

Experience Atikokan



Atikokan Economic Development Corporation



INTRODUCTION

“Atikokan is an attractive, friendly, safe community that meets the health, safety and lifestyle needs of all its residents and visitors. It boasts a theme that is representative of its history, geography and ideals. Its people consistently strive to meet their future needs and aspirations.

Atikokan provides a high quality and diversity of services, opportunities and activities. Its “whole life” education system meets the needs of businesses, and enhances the quality of life.

It has a self-sustaining economy and effective coordination among government organizations and individuals. There is an openness between the government and the people that results in effective community action.”¹

¹ Warren Paulson, *Toward a Community Strategic Plan: Atikokan Community Input Summary* (Atikokan: Words & Pictures, 1994), 2.



Atikokan

-To Hwy 11
-Tourist Bureau

Bunnell Park
-Electricity
-Water
-Showers

To Hwy 11

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	HISTORY	1
II.	PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY.....	5
2.1	Geographic Data	5
2.1.1	Location	5
2.1.2	Altitude	5
2.1.3	Land Area.....	5
2.1.4	Accessibility.....	5
2.2	Geology.....	7
2.3	Topography	7
2.4	Climate	8
III.	HUMAN RESOURCES.....	12
3.1	Population.....	12
3.1.1	Population Trend.....	12
3.1.2	Age Distribution.....	13
3.1.3	Persons per Household.....	13
3.1.4	Family Types	14
3.1.5	Ethnic Origins	14
3.2	Education	15
3.2.1	Level of Education	15
3.2.2	Student Enrollment and Grade Classification.....	16
3.2.3	Post-Secondary Education	17
3.3	Labour and Income.....	18
3.3.1	Participation Rates	18
3.3.2	Income Distribution	18
3.3.3	Employment by Industry.....	19
3.3.4	Unemployment Rate	20
3.3.5	Unemployment Insurance	21
IV.	ECONOMIC STATUS	22
4.1	Economic Base.....	22
4.1.1	Economic Profile	22
4.1.2	Land Development.....	22
4.1.3	Industrial and Commercial Land Availability	23
4.1.4	Mining.....	24
4.1.5	Forestry	24
4.1.6	Agriculture	25
4.1.7	Fish Farming and Hatchery.....	25
4.1.8	Trapping.....	26

4.2	Housing	27
4.2.1	Atikokan Housing Stock	27
4.2.2	Housing Activity and Costs	28
4.2.3	Intensification Opportunities	28
4.2.4	Housing Development	29
V.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT	32
5.1	Municipal Government	32
5.1.1	Members of Municipal Government.....	32
5.1.2	Township Officials.....	32
5.1.3	Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)	32
5.1.4	Member of Federal Parliament (MP).....	32
5.2	Taxation	33
5.2.1	Assessment Base.....	33
5.2.2	Tax Rates	33
5.2.3	Revenue.....	34
5.2.4	Tax Arrears	34
5.3	License Fees and Service Charges	35
5.3.1	Amusement and Licenses	35
5.3.2	Dog Licenses.....	35
5.3.3	Small Business and Tradesmen Business License Fees	35
5.3.4	Construction and Trade Permit Fees.....	35
VI.	LOCAL SERVICES	36
6.1	Utilities	36
6.1.1	Electricity.....	36
6.1.2	Natural Gas	37
6.1.3	Propane	37
6.1.4	Wood.....	37
6.2	Environmental Services	38
6.2.1	Ministry of Natural Resources	38
6.2.2	Water and Sewage.....	38
6.2.3	Public Works.....	41
6.2.4	Waste Removal	41
6.2.5	Blue Box Service	41
6.3	Health Services	42
6.3.1	Northwestern Health Unit	42
6.3.2	Community Care Access Centre.....	42
6.3.3	Atikokan General Hospital	42
6.3.4	Atikokan Medical Associates	43
6.3.5	Mobile Medicine.....	43
6.3.6	Dental Services	43
6.3.7	Chiropractor Service	43
6.3.8	Optometrist	44

Also under
"Tourism &
Recreation"

6.4	Social Services	44
6.4.1	Rainy River District Ontario Works	44
6.4.2	Ministry of the Solicitor General and Correctional Services...	44
6.4.3	Atikokan Community Counselling Services.....	44
6.4.4	Atikokan Crisis Centre.....	45
6.4.5	Family and Children's Services	45
6.4.6	Integrated Services for Northern Children.....	46
6.4.7	Atikokan Senior Services.....	46
6.4.8	Atikokan Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation	47
6.4.9	Atikokan Native Non-Profit Homes	47
6.4.10	Atikokan and District Association for Developmental Serv....	47
6.4.11	Atikokan Native Friendship Centre	47
6.5	Protection Services.....	48
6.5.1	Forest Fire Protection.....	48
6.5.2	Township Fire Protection.....	48
6.5.3	Ontario Provincial Police.....	48
6.5.4	Township Police.....	48
6.6	Education	49
6.6.1	Public School System	49
6.6.2	Separate School System.....	50
6.6.3	Contact North.....	50
6.6.4	Lakehead University	50
6.6.5	Quetico Centre	50
6.6.6	The Atikokan Public Library	51
6.6.7	Reading Plus	52
6.7	Communication	52
6.7.1	Telephone.....	52
6.7.2	Major News Publications.....	52
6.7.3	Television.....	52
6.7.4	Radio	54
6.8	Transportation	54
6.8.1	Surface Transportation.....	54
6.8.2	Driver/Vehicle Registration	55
6.8.3	Driver Examination Office	55
6.8.4	Rail Transportation	55
6.8.5	Air Transportation.....	56
6.9	Employment and Business Services	56
6.9.1	Atikokan Employment Centre	56
6.9.2	Atikokan Economic Development Corporation.....	56
6.9.3	Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.....	57
6.9.4	Chamber of Commerce	58
6.10	Legal Services	58
6.10.1	Rainy River District Community Legal Clinic	58
6.10.2	Lawyers.....	59

6.11	Financial Services.....	59
6.11.1	Banks.....	59
6.11.2	Accountants.....	60
6.11.3	Insurance Agencies	60
6.12	Real Estate Services	61
6.13	Children's Services	61
6.13.1	Rainbow Daycare Centre	61
6.13.2	2-3-4 Playgroup	61
6.13.3	Sun Dog Toy Lending Library.....	61
6.14	Animal Services	62
6.14.1	Veterinarian.....	62
6.14.2	Animal Control	62
6.15	Postal Services	62

VII. TOURISM AND RECREATION.....63

7.1	Accommodations and Outfitters.....	63
7.1.1	Hotels and Motels	63
7.1.2	Bed and Breakfast	63
7.1.3	Outfitter, Resorts, Lodges and Camps	63
7.2	Tourist Attractions.....	64
7.2.1	Atikokan Centennial Museum and Historical Park	65
7.2.2	Quetico Provincial Park	66
7.2.3	White Otter Castle.....	66
7.2.4	Little Falls Lookout	66
7.2.5	Downtown Atikokan.....	66
7.2.6	The Pictograph Gallery	67
7.2.7	The Atikokan Mining Attraction	67
7.3	Tours	68
7.3.1	White Otter Castle.....	68
7.3.2	Quetico Discovery Tours	68
7.3.3	Mineral Collecting	68
7.3.4	Bird Watching.....	68
7.3.5	Walleye Hatchery.....	69
7.3.6	Ontario Hydro Generating Station.....	69
7.3.7	Atikokan Forest Products.....	69
7.3.8	Proboard Manufacturing	69
7.4	Recreation	69
7.4.1	Department of Parks and Recreation	69
7.4.2	Community Youth Sports Service (CYSS).....	69
7.4.3	Atikokan Native Friendship Centre	70
7.4.4	Pioneer Centre.....	70
7.4.5	Little Falls Community Centre	70
7.4.6	Little Falls Golf Course	70
7.4.7	Little Falls Curling Rink	70
7.4.8	Mount Fairweather	70
7.4.9	Atikokan Arena.....	71

*mk
Fairweather*

7.4.10	Outdoor Skating Rinks.....	71
7.4.11	Atikokan Swimming Pool.....	71
7.4.12	Hogarth Pit Bowling Alley	71
7.4.13	Baseball diamonds	71
7.4.14	Snowmobile Trails	72
7.4.15	Tennis Courts	72
7.4.16	Badminton Courts	72
7.4.17	Basketball Courts	72
7.4.18	Volleyball Court.....	72
7.4.19	Soccer Field	72
7.4.20	Waterfront Walking Trails	73
7.4.21	Parks and Playgrounds	73
7.4.22	Northwest Paintball.....	73
7.5	Entertainment	73
7.5.1	Atikokan Entertainment Series	73
7.5.2	Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series	74
7.5.3	Friendship Theatre	74
7.6	Annual Events	74
7.6.1	Snow-A-Rama (Timmy Ride).....	74
7.6.2	Winter Carnival.....	74
7.6.3	Sno Ho International Rally	74
7.6.4	Lion's Curling Sight Spiel	75
7.6.5	Figure Skating/Ice Show.....	75
7.6.6	Recreation, Home & Leisure Show	75
7.6.7	Vintage Car Show	75
7.6.8	N.W.O. Ride for Sight	75
7.6.9	Native Pow-Wow	76
7.6.10	Native Aboriginal Day	76
7.6.11	Canada Day Celebrations.....	76
7.6.12	Cavalcade of Stars.....	76
7.6.13	Atikokan Bass Classic.....	76
7.6.14	Kiwanis Fall Fair.....	76
7.6.15	Kiwanis Santa Claus Parade	76
7.6.16	Sports Days	77
7.7	Clubs and Organizations	78
7.7.1	Churches	78
7.7.2	Service Clubs	78
7.7.3	Recreational Clubs	78
7.7.4	Social and Cultural Clubs	79
VIII.	FUTURE PROSPECTS	80
8.1	Tourism.....	80
8.1.1	Historic Boundary Waterway	80
8.1.2	Canoe Heritage Centre.....	80

8.2	Recreation	80
8.2.1	Waterfront Development	80
8.2.2	Cross Country Skiing	80
8.2.3	Northwestern Ontario Snowmobile Trails Association	81
8.2.4	Intergenerational Centre for Arts and Alternatives.....	81
8.3	Economy.....	81
8.3.1	Soapstone Quarry	81
8.3.2	Mining.....	81
8.3.3	Telecommunications	81
8.3.4	Community Care Access Call Centre	82
8.3.5	The Quetico-Atikokan Environmental Research Initiative.....	82
8.4	Strategic Plan Summary.....	82
BIBLIOGRAPHY		83
SPECIAL THANKS		85

I. HISTORY

The “country beyond the height of land” was the description of the Atikokan area by its first settlers, the Ojibwa Indians. The Natives supported themselves on land that was characterized as having an abundance of forests, lakes and rivers, small game and woodland caribou. The Natives that inhabited the Atikokan area, Oschekamega Wenewak - The People of the Crossridges, - lived in peace and harmony with nature.

In 1688, Jacques de Noyon was the first white man to travel through the “country beyond the height of land”. After de Noyon travelled through the area, a rush of exploration and expansion took place and within 200 years the Ojibwa population had greatly diminished. The remaining natives signed the Northwest Angle Treaty, Treaty No. 3, covering the Atikokan-Quetico area in 1873. With the signing of the Treaty some natives retired to reserves, while some remained to live the lifestyle of hunting and trapping in the area.

While the Ojibwa natives struggled to maintain their harmonious lifestyle, the fur trade was becoming a major industry. Due to boundary disputes between Canada and the United States, fur brigades travelled extensively through the heart of the Atikokan-Quetico area. However, in the 1850’s the fur trade ceased in this area due to other means of transportation, namely the railroad.

Confederation in 1867 brought with it a need to improve communication with the west. This demand triggered the construction of the Dawson Trail, which began at Prince Arthur’s Landing and went through to Winnipeg. When the Dawson Trail was completed in 1874, the route west could be travelled for \$15.00. This reasonably priced trip included riding in open wagons, and crossing lakes and rivers in an open rowboat. Accommodation was a large platform, which was raised off the ground on which everyone slept. However, in 1882, the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway resulted in the closure of the Dawson Trail.

After the fur trade in the 1850’s, gold was discovered approximately 45 miles southeast of Atikokan. This finding, in the winter of 1870, started a boom of mineral exploration. Demands for an effective means of communication and transportation in 1886 resulted in the incorporation of the Ontario and Rainy River Railroad to be built from Port Arthur to Fort Frances and westward. In addition, roads were being built in the region to assist in developing the mining areas.

Active mining operations commenced in the Atikokan area in 1899. That same year, Tom Rawn settled in the Atikokan area after the completion of the Canadian Northern Railroad, which included Atikokan. Tom Rawn, Atikokan’s first settler, was one of the first to stake claims for iron ore in the Steep Rock area. In 1940, Tom Rawn sold 109 mining claims to the Midwest Iron Mining Corporation. With the sixty claims that still remained he formed Rawn Iron Mines Ltd. Unfortunately, shortly after the formation of his mining company, Tom set out to do some prospecting in the Sapawe area and was never to be seen again.

Julian Cross, a mining professor and prospector discovered the vast amount of iron ore that lay under Steep Rock Lake. Cross’ discovery in 1930 sparked the interest of Joe Errington and Major General D. M. Hogarth. Errington and Hogarth, along with Cross,

funded the project and hired a brilliant young engineer named M. S. (Pop) Fotheringham. The team of four men began to probe Steep Rock Lake for iron ore in 1938. However, problems arose with the idea of mining the iron ore that lay beneath the Lake. The ore was buried under 100 feet of water and 300 feet of silt, which made it very difficult to salvage. In addition, Steep Rock Lake was part of the Seine River System, a major waterway. Impossible as it may have seemed to mine Steep Rock Lake, Pop Fotheringham produced a method to mine the Lake because of the ore demands of the war effort in the early 1940's. The Seine River System which flowed through Marmion Lake and then into Steep Rock Lake was dammed and diverted. The water was diverted around the East End of Steep Rock Lake through Finlayson Lake and drained back into the west arm of Steep Rock Lake to continue its flow through the Seine River System. The West End of what was once Steep Rock Lake was drained and dredged. While many consultants thought that the plan was ridiculous, Cyrus Eaton, a financial genius, thought that the mining of iron ore in Steep Rock Lake was a worthy project and raised \$3,500,000.00 for the project. The determination and perseverance of five men, Cross, Errington, Hogarth, Fotheringham and Eaton, has made Steep Rock unique in Canadian history. The massive engineering project is known as "one of the great Canadian engineering triumphs of all time."¹ Steep Rock Iron Mines was a great success, producing 1,400,000 tons of high-grade pellets annually. However, new technologies that improved the quality of steel made from taconite ore, forced Steep Rock Iron Mines to announce its closure in 1972. Steep Rock Iron Mines could not compete economically and they officially closed in August 1979.

Three ore bodies were discovered during the probing of Steep Rock Lake. Each ore body was initially labelled, A, B and C, but later were named after the founders of the Steep Rock ore bodies. The first ore body was named Hogarth mine, the second was named Errington mine and the third ore body was leased to the Caland Ore Company Limited. Caland was a subsidiary of the Inland Steel Company of Chicago. Caland Ore Company Limited was formed in 1949, and in 1959 it initiated its open pit mining operation in the Falls Bay ore body. Similar to Steep Rock Lake, Caland Ore Company was quite successful, producing 25 million tons of iron ore in 14 years of operation. However, in 1980, Caland Ore Company was forced to close because of new and improved technologies in steel production.

When the mines were in full gear, much attention was also given to the forestry industry because of the large quantities of timber that were utilized by the mines. In the early 1900's there were numerous lumber mills in the surrounding area of Atikokan. Many lumber companies logged the Quetico area extensively before it was announced that there was no longer to be any commercial logging in Quetico Park. In 1942, the Ontario-Minnesota Pulp and Paper Company Limited situated themselves north of Atikokan and began logging operations. All wood from the plant was driven down the Seine River and Little Turtle-River Systems until a road was completed in 1950.

In 1945, the first stationary mill was constructed at Sapawe Lake. The mill was constructed and operated under the direction of J.A. Mathieu Limited company. In 1958, J.A.'s grandson Jim incorporated Jim Mathieu Lumber Limited and took over the Sapawe mill. Jim Mathieu completely renovated and updated the mill. Sawmill and planing mill equipment was renovated, a dry kiln was erected and new equipment to strip the bark from

¹ Tris Coffin, *Pay Dirt at Steep Rock* (Published by: Hudson's Bay Company, 1957), 2

logs and convert slabs and edging to pulpwood chips was installed. Unfortunately, the plant was destroyed in a fire and the Company was out of business for a year before they could resume production. Initially, things went well for the Jim Mathieu Company following the rebuilding of the mill, however, hard times set in and the company eventually went into receivership. In 1967, Domtar Woodlands Limited took over the J.A. Mathieu Lumber Company. Domtar modernized and rebuilt the mill and logging camp facilities.

