

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY NAME

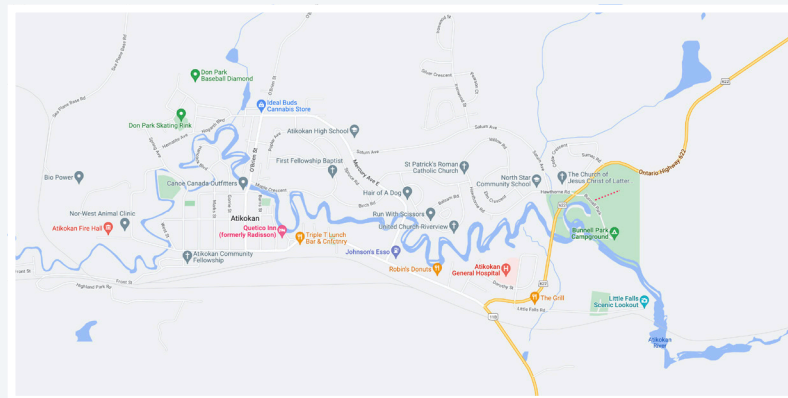
Atikokan

Updated September 2022

MUNICIPAL WEBSITE

www.atikokan.ca

MAP WITH LOCATION



FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES SERVED BY CLINICIANS

- **Lac La Croix First Nation:** Located approximately 40 km West of Atikokan on Highway 11, then 80 km South on Flanders Rd (Gravel). Lac La Croix First Nation currently has about 350 residents.
- **Seine River First Nation:** Located approximately 70 km West of Atikokan on Highway 11 and 2 km South on Horsecollar Rd (Gravel). Seine River First Nation currently has about 400 residents.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

DEMOGRAPHICS AND COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Atikokan is a community of about 2700 residents with a median age of approximately 50 years.

- Find more demographic information [here](#).

Atikokan is a very friendly community and has been designated as a safe community by the World Health Organization. Atikokan is known as the 'Canoeing Capital of Canada' and enjoys access to many outdoor activities and adventures. We are located on the eastern border of [Sunset Country](#) within the [Heart of the Continent](#) and enjoy beautiful forest-scenery year-round.

Climate

Atikokan experiences all four seasons. Summers can reach temperatures of +30°C and winters will have a few days that reach as low as -40°C. You will want a pair of warm winter boots and a heavy winter jacket if residing here throughout the winter. Four-wheel drive is also recommended for the winter months to help manage road conditions after snowfall.

A vertical photograph of a serene lake scene at sunset. The sky is a deep blue with wispy white clouds, reflecting in the calm water. A small boat with two people is visible in the distance. The foreground is framed by green foliage on the left and right sides.

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- ## Recreation and Exercise

- ## Arts and Culture

- Atikokan Centennial Museum
- Pictograph Art Gallery
- Atikokan Entertainment Series
- Atikokan Public Library
- Places of Worship

- **Quetico Provincial Park:** Quetico Provincial Park is one of Canada's finest wilderness-canoeing Parks, recognized around the world for its unparalleled tranquility, rugged beauty, majestic waterfalls, and picturesque forests. With over 450,000 hectares of protected land and thousands of interconnected lakes, rivers, and streams, Quetico offers a lifetime of wilderness exploration. Quetico's Dawson Trail campgrounds also provide an array of opportunities for family fun such

as: The National Heritage Educational program; the Artist in Residence program; Quetico history tours within the John B Ridley Research library; and access to several beaches.

