

Discover Williams Lake

AT A GLANCE..

Population: 10,700

Health Services: Cariboo Memorial Hospital

Education: Eight elementary schools (one French Immersion) and two secondary schools. Thompson Rivers University – Williams Lake Campus.

Economy: Manufacturing, mining, forestry, health services, eco-tourism

Lifestyle

The growing community of Williams Lake is located in the heart of the Cariboo Chilcotin. As the largest city in the area, it serves as a business, industrial and service hub for outlying communities. Williams Lake is the fastest growing community in the Cariboo and is an energetic city offering its residents an exciting blend of frontier charm and urban living.

Recreation and Culture

Home to the famous Williams Lake Stampede, there is no end of activity and outdoor adventure such as horseback riding, river rafting, camping, golf and tennis.

A birdwatching and fishing haven, the Williams Lake area has a host of trails and sites and a local ski hill for maximum outdoor fun.

The community itself is vibrant and actively encourages participation in sport, leisure and many cultural events.

Getting Here

Located at the junction of Highway 97 and Highway 20, Williams Lake is 25 kms east of 150 Mile House, 250 kms south of Prince George and 540 kms northeast of Vancouver.

HEALTH SERVICES

Cariboo Memorial Hospital ("CMH") has 30 acute care beds. Services provided include medical, surgical, obstetrical & gynaecological, paediatric and mammography diagnostic services. The hospital offers 24-hour emergency room coverage. There are 26 active physicians and 10 visiting specialists that provide services in internal medicine, cardiology, ophthalmology, psychiatry and dermatology.

Surgical Services

Surgical Services is home to Day Surgery, the Operating Room, Post Anaesthetic Room, Endoscopy and Central Sterilizing Department. There are 2 operating theatres, 7 bay day surgery unit and a dedicated endoscopy suite. Our 2 general surgeons and 3 obstetrician/gynaecologists perform approximately 1600 surgeries and 1400 endoscopies a year. The staffing complement in this department consists of RNS, LPN (ORT), CSD Techs and a Booking Clerk. It is a very team-oriented, vibrant, busy area covering all aspects of patient care through the peri-operative experience.

Public Health Prevention Services

Public Health Prevention Services provides Public Health Nursing, Audiology, Speech and Language Services, Dental Services, Street Nursing and Nursing Support Services. Public Health provides Nutrition, Health Protection and Facility Licensing. Prevention Services strives for excellence in the development and delivery of innovative, best practice services to optimize the health of communities and the population. Programs are focused on: Early Childhood Development, Children and Youth and Communicable Disease.

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HEALTH SERVICES

Emergency/ICU and Ambulatory Care

The Emergency Room ("ER") consists of 10 stretchers; 5 of which have Cardiac monitors. 1 stretcher is in a negative pressure room. The ER also has a non designated psych lock up room. The ICU has 3 rooms all which are monitor/ventilation capable. Ambulatory Care ("ACU") is used for all minor outpatient procedures and is also where Chemotherapy is administered. ACU accesses the Telehealth Clinic on 3rd Floor for Telethorasic and oncology referrals. The ER has approximately 21, 000 patient visits per year and is open 24/7. Coverage for the ER is with RNS and an onsite ER physician. The staffing complement consists of RNS and LPNS.

Medical/Surgical & Maternity Ward

The In-Patient Care Unit (Med/Surg/OBS) at CMH has a 21 bed unit that supports the admissions and transfers in of medical and surgical patients and a 2 bed residential ward accommodates placement clients in the acute care setting. CMH offers a Combined Care setting. The nursery is not staffed but 1:1 care is provided when able to access staff from the OBS dept. There are 5 OBS beds at CMH and a 3 bed Out-Patient Obstetrical Assessment Unit. In 2007 there were 328 births. The staffing complement consists of RNS and LPNS.

Laboratory

The CMH Laboratory is a very busy lab servicing the community of Williams Lake and a broad outlying area. The Laboratory provides basic Chemistry tests, Microbiology, Accession, Hematology and Immunology. The majority of the Outpatient lab tests are sent to the Laboratory at Royal Inland Hospital (RIH, Kamloops, BC) with only the Inpatient, Pre-op and Stat tests completed at Cariboo Memorial Hospital. The Laboratory employs Lab Technologists and Lab Assistants.

Diagnostic Imaging

The Diagnostic Imaging department at CMH includes Radiology, Ultrasound, CT, and Mammography. There are two Radiologists that are on site 3 days a week. The other two days the Radiologists are physically working in Quesnel, but still dictating Williams Lake's work. This department provides services to cover many outlying communities. In 2007, there were 2500 CT Scans performed, over 3000 Ultrasounds and over 140,000 x-rays taken.

Home & Community Care

Home & Community Care ("H&CC") provides Home Nursing and Long Term Care Case Management and services clients in the Community and the Community Nursing Clinic. H&CC provides nursing for acute and chronic conditions, wound care and palliative care. It also provides Assessment and Case Management using resources such as Home Support, Adult Day program, wait listing for Assisted Living and Complex Care. The Nursing Clinic provides IV antibiotic therapy.

Mental Health

Williams Lake Mental Health & Addiction services are comprehensive and provide the following types of services: urgent/emergent response, assessment, treatment, housing, socialization, rehabilitation and medication. The following programs form the framework of delivery in mental health services: ASTAT Program (Adult Short Term Assessment & Treatment), ACSS Program (Adult Community Support Services), Addiction Services, Elderly Program, Early Psychosis Intervention Program, Lifeskills program, Outreach Psychiatry, Mental Health Liaison and the Gateway Crisis Stabilization Program. The mandate of the Mental Health & Addiction Services Centre is to ensure the provision of core mental health and treatment, consultation, support and referral

