FIRST NATION'S

The Peace Country derived its name from "*Unchaga*", Beaver for *peace*. Their home for 11,000 yrs., in 1899 and 1900, First Nations signed Treaty No. 8 in Fort Vermilion. Today they make up approx 30% of the population. Their celebrations, traditions and crafts reflect the stories and customs of the past.

alexander mackenzie & *the Fut Tradets*

In 1789 attempting to reach the Pacific, Mackenzie instead reached the Arctic Ocean – in doing so -paddled past Boyer's Post. His 2nd attempt in 1792 was successful and he became the first person to cross North America, 12 years before the Lewis and Clark expedition. The Hudson Bay Co. established a permanent post in Fort Vermilion by 1830. With a sawmill, flourmill, brick factory, post office, grocery store and rich produce, it was a self sufficient, bustling community by the early 1900's. In 1908 the Hudson Bay Co. Factor's House was built. Today it remains the only HBC factor's house on its original site in Alberta. It is designated an Alberta Provincial Historic Resource.

Agriculture

550,000 acres are cropped annually plus 20,000 used for pasture. Approx. 600 farms are in operation growing primarily wheat, canola, peas, flax, forage, hay, barley and oats.

Over 100 farmers in the Mackenzie Region are organically certified farmers or are in the process of

becoming certified. Most of the





Forestry

The first sawmill opened near High Level in 1964. Roughly 1/4 of the District is forested with mature timber. The industry is busiest in winter. Once the ground is frozen the annual log haul gets underway and runs 24/7 until spring breakup. High Level and La Crete each have two mills. 50% of residents are involved with the industry in some way. Those in agriculture often run equipment through the winter log haul, giving year round income.

Tolko Industries Ltd., is one of Alberta's largest sawmills employing 350+ people year round. The company is the most modern, technically advanced and productive dimension lumber mills in Alberta today. Tolko is a strong wood products company with a solid reputation, committed to professional and sustainable forest management.

La Crete Sawmills Ltd., established in 1989, has a team of approximately 130 dedicated employees that strive to produce a quality product to their market throughout North America and overseas. The company specializes in the lumber production of spruce as well as the production of quality wood pellets. The mill's annual capacity is 70 million board feet, and the wood pellet mill is capable of producing up to 120,000 tonnes of pellets annually. For more info call 780-928-2292.

Norbord, a state-of-the-art oriented strand board mill, boasts the world's longest single line continuous press, consuming 1.3 million cubic meters of timber per year. *Visit www.norbord.com for more infe*

Oil and Gas

Oil was first discovered near Rainbow Lake in 1965 and near Zama City in 1966. The Hay-Zama Lakes area contain the only offshore Alberta oil production facility. Many major oil companies are in operation here, with plans for future development ongoing.

VISITOR INFORMATION & MUSEUMS

Mackenzie Crossroads Museum & Visitors Centre
Ph: 780-926-4811
www.bioblevel.ca/visitors/museum

La Crete Mennonite Heritage Village Ph: 780-928-4447

Fort Vermilion Heritage Centre Lean-to Museum and Archives & Visitor Log House Ph: 780-927-4603

Zama Recreation Society Ph: 780-683-2481

La Crete Tourist Information Centre Ph: 780-928-2278 lacretechamber.com/about-la-cre

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Fort Vermilion Board of Trade Ph: 780-927-4008 www.fortvermilion.org

Mackenzie County
Ph: 780-927-3718
www.mackenziecounty.con

Town of High Level Ph: 780-926-2201 www.highlevel.ca

High Level & District Chamber of Commerce Ph: 780-926-2470 www.highlevelchamber.com

Town of Rainbow Lake www.rainbowlake.ca La Crete & Area Chamber of Commerce Ph: 780-928-2278

