

Timber Bay, Saskatchewan

Timber Bay is a small community of about 100-150 people. Officially it is called a hamlet and the majority of the residents are of Native ancestry. The nearest major airport is in Saskatoon, served by Air Canada, West Jet, and others. From Timber Bay, Saskatoon is a three hour drive to the south west. The nearest shopping will be in Prince Albert, 90 minute drive.

Weather

The weather in Timber Bay is best described as “unpredictable.” May and June can have days that vary between cold with light snow to warm and sunny. Be prepared also for rainy days. It usually cools off at night even on hot, sunny days. A fan is recommended for times when the weather does turn hot, as the dorm rooms and cabins can become rather



stuffy and warm at night. The North Country is known for its wonderful mosquito population so come well prepared with “bug repellent!”



Medical Care

Medical Care is provided by several clinics and doctors in the city of Prince Albert (1 1/2 hour drive from Timber Bay). PATH will provide those names and phone numbers for you. In an extreme emergency there is a clinic located at Montreal Lake, 15 minutes from Timber Bay.



Health Insurance

It is the responsibility of each individual or family to provide their own health insurance against catastrophic illness or accident. You will need to purchase traveler’s insurance if you do not have medical insurance or your coverage does not include claims in Canada. **PLEASE DISCUSS YOUR INSURANCE COVERAGE AND NEEDS WITH YOUR MISSION LEADERSHIP.**

Minahik Wasau Center

PATH rents the facilities of Minahik Wasau Centre in Timber Bay, Saskatchewan. You will be living in the Centre’s dormitories and cabins.

Minahik Wasau Centre is a ministry of the First Nations Alliance Churches of Canada, serving among Canada’s First Nations. The residents of Timber Bay also like to enjoy the facilities at Minahik Wasau. Children play on the playground and teens and adults may use the gym for recreational activities or use the maintenance facilities to change tires. Please be sensitive to the fact that you are entering into a small community.



Sports and Activities

TBBC has roomy playfields, and private unpaved roads well away from the main highway. You are encouraged to bring a bike or roller skates/blades.

There is also a gym on campus. Basketball, hockey, and volleyball are favorites. There is fishing at nearby lakes as time and season allows. Saskatchewan fishing license is required.



Fun and fellowship times as well as sports activities may be planned by trainees for evenings when it will best fit into the schedule. There may also be opportunities for involvement in community activities. The responsibility for planning these, and any expenses incurred will be shared by those taking part.

Laundry

There are several washers and dryers at the centre for your use. There will be an ironing board and iron in each of the laundry rooms. You may prefer to bring your own travel ironing board for your room, but it’s not a necessity. You may, however, prefer to bring your own iron. More information will be given upon your arrival.



Phones and Internet

PATH has phones available for your use located in the Minahik Wasau Administration building and in the lodges. Cell phones are not operable at Minahik Wasau. U.S. and Canadian long distance calls are free. Other international calls should use a Canadian calling card and should be purchased before arriving at Timber Bay. Trainees have found computer calls, such as Skype (www.skype.com) or Yahoo, to be convenient at PATH. There is free wireless access available as well as local dial-up internet access through Sasktel (necessary software will be provided). The major servers, such as AOL, CompuServe, Earthlink, and MSN, have access in Saskatoon. Juno must be accessed at locations in the U.S. Do not plan to down- or up-load any large files at PATH.



Meals

Meals are taken together in the cafeteria. We encourage you, as a family, to sit with other people during meal times in order to get to know each other better. We ask that **families sit together.** Our **first meal in the cafeteria will be an evening meal, Sat., April 24.** The last meal will be Saturday breakfast, June 19. If you plan to arrive before the first meal, you will need to provide your own. The nearest restaurant is 33 km (20 miles) back over the gravel road. There are two small kitchens on campus for your use (snacks, etc) equipped with a refrigerator, stove, coffeemaker, and microwave during your stay there. They are also stocked with pots and pans, dishes, and some cutlery.



Washroom (Restroom) Facilities



There’s a good possibility that you will be sharing washroom facilities with another family. Showers are available for everyone in or near their dormitories/cabins. There are several bathtubs in Bear and Moose Lodge for bathing small children. Some parents still prefer to use a small plastic tub for babies, etc. Bring it if you desire.

Living at PATH

Dress: Bring modest casual clothes for classes (be prepared for COLD weather) and activities. More dressy occasions include Sunday services and a banquet; however, dressing up is not mandatory. For the ladies, casual dress can be pants or jeans. Bring work clothes for campus and/or community betterment projects.

Dorm Life: You will be sharing accommodations at PATH with many other families in a dormitory atmosphere and there will be “normal stresses” of communal life. All families do not share the same concepts of child rearing, neatness and cleanliness, or privacy. You need to come prepared to accept that fact and come prepared for that type of living. **Your attitude and determination to be flexible** will be strategic as to whether or not you can make this work. It will be up to you as a dorm community to work out how things will, well... work out! This is excellent preparation for your work on the field as a missionary where you will often feel like you are living in a glass house with little or no privacy. **Welcome to the world of missions!**

Because there will be a diverse mix of people/values/ideas/opinions, etc. the following guidelines for community living are given. More information will be coming about what to bring for PATH.

Please DO NOT Bring:

- PETS
- FIREARMS
- PERSONAL DEFENSE SPRAYS
- TV, VCR, DVD players
- Video Gaming Systems

DO Bring:

- ✓ board or card games for use with your family and the new friends you will make while at PATH
- ✓ your guitars or other musical instruments
- ✓ your children’s favorite books and toys - be mindful of the fact that you will not have a lot of room to store things.

Please be sensitive to others when playing music in the dorms because of different tastes in musical styles as well as “sound levels.”

We strongly encourage you to use this opportunity to build **NON-MEDIA** forms of family or community time. Board games are a great way to establish interactive times with family and friends. There are opportunities to take walks or hikes, go on



picnics, or go fishing with your family and friends. Be creative in the way you interact with your family while at PATH without relying on “technology.” In addition, when the stress and

pressures of community life become difficult, there is often a tendency to escape or avoid these tensions through other diversions such as movies, TV, and computer games.

Directions to Minahik Wasau Center:

To get to Timber Bay drive north of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan on Hwy. 2 for 94 kms. (about 58 miles). Turn right onto hwy 969 and precede another 33 kms. (20 miles) along this gravel road. Drive cautiously according to conditions. This road will take you through the Montreal Lake First Nations Community (*keep going*) and it can be a rough ride. Minahik Wasau Center will be on your left. PATH registration will be in the building that acts as Timber Bay’s Post Office.

For more information, please refer to the maps.



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life at



Minahik Wasau Center

*Timber Bay
Saskatchewan*