At this time, controversy started over the question of commercial logging in Quetico Provincial Park. The issue of logging in Quetico Provincial Park along with the depressed lumber markets caused much uncertainty about the fate of Domtar. In 1971, it was confirmed that commercial logging in Quetico Provincial Park was to cease. However, at the same time, it was announced that the lumber mill was to be preserved.

Domtar Woodlands Limited continued to thrive and contribute to the economic stability of Atikokan. In 1981, the lumber industry changed hands once again from Domtar Woodlands Limited to Atikokan Forest Products. A.F.P. continues to operate under the direction of Buchanan Forest Products.

Proboard Ltd., (originally Pluswood Manufacturing Ltd.) began construction in 1974 and commenced operations in January 1976. Originally a U.S. company, it is 100% Canadian-owned since Tom Plouffe purchased it in 1991. Proboard Ltd. produces high quality particleboard that is used for floor underlayment, wall panelling, interior lay-up in the manufacture of plywood, and in the manufacture of furniture, countertop, cabinet and door industries' products.²

While the mining and lumber industries were developing and taking off into full production, Atikokan was expanding at a rapid rate. Within three years of Tom Rawn settling in Atikokan, the Pioneer Hotel was built, a general store opened, the post office was installed and the Atikokan School Section No. 1 was formed. As the years rolled on, the people of Atikokan continued to develop and establish the town. In 1911, Tom built the first bridge across the Atikokan River (O'Brien's Bridge) and Rawn's Road. In 1935, the Pioneer Hotel that Tom built to house passing explorers, loggers, trappers and fishermen caught fire and burned to the ground. To replace the Pioneer Hotel, The Atikokan Hotel was constructed on the same site and still remains in business today.

Shortly after this time Steep Rock was starting to launch into production and Atikokan's population grew. In 1944, Steep Rock Iron Mines began the construction of roads for the formation of a new town site in Don Park. Although Atikokan was developing at a great rate, there was still limited access and communication with the surrounding areas. It was not until 1949, that an Agreement was signed by the Improvement District with the Northern Telephone Company and a phone system was established. It was in 1950, when the population of Atikokan reached 3,000 people, that Atikokan experienced first hand the result of having only the railroad as access to and from Atikokan. The Canadian National Railway went on strike and caused food shortages in Atikokan. The town went without meat, milk, sugar or green vegetables until a "Mercy Train" from the Lakehead and a seaplane came with some supplies for the hospital and for children. There were numerous demands on the Provincial Government to construct a highway linking Atikokan to Fort Frances and Fort William. In 1954, the Lakehead-

² Proboard Ltd., Information Sheet (Atikokan, 1995)

Atikokan Highway was officially opened, making access by automobile to Atikokan possible. Nearly 10 years later, a highway linking Atikokan to the west was opened.

The little town that started with Tom Rawn and a dream blossomed into a productive town, where people flocked to establish themselves and their families. In 1954, the municipality of Atikokan was incorporated into a Township.

"In 1958, a group of citizens from Northwestern Ontario created Quetico Centre. The Centre was designed to be an educational institution designed to improve and stimulate the cultural and economic growth of Northwestern Ontario".³ Many organizations hold seminars at Quetico Centre so that they can escape the bustle of the city and surround themselves in a natural and peaceful setting.

In 1973, the Atikokan Industrial Development Committee was formed by Town Council to investigate new business opportunities for the community. The two mines, Steep Rock Iron Mines and Caland Ore Company Limited, had announced their pending closures and new industries and services had to be investigated if Atikokan was to continue. Their efforts resulted in industries such as Pluswood (now Proboard), Ontario HydroThermal Generating Plant and the Ministry of Natural Resources Area Office to situate in Atikokan. The committee was also instrumental in the construction of a swimming pool, nine-hole golf course, curling rink, airport and a new hospital. In 1986, the Atikokan Industrial Development Committee turned its mandate over to the Atikokan Economic Development Corporation.

The A.E.D.C. is responsible for the creation and preservation of permanent employment in Atikokan. Many additional services have been added to the community as a result of the work that the A.E.D.C. has done. Some of these services include: Atikokan Energy Centre, Historic Boundary Waterway, Rendezvous Trail, Atikokan Mining Attraction Inc., Atikokan Sportsmen's Conservation Club, Downtown Atikokan Renewal Committee, Atikokan Chamber of Commerce and the list goes on.

Since Atikokan was first settled in 1899 by Tom Rawn, the town and its people have overcome great odds. When most towns would have failed, Atikokan continued to strive for bigger and better things.

"I had never seen a community so determined to persevere despite tremendous odds as when I visited Atikokan."⁴

- Peter Mansbridge -

³ 75th Anniversary Booklet Committee, *A History of Atikokan - 75th Anniversary Edition* (Atikokan, 1974), 40.

⁴ Paulson, Warren, *The Little Town That Could* (Atikokan, 1993), 37.

II. PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

2.1 Geographic Data

2.1.1 Location

Longitude 91 37' W
Latitude 48 45 1/2' N

2.1.2 Altitude

393 m above sea level

2.1.3 Land Area

330.66 km²
33,068 hectares
128 sq. miles
81,709 acres

2.1.4 Accessibility

Atikokan has access to two major highways, Hwy. 17 (TransCanada) and Hwy. 11. These two highways can be reached by the use of secondary highways. Hwy. 17 can be reached by travelling 135 km north on Hwy. 622 and Hwy. 11 can be accessed by travelling 3.2 km south on Hwy. 11B. All the highways are generally in good condition.

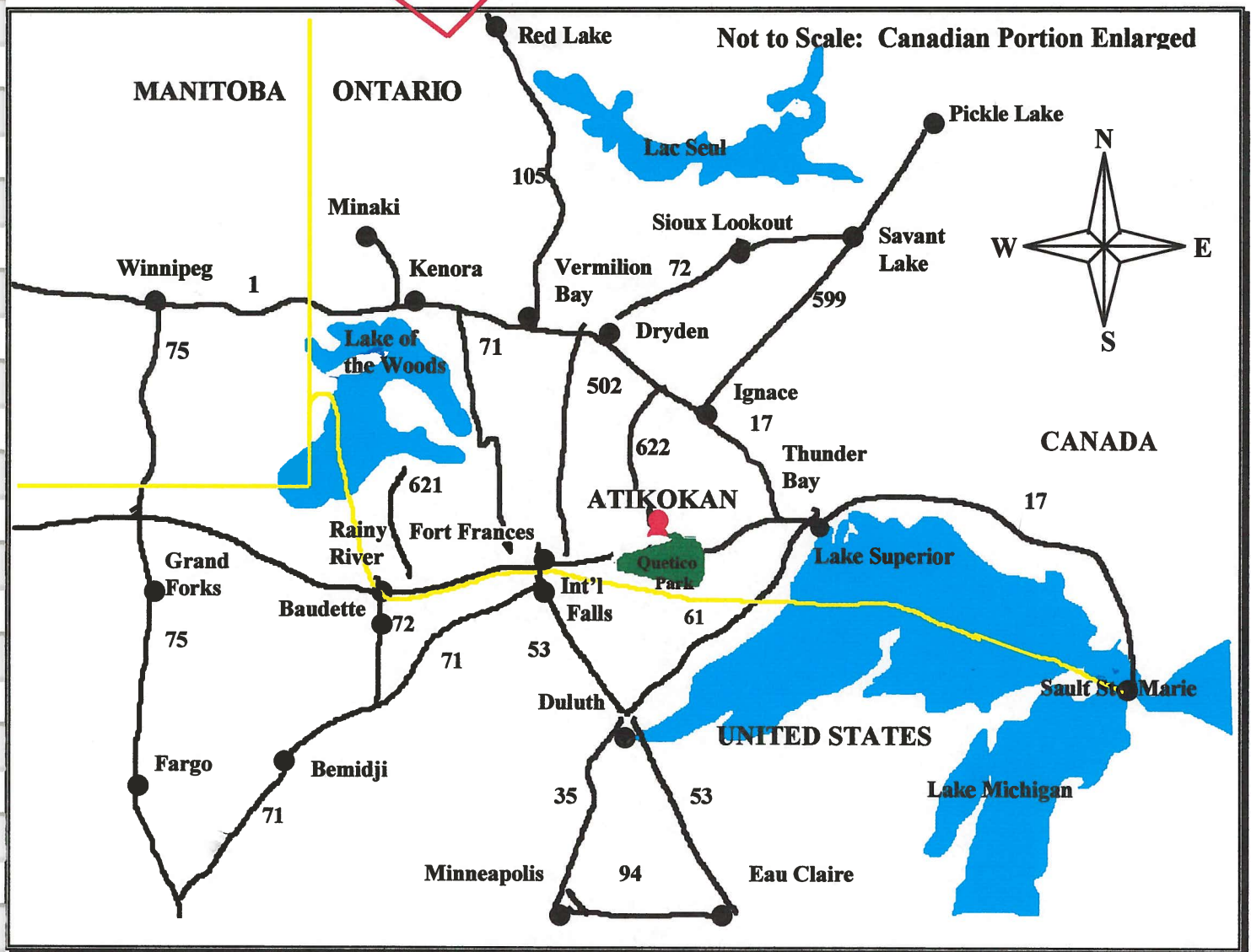
Table 2.1.1: Road Distance and Direction from Atikokan to Various Centres

CENTRE	DIRECTION	KILOMETERS	MILES
Thunder Bay	EAST	202	126
North Bay	EAST	1,294	804
Sudbury	EAST	1,202	748
Toronto	SOUTH EAST	1,661	1,033
Ottawa	SOUTH EAST	1,664	1,035
Montreal	SOUTH EAST	1,890	1,175
Fort Frances	WEST	136	84
Winnipeg	WEST	533	331
Regina	WEST	1,083	673
Calgary	WEST	1,833	1,170
Vancouver	WEST	3,010	1,870
U.S. Entry Point			
International Falls	WEST	137	85
Pigeon River	SOUTH EAST	263	164
Duluth	SOUTH	519	323
Minneapolis	SOUTH	765	476
Chicago	SOUTH	1,264	786

Figure 2.1.1: Location of Atikokan



Atikokan's central location is ideal for those who are travelling to the area. Atikokan offers easy access to both Canadian and American markets within one day of travelling. In addition, Atikokan neighbours the well-known wilderness park, Quetico Provincial Park.



2.2 Geology

Atikokan lies at the southern edge of the Wabigoon Subprovince, which is situated within the Superior Province of the Canadian Shield. The rocks of the Superior Province consist mainly of grey and pink granite with narrow volcanic and sedimentary belts. The oldest Precambrian rocks in the Superior Province are found in the Atikokan area which is known to be a very stable crustal area.

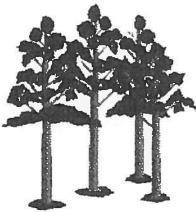
The rocks south of Atikokan consist of mica schists, gneissic and granite rocks. These rocks form part of the Quetico Gneissic Belt that makes up part of the Quetico Subprovince. These rocks can be found east and west of Atikokan for many kilometers along Hwy. 11. It is interesting to note that these rock formations which now lie at a 45°-60° angle, at one time existed in horizontal layers. Tectonic activity was responsible for this folding and tilting.

The Greenstone volcanic-sedimentary rocks exist in a narrow belt for many kilometers in all directions from Atikokan. The Greenstone rocks contain valuable amounts of minerals such as: gold, silver, iron, copper, asbestos, zinc, lead, nickel and talc which may form economic mineral deposits.

The salient feature in the Atikokan District is the Steep Rock Iron Range. This famous range contains four distinctive layers: volcanic lava and ash, iron ore, paint rock and dolomitic limestone. The distinctive layers of iron ore are composed of goethite (85%) and hematite (15%) with impurities of quartz and "ash rock".

Many spectacular crystal specimens can be found within the iron ore, ash rock and limestone rocks at Steep Rock and Caland iron mines.

2.3 Topography



The pristine landscape of the Atikokan area attracts tourists from all over the world to enjoy its beauty. Glaciation is the major force that scarred and shaped the land, resulting in a rugged landscape consisting of numerous ridges, gullies, lakes and rivers. The maze of interconnecting lakes, rivers, ponds and streams generally flow in the east-west direction with all water bodies west of the Arctic Watershed (located approximately 70 km east of Atikokan) draining into the Pacific Ocean.

Much of the land has extensive areas of exposed bedrock, while the remaining land consists of soils, which are shallow and sandy and a mixture of gravel and stones. The land in the Atikokan area supports forests, which are Boreal in nature, and sustains many species of lichens, mosses and trees. Atikokan lies very close to the transition zones between the Boreal Forest, Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest, and the Prairie Grasslands. Therefore, the flora and fauna in the Atikokan area is very diverse. The major tree species that exist include: black spruce, jack pine, balsam fir, white birch, and poplar.

2.4 Climate

Atikokan enjoys four distinct seasons; autumn, winter, spring and summer. Each season is unique and captures a beauty of its own. Autumn months, September and October, paint the landscape with a beautiful collage of colours. Winter months, ranging from November to late March, are characterized as being cold and dry. Despite the air being quite dry, winter in Atikokan brings an abundance of snow that is ideal for favourite activities such as: skiing, snowmobiling and ice fishing. "April showers bring May flowers" describes Spring in Atikokan. Moderate temperatures warm the air and melt the snow and ice. Summer months range from June to late August and are characterized by warm temperatures and a moderate amount of precipitation.

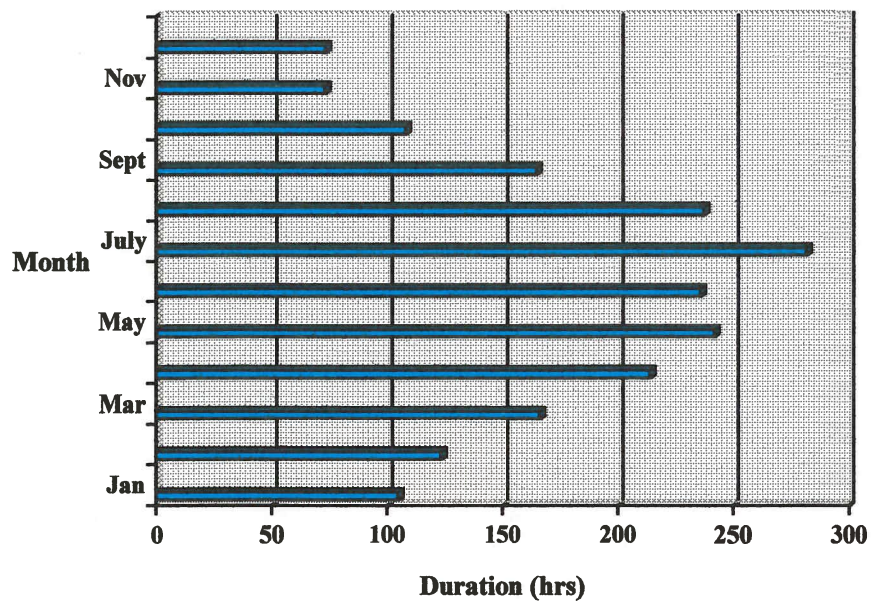
Table 2.4.1: Temperature (°C)

MONTH	MEAN DAILY	DAILY MAXIMUM	DAILY MINIMUM	EXTREME MAXIMUM	EXTREME MINIMUM
January	-17.9	-11.1	-24.9	7.8 (1973)	-45.2 (1982)
February	-14.3	-6.8	-21.9	11.7 (1976)	-45.6 (1967)
March	-6.6	-4	-13.8	17.2 (1967)	-38.3 (1967)
April	2.8	9.8	-4.3	28.3 (1977)	-28.9 (1982)
May	9.9	17.3	2.4	34.4 (1969)	-10.0 (1967)
June	14.5	21.5	7.5	32.6 (1987)	-3.4 (1978)
July	17.7	24.7	10.7	35.6 (1975)	-0.6 (1975)
August	16.0	22.8	9.2	35.0 (1976)	-2.8 (1976)
September	10.6	16.8	4.4	37.2 (1976)	-7.8 (1976)
October	4.5	9.5	-0.5	26.1 (1975)	-17.7 (1981)
November	-4.8	-0.1	-9.6	20.2 (1978)	-37.4 (1985)
December	-14.0	-8.2	-19.9	9.2 (1982)	-42.0 (1983)