Zama Recreation Society Ph: 780-683-2481

THINKING OF RELOCATING OR INVESTING

Century 21 Prime Realty (2002) Inc. Ph: 780-926-4883 www.c21prime.com

M&M Real Estate Ph: 780-926-5537 www.highlevelrealestate.com

Fort Vermilion School Division Ph: 780-927-3766

The Echo-Pioneer Ph: 780-926-2000

Community Futures North West Alberta Ph: 780-926-4233 www.cfnwa.ab.ca

Regional Economic Development Initiative Ph: 780-926-4233 www.rediregion.ca

Northern Lakes College Fort Vermilion: 780-927-2450 High Level: 780-926-5625 La Crete: 780-928-2008 www.northernlakescollege.ca

Town of Rainbow Lake www.rainbowlake.ca

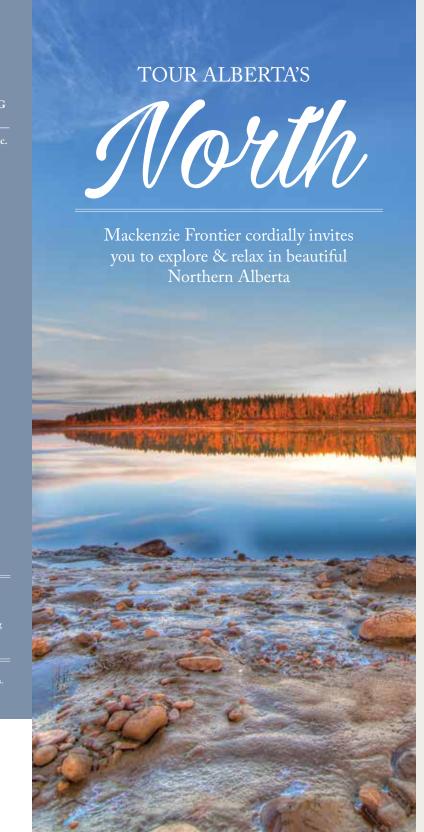
Thank you sponsors & all those who made this publication possi

Regional Economic Development Initiative, and Mackenzie Frontier Tourism Association
Community Futures Northwest Alberta, Project Coordinator - Wilma O'Rourke and all
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Western Economic Diversification Canada version.

This brochure is for informational purposes. We apologize for any omissions or discrepancies. If you require further info on a specific topic contact the appropriate party.









Circle Drive

Drive on scenic, uncrowded roads through thriving communities carved out of Alberta's last wilderness. Hike on wilderness trails, camp out under the stars and explore the uniqueness of each community.

Spend a lazy afternoon fishing or watching local bird populations. Visit museums,

visitor centres and historical sites to learn how the region has developed and grown. Plenty of subject matter and longer than usual summer daylight hours inspire many a photograph!

Located in Alberta's NW corner, Mackenzie Region is larger than the

province of New Brunswick. High Level, the most central community in the district, is located halfway between Edmonton and Yellowknife. It is the last full service stop before the NWT border. Where Alberta began, Fort Vermilion is located along the Peace River. La Crete, to the south, is the agricultural center for the region. Zama City – which isn't a city at all – is in the middle of northern Alberta's oil field. South of Zama is Rainbow Lake, where Banff Oil Co. drilled the first successful oil well and set off the region's oil and gas boom.

LAY OF THE LAND

You seldom find such variation. The open flat land of Buffalo Head Prairie changes to wetlands and river valleys near the Peace River. To the north and west are extensive Boreal Forests. The Caribou Mountain Wildland Provincial Park is safe haven for native species to thrive undisturbed. Special regulations apply for hunting and ATV use.

Rose photo courtesy Government of Alberta; Bison photo courtesy The Echo



Greater amounts of lichens and mosses grow here than anywhere else in Alberta. The Cameron Hills in the NW and the Buffalo Head Hills to the SE contrast the low muskeg and open meadows. Dry salt meadows can also be found. Watt Mountain, NW of High Level, has vegetation similar to the Rocky Mountain Foothills. We have the largest known meteorite crater (20–25 km in diameter) in Western Canada. Many rivers and lakes supply our water, most notably the mighty Peace River – for years the highway of The North. The Nationally significant Hungry Bend Sandhills border the Peace.

