# OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Name</th>
<th>Fort Frances, Ontario</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Website</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fortfranceschamber.com">www.fortfranceschamber.com</a></td>
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</table>

## COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

### Population and demographics

More demographic information can be found [here](#).

### Amenities

- **Rainy River District School Board**
  The school board is the school district administrator for English language public schools in the Rainy River District, with approximately 3,300 students as of 2013. It operates schools in an administrative region of 10,886 km².

- **Northwest Catholic District School Board**
  The Northwest Catholic District School Board has 6 Catholic elementary schools serving the communities of Sioux Lookout, Dryden, Atikokan, Fort Frances to Rainy River and First Nations within the jurisdiction of the Board in Northwestern Ontario.

- **Confederation College**
  The Rainy River District Campus offers a wide variety of programs to meet the education and training needs of the Rainy River District area. Our programs range from full-time postsecondary diploma programs, full-time and part-time certificate programs, continuing education courses, general interest courses and other education training opportunities.

- **Contact North**
  First launched in 2008, the Ontario Online Learning Portal for Students is a 24/7 gateway that provides easy and quick access in English and French to up-to-date information on the more than 1,000 programs and 18,000 courses available online and at a distance from Ontario’s public colleges, universities, literacy and other training providers. It also features easy access to resources and support services for students interested in studying online and at a distance in Ontario.

- **Seven Generations Education Institute SGEI**
  In 1985, the ten bands in the Rainy Lake Tribal area formed the Rainy Lake Ojibway Education Authority. The ten bands are; Big Grassy, Big Island, Couchiching, Lac La Croix, Naicatchewenin, Nigigoonsiminikaaning, Ojibways of Onigaming, Rainy River, Seine River and Mitaanjigaming First Nations.
  The union was formed because of the desire to maintain traditional cultural and linguistic values and to improve economic status, social status and community interactions.
Education was seen as a driving force in the quest for political self determination. Each of the ten bands appointed one member to a Board of Directors, which functions with the leadership of the Executive Director. Seven Generations Education Institute is designed to provide for the education and training needs of the Aboriginal people in our Tribal area; however, we welcome all of the people that we can serve.

### District of Rainy River Educational Institutions

**Rainy River District School Board**

Education Centre  
522 2nd St East  
Fort Frances ON P9A 1N4  
Phone: (807)274-9855  
Fax: (807)274-5078  
Toll Free: 1-800-214-1753  
General Inquiries: (807)274-9855  
Director of Education: Heather Campbell [heather.campbell@rrdsb.com](mailto:heather.campbell@rrdsb.com)

**The Northwest Catholic District School Board**

Corporate Office 555 Flinders Avenue  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3L2  
Email: [info@tncdsb.on.ca](mailto:info@tncdsb.on.ca)  
Toll Free: 1-888-311-2931  
Telephone: 807-274-2931  
Fax: 807-274-8792  
Director of Education: Brendan Hyatt [bhyatt@tncdsb.on.ca](mailto:bhyatt@tncdsb.on.ca)

**Robert Moore School (Grades JK-8)**  
528 Second Street East  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 1N4  
Phone: 807-274-9818  
Fax: 807-274-3831  
Web: [http://rms.rrdsb.com](http://rms.rrdsb.com)

**J.W. Walker (Grades JK-8)**  
475 Keating Avenue  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3K8  
Phone: 807-274-3616  
Fax: 807-274-6970  
Web: [http://jws.rrdsb.com](http://jws.rrdsb.com)

**St. Mary’s School (Grades 4-8)**  
755 Flinders Avenue  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3L2  
Phone: 807-274-7756  
Fax: 807-274-0453  
Web: [https://www.tncdsb.on.ca/school/stmary](https://www.tncdsb.on.ca/school/stmary)

