

DAWSON CREEK, BRITISH COLUMBIA



Source: Picture BC



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Location: Northeast B.C., near the border with Alberta
Key industries: Agriculture, oil and gas, forestry, tourism
High demand occupations: Trades, nurses, process operators
Education: Pre-school through to college
Population: 11,583 (2011 Census) Growth of eight per cent since 2001

Dawson Creek is peaceful and the people are very nice. Don't be scared about the language or finding a job - there are agencies here to help immigrants. The StrongStart program for young children really helped my son. I've got a good job and can go to the college and learn what I need for my career.

Ziqing M., originally from China



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Dawson Creek is in a region where oil and gas, large scale maintenance and construction projects will provide a strong foundation for economic growth. Unemployment in Northeast British Columbia is consistently the lowest in the province, and economic opportunities abound. Dawson Creek offers a home for you and your family to prosper.

DOING BUSINESS IN DAWSON CREEK

Dawson Creek is open for business. With favourable taxation and business policies and development groups ready to work with you, it's a great place to establish and grow a company.

- [Invest in Northeast B.C.](#)
- [South Peace Economic Development Commission](#)
- [Dawson Creek Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Community Futures](#)



HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

Many major projects are planned for Northeast B.C., so jobs will be available to 2020 and beyond. Occupations in demand include:

- **Construction** – Heavy duty equipment operators and mechanics, carpenters, electricians, millwrights
- **Oil and gas** – Drilling and servicing labourers, petroleum gas and chemical process operators
- **Mining** – Mineral and mineral process control operators
- **Health** – Registered nurses
- **Administration** – Finance and insurance administrators, clerical

The [Occupational Guides for Immigrants to B.C.](#) provide information on these occupations.



MAJOR EMPLOYERS

With billions in investment projects planned for the next decade, major employers are going to need workers. Some of the region's largest include:

Construction

- Borek Construction
- H.F. Nodes Construction

Retail trade

- Walmart
- Canada Safeway

Manufacturing

- Greensmart Modular Buildings
- Lawrence Meat Packaging
- Louisiana Pacific

Transportation

- Caribou Road Services

Educational Services

- Northern Lights College
- School District #59

Health Care

- Northern Health Authority

Oil and Gas

- Calfrac
- Air Liquid Nitrogen Facility

JOB SEARCH

Dawson Creek welcomes people willing to work hard. These resources will help you on your journey to a new career.

- Service Canada Centre
- Obair Economic Society
- Job Search Online
- Northern Opportunities
- WorkBC
- Skill Central Job Match Initiative

Almost 10 per cent of residents of Dawson Creek have a first language other than English.

JOB RELATED TRAINING

Do what you want to do and follow your passion. In Dawson Creek, you will have the opportunity to succeed with access to affordable training to get you there.

- With a specialization in oil and gas, clean energy technology, and programs ranging from trades certification to international education, Northern Lights College has courses for everyone.
- Many employers provide on-the-job training.

English as a Second Language

The Dawson Creek Literacy Society provides ESL training. Northern Lights College also offers ESL courses at various skill levels.





LIVING IN DAWSON CREEK

Dawson Creek is in Peace River country, steeped in history and community spirit. People are open, so you can make friends easily and quickly become a part of the community. Dawson Creek is home to the best that Northeast B.C. has to offer, with spectacular natural beauty and good old-fashioned fun.

IMMIGRANT RELATED SERVICES

The [Dawson Creek Literacy Society](#) helps immigrants get settled in the town. It will help you and your family find the services you need.

HOUSING

In Dawson Creek you can have that dream home for much less than in the big city. In 2012, the average cost of a house was \$229,000; compare that to Vancouver's \$1 million. Not ready to buy? Renting a house in Dawson Creek averages \$1,200 a month compared to over \$2,000 in Greater Vancouver.

Use the B.C. Government's [Cost of Living Calculator](#) to find out more about costs in Dawson Creek.

HEALTH CARE

Fast and effective health care service is important for everyone. Health care facilities and practitioners are located in the town. These include the [Dawson Creek and District Hospital](#), family doctors, walk-in clinics, dentists, orthodontists, optometrists and other providers.

CHILDCARE AND EDUCATION

Dawson Creek has a range of options for early childhood care including child-care centres and home providers. You can search for the service of your choice through the [B.C. Government's Childcare Information](#) site. [StrongStart Centres](#) offer free, drop-in early learning programs for children and their parents. [South Peace Child Development Center](#) has programs to support children and families

British Columbia has excellent public schools and Dawson Creek is no exception. Your children can attend one of five public elementary schools, a middle school and a high school. The [school district](#) also welcomes international students who wish to study in Canada.

The [Dawson Creek Municipal Library](#) provides free Internet access and a wide selection of educational tools.

**Dawson Creek has cold winters
and warm summers with long
daylight hours.**

TRANSPORTATION

The town has public transit and a [regional airport](#) with service to Vancouver and other communities. Dawson Creek is also Mile Zero of the world famous Alaska Highway, so access by vehicle is excellent.



Source: BC Stats

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FAITH AND WORSHIP

Followers and believers from many religions, faiths and cultures have made Dawson Creek their home. The town includes a mix of Catholic and Protestant churches and a place of worship for the Baha'i faith.

MEDIA

Local newspapers provide many ways to get news, share opinions, and discover what the town and region has to offer.

- [Dawson Creek Daily News](#)
- [North East News](#)



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ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS

Dawson Creek is an outdoor lover's paradise. Whether it is camping, hiking, or fishing, the natural beauty of the region creates an inspiring backdrop for outdoor activities.

In the winter, the fun starts when the snow flies. With unlimited winter terrain, you can set out by snowshoe, snowmobile, or cross-country skis and pass through places few have seen before. Or, if adrenaline is your thing, you can hit the slopes on skis or a snowboard, and glide down the hills with friends and family.

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

After work, you and your family can enjoy many recreational activities. Facilities include an aquatic centre, an ice hockey arena, curling arena, and sports fields. These services are available at an affordable price and feature many family friendly events. Dawson Creek also has an events centre where numerous concerts and performances are held each year.

You can participate in recreational sports leagues to compete, stay fit and meet new people. In the summer, take the whole family to one of Canada's biggest rodeos, the [Dawson Creek Exhibition and Stampede](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Making the move to Dawson Creek is simpler than you think. Before you know it you and your family can be building a future together in this dynamic and beautiful town of Northeast B.C.

- [Dawson Creek website](#)
- [LoonLounge](#): Canada's immigration and settlement online community
- [Tourism Dawson Creek](#)
- [Dawson Creek Chamber of Commerce](#)