FEATHERED AND FURRED INHABITANTS

Vast wetlands attract many species of migrating birds. Endangered species and those sensitive to man (Whooping Cranes, Peregrine Falcons and rare White Pelican) also find safe haven here. Bistcho Lake to the NW, is home to one of the largest breeding populations of bald eagles in Alberta. Moose inhabit the muskeg and lowlands while deer frequent fields and meadows. Alberta hosts the largest concentration of Woodland Caribou. The region is proud to accommodate two herds, one centralized in the Wood Buffalo

National Park, and the Hay-Zama herd in and around Chateh and Zama City.
Fur-bearing animals such as wolves, coyotes and beavers are in abundance with a good chance you'll see a black bear in your travels. Woolly mastodon and 10,000-year-old bison bones have also been

uncovered in the region.



I and scape photo courtesy Ross Faules: Train photo courte



THE TOWN

Your adventure begins 10 km North of Paddle Prairie. Turn off the Mackenzie Highway onto Highway 697 East to Tompkins Landing and the La Crete Ferry crossing.

With one of the last remaining ferries still in service in Alberta, the La Crete Ferry Crossing is unique. Weather permitting, the ferry runs April - November (no charge). A winter ice bridge keeps traffic moving. Further east is Tompkins Landing Picnic area, with tables and fire pits it's perfect for lunch along the Peace.

Stop at Buffalo Head Prairie Co-op and buy local hand sewn

farms are located at **Buffalo Head Prairie**.

Continue north to **La Crete**, settled in

Continue north to La Crete, settled in 1914 by the Rivard brothers who were avoiding conscription. The mid-30's saw many Mennonite settlers relocate from the Prairies, searching for land and cultural freedom.

Homesteads were established and land cleared, much being done by hand. The first store opened in 1950, a post office soon followed. In 1958-59 a gravel road was built to Fort Vermilion. By the 1960's roads had opened up the area. Agriculturally the area exploded with 20,000 acres being cleared per year during the 1970's – early 80's.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH _

9 km off Hwy 88 another agriculturally important area, Rocky Lane, was settled following WWI by veterans who received land grants. 1929-31 saw many settlers move from Saskatchewan. A small farming community, it consisted of a one-room schoolhouse, general store and many hardworking people. The 1950's saw another influx of people and a new school. Today the school (Kindergarten - Grade 12) and local riding arena and winter's cross country skiing are the hub of activity.

At the La Crete Mennonite Heritage Village learn about their traditions. La Crete is a busy community with much to offer: public schools, medical clinic, library and recreation facilities. The Northern Lights Recreation Center boasts an indoor and outdoor ice rink, bowling, baseball diamonds, basketball, tennis, playground and beach volleyball court and hosts many events. Young visitors enjoy the skateboard park. La Crete offers high speed Internet; cell phone, cable and satellite service. Primarily agricultural, local industry is equipped with today's modern technologies. Finding employment is not difficult; industry is continually expanding, as are services. Explore this community and all it has to offer. Don't miss the local traditional Mennonite cuisine at the Homestyle Bakery & Lunch Counter.

Fort Vermilion, is a 20-minute drive NE. Take Hwy 697 E from La Crete, turn right onto Hwy 88 then drive 4 km to Fort Vermilion's access road. This part of the Peace has been continually inhabited since 1788 when Charles Boyer, (NW Company) established a trading post. More goods followed and by 1830 the

Fort was permanently established at its present site. Built in 1908, the Hudson's Bay House symbolizes the importance of the fur trade. On his way through in 1792 Alexander Mackenzie remarked on the garden at Boyer's Post. Since then farming has continued. In 1907 the federal government established an Experimental Farm. Plant variety testing, soil management & harvesting methods were

OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Across the Peace River, Buttertown has many original buildings still standing. These handcrafted, dovetailed log structures are worth the side trip. With schools, stores, a church, fire hall & even a pool hall, the community was self-contained. A summer ferry or winter ice bridge were used to cross to the Fort – not always reliable in poor weather. This area is a very important part of our history.