**Fort Frances High School**  
440 McIrvine Road  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3T8  
Phone: 807-274-7747  
Fax: 807-274-5171  
Web: [http://muskie.rrdsb.com](http://muskie.rrdsb.com)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Web Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seven Generations Secondary School</strong></td>
<td>1459 Idylwild Drive (Nanicost Grounds)</td>
<td>807-274-8569</td>
<td>807-274-1992</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.7generations.org">www.7generations.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fort Frances High School</strong></td>
<td>440 McIrvine Road</td>
<td>807-274-7747</td>
<td>807-274-5171</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://muskie.rrdsb.com">http://muskie.rrdsb.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact North</strong></td>
<td>440 McIrvine Road</td>
<td>807-274-3988</td>
<td>807-274-3992</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fortfrances@contactnorth.ca">fortfrances@contactnorth.ca</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.contactnorth.ca">www.contactnorth.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Confederation College, Rainy River District Campus</strong></td>
<td>440 McIrvine Road</td>
<td>807-274-5395</td>
<td>807-274-2462</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.confederationc.on.ca/regionalcampuses/fortfrances">www.confederationc.on.ca/regionalcampuses/fortfrances</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rainy River Community College</strong></td>
<td>1501 Highway 71 International Falls</td>
<td>218-283-7722</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VALA (Valley Adult Learning Association)</strong></td>
<td>241 Second Street East Fort Frances, Ontario</td>
<td>807-274-3553</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:vala@jam21.net">vala@jam21.net</a></td>
<td><a href="http://users.jam21.net/vala">http://users.jam21.net/vala</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TBayTel</strong></td>
<td>TBayTel Northern Ontario's largest digital cellular coverage including communities as far west as Kenora, as far north as Red Lake, and as far east as Chapleau. TBayTel Mobility customers can enjoy free Long Distance on all cell phone to cell phone calls anywhere on TBayTel's network. TBayTel Mobility offers you the convenience of using your cellular phone as you travel across North America with Automatic Roaming. To find out if it is available at your destination call Customer Service at 623-4400 or 1-800-264-9501 before you travel.</td>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.tbaytel.net">www.tbaytel.net</a></td>
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Community Future Development Corporation
The Rainy River Future Development Corporation is a membership-driven, non-profit, community-based corporation. We are governed by a Board of Directors who are elected each year from our membership. The Rainy River Future Development Corporation is supported by FedNor and Industry Canada under the Community Futures Program and the Municipalities of Alberton, Chapple, Emo, Fort Frances, La Vallee, Lake of the Woods, Morley, and Rainy River. Working to create jobs and improve the commercial and industrial base of the Rainy River District, we offer a variety of services to the community. We can help you find fair and equitable business partnerships, help your business communicate with a larger market and provide community learning for businesses and entrepreneurs. The RRFDC wants to encourage and assist with business development throughout the Rainy River District, therefore, we...

- Proactively seek out Entrepreneurs wishing to expand their businesses or begin a new business
- Actively seek out Business ideas that preliminary research indicates might be feasible for the District
- Work closely with other agencies and individual communities to foster an entrepreneurial spirit throughout the district

RRFDC can provide:
- Loans, equity investments, and loan guarantees to a maximum of $150,000 per business
- Business planning assistance for us or other potential lenders
- Research, using the latest forms of computer programs
- Youth Initiative loans for summer students

CONTACT US
Rainy River Future Development Corporation 601 Mowat Avenue
Fort Frances, ON P9A 1Z2
Phone: 807-274-3276 Fax: 807-274-6989
Email: info@rrfdc.on.ca
Web: www.rrfdc.on.ca

District Overview
Experience the riches of the Rainy River District, the sun filled summer days, the kaleidoscope of fall colours, the crisp cool air of winter mornings and bursting revival of every spring.
The Rainy River District is a great place to raise a family. The warm, friendly people live in a relaxed and satisfying lifestyle with superb natural treasures and exciting outdoor activities, coupled with great entertainment.

The hub of the Rainy River District is the town of Fort Frances. The town is the judicial, medical, and business centre of the area and has the infrastructure to supply the needs of all area businesses, both large and small. Fort Frances offers a secure and stable economic base and the town has the advantages of a large city with the convenience of a small town.

Fort Frances offers all the amenities desired for a comfortable living; fully serviced land, affordable housing, a developed industrial site and the lowest priced utilities in Northwestern Ontario. Fort Frances has a new Sportsplex facility that includes two ice rinks, pool, gym, squash courts and also is a great place to hold an event or wedding. The La Verendrye Parkway is a 5 km path along Rainy River, bike, walk, job, walk your dog, stop at the Sorting Gap Marina for an ice cream or visit one of the food trucks on site.

Access Rainy Lake from the Sorting Gap marina, hundreds of miles of lakeshore, and miles of lake to discover, in all four seasons. Riverside Health Care corporate office is located in Fort Frances, with La Verendrye Hospital, Rainycrest Long Term Care, Supportive Housing, Counseling, and several additional allied health care facilities.

The Rainy River District has numerous natural resources, both renewable and non-renewable, ranging from forestry and mining to agriculture, fish and wildlife. To the sportsman, this part of Ontario is indeed a "happy hunting ground." The waters abound with fish and wild fowl, while the forests abound with deer, moose, bear and partridge.

One of the most valuable resources in Rainy River District is its timber. Pine, poplar, birch, basswood, oak, elm, ash, soft maple, balsam, spruce, cedar and tamarack make up the area’s forest. Occasional white pine appears in the beautiful valley of Rainy River and on the innumerable islands of the Lake of the Woods.

The forest sector has been a key component in the area’s economy. There are mining operations such as explorations and prospecting occurring within the Rainy River District. Companies such as Metalcorp, Nuinsco Resources and New Gold have discovered significant deposits of gold, platinum and nickel. These companies continue to drill to verify findings and find additional deposits. The New Gold/Rainy River Project has become operational and is located 60 kms northwest of Fort Frances, based their main office in Emo.

