 998-2261s

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### [Capital City Savings & Credit Union Ltd](#)

Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L  
Phone: (780) 998-7731

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### [Rbc Royal Bank, Customer Service Centre, Rbc Royal Bank Branches, Alberta North Branches, Fort Saskatchewan](#)

9916 102 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L2C3  
Phone: (780) 998-3721

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### [Rbc Royal Bank, Ft Saskatchewan Branch](#)

9916 102 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L2C3  
Phone: (780) 998-3721

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### [Rbc Royal Bank, Ft Saskatchewan Branch](#)

Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L  
Phone: (780) 998-9198

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### [Rbc Royal Bank](#)

Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L  
Phone: (780) 998-9198





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**Scotiabank, Branch, Ft Saskatchewan**

10404 99 Avenue  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L3W2  
Phone: (780) 998-3711

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**Scotiabank, Branches, Fort Saskatchewan**

10404 99 Avenue  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L3W2  
Phone: (780) 998-3711

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**Servus Credit Union Ltd**

Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L  
Phone: (780) 992-1733

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**Servus Credit Union Ltd, Branches, Neighbouring Communities**

9839 104 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L2E5  
Phone: (780) 992-6920

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**Servus Credit Union Ltd**

9839 104 Street  
Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L2E5  
Phone: (780) 992-6920