studied; research continues today.
Stop at the Fort Vermilion Heritage
Centre and the Community &
Cultural Complex. Pick up
brochures about the unique
history and local sights,
then explore this fascinating
hamlet. The Community
Complex has a playground,
splash park and horseshoe
pits to amuse travelers, as well as
original historical buildings on-

site. Utilize the **boat launch**, or fish off the dock near the **National Historic Cairn**. The community has schools, a hospital, post office, a hotel and restaurants - a modern place with a laid-back lifestyle. Curling, hockey and golf provide recreation or enjoy ATV'ing, hunting, hiking, and canoeing. Learn about the beginnings of our remarkable province in historic Fort Vermilion





Enjoy the view while crossing the Peace River Bridge, NW of Fort Vermilion. Riverboats used to travel up and down this river providing transportation for people and supplies. The S.S. Peace River, one such riverboat, was built and launched in Fort Vermilion.

Follow Hwy 88 N to Hwy 58 then head W. Situated at the junction of Hwy 58 and the Mackenzie Hwy is **High Level**. Declared a new town July 1, 1965, High Level originally was a stopping place for trappers and First Nations. Proximity to the oil fields made it a key location. Begun as a Cat trail, the completion of the **Mackenzie Highway** in 1948 allowed pioneers easier access.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH _

8.5 km south of Hwy 58 East on the Childs Lake Indian Reserve is Eleske Shrine. Eleske is the Beaver First Nation word for "Whi Mud Land", descriptive of the white alkali soils. Construction started in 1944. Built in honor of the St. Bernadette Church, it wa hoped prayers at the Shrine would stop the tuberculosis epidemic. With only shovels to use, local people built the shrine using stones from the Boyer River bed. By 1945 Eleske Shrine was completed. Every July, hundreds make the trip to the shrine.

More made their way in the 1950's establishing fuel, lodging and supply services. The railroad came in 1963, and the opening of three grain elevators (North America's most northerly) in 1964 was the spark that ignited High Level's future. In 1964 a sawmill opened, oil was discovered in the west in 1965, and High Level was set for growth.

Swim at the RE Walter Memorial Aquatic Centre, enjoy indoor skating and curling rinks at the Sports Complex or check out the tennis & basketball courts. Stop by the new baseballdiamonds.

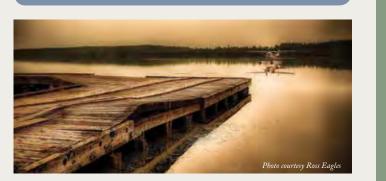


well in the fall of 2016. Beginning as an isolated oil patch community in 1966, 255 pools were discovered in the area and the oil business has been booming since. In winter this hamlet grows from 250 to upwards of 4,000, which is a direct result of the oil and gas activity in the area. Located 165km NW of High Level, this busy little community is dedicated to the oil and gas industry. The community has lots to offer, a community hall, school, library, outdoor recreational facilities and emergency medical services. Residents of Zama City enjoy living in this remote location and take advantage of a vast wilderness at their doorstep by enjoying a more laid back life. Explore untamed wilderness on snowshoes, snowmobiles or ATVs, whether on ready trails or cut your own. Zama city is proudly in the center of the huge land mass that hosts the protected Hay-Zama Bison Herd of Wood Bison. These majestic animals are thriving and can be found all over the area. The area does incorporate multiple Caribou herds which are rarely seen due to their elusiveness and the inability to access the areas that they prefer. The vast rugged beauty of the area & the possibility of seeing bison definitely make for a memorable experience.

Schools, including Northern Lakes College, a hospital, local radio station, gym, skateboard park, library and shopping are all here. Enjoy a smog free town with no rush hour traffic. Whether it's the neon lights on the many hotel/motel signage - offering almost 1,000 rooms - or the aurora borealis that dance across our sky, prepare to be dazzled. You will discover a welcome place and people only too glad to share their stories while helping you create a few of your own.

OFF THE BEATEN PATH _

Rainbow Lake is a town where people come for visit and stay a lifetime. Our town celebrated 50 years in July 2016 and our motto was then and still is "Good People-Good Times". We are located in the northwest corner of the province approximately 900 km north of Edmonton. While our town is predominately oil & gas, we have many amenities to make living a pleasure.