Table 2.4.2: Precipitation

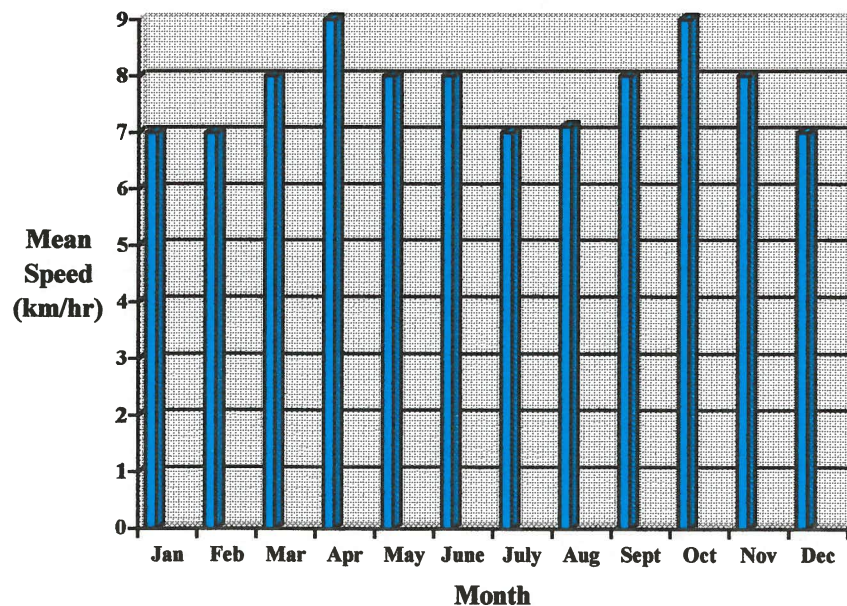
MONTH	RAINFALL (mm)	SNOWFALL (cm)	TOTAL PRECIPITATION (mm)
January	0.3	47.9	32.6
February	0.8	32.7	23.1
March	11.1	32.5	36.5
April	29.5	20.3	48.9
May	68.2	5.2	73.2
June	104.8	---	104.8
July	102.6	---	102.6
August	99.4	---	99.4
September	86.1	2.1	87.8
October	64.5	12.6	75.8
November	10.0	42.6	44.9
December	3.4	42.4	33.3
YEAR TOTAL	580.7	238.5	762.9

Source: Environment Canada

Figure 2.4.1: Average Duration of Sunshine per Month

Year Total of Sunshine

2,023.7 hours

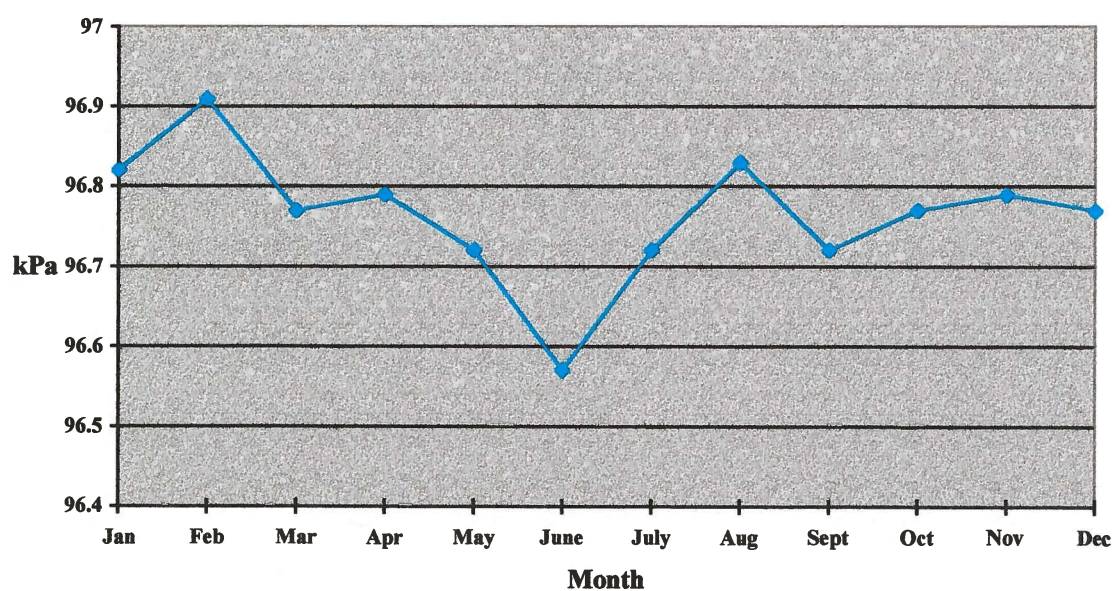
Figure 2.4.2: Average Wind Speed by Month

Source: Environment Canada

Table 2.4.3: Wind Direction

MONTH	PREVAILING DIRECTION
January	WEST
February	WEST
March	WEST
April	EAST
May	EAST
June	NORTH WEST
July	WEST
August	WEST
September	WEST
October	WEST
November	WEST
December	WEST
YEARLY MEAN	WEST

Figure 2.4.3: Mean Barometric Pressure per Month

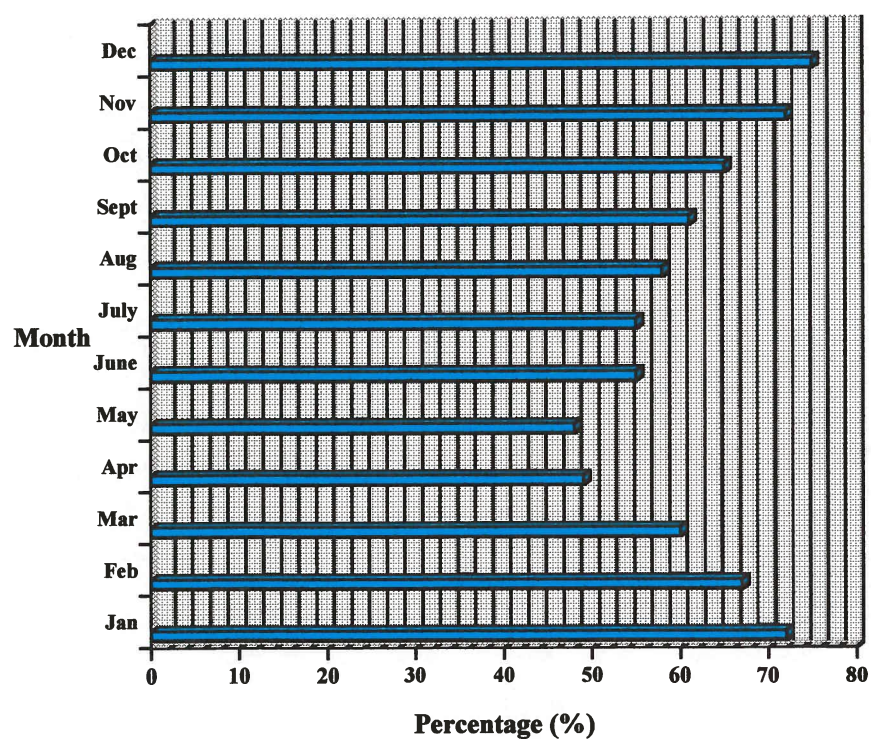


Annual Mean Barometric Pressure

96.77 kPa

Source: Environment Canada

**Figure 2.4.4: Mean Relative Humidity per Month
1500L(%)**



Source: Environment Canada

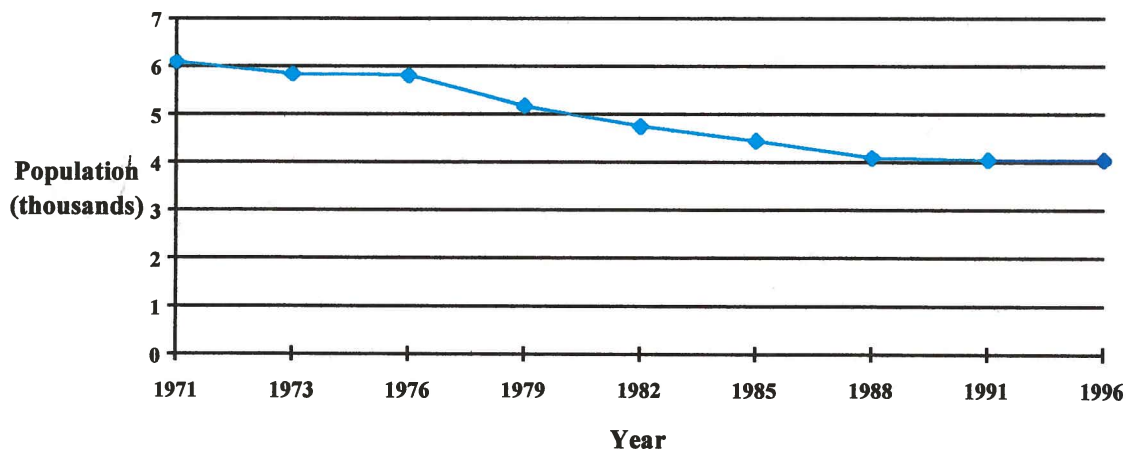
III. HUMAN RESOURCES

3.1 Population

3.1.1 Population Trend

The population of Atikokan is 4,043 (1996-Statistics Canada). Atikokan's population has remained stable over the past eight years as a result of the diversity of industry and services that Atikokan has to offer. The population had decreased significantly prior to and after the closure of the Steep Rock Iron Mines and Caland Iron Mines in 1979 and 1980 respectively. However, the introduction of new employment opportunities (Ministry of Natural Resources Area Office, Pluswood Manufacturing Ltd. (now Proboard Ltd.) and Ontario Hydro) when the mines were closing has been one of the main factors contributing to the stability of Atikokan's population.

**Figure 3.1.1: Population of Atikokan
(1971 - 1996)**

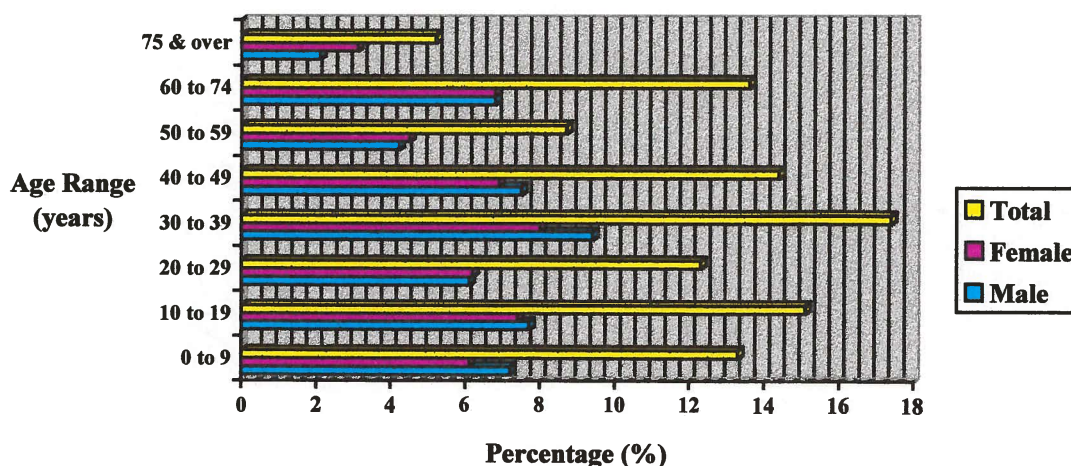


3.1.2 Age Distribution

Population growth in Atikokan has occurred in the older population (60 plus), while there has been a significant decrease in the younger population (15 to 24 years). The population of '25 years to 44 years' has remained relatively constant since 1986. The largest age group in Atikokan is of people between the ages of 30 and 39.

The total number of females in Atikokan is 1,985 and the total number of males is 2,055.

Figure 3.1.2: Age Distribution of Total Population

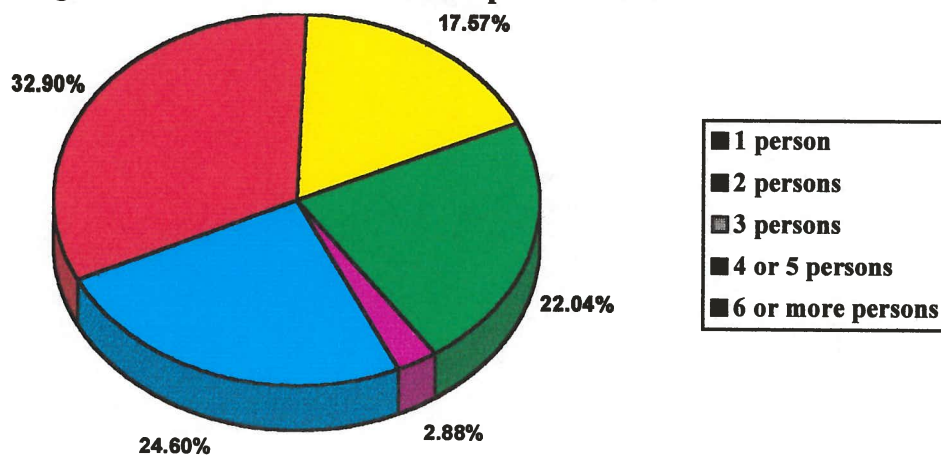


Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.1.3 Persons per Household

The total number of private households in Atikokan is 1,565. The average number of persons per private household is 2.6.

Figure 3.1.3: Number of Persons per Household



Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.1.4 Family Types

Table 3.1.1: Distribution of Family Types in Atikokan

TYPE OF FAMILY	TOTAL # OF FAMILIES	# OF FAMILIES WITHOUT CHILDREN AT HOME	# OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AT HOME (# of children)		
			1	2	3 or +
Husband and Wife	1010	----	--	--	--
Now-married couples	830	385	145	205	90
Common-law couples	180	90	50	35	0
Lone-parent families	145	----	60	75	15

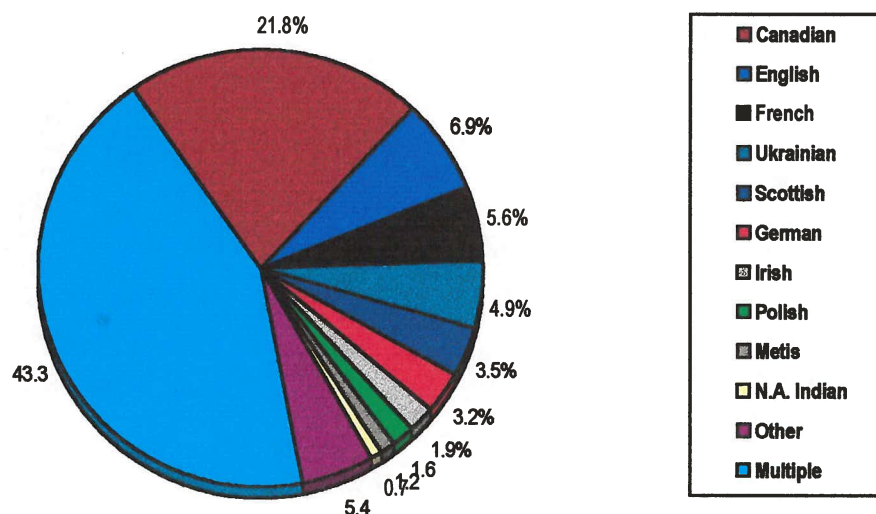
Now-married couples - Persons whose husband or wife is living, unless the couple is separated or a divorce has been obtained.

Source: Statistics Canada 96

3.1.5 Ethnic Origins

A large percentage of Atikokan's population claims to be of multiple origin. With respect to single ethnic origins (having both parents of the same ethnic origin), Canadian, English, French and Ukrainian origins dominate within the total population. However, it is interesting to note that despite the fact that only 2% of Atikokan's total population is of single Aboriginal origin, 5.4% of the population claim to have Aboriginal ancestry. Atikokan is strongly influenced by people in the surrounding area that are of Aboriginal origin. Seine River First Nation, located approximately 56.3 km east of Atikokan, and Lac La Croix First Nation, located approximately 116 km south of Atikokan, utilize the services of Atikokan, as well as offer their services to our community.

Figure 3.1.4: Ethnic Origins of Atikokan



Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

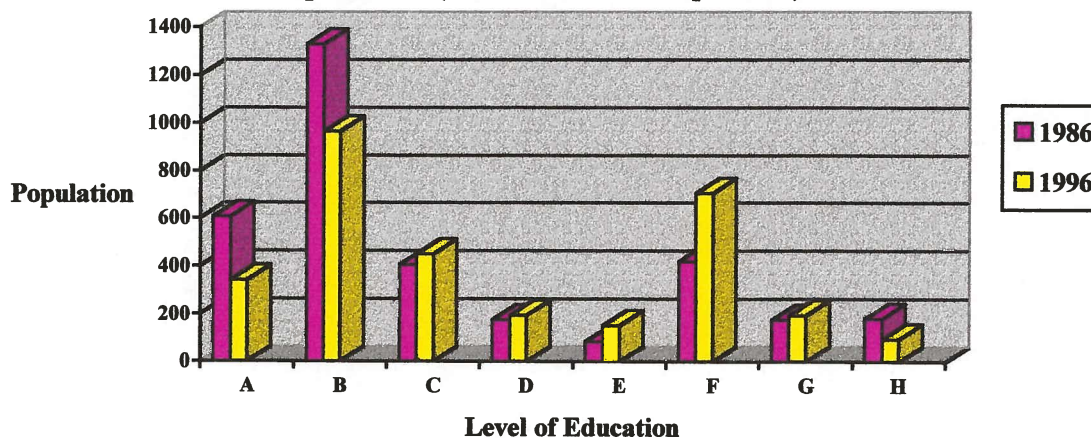
3.2 Education

3.2.1 Level of Education

In the past ten years, the level of education has undergone significant change as the graph below depicts. In 1986, 56.9% of those over 15 years of age lacked a grade 12 diploma, however, by 1996 only 30% of the over 15-year-old population did not have a grade 12 diploma. This means that in 1996 there were 965 people over the age of 15 who did not have a grade 12 diploma.

