

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION

### Welcome to the Oil Sands Fort McMurray, Alberta Canada

This information is provided to assist Trades personnel who are new to Alberta and Canada and are considering working at the Oilsands Facilities in Fort McMurray. 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 in the Oilsands", and we strive to ensure that every worker goes home safely at the end of the day.

### Location

The oil sands deposits are north of the city of Fort McMurray. Fort McMurray is 435 kilometers northeast of Edmonton, Alberta.

Home of the world's largest oil sands deposits holding over 30% of the world's petroleum reserves, Fort McMurray is a young and vibrant community of over 90,000. The city once known as Fort of the Forks is located at the confluence of the Clearwater, Hanging Stone, Horse, and Athabasca Rivers. The area is rich in outdoor adventure opportunity and provides an excellent location to sit back and enjoy the splendor of the Aurora Borealis.

### Geography

The oil sands are in a boreal forest region. Fort McMurray is 370 meters above sea level. The surrounding area is flat to rolling with numerous creeks and rivers, marshes, bogs and muskeg (muskeg is thick, water logged organic material). There is also an abundance of wildlife include black bears, moose, deer, coyotes, foxes and numerous small mammals. During the summer months plenty of songbirds and waterfowl are to be found in the area.



## Climate

The average January temperature is –19C (-4F), midwinter temperatures frequently drop below –30C (-22f) and at times as low as –40C (-40F). In July the average temperature is 16C (63F), with temperatures frequently reaching as high as 30C (86). Snowfall averages 172 centimeters (from November through April).

## Your Well Being

- The oil sands facilities in the region have on site Medical personnel, medical facilities and ambulances for transport to the Northern Lights Regional Health Centre, a modern full service hospital, which is located in the city of Fort McMurray.
- Doctors, dentists, counselors, chiropractors, massage therapists and health practitioners are also available in the city of Fort McMurray.
- At the commencement of employment, your employer will assist you in obtaining medical healthcare insurance which is to be used for all medical services while in Alberta.

**Note:** The health care coverage is only valid for yourself and not your family.

For further information regarding health care in Alberta see <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/>.

## Places of Worship

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

In addition, members of various churches visit the camps in the areas. The camps also provide multi-cultural rooms for worship.

## Transportation

- Fort McMurray has a regional airport with daily scheduled flights and charter carriers to major cities including Edmonton, Calgary and Toronto, which can connect to destinations around the world.
- Highway #63 is a paved, all-season roadway connecting Fort McMurray to Edmonton. Passenger motor coach services connect Fort McMurray to Edmonton and other destinations in Alberta. There is no passenger rail service.



- Transportation is provided from the camp to the work sites which correspond to the applicable work schedules.
- Recreation busses from the camps to the City of Fort McMurray run on a defined schedule.

## 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.

## Camp Life

There are many camps in the Fort McMurray region. These camps offer:

- Private rooms, most equipped with television service
- Limited number of rooms have shared washroom facilities while others have common washroom facilities
- Rooms are not equipped with telephones, but there are pay phones in the common areas
- Internet service is available either in the rooms or in the common areas
- Mail Service to receive or send mail or parcels is available. There is also courier service available, if required.
- Automated Banking machines
- Laundromat washing facilities are available – remember to bring your towels/washcloths, as these are not provided.
- Western Style food service is served in the dining room for breakfast and supper with bagged lunches provided for you to take to your lunchroom at the worksite.
- Some camps in the region do not permit alcohol, therefore check with your employer.
- Recreation Facilities in the camps may include:
  - Fitness centre (gym and weight room)
  - Ice rinks
  - Basketball / Volleyball courts
  - Sports fields such as football, baseball & soccer
  - Running and cycling paths
  - Pool Tables
  - Table tennis



The Camps are multi-cultural and although you may hear a number of different languages, the official language is English.

Meeting rooms are available for groups meetings such as Alcoholic Anonymous (AA).

**As a worker in the Oilsands 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; the existing union agreements for travel in/out of Fort McMurray are in place and will be applied
- 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 and will be arranged by your employer
- 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



## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – Fort McMurray, Alberta

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### Atb Financial, Telephone Banking

11 Haineault Street  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H1R8  
Phone: (780) 790-3300

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### Atb Financial, Telephone Banking

330 Thickwood Boulevard  
Fort McMurray, AB T9K1Y1  
Phone: (780) 790-6940

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### Bmo Bank of Montreal, Branch

Fort McMurray, AB T9H  
Phone: (780) 791-1826

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### Bmo Bank of Montreal, Branch

9920 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H2K5  
Phone: (780) 790-6992

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### C I B C, Branches

121 Signal Road  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H4N6  
Phone: (780) 791-1145

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### C I B C, Branches

8553 Manning Avenue  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H3N7  
Phone: (780) 743-3312

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### Money Mart

9713 Hardin Street  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H1L2  
Phone: (780) 715-2274

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### Money Mart

Fort McMurray, AB T9H  
Phone: (780) 715-2220

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### Rbc Royal Bank, Branch

106 Millennium Drive  
Fort McMurray, AB T9K2S8  
Phone: (780) 792-5455

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### Rbc Royal Bank, Branch

Fort McMurray, AB T9H  
Phone: (780) 743-1002

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### Rbc Royal Bank, Branch

8540 Manning Avenue  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H5G2  
Phone: (780) 743-3327

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### Rbc Royal Bank, Branch

Fort McMurray, AB T9H  
Phone: (780) 792-5449



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**Scotiabank, Branches, Fort McMurray**

9541 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H3Z7  
Phone: (780) 743-3386

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**Scotiabank, Branches, Thickwood Heights**

331 Thickwood Boulevard  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H4V2  
Phone: (780) 743-5838

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**Servus Credit Union Ltd**

Fort McMurray, AB T9H  
Phone: (780) 799-7801

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**Servus Credit Union Ltd**

9804 Morrison Street  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H5B8  
Phone: (780) 799-7800

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**Td Bank Financial Group, Branch**

8600 Franklin Avenue  
Fort McMurray, AB T9H4G8  
Phone: (780) 743-2261