Transportation

There are a number of ways to access the Mackenzie Region and our circle drive.

Mackenzie Highway 35, north from Grimshaw (*Mile Zero*) or Peace River, is a beautiful drive in the summer months. Turn right at Highway 697 towards Tompkins Landing to begin the circle drive tour. If you're up for a more adventurou route then you may want to drive up Bi-centennial Highway 88 from Slave Lake and start your tour from one of the oldes communities in Alberta, Fort Vermilion. Whichever route yo take, the drive is memorable.

Arriving by air? Fly into High Level's modern airport. Located 12 km north of town, it's only a few minutes drive into High Level. Scheduled airline service is available six days a week, and with Airport Shuttle service available and on-site car rental agencies, you won't be stranded. For more information or to check flight times and prices see the contact list below.

Northern Express provides another transportation option, with service seven days a week connecting Edmonton to the south. Let someone else do the driving while you enjoy the scenery. *See below for contact number.*

The Tompkins Landing Ferry Crossing is a must do on this trip. The Ferry runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and there is no fee to cross. If traveling in the spring or late fall it's a good idea to call ahead and check the ferry and river status.

TRANSPORTATION CONTACTS

High Level Regional Airport Ph: 780-926-3659

Central Mountain Air Ph: 1-888-865-8585 www.flycma.com

Northwestern Air Lease Ltd. Ph: 1-877-872-2216 www.NWAL.ca

Tompkins Landing Fe Ph: 780-926-2241 or 1-800-8283-908 Budget Rent a Car
Ph: 1-800-268-8900

(High Level: 780-926-2588)

National Car and Truck Rental

Northern Express - Bus Line Ph: 780-502-8080 call/text www.northernexpress.ca

Visa Truck Rentals Ph: 780-926-5588

CAMPGROUNDS & PICNIC SITES	Campsites	Picnic/Day USe	Shelter	Firewood	Drinking Water	Showers	DumpStation	Trails	Lookout	Boat Launch	Swimming	Playground	Power at Campsite	Fishing
Aspen Ridge Campground		•	•	•	•	•	•	•						Г
Buffalo Tower & Lookout		•		•				•	•					Г
Fantasy North RV Park	•	•		•	•	•	•						•	
Fort Vermilion Bridge Campsite		•	•	•	•			•				•		•
SS D.A. Thomas Park		•	•	•				•		•				•
Hutch Lake Campground	•	•	•	•			•	•		•	•	•		•
Machesis Lake Campground & Equestrian Camp	•	•		•			•	•		•	•	•		•
Tompkins Landing		•								•				•
Tourangeau Lake	•	•		•				•						
Pioneer Country Cabins	•	•		•		•		•	•			•		•
La Crete Ferry Campground	•	•	•	•			•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Elmwood RV Park		•		•									•	
Fox Haven Golf & Country Club	•			•									•	
Wadlin Lake Campground	•	•	•	•			•			•	•	•		•
Watt Mountain Lookout		•		•				•	•					
Zama Community Park & Campground	•									•	•	•	•	
Rainbow Lake Provincial Campground	•	•								•	•			•
Shady Acres Campground	•			•	•								•	
Lederer Enterprises RV Park	•			•	•	•	•						•	
Mackenzie Crossroads Museum & Visitor Centre		•												
Margaret Lake Lodge & Tapawingo Fishing Lodge (Fly-in)			•		•	•				•				•

