

PracticeNWT

Best *health* | Best *care* | Better *future*

## Family Physician Opportunities

*in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories*



Live. Work. Expand Your Opportunities.

Are you a Family Physician looking for a change of pace in a community with small-town charm? Are you intrigued by the idea of five-minute work commutes and wilderness adventures just outside your door? Does a salaried contract with benefits and without the hassles of a fee-for-service practice appeal to you?

Then come North to **live, work, and explore** the **Northwest Territories**.

To learn more, contact us at [PracticeNWT@gov.nt.ca](mailto:PracticeNWT@gov.nt.ca)  
or visit [www.PracticeNWT.ca](http://www.PracticeNWT.ca).

## Practicing Family Medicine in Fort Smith

Fort Smith is a beautiful community that will enhance the skills of a comprehensive Family Practitioner who is looking for a real sense of community, work-life balance, and connection to the outdoors.

We are currently looking for **permanent Family Practitioners** with a wide scope of practice including emergency medicine to join our staff. Multiple positions exist giving a perfect opportunity for a group of family physicians to share the adventure together!

Services are delivered in a client-focused health centre with six inpatient beds, an in-house medical clinic, and a 28-bed long term care facility. Integrated social services, midwifery, community counseling, public health, radiology, homecare, and rehabilitation services allow our team of health professionals to deliver quality comprehensive care.



Our Family Physicians will be scheduled in Emergency, clinic, and participate in a 1:3 home call. There is excellent support by visiting specialists from Yellowknife. Fort Smith is perfect for outdoor living.

Fort Smith boasts access to Canada's largest national Park, Wood Buffalo National Park, world-class big water paddling in the four main rapids 25Km out of town, hiking trails, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and even snowboarding. The community hosts a multitude of festivals throughout the year to gather the community and tourists, including the highly popular Paddlefest and the Dark Sky festival.

Our community and amazing health centre staff are looking forward to having an enthusiastic family physician join them to provide quality care to the community.

Sincerely,

Bing Guthrie, MD, FRCPC  
South Area Medical Director  
Email: [bing\\_guthrie@gov.nt.ca](mailto:bing_guthrie@gov.nt.ca)

# Compensation & Benefits

NWT physicians are provided with a unique salaried contract, with one of the **best compensation packages** in the country!

## Benefits for a full-time Family Physician in Fort Smith include:

- Unique salaried contract, with one, two, and three-year options
- Annual Salary range of **\$302,647 - \$331,935** plus **\$73,896 - \$104,448** for the following benefits:

		Amount	Total
Annual Compensation & Benefits	Base Annual Salary Range	\$302,647 - \$331,935	\$376,543 - \$436,383
	Annual Benefits: Annual northern living allowance Annual retention bonus First-time signing bonus (On a 3-year contract outside of Yellowknife) Retirement income benefits range	\$73,896 - \$104,448	
Plus, Recruitment bonus*!!	1 year - 3 years contract	\$25,000 - \$100,000	

- No overhead or practice management
- Liability, travel, and malpractice insurance costs covered
- 100% of Northwest Territories CMPA Membership Fees covered
- Paid vacation, starting at 26.5 days per year
- Paid sick leave, starting at 18 days per year
- Paid maternal / parental leave
- Support for professional fees and educational materials (\$4,500 per year)
- Continued medical education support for travel and reimbursement of expenses (18 days, \$13,500 per year)
- Relocation assistance
- Group benefits package includes dental, extended health, life, AD&D, and disability

\*Current recruitment bonuses in effect until March 31, 2026

Contact us at  
**[PracticeNWT@gov.nt.ca](mailto:PracticeNWT@gov.nt.ca)**  
to find out more about salaried  
contract and locum opportunities.





## Living Here

The Northwest Territories (NWT) is home to approximately 43,000 people in 33 communities across a landscape of over 1.34 million square kilometers. Located above the 60th parallel, the Northwest Territories awaits with seemingly endless lakes and unmatched vistas.

Fort Smith is the southern-most community on the NWT nestled just north of the Alberta border, along the Slave River Rapids. Fort Smith is a friendly, multicultural community with a population of approximately 2,500 people and is ideal for family practitioners looking for work-life balance. Fort Smith boasts some of the warmest temperatures in the NWT and a lower cost of living compared to other NWT communities.

As the gateway to the Wood Buffalo National Park, you will have opportunities to see free-roaming bison, endangered whooping cranes, and pelicans while you picnic on the sandy beaches, camp, bike, fish, paddle, stargaze, and hike in the park. The Salt Plains are a rare natural feature that extend over 200 square kilometres and were one of the reasons Wood Buffalo National Park was declared a World Heritage Park. The hiking trails between Fort Smith and Fort Fitzgerald, Alberta are well used by locals during the warmer months.



In town, take the Fort Smith Scenic Route walking trail down to the [Rapids of the Drowned](#) to see if the American White Pelicans are riding the rapids. Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of Fort Smith and partake in the local restaurants and the coffee shop. The Fort Smith Community and Recreation Centre will keep individuals and families busy with year-round programming and drop-in activities. In the winter, the groomed cross-country skiing trails are a popular destination for the weekend warriors that aren't showing off their skills at the snowboard park.

The residents of Fort Smith keep entertained throughout the year by hosting several festivals. The most popular festivals

are the [Slave River Paddlefest](#) and the [Thebacha & Wood Buffalo Astronomical Society Dark Sky Festival](#).

These attract participants from around the world because of the world-class rapids and the fact that Fort Smith is close to the auroral oval, giving it the most intense viewing of northern lights in the world!

To find out more about what's happening in [Fort Smith](#), you can read up on all the news and events from the Fort Smith Facebook page.

## Fun Facts About Fort Smith

- Wood Buffalo National Park is the size of Switzerland.
- Fort Smith has access to world-class big water paddling and multi-day trip paddle adventures.
- Fort Smith is connected to Fort McMurray, AB via winter road from December to March.
- The Northern lights are visible 250 days a year.
- The Wood Buffalo National Park was the 17th Dark Sky Preserve to be designated by the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC).
- At the Fort Smith Star Park, the Dr. Roberta Bondar Northern Observatory boasts a roll-off roof and reclined observation benches for stargazing.