Atikokan is becoming a community that recognizes the value and the importance of continued life-long learning. In 1996, 44% of those over 15 years of age had some post-secondary education.

Figure 3.2.1: Education Level of Atikokan's '15 years and over' Population (1986 & 1996 Comparison)



A - Less than a grade 9 level
B - Some high school: without a diploma
C - High school: with a diploma
D - Trade certificate
E - Non-university: without a certificate
F - Non-university: with a certificate
G - University: without a degree
H - University: with a degree

Total Population of '15 years and over':
 1986 3,350
 1996 3,210

Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.2.2 Student Enrollment and Grade Classification

Table 3.2.1: 1998 Student Enrollment and Grade Classification

GRADE CLASSIFICATION	PUBLIC SCHOOL	SEPARATE SCHOOL
Junior Kindergarten	29	23
Senior Kindergarten	26	16
Grade 1	26	24
Grade 2	28	27
Grade 3	34	15
Grade 4	45	23
Grade 5	34	25
Grade 6	34	21
Grade 7	40	26
Grade 8	36	23
Grade 9	72	
Grade 10	61	
Grade 11	52	
Grade 12 (O.A.C.)	38	
Grade 12 (less than 6 O.A.C.)	29	
O.A.C. (6 or more O.A.C.)	26	
TOTAL	610	223

Source: Atikokan High School, North Star Community School, and St. Patrick's Separate School.



3.2.3 Post-Secondary Education

The following table illustrates the distribution of Atikokan's '15 years and over' population that had obtained post-secondary qualifications in 1996. At that time, 37.8% of the '15 years and over' population had post-secondary qualifications. Engineering and applied technologies and trades were the areas of study that were of the greatest interest to male residents of Atikokan. Educational, recreational and counselling services were the areas of study that were of the greatest interest to the female residents.

Table 3.2.2: Post-secondary Education of Atikokan's Residents

FIELDS OF STUDY	# OF MALES	# OF FEMALES	% OF TOTAL POPULATION 15 yrs & over
Education, recreation & counselling services	50	130	5.6
Fine and applied arts	10	40	1.5
Humanities and related fields	10	10	.6
Social sciences and related fields	25	85	3.4
Commerce, management and business administration	45	125	5.3
Agriculture and biological sciences / technologies	10	10	.6
Engineering and applied sciences	40	0	1.2
Engineering and applied technologies and trades	460	40	15.6
Health professions, sciences and technologies	10	105	3.6
Mathematics and physical sciences	10	0	.3
TOTAL	670	545	37.8

Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.3 Labour and Income

The occupational and income distribution rates of Atikokan are essentially governed by the main primary industries that Atikokan has to offer. The forestry and service industries prove to be very influential with regard to Atikokan's employment rates. The three leading employment opportunities in Atikokan are: Atikokan Forest Products, Proboard Ltd. and public service (store cashiers, sales people, waitresses etc.)⁵

3.3.1 Participation Rates

The following chart shows the participation rates for Atikokan according to age and sex. Participation rate refers to the percentage of the total population in the labour force. The labour force includes two categories: employed and unemployed. Persons who are unemployed, but who are still considered in the labour force, are either registered with the Canada Employment Centre, collecting unemployment insurance or have worked within the last five years.⁶ The total number of people in the labour force in 1996 was 2,040. The participation rate for both sexes aged 15 years and over was 63.5% in 1996. This figure was slightly below the 1996 participation rate for Ontario, which was 66.3%.

Table 3.3.1 Participation Rates

	15 years & over	15 years to 24 years	25 years & over
Both Sexes	63.5%	58.3%	64.8%
Female	55.3%	51.0%	56.1%
Male	71.5%	58.3%	73.8%

Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.3.2 Income Distribution

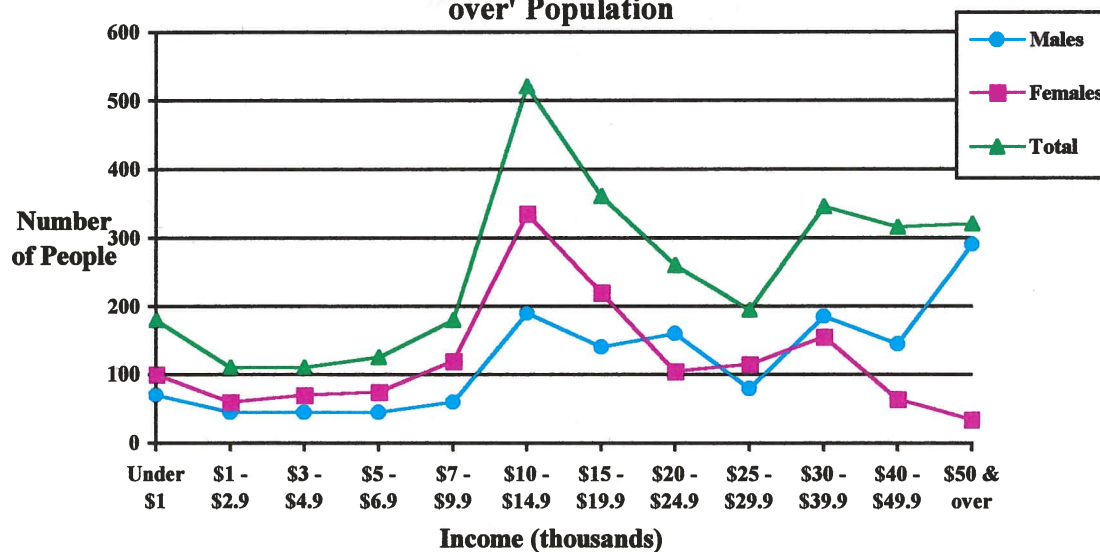
The following graph illustrates the income distribution of males and females in Atikokan. The average income for male residents is \$30,495, and the average income for female residents is \$17,416. The reasoning for the distinction between the average income for males and females is the employment opportunities available to each. The majority of employees who are employed at Atikokan Forest Products and Proboard Ltd. are men, while a large portion of the service industry has female employees. The hourly rate of pay is considerably higher at Atikokan Forest Products and Proboard Ltd. than it is with the service industry.⁷

⁵ Human Resources Development Canada

⁶ Human Resources Development Canada

⁷ Human Resources Development Canada

Figure 3.3.1: Income Distribution of Atikokan's '15 years & over' Population

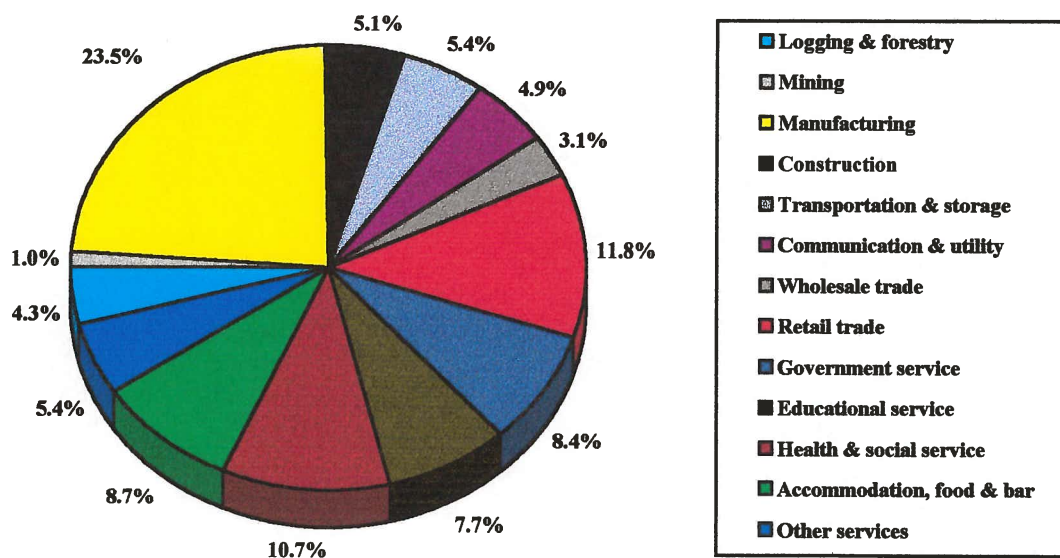


Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.3.3 Employment by Industry

Atikokan's largest sector of employment is manufacturing, comprising 23.5% of the labour force. Other sectors that support a large portion of the labour force are the service industries, which include: accommodation, food and beverage, retail trade, government service, educational service, and health service.

Figure 3.3.2: Employment by Industry

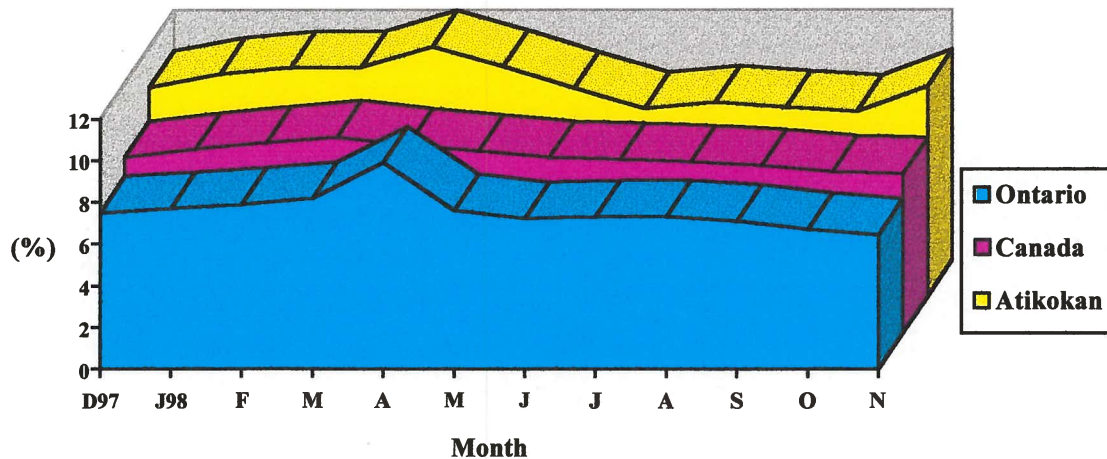


Source: Statistics Canada - Census 96

3.3.4 Unemployment Rate

There are two factors that contribute to the elevated unemployment rate in Atikokan in comparison to the Ontario and Canada unemployment rates. The first factor involves the type of employment available in Atikokan. Many of Atikokan's industries rely on natural resources, which results in a number of seasonal employment opportunities. Logging activity ceases during spring break-up, many tourist camps close during the winter and forest fire fighters work only during the fire season. The second factor for the high unemployment rate is the lack of marketable skills and knowledge demonstrated by a number of Atikokanites. Many positions that require expertise in a certain area are filled by people from out of town with the required knowledge and trades.⁸

Figure 3.3.3: Comparison of Unemployment Rates in Atikokan, Ontario and Canada (Dec 97 -Nov 98)



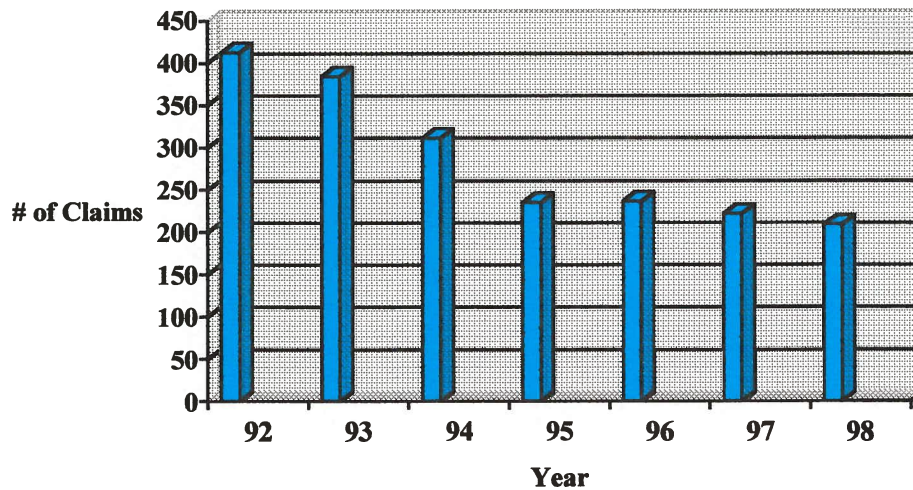
Source: Atikokan's unemployment rate - the # of unemployment insurance claims divided by the total labour population as of 1996. # of social assistance claims unavailable.

Ont. and Can. unemployment rate - The Ontario Labour Market

⁸ Human Resources Development Canada

3.3.5 Unemployment Insurance

Figure 3.3.4: Average Number of Active Unemployment Claims per Year (1992-1998)



Source: Human Resources Development Canada

IV. ECONOMIC STATUS

4.1 Economic Base

4.1.1 Economic Profile

The economy of Atikokan is based on forestry, a thermal generating station, government services, retail services, tourism and a mixture of light manufacturing businesses.

The two leading employers for residents of Atikokan are Atikokan Forest Products (random length/width lumber and woodchip mill) and Proboard Ltd. (particle board plant). These two companies utilize the abundance of natural resources in the area.

The thermal generating station, under the direction of Ontario Hydro, supplies about one-quarter of the energy demand for Northwestern Ontario. Hydro burns low sulfur lignite coal brought in from Western Canada. Ontario Hydro has been responsible for the immigration of a number of people, as well as providing employment opportunities for many Atikokanites.

There are a number of government services available in Atikokan. The government services provide employment for well educated people who bring a variety of skills and trades to the Atikokan area.

The retail sector is the third largest employment contributor in Atikokan. Atikokan has a number of stores, shops and restaurants catering to the residents of Atikokan as well as visitors.

Tourism is a major industry in Atikokan. The natural beauty of the area attracts thousands of visitors every year. Much of Atikokan's retail sector is directed toward providing complete customer service to tourists. There are a number of resorts, lodges, camps and outfitters in the Atikokan area that greatly enhance the tourism industry.

The outdoors and wildlife are a central theme for most of the light manufacturing businesses in Atikokan. Atikokan's unique wilderness setting has resulted in canoe and paddle manufacturers becoming established in Atikokan. In addition, there are manufacturing businesses that produce Atikokan souvenirs.

4.1.2 Land Development

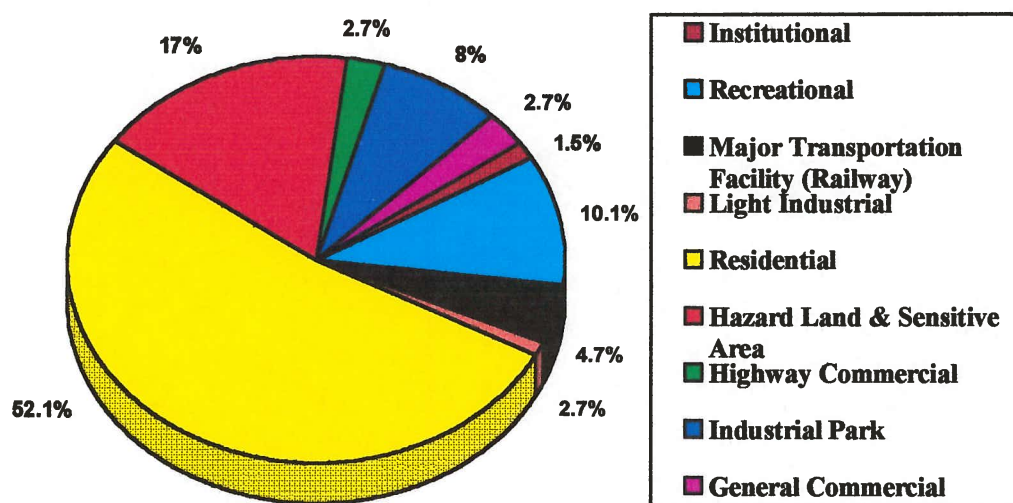
There are 330.66 km² of land within the Atikokan boundaries that are being developed under four general headings:

- Industrial and Commercial
- Residential
- Recreational
- Conservational

A large percentage of the land remains in a natural state with the urban town site being the major land user. Industrial areas are located in the northern half of the municipality. Recreational uses are generally located in conjunction with the river, although some parks are located in residential areas.

Approximately 7.26 km² of the Township of Atikokan is allocated to urban land use. Residential (52.1%), Hazard Land & Sensitive Area (17.0%) and Recreational (10.1%) comprise the greatest amount of urban land.