0 km southeast

Park & Campgi

CAMPGROUNDS AND RV PARKS

3 km south of H Fantasy North C Club & RV Parl

Ph: 780-927-48 Fort Vermilion Bridge Campsid North end of th Peace River Bri

Equestrian Cai Ph: 780-927-3718

of High Leve Crete on graver road Ph: 780-927-3718

High level

Country Club North of High Level

Area, south of La

Located 38 km of Rainbow Lake & Campground
Located in the to

Located 12 min f

Matt's Pizza 2014 **Quiznos Subs** 9808 Rainbow Bly

Super 8 Hotel 9502-114 Ave Ph: 1-800-454-3213

Ph: 780-926-2727

HOTEL/MOTEL ACCOMODATION ON CIRCLE TOUR

Best Western Plus Mirage Hotel & Resort

or 780-821-1000

Family Motel 10014-97 St Ph: 780-926-3771

Four Winds Hotel

Our Place Motel

Ph: 780-926-2556

High Level

A&W Restauran

Quality Inn & Suites 9704-97 St Ph: 780-926-4223 www.qualityinnhighlevel.com

Fort Vermilion Country Gardens
Bed & Breakfast
5 km southeast of Fort Vern on Hwy 88 Ph: 1-800-722-6381 or 780-927-3773

www.countrygardensbb.c Sheridan Lawrence Inn 4801 River Rd Ph: 780-927-4400 www.sheridanlawrencein

Blue Hills Motel 48km south of La Cret on Hwy 697 Ph: 780-928-3381 www.bluehillsmotel. Cabin in the Woods B&BPh: 780-285-1034 www.cabininthewoodsbandb.com

Carcajou Cabins 30km upstream from La Crete Ferry (only accessible by boat) Ph: 780-841-1995

FOOD SERVICES ON CIRCLE TOUR

10110-97 St Ph: 780-926-3151 Subway 11002 Rainbow Blvd Ph: 780-926-3053 Family Chinese and Family Restaurant 10014-97 St Ph: 780-926-3111 Four Winds Hotel Frontier Restauran 10101-96 St Ph: 780-926-5005 10902 Rainbow Blv Ph: 780-926-318<u>1</u>

La Crete Country Grill Steak & Ribs Main St Ph: 780-928-449 Homestyle Baker & Lunch Counte 10017-100 Ave Ph: 780-928-3550