Emo is the agricultural centre of the Rainy River District, a thriving community along the Rainy River, a full-service town with Physician Clinic, Health Centre, Dental Office, Physiotherapy, Long Term Care and Inpatient Care. Emo has established building lots, affordable housing, newly constructed apartments, many unique businesses, services and great river view.

To the west of Fort Frances, the area transitions into agricultural farmland. The agricultural area of the district runs about 100 km between Lake of the Woods to the west and Rainy Lake to the East and about 35 km between the Rainy River to the south and the Precambrian shield to the north. Production in the agricultural community includes dairy products, cow-calf operations and grain production, prevalent in the town of Rainy River.

Rainy River built on the namesake river is a busy borderland community with Baudette, MN. Affordable housing and full-service health centre offering 24/7 ER, Long Term Care and Inpatient Care.
At the centre of the District, the Emo Agriculture research station assists with development of new crops and cultivars. There are also several hydro-electrical dams in the area. The Fort Frances Generating Station operated by H2O Power is an eight-unit hydroelectric station located on the Rainy River in the town of Fort Frances. The station was built in 1909 and equipped with horizontal turbines that were used to grind wood and generate power. In 1954, all original equipment was removed and replaced with eight vertical turbine generators. The station has an installed capacity of 12.8 MW at a head of 24 metres.

Our central location provides instant access to major markets. We have a highly skilled, highly productive labor force. An affordable location to operate your business. Take advantage of year-round recreational opportunities. The Rainy River District is a great place to locate a business and raise a family.

Travel options

Airport
Fort Frances Municipal Airport is the one and only airport located within the Rainy River District. It is located 2.2 nautical miles (4.1km or 2.5 mi) northwest of Fort Frances, Ontario, Canada. The airport is classified as an airport of entry by NAV CANADA and is staffed by the Canada Border Services Agency. CBSA officers at this airport currently can handle general aviation aircraft only, with no more than 15 passengers. Hours of operation are: Sunday to Friday - 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays - 7 a.m. until dark.

Rail
Canadian National Railway is located in the heart of Fort Frances, and runs both east and west through the Rainy River District. This rail line carries products across Canada to and from the shipping ports of Thunder Bay.

King’s Highway
Commonly referred to as Highway 11, is a provincially maintained highway in the province of Ontario. At 1,780.2 kilometres (1,106.2 mi), it is the second longest highway in the province, following Highway 17. Highway 11 begins at Highway 400 in Barrie, and arches through northern Ontario, across the Rainy River District to the Ontario–Minnesota border at Rainy River via Thunder Bay; the road continues as Minnesota State Highway 72 across the Baudette-Rainy River International Bridge. The highway is also part of MOM’s Way between Thunder Bay and Rainy River.

Canada-USA Borders
The Fort Frances – International Falls border crossing is the busiest crossing in Minnesota and is in the top 20% of all crossings between the United States and Canada. Although it carries a fair number of trucks it is used mostly by local residents and vacationers. This crossing is applicable to toll fees.

Rainy River – Baudette border crossing is the most westerly border crossing between Ontario and Minnesota, and is the 4th busiest crossing in Minnesota. It is used mainly by vacationers and local autos with little truck traffic. There is no toll fee to cross at this crossing.

Housing/Accommodation

Learner Housing:
Local NOSM University Representative-
Shari Bujold
Email: sbujold@nosm.ca

Locum Housing:
Todd Hamilton, Physician Recruiter for Fort Frances, Emo and Rainy River
Email: t.hamilton@rhcf.on.ca

Realtor link here
| Spousal employment       | Northern Community Development Services NCDS [https://www.ncds4jobs.ca/](https://www.ncds4jobs.ca/)  
Rainy River Future Development Corporation [https://rrfdc.on.ca/](https://rrfdc.on.ca/) |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### CLINICAL SERVICES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catchment area and demographics</th>
<th>National Household Survey (NHS) Profile, 2011 <a href="https://statcan.gc.ca/">statcan.gc.ca</a></th>
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</table>

| Hospital description / services | Riverside Health Care – La Verendrye Hospital, Rainycrest Home Long Term Care, Supportive Housing [https://www.riversidehealthcare.ca/](https://www.riversidehealthcare.ca/)  
Fort Frances Community Clinic, Fort Frances Family Health Team [https://ffht.ca/](https://ffht.ca/) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### SUPPORTS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR LOCUMS OR LEARNERS COMING TO THE COMMUNITY

| Community contact information | Todd Hamilton  
Physician Recruiter for Fort Frances, Emo and Rainy River  
Email: T.Hamilton@rhcf.on.ca  
Phone: 807 275 9794  
Dr. Karim Eltawil, Chief of Staff, La Verendrye General Hospital  
Dr. Marc Ruppenstein, Chair Fort Frances and District Recruitment and Retention Committee |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| Pictures of clinic, hospital, housing | ![Clinic Picture](Image1)  
![Hospital Picture](Image2)  
![Supportive Housing Picture](Image3)  
![Community Clinic Picture](Image4)  
![Long Term Care Picture](Image5) |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Last update: March 2022