

# GRAND FORKS

## A Lifestyle for Everyone



Regional District of  
Kootenay Boundary

— 2022 —

### COMMUNITY PROFILE

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1 (877) 267-9399

(250) 442-2722

Proud History – Spirit of Resilience – Connected to Community



# Our Story

Experience the essence of healthy and affordable living in Grand Forks! We invest heavily in the future, while remaining true to our rich traditions. Our spirit of resilience creates an uncompromising balance between nature and opportunity, and we are committed to providing an enviable lifestyle that can be enjoyed by all.

Grand Forks is the hub of Boundary Country, strategically located between the Okanagan Valley and the Kootenays and a stone's throw from the United States border. This unique location, equidistant to Kelowna and Spokane, provides direct access to major markets and funneling tourists into our community where we gratefully share nature's playground that lives in our backyard.

Our balanced economy and unique location feature a vibrant arts and culture scene, an abundance of local food, affordable living, and unlimited access to recreation opportunities. This is the ideal place to call home for you and your business!



Tina Bryan Photography



Peter Kalasz Photography

*"In 2006 we purchased our farm and became BC's first organic dairy, cheese, and yogurt producer. We've recently expanded our home-based storefront in rural Grand Forks to sell our own products, as well as local and regionally sourced produce, meats, and food products. We pride ourselves in being stewards of the farmland and treating our animals fairly. Our family invites you to come visit us, where you can experience a taste of farm life."*

*-- Jeremy deVries, Owner  
Jerseyland Organics*



Peter Kalasz Photography



*"I have had the opportunity to pursue my education internationally and live in some wonderful places. I enjoyed them all, but Grand Forks provides a community that is great for raising a family with many economic advantages."*

*-- Kayla Sebastian, Owner  
Wooden Spoon*



Tina Bryan Photography

## Lifestyle

Surrounded by parks and open spaces, nature is truly our backyard and we offer practically any outdoor recreation activity you can imagine! Our unique location provides us with a climate that allows us to enjoy the outdoors in all four seasons. The network of parks, sports fields, and recreation facilities ensure that you can also enjoy organized and informal sports year-round.

Whether looking for a new home, a character home in a heritage neighbourhood, or require more flexible housing arrangements, we offer affordable access to any entrepreneur, business-minded professional, or family looking to live in a safe, welcoming, and natural environment.

Living in Grand Forks will also provide you with access to education at all levels. You can also access a variety of healthcare amenities and services and are also only an hour away from the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital in Trail for any specialist or advanced diagnostic services.

### *Did you know?*

*The school district has smaller class sizes for optimal learning opportunities and operates K-12 with a 4-day school week, providing the perfect balance with the quality of life!*

## Health Care



### Hospital

Boundary Hospital - 12 Acute Care Beds

Hardy View Lodge - 79 Long Term Care Beds  
(MedEvac Service)

### Clinics

Boundary Medical Clinic

Grand Forks Public Health Unit

## Education



### Elementary Schools

Dr. D.A. Perley Elementary

J.A. Hutton Elementary

Walker Development Centre (K-12)

### Secondary School

Grand Forks Secondary School

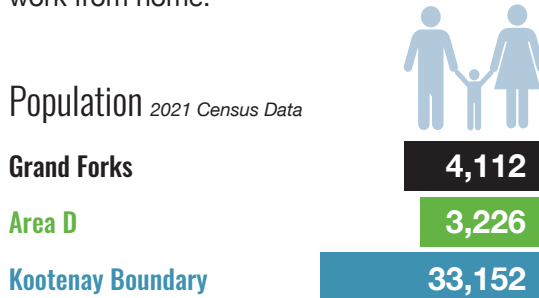
### Universities / Colleges

Selkirk College



# Demographics

From our roots in the mining boom in the late 19th and early 20th centuries we have become a diverse and prosperous economy focused on agriculture, forestry, tourism, and manufacturing. Grand Forks continues to evolve as our quality of life attracts professionals/entrepreneurs looking for a great place to live who can then connect to the rest of the world and work from home.



Tina Bryan Photography

INDIVIDUAL <i>2016 Census Data</i>	Grand Forks	Area D	Kootenay Boundary	BC
Median Total Income	\$26,466	\$26,551	\$31,708	\$33,012
Median After Tax Income	\$24,885	\$24,527	\$28,865	\$29,783
Average Total Income	\$34,009	\$34,549	\$41,850	\$45,616
Average Employment Income	\$30,277	\$31,423	\$62,962	\$43,339
HOUSEHOLD <i>2016 Census Data</i>				
Median Total Income	\$49,050	\$55,322	\$59,721	\$69,995
Median After Tax Income	\$44,487	\$49,856	\$52,936	\$61,280
Average Total Income	\$60,050	\$66,207	\$74,878	\$90,354
EDUCATION <i>As a % of the entire population</i>				
High School	15%	15%	24%	14%
Apprenticeship or Trade	7%	8%	12%	5%





# Business Environment

With local leadership that welcomes economic growth, a diverse local economy, direct access to major highway and rail networks, close proximity to regional and international airports, and an exceptional quality of life, Grand Forks provides an outstanding business environment. The unique landscape and community spirit provide an excellent opportunity for entrepreneurs of any age to excel.

## Labour Force 2016 Census Data

WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION RATE	Grand Forks	Area D	Kootenay Boundary	BC
Participation Rate	50.6%	50.2%	55.4%	63.9%
Employment Rate	45.7%	47.5%	51.1%	59.6%
Unemployment Rate	9.3%	4.9%	7.9%	6.7%

## Major Sectors

### Forestry

The proximity to mountainous terrain between two river valleys and being home to one of the largest lumber producers in the world, there are unique opportunities for the forestry sector to flourish.

### Manufacturing

From stone wool manufacturing to steel fabrication to gravel processing and even the use of remnant materials from the copper mine, our diverse manufacturing industries provide stable employment.

### Agriculture

The variety of livestock farms, orchards, gardens, and apiaries and the food products and co-operatives they generate, make a significant contribution to the overall health of Grand Forks.

### Tourism

Trails, postcard scenery, history, a welcoming downtown, and an abundance of local food and agricultural experiences entrench tourism as a key piece of the identity of Grand Forks.

## Leading Employers (by employment)

	Number of Employees
ROCKWOOL	190
Interfor	120
Bron & Sons Nursery	120
Unifab Industries Ltd.	60

## Top 5 Industries

(by employment)

Health care and Social Assistance **14.6%**

Manufacturing **11.8%**

Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting **11.3%**

Construction **10.7%**

Retail Trade **9.7%**

% of Total Population of those Employed in Grand Forks/Area D

*"Born and raised in Grand Forks, I spent many years travelling and working abroad before returning to the area to re-establish roots in my home community.*

*I am a proud graduate of the registered massage therapy program at Kootenay Columbia College of Health and Integrated Sciences. After many years away, I am excited to start my practice in the area I call home."*

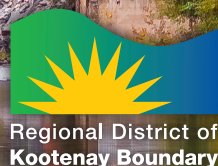
**- Saskia Evers, Registered Massage Therapy**





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