Tim Hortons 2 Gateway Blvd Ph: 780-821-4121

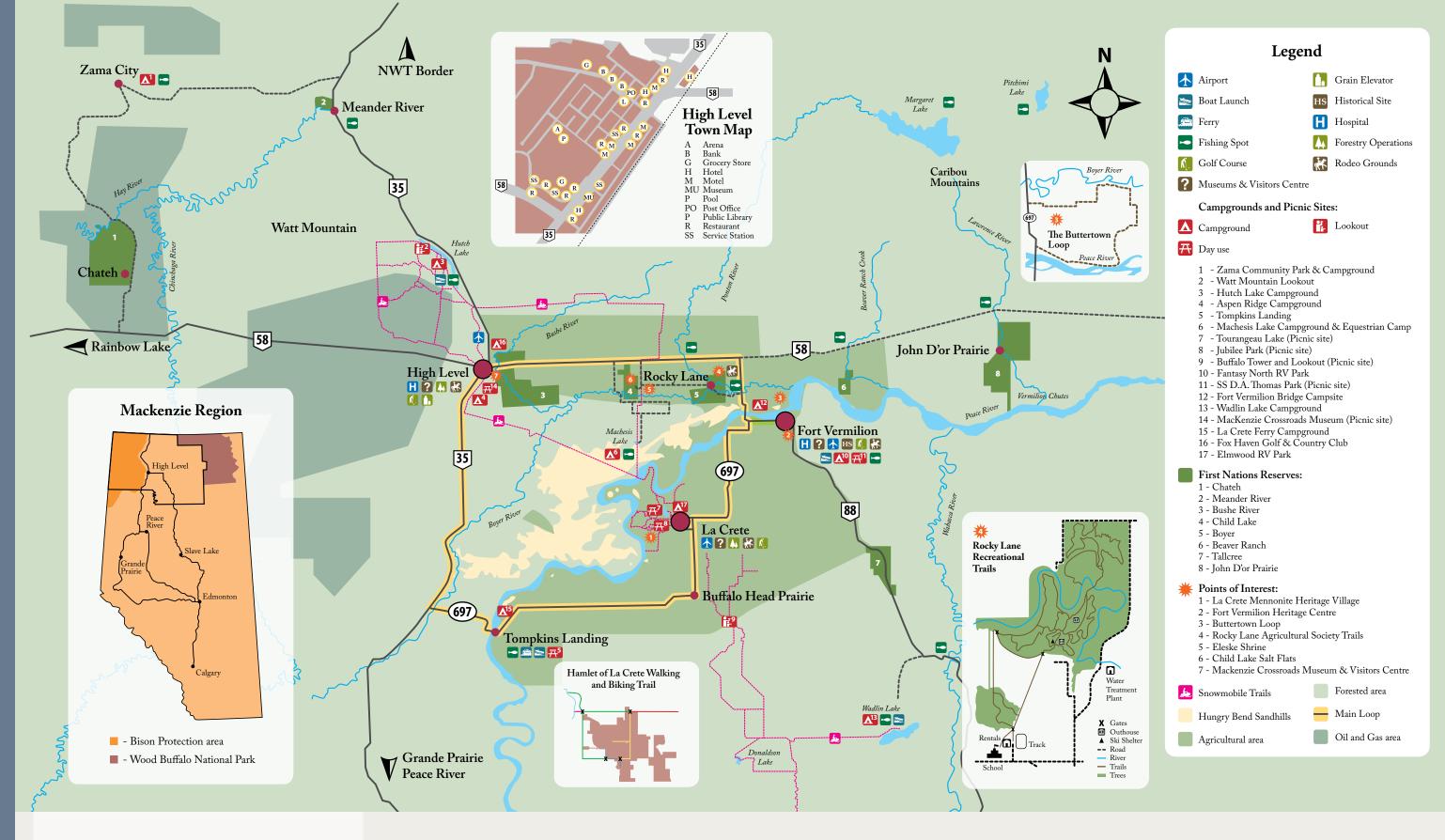
Ph: 780-926-3100

Ph: 780-928-0008

Burger Shack Restaurant Beaver Rd <u>Ph: 780-927-3300</u>

Fantasy North Gol: & Country Club Ph: 780-927-4884 4801-River Rd Ph: 780-927-4400

DISTANCE IN KILOMETRES 895 | 660 | 798 | 875 | 798 | 628 | 857 | 770 | 738 | 285 | 825 | 778 Eleske Shrine 117 | 118 72 233 549 130 70 165 27 224 27 61 61 117 87 540 251 62 Watt Mtn. View pt Fort Vermilion 915 496 610 375 513 590 513 541 857 485 122 | 557 | 184 | Wadlin Lake Grande Prairie 146 462 42 157 78 60 137 60 148 119 32 143 73 324 135 Tompkins Landing High Level 114 430 24 189 110 92 169 92 180 151 Hutch Lake 83 | 60 | 62 | 313 | 124 | Rocky Lane 256 581 162 38 70 179 256 179 La Crete 118 | 129 | 178 | 108 | 359 | 100 | Rainbow Lake 610 191 38 70 208 285 208 118 | 37 | 83 | 60 | 62 | 313 | 124 | Machesis Lake** La Crete* 206 522 103 97 138 60 197 Machesis Lake** 125 171 125 42 7 115 366 178 La Crete* 599 | 180 | 294 | 197 36 | 154 | 36 | 119 | 24 | 98 | 349 | 160 | La Crete Rainbow Lake 206 468 103 217 138 91 108 55 101 55 66 115 7 258 69 Hutch Lake Rocky Lane Tompkins Landing | 224 | 540 | 121 | 235 | 19 72 89 36 82 36 47 96 26 277 88 High Level 285 | 307 | 355 | 372 | 319 | 365 | 319 | 236 | 379 | 309 | 560 | 371 | Grande Prairie Wadlin Lake Watt Mtn. View pt 335 52 71 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 134 | 16 | 99 | 44 | 78 | 469 | 140 | Fort Vermilion 28 307 24 43 48 113 12 106 12 71 72 50 301 112 Eleske Shrine Wood Buf. N Park



WHAT TO See and Do

Trek through wilderness, photograph beautiful vistas, visit fascinating communities, see historic buildings & meet the people who call the North home.

