

PRINCE RUPERT, B.C. UP CLOSE – THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY



Source: Picture BC



My English was very bad, but when I joined an ESL class it helped me so much. I feel better and more confident and love to live in Canada. My husband has a good job as a fisherman. I joined the badminton club and my children are in dance class and Taekwondo. We just had the Vietnamese New Year's Party with the Vietnamese group. If you get involved with the community you will be happy here.

Chi C., originally from Vietnam



THE COMMUNITY IN PRINCE RUPERT

According to the 2011 Census, Vietnamese is the first language of 330 people living in Prince Rupert. Many Vietnamese came to the city in the 1970s; they established businesses and work in the fishing industry. Their children have received a good education and done well. Today, new families are joining them. It's clean, safe and beautiful, and has a vibrant Vietnamese community and a growing economy.

This profile provides information of interest to potential immigrants from Vietnam. For more information on Prince Rupert, please see the Prince Rupert Community Profile for Prospective British Columbians.

IMMIGRANT RELATED SERVICES

These organizations are an important link in the immigration process. They will help transfer your qualifications from home and connect you with jobs and training programs.

- [Hecate Strait Employment Development Society](#)
- [Northwest Community College](#)

[Northwest Community College](#) offers regular ESL classes for adults in the community. [Welcome B.C.](#) provides a [guide](#) in Vietnamese, with information to help you get settled.

HOUSING

To find quality housing in beautiful Northern B.C. at an affordable cost, check out Prince Rupert. Homes are 80% less expensive than Vancouver. Renting is also affordable.

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

EDUCATION

Prince Rupert provides high-quality education options. With four elementary schools, one high schools, a middle school and alternative schools, Prince Rupert meets your children's education needs. College and university courses are also available. To stay in touch with your relatives and culture, courses are available for children to learn Vietnamese.

The [Prince Rupert Library](#) can help you in several ways. It has:

- Vietnamese books and a subscription to a Vietnamese magazine
- Interlibrary loans for books, free of charge
- ESL section with resources for learning English

The library will also help you with studying for the Canadian citizenship test.



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HEALTH CARE

Prince Rupert has a quality health-care system, anchored by the Prince Rupert Regional Hospital. The City also has dentists, orthodontists, optometrists, chiropractors, acupuncturists and other medical services.

FAITH AND WORSHIP

Home to a diverse mix of cultures and people, Prince Rupert boasts a healthy mix of Christian-denominated churches. Many Buddhist families live in Prince Rupert as well.

MEDIA

You can get news about Vietnamese across B.C. and Canada and back home. [Thoi Bao](#) provides an online newspaper and magazine, and the Prince Rupert TV cable provider, [CityWest](#) offers inexpensive access to Vietnam TV4.

HOLIDAYS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The Vietnamese community continues to grow in Prince Rupert and festivals and celebrations grow with it. The community celebrates Tet (Vietnamese New Year) each year at the Fisherman's Hall. Frequent parties in private homes help create a strong network within the community. Events such as weddings bring everyone out to celebrate the happy moments.

MONEY TRANSFER

If you wish to send money overseas, local banks, credit unions, and even the Safeway grocery store can provide wire transfers through Western Union.

RESTAURANTS

Want to eat out with family and friends? Prince Rupert has a good selection of Vietnamese restaurants including:

- Uncle Buck's
- Herby's Family Restaurant
- Nhu-y Vietnamese Cafe Sub and Billiards
- Pho 88
- Lee and Ann Restaurant

GROCERY

You'll be able to find Vietnamese spices, cooking pastes, sauces (fish, soy, hot, etc.) and canned food - everything from mangosteen to fish - at the Vietnamese grocery stores in Prince Rupert. They include:

- Rose's Oriental Foods and Gifts
- Eastern Star Food

LEISURE ACTIVITIES

As an international tourist destination for wildlife, fishing and old-growth forest, Prince Rupert is an ideal place to relax. Or, you and your family can enjoy organized activities such as badminton or martial arts like Tai Chi and Taekwondo. Music lessons are available as well as dance schools and competitions which showcase the talent and diversity of the community. These activities are all available at an affordable cost for families.