Figure 4.1.1: Urban Area Land Use



Source: Measurements taken from the Township of Atikokan Official Plan (Urban Area Land Use) 1980 Map using a planimeter, Scale 1:10 000

4.1.3 Industrial and Commercial Land Availability

Located in the Industrial Park is the Atikokan Industrial Mall. The Industrial Mall is a metal building built on a cement foundation and is equipped with a sprinkler system and gas and electrical heat. There are 8 units in the mall, each unit being 30.9m x 9.1m. Units are available for rent from the Township of Atikokan. Building plans are available for viewing at the Township Administration Office. Refer to Figure 4.2.6 for location of the Industrial Mall.

Sections of the Steep Rock and Caland mine sites have the potential to be developed into industrial areas. Other areas are so dangerous that access is forbidden. Signs have been erected which prohibit access to the most hazardous areas and trespassers can be fined.

For more information on the mine sites contact the Ministry of Natural Resources at (807) 597-6971. Refer to Figure 4.2.6 for location of Steep Rock and Caland Mines

The Canadian National Railway has substantial land available for lease in the core of Atikokan. The lots are located between the railroad tracks and Mackenzie Ave and are

fully serviced. For more information on the availability of C.N.R. lots, contact a C.N.R. Land Manager at (416) 217-6807. Refer to Figure 4.2.6 for C.N.R. lease lots available in Atikokan.

Commercial locations are available in downtown Atikokan. Freestanding properties are available for lease or purchase and some spaces are available in the Voyageur Mall.

4.1.4 Mining

There has been active exploration for gold, base metals and iron ore in the Atikokan area almost continually since the late 1800's. The area holds strong potential for gold deposits and supports base metal exploration. There is a large low grade iron ore deposit at Bending Lake located 64 km north-west of Atikokan. Development of this ore body seems unlikely for the foreseeable future given the present demand for iron ore.

Table 4.1.2: Mines Prominent in Atikokan's History

MINE	MINERAL
Atikokan Gold Mines	gold
Bergman Occurrence	gold
Caland Ore	iron ore
Fern Elizabeth Mines	gold
Harold Lake Mine	gold and iron ore
Independence Mines	gold
Steep Rock Iron Mines	iron ore
Tip Top Copper Mine	copper

Presently the following companies are conducting mineral exploration in the Atikokan area:

Allegheny Mines Ltd

Working in the Sapawe Lake area - gold and base metal exploration

Atikokan Resources Inc.

Working in the Lumby Lake area –silver base metal exploration

Pele Mountain Resources Inc.

Working in the Moss Lake area – gold-silver exploration

Penland Firth

Working in the Sawbill Bay area on Marmion Lake - gold exploration

4.1.5 Forestry

Logging is an important part of the local economy. In Atikokan, both Proboard Ltd. and Atikokan Forest Products are in full production.

The district is divided into four management units - Sapawe Crown Management Unit, Abitibi Consolidated, Quetico Park Management Unit (which is unlicensed) and the Flanders Management Unit. Aside from Quetico Park, the units are managed on a sustained yield basis.

The wood from these management units goes to three companies: Abitibi Consolidated, Atikokan Forest Products Limited, Proboard Limited and Voyageur Panel, with their mills located in Fort Frances, Sapawe, Atikokan and Barwick respectively. (The sustainable resources for Voyageur Panel are managed by Abitibi Consolidated).

Table 4.1.2: Major Forest Manufacturers of the Atikokan Area

PRODUCT TYPE	COMPANY	SPECIES OF TREES
Lumber, Timber	Atikokan Forest Products Nickel Lake Lumber	jackpine, spruce, white pine
Oriented Strand Board	Voyageur Panel	Aspen, balsam, poplar, birch
Particle Board	Proboard Ltd.	poplar, birch
Pulp and Paper	Abitibi Consolidated (wood goes to Fort Frances mill)	jackpine, black & white spruce, red & white pine, fir, tamarack, cedar, balsam
Wood Chips	Atikokan Forest Products	slats from jackpine and spruce

4.1.6 Agriculture

The soil characteristics of Atikokan are too shallow, sandy and rocky to support most farming operations.

4.1.7 Fish Farming and Hatchery

A local entrepreneur operates Snow Lake Fish Farms in the closed Caland Ore pit located five kilometres north of town. The farm raises brook trout, rainbow trout and salmon in the sterile, disease-free and predator-free waters.

To support sport fishing and education, the local Sportsmen's Conservation Club has built a walleye fish hatchery and education centre. They release hundreds of thousands of fingerlings into local lakes annually.

Of the nearly one hundred and thirty lakes in Quetico Park, five are so deep and infertile that lake trout is the only fish species reported. Sixty-seven lakes are deep enough to contain lake trout and have adequate areas for walleye, northern pike and bass. The remainder of the lakes contain only warm water species.

There are seven species of sport fish, sixteen species of coarse fish and twenty-three species of minnows in the Atikokan area.

Table 4.1.3: Common Lake Species

TYPE OF FISH	SPECIES
Sport Fish	lake trout, northern pike, small mouth bass, walleye
Coarse Fish	lake whitefish, lake herring, white sucker, yellow perch, rock bass, green sunfish
Minnows	shiners, bluntnose, Iowa darter, Johnny darter, log perch

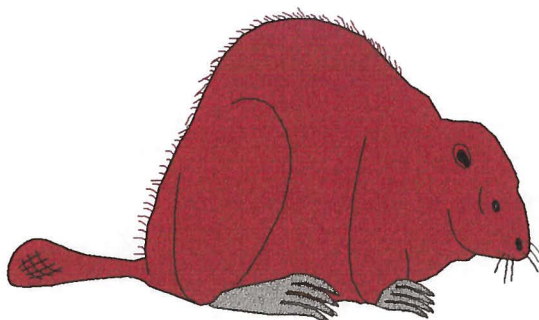
4.1.8 Trapping

There are roughly 100 trappers in the Atikokan area. Many of the trappers are Aboriginal from the Lac La Croix First Nation bordering Quetico Park. Very few trap as a full-time job; most consider it seasonal work, balanced by summer guiding.

Table 4.1.4: Fur Types and the Length of Season

TYPES OF FUR	LENGTH OF SEASON
Beaver and Otter	October 5 - May 15 of the following year
Bobcat, Lynx, Wolverine	October 25 - last day of February of the following Year
Mink	October 15 - December 31
Muskrat	October 5 - May 21 of the following year
Fisher and Marten	October 25 - last day of February of the following year
Coloured Fox (all red fox)	September 15 - last day of February of the following year
Grey Fox, Red Squirrel and Weasel	October 25 - last day of February of the following year
Coyote, Timber Wolf, Skunk	no closed season
Black Bear	season varies - refer to hunting regulations

Source: Ministry of Natural Resources



All trapping of beaver is on a quota basis which is set by the Ministry of Natural Resources District Office. These fur bearers must be sealed or stamped before being sold by the trapper.

4.2 Housing

4.2.1 Atikokan Housing Stock

In 1996, Atikokan had 1,565 households occupying 1,570 private dwellings.

The majority (85%) of Atikokan's housing stock is detached housing. Apartments, duplexes and other housing units such as row housing and miscellaneous type houses make up the remaining 15% of Atikokan's housing stock.

Table 4.2.1: Residential Units by Type and Size (1996)

TYPE OF UNIT	# OF UNITS	% OF TOTAL UNITS
Detached Homes	1335	85.0%
Semi-Detached Homes	25	1.6%
Duplexes	15	1.0%
Row Housing	25	1.6%
Apartments	130	8.3%
Other	40	2.5%
TOTAL	1,570	100.0%

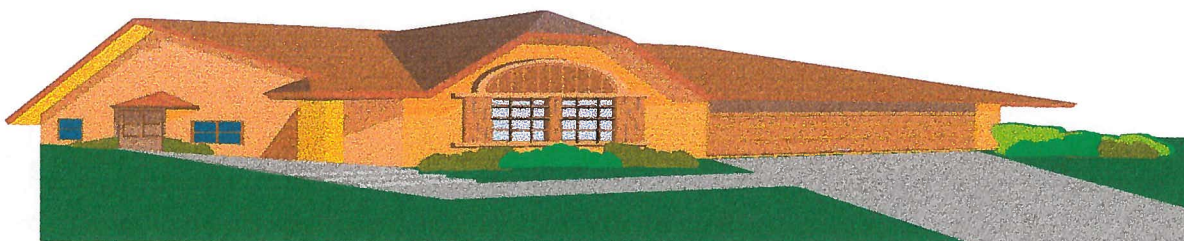
Source: Statistics Canada – Census 1996

The existing assisted seniors and family housing units in Atikokan are as follows:

Table 4.2.2: Housing Units by Size and Type (1991)

TYPE OF UNIT	# OF UNITS
Seniors	
Fotheringham Ct. (OHC) 1 BR	35
Rivercrest Terrace (Non-Profit) 1 BR	8
2 BR	4
TOTAL – SENIORS	47
OHC Family (duplex)	26
Native Housing	17
TOTAL NUMBER OF UNITS	90

Source: Municipal Housing Statement 1991 Update (AEDC)



4.2.2 Housing Activity and Costs

The following table shows historical housing activity and the average resale prices.

Table 4.2.3: Housing Prices and Activity (1986-1997)

YEAR	# OF UNITS SOLD	AVERAGE PRICE	% CHANGE
1986	64	\$ 39,083	n/a
1987	80	\$ 34,409	-12.0%
1988	117	\$ 33,240	-3.4%
1989	101	\$ 44,203	+33.0%
1990	70	\$ 36,964	-16.4%
1991	49	\$ 32,021	-13.4%
1992	75	\$ 40,223	+25.6%
1993	58	\$ 40,167	-.1%
1994	83	\$ 45,777	+13.9%
1995	87	\$ 45,655	-.3%
1996	92	\$ 44,796	+.1%
1997	83	\$ 57,011	+27.0%

Source: Municipal Housing Statement 1991 Update, Bainbridge Brokers Ltd. and Doggett & Kowalchuk Appraisals Inc.

Rents in Atikokan are also very affordable relative to other communities.

Table 4.2.4: Rental Rates by Dwelling Type

TYPE OF RENTAL HOUSING		MONTHLY RENT
Detached	2 BR	\$ 550.00
	3 BR	\$ 575.00
	4 BR	\$ 600.00+
Apartments	1 BR	\$ 400.00
	2 BR	\$ 450.00
Row Housing (Elmcrest Terrace)	3 BR	\$ 400.00
	4 BR	\$ 450.00

Source: Avenue A Realty Ltd. and Elmcrest Terrace

4.2.3 Intensification Opportunities

Atikokan has numerous opportunities for intensification. Most of the existing residential areas can accommodate some intensification; residential lots in Atikokan are fairly large by urban standards. Areas that are particularly suited for intensification include: Don Park, Elmcrest, Main St., Hemlock Ave, Clark St. and Rawn Rd.¹ Refer to Figure 4.2.6 for location of intensification areas

¹ Charles Scott, Municipal Housing Statement 1991 Update (Atikokan: Atikokan Economic Development Corporation, June 25, 1992), 52.

Table 4.2.5: Potential Supply of Housing in Intensification Area

	SITE	SIZE (Ha)	EXISTING RES. UNITS	MAXIMUM # OF RES. UNITS Det/Semi Townhouse Apartment		
I	Rawn Rd. School	2.36	0	35	71	118
II	Clark St. School	0.61	0	9	18	30
III	Hemlock School	1.88	0	28	56	94
IV	Don Park	22.3	194	335	669	n/a
V	Elmcrest	0.93	44	14	28	47
VI	Voyageur Mall	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	50
VII	Armstrong Pt.	n/a	12	n/a	n/a	40

Source: Municipal Housing Statement 1991 Update (AEDC)

4.2.4 Housing Development

Land Availability

Three areas have been identified by the Township as sites for residential growth.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| A. Northdale Subdivision | 300 lots |
| B. Eastdale Subdivision | 183 lots |
| C. Country Creek Estates Subdivision | 49 lots |

Four additional areas could offer alternatives for residential growth. These areas have not been surveyed.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| D. Highland Park | E. Area south-west of Hwy. 11B |
| F. South-East shore of Steep Rock Lake | G. Area east of Wetfoot Creek |

Refer to Figure 4.1.1 for location of available land for housing development.

Source: Municipal Housing Statement 1991 Update

Lot Sizes and Price Ranges**Table 4.26: Lot Sizes and Price Ranges**

LOT SIZE	LOT PRICE
50 x 120	\$ 9,900.00
50 x 124.69	\$ 10,230.00
50 x 125	\$ 10,340.00
50 x 130	\$ 10,725.00
55 x 130	\$ 11,797.00
65 x 125	\$ 13,420.00
70 x 130	\$ 15,042.00

Source: Country Creek Estates Price List 1995

Residential Building Permits**Table 4.2.7: Residential Building Permits in Atikokan
1991-1997**

YEAR	RESIDENTIAL PERMITS		VALUE OF RES. PERMITS	
	All	New Units	All	New Units
1991 ¹	11	0	\$ 182,500	\$ 0
1992	37	2	\$ 447,000	\$ 135,000
1993	34	5	\$ 735,798	\$ 445,000
1994	50	5	\$ 971,000	\$ 572,000
1995 ²	11	2	\$ 230,000	\$ 150,000
1996	34	4	\$ 581,000	\$ 368,000
1997	32	5	\$ 764,000	\$ 565,000
TOTAL	209	23	\$3,911,298	\$ 2,235,000

¹ 1991 data is for June to December² 1995 data is for January to July

Source: Township of Atikokan

V: Local Government

5.1 Municipal Government

5.1.1 Members of Municipal Government

A Town Council governs the Township of Atikokan. The Town Council is comprised of a Mayor and six Councillors. The Mayor and the Council are nominated and elected by the total voting population. Elections occur every three years on the second Monday in November.

Mayor:	Dennis Brown	
Councillors:	Bill Bell	Dave Maynard
	Charles Viddal	Garry McKinnon
	Fred Wilson	Herb Roehrig Sr.

5.1.2 Township Officials

Clerk Treasurer:	Susan Bryk
Deputy Clerk Treasurer:	Jackie Quinn
Fire Chief & Property Inspector:	Garth Dyck
Police Chief:	John McInnis
Recreation Director:	Ed Morrisette
Solicitor:	Lawrence Eustace
Director of Public Works:	Peter Kerr

5.1.3 Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP)

Mr. Howard Hampton (NDP)

Rainy River District
Room 370, Legislative Bldg.
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A5
Atikokan Office (807) 597-2629

Note: As of the next election, possibly Spring 1999, the Provincial boundaries will coincide with the Federal boundaries. Therefore, the appointment of a new MPP will be necessary.

5.1.4 Member of Federal Parliament (MP)

Dr. Stan Dromisky (Liberal)

Atikokan Office
Box 1690
Atikokan, Ontario
POT 1CO
1-800-667-6186

Thunder Bay-Atikokan District
House of Commons
Room 453, West Block
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6 (613) 992-3061

Thunder Bay Office
1500-D South James St.
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7E 6N7 (807)-577-1900

5.2 Taxation

5.2.1 Assessment Base

Assessments are determined by the Provincial Assessment Office in Fort Frances.

Fort Frances Assessment Office
 #5 130 Second St. E.
 Fort Frances, Ontario
 P9A 1M5
 (807) 274-3283
 1-800-387-9060

As of January 1998, the Province of Ontario changed the tax assessment rules to reflect Market Value assessment. Some changes are currently in the works to help buffer the impact to businesses that may realize a significant increase as a result of these changes.

Table 5.2.1: Assessment Base (1998)

ASSESSMENT	\$ AMOUNT	% OF GRAND TOTAL
Pipeline	1,691,100	1.1%
Managed Forest	2,175	0.0%
Multi-Residential Pub/Sep	1,623,680	1.1%
Residential Public/Separate	83,354,985	55.7%
Commercial	11,624,320	7.8%
Industrial	7,977,140	5.3%
Total	106,273,400	71.0%
Grantable Assessment	7,942,945	5.3%
Exempt Assessment	35,462,555	23.7%
GRAND TOTAL	149,678,900	100.0%

Source: Township of Atikokan

5.2.2 Tax Rates

The 1998 tax rate is based on the 1996 market value.