SNOWMOBILE Trails

Explore connecting snowmobile trails operated by Watt Mountain Wanderers (For info call Barry 780-926-1231) and La Crete

Polar Cats (Contact Brent 928-7606 or George 780-841-1253). Groomed trails and the possibility of a wildlife encounter make it a worthwhile trip. Numerous ungroomed trails tempt the adventurous.

A cabin in the spruce trees is ready to accommodate those braving an overnight excursion, while aurora borealis dance across our wintry night sky.

Hiking and X-Country Skiing

Rocky Lane Ag Society Recreational Trails & Arena – houses 4-H, equestrian & ski clubs with an indoor riding arena, round pen and outdoor arena. Picnic area is on-site. Ice skating and downhill sledding available throughout the winter. Trails through the Valley allow hiking and horseback riding in summer, x-country skiing in winter. Ski rentals are available. Enjoy beautiful scenery and solitude. Call Terry at the Rocky Lane Ag Society 780-926-1428 for info. For trail info call 780-927-4538.

Snowmobile photo courtesy Watt Mountain Wanderers; Skiing photo courtesy Mike Alsterlund; Bull Riding photo courtesy The Echo



La Crete Walking Trails - bike, roller blade or stroll along paved trails. A great way to spend a warm evening, with 3.1 km of trails just outside of town and 900 m in town, or 3 km trail on the northwest side of town taking you through a beautiful forest that ends with a spectacular view of Tourangeau Lake.

GOLF Courses

Fox Haven (3 km N of High Level) - enjoy the most northerly 18-hole golf course in Alberta, with its beautiful fairways and full clubhouse.

Fantasy North Golf & Country Club (Fort Vermilion) – golf until midnight on a beautiful, challenging 9-hole course, then relax in a historic log cabin - once a mission building. For info phone/fax 780-927-4884.

La Crete Golf & Country Club - This 9-hole course has a highend design with paved cart paths, beautifully manicured fairways, 2-story clubhouse, and a rest shelter situated at every hole.



Hunting and Fishing

Access the Peace River at Tompkins Landing or Fort Vermilion; fish for pike, walleye, gold eye, whitefish or trout. The Ponton River offers arctic grayling. Machesis has stocked rainbow trout. Wadlin Lake and Hutch Lake are popular for its northern pike and pickerel. Fall is big game season for animals like moose and deer while bear are hunted in the spring and fall. For regulations contact a Fish & Wildlife office at 780-926-2238 (High Level) or 780-927-4488 (Fort Vermilion).

LOCAL Events

High Level

The President's Ball & Annual Community Awards Presentation are the season's social events. Annual Winefest in April. Thousands attend the Spirit of North Trade Show in May. Don't miss the Rodeo and RCMP's Ball in June. Canada Day celebrations in July. Farmer's Market every Friday all summer

long. Fest-of-Ale in October. Midnight Madness is the last weekend in November with the Santa Claus Parade and Frostival following the weekend after.



La Crete

La Crete Challenge Cup is a popular hockey tournament in March. The Figure Skating Carnival is much anticipated. The April Trade Show is well attended. Antique tractors participate in the Canada Day parade. July brings the North Country Gospel Fest. Take in Farmer's Day or The Antique Tractor Show in June and Pioneer Days in early September. The fall Rodeo brings in professional competitors.

Fort Vermilion

Leaving a week early, the Historical Wagon Train travels from Tall Cree to head the Canada Day Parade. River Daze has competitions that revolve around the river. Celebrate the annual Rocky Lane Farmers Day Celebration in mid-June. Fort Vermilion Board of Trade holds bike races at the end of July. Agricultual Day is a 2 day event in August, followed by their local rodeo. Don't miss the Christmas Arts & Crafts sale each November in Fort Vermilion.

AFTERNOON Excursions

Watt Mountain (35 km N of High Level, & 11 km W) and Buffalo Head Lookout (35 km SE of La Crete) offer incredible views and beautiful picnic spots. Be sure to bring binoculars and a camera to explore the scenery.