- **Little Falls Scenic Lookout:** Little Falls is one of Atikokan's not-so-hidden gems. Carved out by massive glaciers nearly 12,000 years ago, Little Falls is now a beautiful fifty-foot drop. With a picnic shelter, benches, and a boardwalk it has become a favourite of visitors and locals alike for photography, angling, and relaxation.
- **The White Otter Castle:** Built single-handedly by James McOuat in the early 1900s, the "Castle" is a feat of ingenuity located on the beautiful and remote White Otter Lake. The sturdy log house stands 3 storeys tall (29 feet), with a turret that extends to a fourth floor (41 feet). McOuat felled and cut all of the red pine logs himself, and hoisted the finished, dovetailed beams (some with a weight of 1600 lbs) into place by means of simple block and tackle. The history, myths, and sights of this 'castle' and White Otter Lake will leave you awestruck.
- **Charleson Recreation Area** and a **Caland Mine Tour:** Atikokan Charleson Recreation Area is an area of fantastic recreational opportunities located on the northern edge of Atikokan, ON. Summer or winter, if you prefer your activities motorized, not, or maybe even a mix of both, there is something to attract every outdoor activity enthusiast. Clubs that make use of Charleson: Equine Trail Riders; Steep Rock Mountain Bikers; ATV Club; Atikokan SnoHo; Atikokan Motocross; Show-shoe trails; and Atikokan Mudslingers.
- **Beaten Path Nordic Trails:** With trail-heads minutes from town there are 30 km of diversified trails that connect the town of Atikokan to Quetico Provincial Park. Quality groomed skate lanes and track-set classic trails provide skiers a variety of opportunities to experience wilderness surroundings on safe challenging trails in any weather conditions. Beaten Path Nordic Trails host several events like the annual candle-light ski and the annual Cross Quetico Lakes Tour.
- Numerous local **swimming lakes:** Atikokan has many lakes in the surrounding area that are great for swimming, shoreline picnics, blueberry-picking and building sand castles. The locals will be happy to help you find your favourite summer spot to cool down.
- Numerous **Resorts, Lodges, and Outfitters:** Atikokan is lucky to be surrounded by a handful of renowned guiding businesses that can help you access some of the best freshwater fishing and hunting in Canada. Some of these lodges are also home to amazing campgrounds, beautiful beaches, delectable restaurants, and craft-breweries.

TRAVEL OPTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

Atikokan is accessible via Highway 11/11B or Highway 622. Located approximately 200 km (2 hours) West of Thunder Bay or 150 km East of Fort Frances. The majority of locals rent vehicles from companies located **within the Thunder Bay Airport** to travel to Atikokan.



Atikokan does have a municipal airport but this is only available for personal/chartered flights; there is no scheduled air service into Atikokan.

Thunder Bay is the closest major centre with a commercial airport ([Thunder Bay International Airport](#)). [Winnipeg](#) (600km West of Atikokan) and [Minneapolis](#) (600km South of Atikokan) are other viable options with commercial flights available.

[Fort Frances](#) and International Falls both have smaller airports that cater to general aviation through Bearskin Airlines. [International Falls](#) does offer commercial flights to and from Minneapolis-St.Paul.

[Northland Bus](#) operates a bus service from Thunder Bay to Atikokan three times a week (Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday). The bus usually leaves at 9:00am and arrives 11:20am.

HOUSING/ACCOMMODATION

Current housing available in Atikokan: [realtor.ca](#)

- Note: We will provide assistance in your search for a permanent home. We will put you in contact with some local realtors and provide temporary housing should you choose to setup a permanent practice in Atikokan.

Two locum houses are available (no smoking and no pets please). Each house has at least two bedrooms so there is room to bring your family. Houses are fully furnished, complete with cooking utensils, bedding, and towels. Also stocked with laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, toilet paper, facial tissue, and hand soap. Cable TV, wireless internet, an answering machine, and a treadmill are available.

A NOSM U learner house is available.

SPOUSAL EMPLOYMENT

Atikokan Employment Centre

- Brad Beyak: brad.beyak@atikokaninfo.com
- The main sources of employment in Atikokan include the forestry industry (a local lumber mill and logging operations), the tourism industry (Quetico Provincial Park and many nearby Outfitters), an Ontario Power Generation plant, and the general hospital. Many residents within Atikokan commute to work at various mines throughout the Rainy River District and the Kenora District. Gold exploration is currently ongoing in areas near Atikokan and has produced promising results for an open-pit gold mine.

Northwest Training and Adjustment Board

- The NTAB is an organization that can provide information on [employment opportunities](#) within our district (Rainy River District).

CLINICAL SERVICES

CATCHMENT AREA AND DEMOGRAPHICS

Atikokan, Lac La Croix First Nation, Seine River First Nation.

- Population increases during summer months with tourism.

See Demographic Info for [Rainy River District](#)

HOSPITAL DESCRIPTION / SERVICES

[Atikokan General Hospital](#) is a fully accredited 41-bed facility that serves approximately 6000 outpatients annually with a complement of 120 employees.

In-patient services offered: Acute Care beds are utilized for general medical patients, cardiac care (including thrombolytics), rehabilitation, palliative care, respite care, dietitian, mental health and addiction services. Long Term Care beds are home to 26 residents who enjoy a variety of services including: meals in a common dining area, dietitian support, rehabilitation support, seniors counselling service, pastoral care, recreational therapy and a variety of volunteer programs including palliative care visitation.