Table 5.2.2: Schedule of 1998 Tax Rates

TAX RATES PER \$100 OF ASSESSMENT:	MUNICIPAL:	EDUCATION:
Residential/Farm	1.837490	0.460000
Multi-Residential	4.241845	0.460000
Commercial Occupied	5.038029	3.769997
Commercial Vacant Units	3.526620	2.638998
Parking/Vacant Land	1.834182	1.372533
Industrial Occupied	4.584720	3.354385
Industrial Vacant Units	2.980068	2.180350
Industrial Vacant Land	2.980068	2.180350
Large Industrial Occupied	7.451204	5.451632
Large Industrial Vacant Land	4.843283	3.543561
Pipelines	4.639478	3.528100
Managed Forests	0.459372	0.115000

Source: Township of Atikokan

5.2.3 Revenue

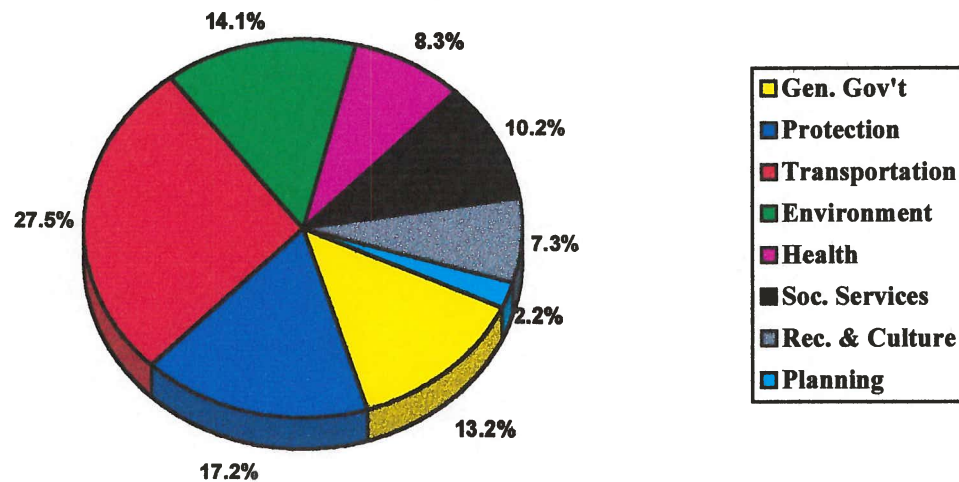
Table 5.2.3: Total Revenue (1998)

	MUNICIPALITY
Total Taxes (\$)	2,705,380
Provincial Grants (\$)	2,483,408
Other Revenue (\$)	1,225,680
TOTAL	6,414,468

Source: Township of Atikokan

The following graph illustrates the distribution of the total revenue. Total Township revenue in 1998 amounted to \$6,414,468. At time of this printing, there are no figures available from the Board of Education.

Figure 5.2.4: Revenue Distribution



Source: Township of Atikokan

5.2.4 Tax Arrears

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs guidelines indicate that the rate should not exceed 12.0%.

1977 = 3.5% 1986 = 16.7% 1993 = 28.3% 1994 = 9.0% 1997 = 7.2%

Source: Township of Atikokan

5.3 License Fees and Service Charges

5.3.1 Amusement and Licenses

In Atikokan, no person shall carry on, operate, keep, maintain, exercise or engage in trades, callings, businesses, or occupations without a license from the Township of Atikokan and every person so licensed shall be subject to the provisions of the By-Law No. 17-91.

Carnival, Circus and Midway	\$200.00/day
-----------------------------	--------------

5.3.2 Dog Licenses (By-Law 41-92)

This is a by-law to control, regulate and license dogs, in the Township of Atikokan and to provide for the operation of a dog pound.

Spayed females or neutered males	\$15.00 for one
Unspayed or unneutered animals	\$30.00 for one

5.3.3 Small Business and Tradesmen Business License Fees

Peddlers (Atikokan Resident 1 yr.)	\$35.00
Peddlers (others)	\$500.00
Taxi Owners	\$35.00/vehicle
Taxi Driver's License	\$10.00

5.3.4 Construction and Trade Permit Fees

Electricians	\$25.00
Plumbers	\$35.00

All building permits will be charged according to By-law 19-98, Schedule C.

Source: Township of Atikokan

VI: Local Services

6.1 Utilities

6.1.1 Electricity

Electrical energy for the Township of Atikokan is supplied by the Atikokan Hydro Electric Commission. This is a public utility that purchases power from the Ontario Hydro system and distributes it to customers in Atikokan.

Supply to the Municipality is 44,000 volts, delta, for heavy industry and 8,320/4,800 volts, wye, for the rest of the Municipality.

Capacity of the system is 11,000 KVA and the present load is approximately 8,000 KW.

Available secondary voltages in the Municipality are: 120/240 volt, single phase; 240 volt, 3 phase, 3 wire delta; 120/208 volt, 3 phase, 4 wire wye; and 600 volt, 3 phase, 3 wire delta.

Electricity Rates 1998

	<u>Consumption Costs/kW/h</u>
<u>Residential Service</u>	
First 250 kW/h	\$.14
All additional kW/h	\$.0727
<u>General Service (Industrial, Commercial)</u>	
Demand Charge: first 50 kW	no charge
balance of billing/month	\$5.30
Energy Charges: first block of 250 kW/h/month	\$.14
second block of 12,250 kW/h/month	\$.0778
next block of 795,515 kW/h/month	\$.0565
all additional monthly consumption	\$.0354
minimum monthly bill (under 50 kW)	\$ 8.65

Source: Atikokan Hydro

6.1.2 Natural Gas

Union Gas maintains a complete network of underground gas pipelines to residential, commercial and industrial customers. Natural gas is supplied from Western Canada. The following are rates that are effective as of June 1, 1998.

Rate 101 - Residential Service

Monthly Customer Charge	\$10.00
Delivery Charge	\$ per m ³
first 100 m ³ per month @	.11594
next 200 m ³ per month @	.10736
next 200 m ³ per month @	.10298
next 500 m ³ per month @	.09789
over 1 000 m ³ per month @	.08117
Gas Supply Charge	
winter (December through March)	.05489
summer (April through November)	.04489
commodity cost of gas & fuel	.09264
Rental Rates	\$ per month
40 gallon conventional water heater	7.40
50 gallon conventional water heater	9.60
40 gallon direct vent state water heater	14.70
50 gallon power vent water heater	14.70

Source: Union Gas

6.1.3 Propane

Propane is distributed through Johnson's Esso and Voyageur Bait and Tackle.

6.1.4 Wood

Some residents supplement their heating costs with wood. Most residents use wood primarily for fireplaces and cottages.

6.2 Environmental Services

6.2.1 Ministry of Natural Resources

The MNR manages the natural resources of Ontario through the activities of Area Teams and a philosophy of “sustainable development”. Strategies supporting the philosophy include partnerships in resource management, valuing resources and an improved knowledge base.

For further inquiries contact the MNR at 597-6971. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.²

6.2.2 Water and Sewage

The Water Pollution Control Plant and the Water Treatment Plant are both managed and operated by the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA). This private corporation works closely with the Director of Public Works, and is responsible for the testing of the Township’s water supply, bacteriological studies, chemical testing and sewage treatment.

Water in the Township is drawn from the Atikokan River System and is pumped from above Little Falls on the East Side of town. The water can be pumped to the treatment plant at a rate of 100 L/sec at a pressure of 30 psi.

The primary disinfectant used to treat the water is chlorine. In addition to chlorine, anthracite filtration and a clarifier are used to treat the water. The treated water can be pumped out of the plant at a rate of 150 L/sec at a pressure between 75 and 80 psi. Two pumps operate the majority of the time, while the third pump is utilized only when there is an increased demand for water. Peak consumption usually occurs at noon and between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Service is available to all areas except Highland Park.

The community is served by a modern sewage treatment plant located at Mackenzie Avenue and Rooney Street. The plant is designed to handle a population of 6,000. The only by-product that results from the treatment process is a form of sludge, which is disposed of at the landfill site.

For inquiries about Water Pollution Control call (807) 597-2100, and call (807) 597-4542 for inquiries on Water Treatment. Hours of operation are 24 hours per day.

Source: Atikokan Township

² Atikokan Inter-Agency Committee, *Atikokan Inter-Agency Committee Directory* (Atikokan, 1995), 31.

Table 6.2.1: Annual Water and Sewage Rates for Residential Consumers

CONSUMER	WATER (\$)	SEWER (\$)	TOTAL (\$)
Each single residence	332.28	105.68	437.96
Rooming Houses			
Residential: 3-7 Rooms	338.64	105.68	444.32
8-10 Rooms	430.68	196.54	627.20
11 + Rooms	522.84	196.52	719.36
Swim Pool	-	-	-
Water Only	332.28	-	332.28
Residential Units			
5 units	1661.40	528.40	2189.80
6 units	1993.68	634.08	2627.76
8 units	2658.24	845.44	3503.68
9 units	2990.52	951.12	3941.64
10 units	3322.80	1056.80	4379.60
13 units	4319.64	1373.84	5693.48
32 units	10632.96	3381.76	14014.72

Source: Atikokan Township

TABLE 6.2.2 Annual Water and Sewage Rates for Institutional Customers

	WATER	SEWER	TOTAL
Institutional Shop			
1 - 5 people	318.00	108.32	426.32
6 -10 people	423.00	108.32	531.32
11-20 people	528.00	176.72	704.72
+20 people	948.00	313.40	1261.40
Church Hall – no rental	184.32	95.12	279.44
Institutional Clubroom	479.76	205.52	685.28
Hospital 63.08 per bed (63.08/bed + 72.00)	2568.12	539.96	3108.08
Schools			
6 classrooms	648.00	440.00	1088.00
10 classroom	1008.00	440.00	1448.00
15 classrooms	1458.00	440.00	1898.00
30 classrooms	2808.00	440.00	3248.00
Rented Hall	256.80	119.84	376.64

Source: Atikokan Township

Table 6.2.3: Annual Water and Sewage Rates for Commercial Consumers

CONSUMER	WATER(\$)	SEWER(\$)	TOTAL(\$)
Commercial Shop			
1- 5 employees	318.00	108.32	426.32
6-10 employees	423.00	108.32	531.32
11-20 employees	528.00	176.72	704.72
+20 employees	948.00	313.40	1261.40
Beauty Shop	370.56	125.36	495.92
Public Garage	615.00	245.00	860.00
Service Station	445.92	176.60	622.52
Gaseteria	277.08	108.32	385.40
Hotel			
1-15 rooms	378.48	123.08	501.56
+15 rooms	468.48	178.52	647.00
Motel			
1- 9 units	333.24	95.36	428.60
10-15 units	378.48	123.08	501.56
+15 units	468.48	178.52	647.00
Stores	1289.28	381.68	1670.96
Restaurant			
1-15 capacity	367.92	108.32	476.24
+15 capacity	523.92	176.60	700.52
Community Centre	768.00	260.00	1028.00
Commercial Clubroom	479.76	220.40	700.16
Commercial Rented Halls	256.80	129.80	386.60
Commercial Room House	661.08	353.84	1014.92
Car Wash (2 stalls) 70.00/machine +72.00	388.80	313.40	1681.40
Laundries (18 machines)	1368.00	313.40	1681.40
Cement Plant	908.04	339.92	1247.96
Ice Dispenser	233.04	129.92	362.96
Minnow Rental	158.04	-	158.04
Commercial Mall			
1- 5 units	858.00	290.00	1148.00
6-10 units	1358.04	290.00	1648.00
11-20 units	1608.00	539.96	2147.96
+20 units	2108.04	539.96	2648.00
Industrial Shop			
1- 5 employees	318.00	108.32	426.32
6-10 employees	423.00	108.32	531.32
11-20 employees	528.00	176.92	704.72
+20 employees	948.00	313.40	1261.40
Industrial Probeard – Water only	1608.00	-	1608.00

Source: Atikokan Township

6.2.3 Public Works

The Township of Atikokan Public Works Department is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the municipal infrastructure, including roads, boulevards, sidewalks, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, water system repairs, snow removal, waste removal and airport maintenance.

Table 6.2.4 Classification and Surface Type of Municipal Roads

SURFACE TYPE	RURAL ROADS (km)	SEMI- URBAN ROADS (km)	URBAN LOCAL ROADS (km)	TOTAL (km)
Gravel or Stone ($\leq 5\text{m}$)	.12			.12
Light Bituminous (2 lanes)	4.65		.12	4.77
High Class Bituminous or Asphalt on Concrete (2 lanes)	6.19	5.61	21.33	33.13
TOTAL (km)	10.96	5.61	21.45	38.02

Source: Township of Atikokan

6.2.4 Waste Removal

Waste removal in Atikokan is done under contract with a private garbage collection contractor. In residential areas of the community, garbage is collected once a week with a weekly limit of 4 containers per residential dwelling. The basic service covers the disposal of the first 2 containers; tags are required for any additional containers (up to 2). Tags may be purchased at Hillcrest Variety, Johnson's Esso, Mike's Mart, or at the Township office, at a cost of \$1.00 per container.

Commercial customers are allowed a maximum of 8 containers per week, with the first 3 covered under the basic service. Tags must be purchased for any additional containers.

The method of disposal is a custodian supervised, sanitary landfill site. Tokens are required for private dumping and can also be purchased at the above mentioned locations. For additional information, contact Public Works at (807)597-2135.

6.2.5 Blue Box Service

Atikokan is a member of the Northwestern Ontario Recycling Association. A variety of recyclable materials are collected at curbside, once weekly. Residential and Commercial users are encouraged to recycle.

6.3 Health Services

6.3.1 Northwestern Health Unit

The Northwestern Health Unit is mandated by the Health Protection and Promotion Act to promote and protect health and prevent diseases. The Health Unit delivers programs and services in the following areas: Preventative Services, Environmental Health, Health Promotion, Infectious Disease Control and Health Planning.

For more information call (807) 597-6871 or Toll Free 1-800-830-5978.

6.3.2 Community Care Access Centre (CCAC)

The CCAC is a non-profit publicly funded organization committed to providing the people of the northwest with a full range of community based services which include: information & referral, nursing, social work, therapy services, homemaking, placement services for area long term care facilities, and respite care and support services.

Services are available to residents of nursing homes, Homes for the Aged, and children with special needs in the school setting. Referrals are made to the program by hospitals, physicians, families or by clients themselves.

For more information call (807) 597-2159 or 1-800-310-INFO.

6.3.3 Atikokan General Hospital

The Atikokan General Hospital (A.G.H.) serves the population of Atikokan, as well as settlements eastward to Huronian and westward to Horsecollar Junction. The hospital is a 41 bed fully-accredited hospital that offers acute, chronic and long-term care (Extended Care Wing).

There are 5 physicians and 2 dentists that serve the Atikokan area. These doctors are assisted by a team of nurses, lab technicians, X-ray technicians and counsellors. Although there are no specialists established in Atikokan, specialists in many fields are available on a daily consulting basis in Thunder Bay and Winnipeg.

acupuncturists
massage
therapy

The hospital provides a full range of services in general medicine, minor surgery, pediatrics, obstetrics, radiology (X-ray and ultrasound), laboratory medicine, rehabilitation and geriatrics. A.G.H. offers quality therapy services to the inpatient, outpatient and community program (Home Care) residents of Atikokan. These services include: physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology. The hospital is also involved in the operation of three community based programs: the community counselling and addiction program, the diabetic counselling program and the ambulance service.

The laboratory and radiology departments have recently been renovated with updated equipment to improve their quality and delivery of service to Atikokan.

The Atikokan Ambulance Service is staffed by two full time Emergency Medical Care Assistants and one full-time manager. Sixteen ambulance volunteers complement the Paramedic positions. The Atikokan base has two vehicles, the second vehicle being an emergency vehicle in case of breakdown. A heliport, located adjacent to the hospital and fixed wing service, allows air ambulance services to be available if necessary. To contact the ambulance services, call (807)597-1305.

For more information on the services provided by the Atikokan General Hospital call (807) 597-4215.^{3 4}

6.3.4 Atikokan Medical Associates

The Atikokan Medical Associates is a medical clinic that provides services to the residents of Atikokan. The Township completely renovated the clinic in 1992 to offer a better quality of service to patients.

The clinic is staffed by five doctors (the same five that staff A.G.H.), 4 full-time office personnel and one part-time office personnel. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. To schedule an appointment call (807) 597-2721.

6.3.5 Mobile Medicine

A mobile Breast Screening Van services Atikokan bi-annually. Information can be received by calling 1-800-461-7031. The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Eye Van, services Atikokan annually and appointments can be made through the Atikokan General Hospital 597-4215.

6.3.6 Dental Services

Dr. Ken Sawchuk and Dr. Ann Stevens offer basic dental care to the residents of Atikokan. Dr. Sawchuk's hours for appointments are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, and can be made by calling 597-4228. To schedule an appointment with Dr. Stevens call 597-6419.

6.3.7 Chiropractor Service

Dr. Robert Roussel and Dr. DiGiuseppe offer residents the option of natural health care. Both work in conjunction with the hospital's physicians and physiotherapist and specialize in the areas of: mechanical spinal disorders, industrial injuries and sports injuries. Dr. DiGiuseppe also offers acupuncture therapy. Dr. Roussel is available every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and can be reached at 597-5269 or (807)768-8800. Dr. DiGiuseppe is also available on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and can be

³ Atikokan General Hospital, *Annual Meeting of the Corporation* (Atikokan, Wednesday, June 21, 1995)

⁴ Atikokan General Hospital, *1995/96 Operating Plan* (Atikokan, 1995)

reached at 597-6779 or (807)345-9700. Both offices have support staff in Thunder Bay that are available for consulting during the rest of the week.

6.3.8 Optometrist

Dr. Thomas Cousineau of Fort Frances serves the Atikokan area every two weeks. Dr. Cousineau offers optometric eye exams and general eye care services. Dr. Cousineau can be contacted at his Fort Frances office (807) 274-8551 or his Atikokan office (807) 597-1331.

6.4 Social Services

6.4.1 Rainy River District Ontario Works

Formerly known as Rainy River District Social Services, Ontario Works is a program that provides financial and employment assistance to people in financial need. Every person has the right to apply for assistance and to have an application taken. Eligibility will depend on circumstances, including assets. If an application is approved, the individual will receive assistance as long as they are eligible. The amount depends on family size, needs, income and willingness to participate in approved activities.

For more information about Ontario Works and the programs it offers, please call 597-1431 or fax 597-1493.

6.4.2 Ministry of the Solicitor General and Correctional Services

This service offers community supervision of offenders aged 16 and over, and on a contractual basis of those aged 12-15, who are either:

- placed on probation, conditional sentence, or alternative measures by the court; or
- completing sentences on parole or conditional supervision from a correctional institution or custodial unit.

The staff consists of one full-time probation and parole officer and one part-time office worker. There is a very close relationship maintained between this agency and the police department, Family and Children's Services, Family Counselling Services and the medical profession. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8:15-4:30. The probation and parole officer can be contacted at (807) 597-6212.

6.4.3 Atikokan Community Counselling Services

The Atikokan Community Counselling Services is funded by the Ministry of Health and there is no cost for services. The purpose of the service is to develop awareness and to enhance the state of well-being of persons in relation to others, and in

their environment. There is counselling for individuals, couples, families and groups in areas of:

- depression
- communication
- stress
- alcohol and drug use
- assertiveness
- ageing
- retirement
- suicide
- family violence
- sexual assault
- psychiatric disorders
- other services

The staff is a multi-disciplinary team consisting of: a program manger, a chemical dependency counsellor, a general mental health counsellor and a seniors counsellor. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday. For more information call (807) 597-2724/5.

6.4.4 Atikokan Crisis Centre

The Atikokan Crisis Centre is a transition house for women and their children in the Rainy River District that is financially supported by the Ministry of Community & Social Services. The centre operates two programs that offer safety, support and assistance to women and their children who are seeking to leave violence or abuse.

1. The **Emergency Shelter** is a secure facility providing safety and security on a temporary basis, childcare, support/counselling, advocacy and emergency transportation.
2. **New Horizons/2nd Stage Housing** is a housing facility that provides safe, affordable housing for women and children attempting to escape an abusive relationship.

The Atikokan Crisis Centre has a 24-hour Crisis Line. Access to the crisis line is available at any time, day or night. The crisis line provides immediate support and/or referral information for women who have been victims of physical, sexual and emotional assault. Toll Free: 1-800-465-3348 or in Atikokan, (807)597-6908.

6.4.5 Family and Children's Services

Family and Children's Services is an integrated agency providing a wide range of services to the community of Atikokan. The head office is located in Fort Frances, Ontario.

Services include individual and family counselling, family therapy, Y.O.A. counselling and assessments, family support, home maker services, respite, supervised access, foster care, adoption services, protection services, advocacy for developmentally challenged adults, student support program, in-school counselling, child development, consulting psychologist, ISNC services, book and tape lending resources, and community work such as presentations, workshops, and training as required.

The office has a team of 11 social workers, 1.5 supervisors and 1 support staff. Two social workers are contract, and three are part time.

Family and Children's Services is a private corporation subsidized by the municipality and the provincial government with a mandate to provide Child Welfare, Children Mental Health, Child Development, Young Offenders, Supervised Access and Adult Protective Services.

The agency works cooperatively with the community, Adult Mental Health, Public Health, area schools, medical community, police, Crisis Shelter, Native Friendship Centre and the Probation Office. For more information contact Family and Children's Services at (807) 597-2700.⁵

6.4.6 Integrated Services for Northern Children

The Integrated Service for Northern Children (ISNC) program provides health, mental health and special education services to children and their families, who reside in the rural and remote communities of Northern Ontario.

The Atikokan Case Manager receives and processes all referrals, facilitates appointments and service delivery between clients and the resource group, participates in intervention planning, monitors general progress, acts as an advocate for services and identifies current community resources and gaps in services.

ISNC is a program sponsored by Family & Children Services of the District of Rainy River. For more information, call (807)597-2700.

6.4.7 Atikokan Senior Services

Atikokan Senior Services, formerly known as Home Support, offer their services to residents 65 years and older at a reasonable price. Some of the services that the Senior Service offers include:

- Meals on wheels ?
- friendly visitor
- handivan
- housework service
- foot care
- bath care
- lawn care
- emergency response unit

During the school year the handivan is also available to transport physically challenged children to school. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. For more information, or to obtain a schedule for the handivan, call (807) 597-6001.

⁵ Family and Children's Services, Information Sheet (Atikokan, 1995).

6.4.8 Atikokan Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation

The Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation provides housing to Seniors, within a 12 unit Seniors building. The building has both “geared to income” rental units as well as market rent units. Anyone wishing to apply may do so at the Atikokan Township Office, or at the Atikokan Newstand. For more information, call (807)597-6042.

6.4.9 Atikokan Native Non-Profit Homes

Atikokan Native Non-Profit Homes has 17 low -rental single family homes that are made available to qualifying native residents. The office is open from 1:00pm – 5:00pm Monday through Friday. To submit an application or to receive additional information, call (807)597-2335.

6.4.10 Atikokan and District Association for Developmental Services

The Atikokan and District Association for Developmental Services is a community based organization. It provides a full range of services to meet the varying needs of people with a developmental disability to enhance their quality of life. This organization supports these individuals in living a more independent life through residential services, supported independent living, supported employment, life skills training and leisure and recreational activities. The Association receives funding from the Ministry of Community & Social Services in addition to local fund raising efforts. For more information contact the Developmental Services office at (807) 597-2259.

6.4.11 Atikokan Native Friendship Centre

The Atikokan Native Friendship Centre is a community organization that offers programs for family, seniors, youth and children in cultural, educational, recreational and social events. Services offered to the community include: support and advocacy, informational and referral sessions on parenting, pre-natal and post-natal care, drop-in centre, food bank, care support luncheons, parental relief (temporary daycare service) and activities for all ages. Their hall has a seating capacity of 135 and is available for rent. The Native Friendship Centre is also responsible for the operation of the Friendship Theatre For more information on the Friendship Centre and the services it provides call 597-1213.

6.5 Protection Services

6.5.1 Forest Fire Protection

Under an agreement with the Ministry of Natural Resources, grass, brush, and forest fires in, or immediately adjacent to, the community are handled by the Atikokan Volunteer Fire Department. In addition, Fire Protection services for the remaining township lands and surrounding area are managed and delivered from the Ministry of Natural Resources' Fire Management Headquarters in Fort Frances.

Fire fighting resources such as crews, helicopters, and water bomber aircraft are proactively pre-positioned in the Atikokan area during those times when the threat of forest fires exist. Fire Management Headquarters staff can be reached at (807)274-8643.

6.5.2 Township Fire Protection

There is one fire station in Atikokan. The fire station is equipped with two Class A pumpers, one van, a rescue van with auto extrication equipment and various other equipment. The classification for this fire department is Town Grade I.

The staff includes one full-time Fire Chief, 15 part-time volunteer fire fighters and five part-time officers. The Fire Chief can be reached at (807) 597-4520.

6.5.3 Ontario Provincial Police

The Ontario Provincial Police detachment in Atikokan patrols an area from the Thunder Bay-Rainy River District Line to Shoal Lake Road (east of Mine Centre) and the Kenora District Line to the Minnesota border. The O.P.P. patrol the highways that are included in their policing area, patrol Quetico Provincial Park and render assistance to the Township police and Seine River First Nation Territory Police if the need arises. The staff includes one detachment commander who is of Sergeant rank, 6 constables and one civilian (office). The O.P.P. can be contacted at (807) 597-2120.

6.5.4 Township Police

The Atikokan Township Police focus their operations within the Township of Atikokan, involving approximately 372.96 km². The force is responsible for community based policing covering criminal and traffic investigations, preventative policing and liaison with other agencies, and are responsible for enforcing specific Township by-laws. The staff consists of: a Police Chief, 2 sergeants, 7 constables and one civilian (office). The Township Police can be contacted at (807)597-2777 fax (807)597-4555.

Court resources are available in Atikokan and are quite extensive. Courts operating on a regular basis are the Provincial Court, the Criminal Division, the Family

Division, the Young Offenders and the Provincial Offenses Court. If required the Civil Matters Division Court and the Citizenship Court are available

6.6 Education

6.6.1 Public School System

The Atikokan public school system consists of one elementary school and one secondary school. The Atikokan Board of Education previously governed the public school system, but with the recent school board amalgamation, it is now governed by the Rainy River District School Board. One trustee represents the interests of all parents and community.

North Star Community School is located in the Hillcrest area at 209 Hawthorne Road. The school delivers programs from Junior Kindergarten to Grade Six. There are 256 students enrolled with a staff of 24 teachers and assistants, and one full-time principal. The Programs are guided by the newly released Ontario curriculum, which outlines the expectations for every grade in a sequential manner. Special programs such as computers, instrumental ORFF music, Reading Recovery, special education, and intervention counselling are offered. The academic and social goals of the school are balanced in a rigorous program geared to the age and ability of the students. A strong sense of community and family is at the root of all activities. The school is supported by an extensive volunteer program, School Council, community service clubs, and fund raising committees. Intergenerational programs are encouraged within the school and in the elder care areas of the community, such as the Extended Care Wing of the local hospital.

Atikokan High School houses both secondary students as well as grades 7 and 8 (junior high). There are 76 students enrolled at a secondary level and 278 students attending the secondary level. The staff consists of 20 secondary teachers and 4 elementary teachers. Six members of the high school staff cross panel between the secondary and elementary programs. The high school has one full-time principal and a half-time vice-principal. The high school runs a semestered timetable to assist in accommodating the needs of all their students. Grades 9 through 12 follow a schedule that consists of four, seventy-five minute classes per day for each semester. In addition to the day program that is offered at the high school, independent learning courses and an independent learning centre are also available for students. Co-op is an option that is also offered to students who wish to attend school part-time and work part-time.

Atikokan High School offers a number of unique and innovative courses to assist students to experience and explore many areas of study. Atikokan's high school is one of the few schools that offer a credit for participating in the Outers program. Outers allows students to demonstrate their survival skills in the wilderness. To successfully complete this course the student must attend a St. John's First Aid course, obtain 40 hours of

community service time and participate in several day and overnight, winter, fall and spring trips. Recently, new courses have been added to the curriculum so that the students are able to function more efficiently in the modernized world of computers and technology. New courses in design technology include transportation, communication and construction. The school has many modern facilities including: 2 gymnasiums (one double gym), resource centre, cafeteria, computer centre and technology rooms (mechanical/electrical, woodworking and drafting).

6.6.2 Separate School System

St. Patrick's Separate School has 239 students that range from junior kindergarten to grade 8. The staff consists of 12 full time teachers, 1 part time teacher and 1 principal. The school is governed by The Roman Catholic Separate School Board.

6.6.3 Contact North

Contact North/*Contact Nord* is the largest distance education network in Canada with 12 years of experience. They provide access for many thousands of learners, to secondary school and post-secondary courses and programs in English and French, in small and remote communities. They offer a reliable, cost-effective network of instructional technologies and advanced telecommunications that allows learners and educators to see, hear, and interact with each other in real time in spite of the barriers of distance, sparse population and climatic extremes. More important components of the network are the staff people at the sites who are available to provide program and course information, support, liaison, and technical assistance as necessary, for learners and instructors. As a result, faculty, teachers, and trainers are able to reach their students in 145 sites located in over 100 Northern Ontario communities.

The Contact North/*Contact Nord* network serves not only the educational sector, but is increasingly being used by business and industry (workforce trainers and other professional development personnel) and by public and private sector organizations conducting their business at a distance. In a recent nine-month period, for example, the client list exceeded 160 colleges, universities, schools, government ministries, agencies and offices, community and non-profit organizations, and private sector organizations. To obtain additional information, visit the web site www.cnorth.edu.on.ca or call (807)597-6110.

6.6.4 Lakehead University

Students can enroll in a wide variety of Off-Campus courses from Lakehead University. The Off-Campus Lakehead University's Representative can be reached at 597-4249 or at 597-4406.

6.6.5 Quetico Centre

Quetico Centre is a residential learning and retreat centre. It is a private, non-profit corporation, which began operation in 1958. The Centre has flourished into an excellent facility in a lovely nature setting, and a successful enterprise for socio-economic development.

The Centre's purpose is to help people understand change forces and their broad effects, and to use that understanding to think and act constructively to invent their desired future.

The Centre initiates learning and planning activities with people in business, industry, service and volunteer groups. They also custom-design and facilitate workshops that get results. They also offer leadership seminars and organization effectiveness consulting services.

Quetico Centre is a full-service, world class retreat centre for groups who value a distraction-free environment for their own planning, discussion and problem-solving activities. For more information, contact (807)929-3511.

6.6.6 The Atikokan Public Library

The Atikokan Public Library will provide the opportunity and the means to develop and promote the educational, recreational, vocational and socio-cultural needs and interest and the economic well-being of the community, on an individual and/or collective basis.

The Atikokan Public Library has the basic responsibility for the development and maintenance of intellectual freedom. It will act as catalyst for a community-based Resource Center which will encourage and promote life-long learning.

The Atikokan Public Library will endorse and carry out the OLA and CLA's statement on intellectual freedom. It will seek to provide a union catalogue based on all community resources.

The Library is the Community Access point for public access to the Internet and the World Wide Web. (CAP Site)

Both print and non-print materials are available and accessible to the community. If material is not held in the Library to satisfy the informational needs of the community, the Atikokan Public Library Board and staff are obligated to request such information from other libraries through the Inter-library loans services. A collection of large print books, talking books and videos are available.

The Atikokan Library has a fully automated system, which allows users to research and locate materials efficiently. A photocopier, microfilm and microfiche

reader, fax, and computers are conveniently available for the public use. Visitors to the community can access their home e-mail through the public access point at the library.

The Library staff will provide individuals and organizations with materials to supplement their topics of lectures, workshops, etc. and will also compile bibliographies upon request.

6.6.7 Reading Plus

The Atikokan Literacy Incorporated's Reading Plus Program provides free, confidential, learner-centered, volunteer tutoring for adults wanting to improve their life and learning skills.

Special programs are designed to increase literacy awareness and the importance of life-long learning. The Reading Plus Program is the only program in Atikokan that helps adults improve their basic reading, writing, spelling and mathematical skills. For more information contact Reading Plus at (807) 597-1242.

6.7 Communication

6.7.1 Telephone

Currently, the community of Atikokan is serviced by an OC12 Fiber fed Sonnet RSC, enabling customers to utilize a variety of calling features such as: call waiting, three-way calling, name display, call display, visual call waiting, call forwarding, call return, call screen, call trace plus others.

A fiber optic network connects Atikokan to the long distance network. Bell Canada established digital transport from Atikokan to Fort Frances in May of 1998. Bell Canada's Local Service Improvement Program will make single line service available to all customers serviced by the Atikokan exchange in 1999.

Bell Canada is the largest Canadian telecommunication operating company, which markets a full range of state of the art products and services. To acquire information on Bell Canada's most up to date long distance plan and products please contact a representative by dialing 310-Bell or 1-800-668-6878. You can visit their web site at www.bell.ca or send email to forum@bell.ca.

Telephone Line Rental Rates

Business	\$ 45.58 per month
Private Residential	\$ 19.98 per month

6.7.2 Major News Publications

- Atikokan Progress
 - a locally published weekly paper printed in Fort Frances
 - home delivery available.
- Winnipeg Free Press
 - available on news stands
 - published daily
- Thunder Bay Times-News
 - available on news stands
 - published daily
- Toronto Globe and Mail
 - home delivery available
 - published daily
- Fort Frances Times
 - available on news stands
 - published weekly

6.7.3 Television

Atikokan has a wide variety of channels available on cable television. Cable is available for a basic fee of \$28.70 per month. The quality of reception in the community broadcasting system is excellent.