Out-patient services offered

- Emergency Room Care (with video-direct connection to ICU of TBRHSC)
- Diagnostic Imaging (X-Ray, Ultrasound, ECGs, Holter Monitor Services)
- Laboratory
- Rehabilitation (Occupational Therapist, Kinesiologist, Physiotherapist)
- Telemedicine
- Mental Health & Addictions Services (Gambling, Transitional Housing)
- Regional Pharmacy Program

Nearest neighbouring hospitals:

- Fort Frances, 150 km: [La Verendrye General Hospital](#)
- Thunder Bay, 200km: [TBRHSC](#)
- International Falls, MN (170km): [Rainy Lake Medical Center](#)
- Duluth, MN (400km): [St. Luke's Hospital](#); [St. Mary's Medical Center](#)

PRIMARY CARE MODEL / CLINIC SETUP / ALLIED HEALTH SUPPORT

Atikokan's physicians are funded through the Rural Northern Physician Group Agreement.

Locum physicians provide support to our local physicians by doing clinic hours, walk-in services, and 24-hour call shifts. Call shifts can be scheduled as heavy or light as the locum desires.

Registered nurses, registered practical nurses, a mental health worker/counsellor, a dietitian and a pharmacist work with the hospital to provide primary care to community patients.

Allied Health Support

- [Atikokan Medical Clinic](#) (5-minute drive from the hospital): Operates from 9:00am-5:00pm. Locums are responsible to see patients scheduled during business hours.
- [Atikokan Family Health Team](#) (2-minute drive from the hospital)
- [Home and Community Care](#)

OTHER CLINICAL VENUES AND SERVICES

- Extended Care Ward, Atikokan General Hospital
- Palliative Care, Home and Community Care

SUPPORTS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR LOCUMS OR LEARNERS COMING TO THE COMMUNITY

TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

Atikokan is associated with NOSM U and teaching opportunities are available several times throughout the year to anyone interested. Average of 3 students/residents per year.

LIVING: HOUSING AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Two locum houses are available (no smoking and no pets please). Each house has at least two bedrooms so there is room to bring family. Houses are fully furnished, complete with cooking utensils, bedding, and towels (also stocked with laundry detergent, dishwashing soap, toilet paper, facial tissue, and hand soap.) Cable TV, wireless internet, an answering machine, and a treadmill are available. Houses are located within a five-minute drive or 25-minute walk from all medical/clinical venues.

- The cost of locum housing is \$120.00 per night (completely reimbursable through Health Force Ontario). Locums are asked to pay in-full on their final day.
- Additional accommodations have been made with Aspen Court Living, a newly constructed senior living complex.

A NOSM U learner house is available at a rate of \$125 per week. The house is fully-furnished, located within a 15-minute walk of the clinic and a 10-minute walk of the hospital.

TRANSPORTATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

- Within Atikokan, walking or biking is a very feasible method of transportation; the town can be walked from end-to-end in 40 minutes or less.
- A vehicle is recommended to explore some of the outdoor adventures surrounding the town and to help brave the colder winter days. Four-wheel or All-wheel drive is recommended for the winter road conditions after snowfall.

Name: Bridget Davidson

Title: AGH Recruitment & Retention

Organization: Atikokan General

Email: davidsonb@aghospital.on.ca

Phone: (807) 597-4215 ext.306

PICTURES OF CLINIC, HOSPITAL, HOUSING



- Atikokan General Hospital



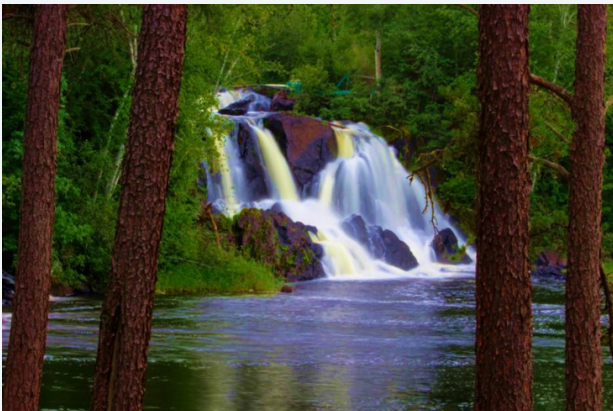
- Locum House



- Locum House



- NOSM U Learner House



- Little Falls Scenic Lookout



- The White Otter Castle



Atikokan's Tourism Branding:

'It's no secret Atikokan is the gateway to some of the best outdoors experiences in the north - come see why we're Naturally Wild today!'