Table 6.7.1: Available Channels in Atikokan

CHANNEL #	STATION	T.V. SERVICE
2	CBC	CKPR Thunder Bay
3	CBS	WCCO Minneapolis
4	CTV	CHFD Thunder Bay
5	CBC	Winnipeg
6	NBC	KARE Minneapolis
7		Local School (Resource Centre)
8	BCTV	CHAN Vancouver
9	ABC	WXYZ Detroit
10	IND	ONTV Hamilton
11	TVO	TVOntario (English)
12	IND	CITV Edmonton
13		Community Channel / Broadcast News / CKDR (Dryden Radio)
17*	CMT	Country Music-TV
18*	IND	TBS Atlanta
19*	IND	WGN Chicago

CHANNEL #	STATION	T.V. SERVICE
20*		The Family Channel
22*	TMN	The Movie Network
23*		WTN
24*		Discover
25*		History
26*		Outdoor Life
27*		Comedy Network
28*	TLC	The learning Channel
29*	PBS	WFVS Detroit
30*		A&E
31*		TNN
32*		CNN
34		The Shopping Channel
35		Ontario Legislature
36	CHSN	CITY-TV Toronto
37		CTV News
38		Much Music
39		TVO-French
40	CBC	Newsworld
43		Weather Network
44		YTV
45		TSN
46	CBC	CBFT French
47		Vision TV
48	FOX	WUHF Rochester
49		Cable Public Affairs

* Indicates pay-tv service

Source: Videon

6.7.4 Radio

The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) broadcasts at 1490 AM and 90.1 FM with CBQ Thunder Bay. Regional coverage is at noon for an hour and 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., while the rest of the day is CBC Winnipeg. The regional radio station that covers the Atikokan area is CKDR on 1240 AM from Dryden.

6.8 Transportation

6.8.1 Surface Transportation

Taxi Service

- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|----------|
| • Bish's Taxi | 2 car service | 597-6646 |
| • Roy's Taxi | 4 car service | 597-1303 |

Special Transportation Service

Atikokan Senior Services offers transportation services through the use of the Handivan which is available to residents 65 years and older. During the school year the Handivan is also available to physically challenged children. For more information, contact (807)597-5516.

Quetico Bus Lines Ltd.

Quetico Bus Lines provide school bus service and charter trips. For more information, contact (807)597-6095.

Grey Goose Bus Lines

Passenger and parcel bus service is available through Grey Goose Bus Lines. Daily departures and arrivals are made from major centres (Thunder Bay, Fort Frances and Winnipeg) with regular stops made enroute. Interline Freight is also available with other carriers, so parcels can be delivered across Canada. For bus fares and times for departure and arrival contact Grey Goose Bus Lines at 597-2000.

6.8.2 Driver/Vehicle Registration

Atikokan has a full-service Driver/Vehicle Registration office located in Frankie's Flower Shop. They are equipped to handle all regular services including:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • License and plate renewals | • Vehicle registrations & transfers |
| • License and plate replacements | • Driver's abstracts |
| • Name changes | • Classification downgrade |

The office is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:30am - 4:30pm. For additional information, call (807)597-2202.

6.8.3 Driver Examination Office

A driver examination officer is available from 10:00am until 2:00pm every second weeks during the summer months, and once per month in the winter. The examination officer will administer all required testing (written and road tests) and the processing of more complex transactions such as out-of-province exchanges, and suspension reinstatements

Appointments for road tests should be made in advance by calling the local issuing office (807)597-2202, or the Fort Frances office (807)274-6623

6.8.4 Rail Transportation

Freight shipments are handled by the Canadian National Railway. For rate information, call 1-888-668-4626.

6.8.5 Air Transportation

A Municipal Airport is located within 5 km of the township's core. The primary use is for landing, fueling, parking and plug-ins by private aircraft, and for emergency purposes such as the Air Ambulance Service, and occasional stationing of water bombers etc. At present there are no regularly scheduled passenger or freight services offered.

The Department of Public Works is responsible for the maintenance of the airport, which includes certification and operation of the fuel systems. There is one paved runway (100 ft. x 3,500 ft.), Jet B fuel and 100 low-lead fueling.

A pay phone is available at the airport and arrangements for fueling are made through the Public Works office. The regular hours for service are 7:00am – 3:00pm Monday through Friday. After hours, the calls are automatically forwarded to a radio-phone, and an additional call-out fee is applied. For additional information or to arrange for fueling, call (807)597-2135.

6.9 Employment and Business Services

6.9.1 Atikokan Employment Centre

The majority of services provided by Human Resources & Development Canada, are offered through the Atikokan Employment Centre. The local centre provides information about employment opportunities locally, regionally and nationally. A full-time counsellor offers client services such as:

- labour job search techniques
- employment counselling
- assistance with claims and inquiries
- market information
- Use of resource centre and facilities

During the summer months, the Student Employment Office offers their service to students and employers. For further details on other services and programs please visit the local office or call (807) 597-2485. The office hours are Monday to Friday 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

6.9.2 Atikokan Economic Development Corporation (A.E.D.C.)

The mandate of the A.E.D.C. is to generate and maintain permanent employment in Atikokan by:

- providing business counselling and advisory services to the community;
- administering a Community Investment Fund (CIF) to create new small businesses and to expand, stabilize and protect existing businesses;
- working with the community to develop a plan for development;
- generating cooperation and participation of the necessary resources to carry out the plan; and
- adjusting the plan over time to meet the changing needs of the community.

The A.E.D.C. has played a significant role in the creation and/or preservation of at least 522.5 jobs in Atikokan since 1986.

For further information contact the A.E.D.C. at (807) 597-2757 or 1-888-334-AEDC or fax (807) 597-2726, or e-mail aedc@atikokan.lakeheadu.ca. Visit their web site at <http://atikokan.lakeheadu.ca/~aedc>. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.⁶

6.9.3 Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

The geographical area of responsibility for the Atikokan Northern Development & Mines Office include the following communities:

- Atikokan
- Local Services Boards of Pearson, Eva/Marion Lakes and Shebandowan
- Unincorporated communities of Kashabowie, Flanders and Shabaqua
- First Nations of Seine River, Lac La Croix, and Fort William

One of the key purposes of the Atikokan Northern Development office is to provide direct one-to-one service to the general public on:

- Provincial government programs such as OHIP, Employment Standards, the Landlord/Tenant Act and consumer complaints.
- Federal government programs such as Old Age Security, Canada Pension Plan, Passports and Citizenship.

The majority of one-to-one program delivery is by in-office counter service or telephone. The person most responsible for this work is the Client Services Advisor (CSA).

⁶ Atikokan Economic Development Corporation, *Who we are, What we do*, (Atikokan).

A second responsibility of the office is to work with area communities in development activities. For example, assisting municipalities and unincorporated communities in accessing such programs as the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund. The Northern Development Officer (NDO) also has direct responsibility to assist Local Services Boards in their day-to-day operations.

The third important function of the Atikokan Northern Development office is to work with local business and industry in accessing government programs, both in terms of financial assistance and technical expertise. This sometimes relates to the NDO assisting clients in accessing the appropriate agency (i.e. FEDNOR, AEDC, NOHFC) rather than becoming directly involved. A specific example of direct program delivery is the Summer Jobs Service program, which in 1998, provided 60 Atikokan employers with a \$2.00/hr subsidy to hire summer students.

The Atikokan NDO is also a member of the Ministry's Superior North Economic Development Area Team. It is the NDO's role to represent the interest of the Atikokan area to the Team as well as to provide input to Team initiatives, especially as they relate to local communities.

For more information, contact the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines at 597-2701.

6.9.4 Chamber of Commerce

The organization's membership is comprised of owners, proprietors and employees of the Atikokan business community, as well as private citizens.

Vital to the community, the Chamber gives support to local organizations, groups and individuals that undertake social and economic projects and lobbies local government concerning business issues. They are instrumental in activities and programs such as: the organization of educational and social programs for members; communication with other Chambers of Commerce; exchanging ideas and information; and they present items of local importance to the provincial government at Queen's Park.

The organization participates in many local events such as: Sports Days, Winter Carnival, Retail Promotions (i.e. Halloween Madness and Caribou Cash) and election forums. In addition, the Chamber of Commerce is responsible for the operation of the Atikokan Tourist Bureau located at the junction of Hwy. 11 and Hwy. 11B and promotes tourism through the "Experience Atikokan" brochure.

For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at (807) 597-1599.

6.10 Legal Services

6.10.1 Rainy River District Community Legal Clinic

The Community Legal Clinic has offices in both Fort Frances and Atikokan, and offers three types of services:

1. Representation on Poverty Law issues such as Social Assistance, Landlord and Tenant (tenant only), Canada Pension Plan, Unemployment Insurance, Workplace Safety and Insurance. To be eligible for this service the client must meet the financial guidelines prepared by the Ontario Legal Aid Plan.
2. A staff person is available to make presentations to Agencies or groups on Clinic related matters as part of our community Development mandate.
3. Summary advice is provided by the clinic staff on a variety of legal areas and for which clients do not have to meet the financial eligibility criteria of the Ontario Legal Aid Plan.

For more information on the services provided by the Rainy River District Community Legal Clinic contact the Fort Frances office at (807)274-5327 (1-800-799-2485 within the 807 area code), or the Atikokan office at (807)597-2811.

6.10.2 Lawyers

Trudy McCormick's Law Office

Trudy McCormick's Law office has over 11 years experience in Atikokan, provides expertise and advice in real estate transactions, business and corporate /commercial law, wills and estates, and resort purchases/sales. They also offer multi-disciplinary mediation services. They are also associated with a law firm in Thunder Bay in order to provide local access to other legal services. For additional information, call (807)597-2221.

Shaffer Jobbitt Lawyers

This law firm specializes in Criminal and Family law, with a main office located in Thunder Bay. Appointments in Atikokan can be pre-arranged by calling 1-800-567-9507.

Cupello & Company, Barristers & Solicitors

Cupellor & Company provide expertise in Family Law, Criminal Law and Real Estate Law. Appointments in Atikokan can be pre-arranged by calling 1-800-527-1222.

6.11 Financial Services

6.11.1 Banks

Atikokan has three banks with one branch each.

- **Royal Bank:** Full banking services
24 hour banking machine
Hours of operation: 10:00 - 4:00 Mon-Thurs
10:00 - 5:00 Friday
Phone Number: 597-6905
- **CIBC:** Full banking services
24 hour banking machine
Hours of operation: 10:00 - 4:00 Mon-Thurs
10:00 - 5:00 Friday
Phone Number: 597-2742
- **Toronto Dominion:** Full banking services
24 hour banking machine (Mike's Mart)
Hours of operation: 10:00 - 4:30 Mon-Wed
10:00 - 5:00 Friday
Phone Number: 597-2706

6.11.2 Accountants

Day Caddo Vaherjoki Chartered Accountants

This Chartered Accounting firm has offices in Thunder Bay and Atikokan. The local office is open Mondays and appointments can be arranged by calling (807)597-6577

Stewart and Sande Chartered Accountants

Chartered Accounting firm that offers a full range of accounting services. The main office is located in Fort Frances, with a branch office in Atikokan. Local office hours are: Wednesdays 11:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-5:00pm. To arrange an appointment, call (807)597-6348.

BDO Dunwoody

BDO Dundwoody is a National Accounting firm which offers a broad range of financial services for businesses and individuals, including accounting, auditing, tax preparations and computer consulting. Appointments can be made by calling 1-800-465-6868.

Joerg's Financial Planning

Personal and business financial planning including Mutual fund sales, income tax preparation, bookkeeping, life insurance, retirement planning and business plans. Phone (807)597-5870 or fax (807)597-2056.

6.11.3 Insurance Agencies

Gillon's Insurance Brokers

This General Insurance Brokerage provides all lines of Insurance, including home, Auto and commercial coverages. Phone (807)597-2152 or fax (807)597-1520.

Thunder Bay Insurance Services Ltd.

Thunder Bay Insurance Services specialize in personal insurance including auto, home and life insurance, and in commercial insurance including auto and property. Phone (807)597-6622 or fax (807)597-6604.

6.12 Real-Estate Services

Avenue A Realty Phone (807)597-4643

Bainbridge Brokers Ltd. Phone (807)597-2877 or Fax (807)597-5285

6.13 Children's Services

6.13.1 Rainbow Daycare Centre

The Rainbow Daycare Centre provides daycare services to children between the ages of 18 months and 12 years. If the space is available, the Centre also offers emergency relief care for parents who need last minute child care. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For more information contact the Rainbow Daycare Centre at (807) 597-4517.

6.13.2 2-3-4 Playgroup

Atikokan 2-3-4 Playgroup Nursery School offers children 18 months to 5 years of age, experiences that are age appropriate, designed to meet their developmental needs. The Nursery School share with parents the responsibility to help their children grow into well-rounded individuals. The qualified staff implement daily programs to foster healthy and spontaneous structured and unstructured play. For more information, call 597-1464.

6.13.3 Sun Dog Toy Lending Library and Parenting Resource Centre

The Toy Lending Library provides children, parents and caregivers with toys and other recreational equipment and offers advice and instruction about children's learning and developmental levels. The Parenting Resource Centre provides workshops and information on child development, child management and child caring responsibilities. A Drop In centre is provided for parents, caregivers and professionals to meet and learn from each other and where children can have a playgroup experience.

Sun Dog serves children from newborn to fourteen years of age (or older), parents, home care providers, daycare centres and other child care professionals. Yearly membership fees are available at a reasonable price. For more information on the Toy Lending Library and Parenting Resource Centre call 597-1481.⁷

6.14 Animal Services

6.14.1 Veterinarian

The Nor-West Animal Clinic in Fort Frances serves the Atikokan area every second Wednesday. Services offered by the animal clinic include vaccinations and basic surgery (spays and neuters). For more information contact the Nor-West Animal Clinic at (807) 274-7393.

6.14.2 Animal Control

An animal control officer, appointed by the Township Council is available under the administration of the Township Police. As outlined in by-law No. 41-92, the control officer is responsible for capturing and impounding any dogs, cats or skunks found at large within the Township area. Any dogs not redeemed within three days after impounding may be sold. Any dogs not redeemed or sold after 3 days of impounding will be destroyed. To contact the Animal Control Officer, call Vince Natale at (807)597-6402.

6.15 Postal Services

The Township of Atikokan is served by one post office located in the downtown core. Two deliveries are received daily; one from the east and one from the west. Outgoing mail is sent once per day, with a deadline of 4:15p.m.. Service standards for a properly prepared letter is two days locally, 3 days between cities in the same province and 4 days nationally.. Direct mail services include Express Post and Priority Courier. The hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

⁷ Sun Dog Toy Library and Parenting Resource Centre, information sheet (Atikokan, 1995).

VII. TOURISM AND RECREATION

7.1 Accommodations and Outfitters

7.1.1 Hotels and Motels

Table 7.1.1: Hotel and Motel Accommodations

		# of Rooms	Non-smoking Rooms	Refrigerator	Restaurant	Dining Room	Lounge/Bar	Meeting Facilities	Pets Allowed	Cable Television	Air Conditioning	Wheel chair accessible
Atikokan Hotel	(807) 597-2533	25	•		•	•	•		•			
Pines Motel	(807) 597-6767	8	•	•					•			•
Radisson Motel	(807) 597-2766	30	•	•					•	•	•	
Steep Rock Inn	(807) 597-2727	9			•	•	•	•		•	•	
White Otter Inn	(807) 597-2747	30	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•

7.1.2 Bed and Breakfast

Burn's Street Bed and Breakfast

Burn's Street Bed and Breakfast offers guests a comfortable stay during their visit in Atikokan. A home cooked breakfast is served and additional meals can be prepared if requested. The Bed and Breakfast has 4 rooms (2 are double rooms and include private sitting rooms), 2 bathrooms, a sitting room with a television and a dining room. Pets can be accommodated. For more information contact Candia or Paul at (807) 597-4353.

Canoe Quetico Outfitters Bed and Breakfast

Canoe Quetico Outfitters Bed and Breakfast allows guests to relax and enjoy the great outdoors during their stay in the Atikokan area. Located on an island on Lake Windigoostigwan, this Bed and Breakfast is a perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The Bed and Breakfast has 2 bedrooms (which can sleep 4 people), 1 bathroom, dining room and a sitting room. A beach and swimming area are available for guests to enjoy. Pets can be accommodated. For more information contact Doug or Ruth Chapman at (807) 929-2177.

The Cedar Rail Bed and Breakfast

The Cedar Rail Bed and Breakfast is open year round and is located in a quiet residential area of Atikokan. It boasts a smoke-free environment with a private garden and bird feeders. One guest room, with a private bath, is available and a substantial continental breakfast is offered to the guests. For more information contact Mary Elder at (807)597-8707.

7.1.3 Outfitters, Resorts, Lodges and Camps

Table 7.1.2: Wilderness Accommodations and Outfitters

	# Cabins (c), Outposts (o), Camp Sites (s), Rooms (r)	Store	Groceries	Gas	Bait	Dining	Housekeeping	Flush Toilets	Laundry Facilities	Shower	Sauna or Hot Tub	Fitness Facilities	Beach	Playground	Boat or Canoe Rental	Guides	Fishing	Hunting	Fly-in Service	Packaged Trips
Birch View Resort 929-2194	3c						•	•		•			•		•		•	•		
Branch's Seine River Lodge & Canoe Experience 947-2391	5c 15s	•		•	•	•	•	•		•					•		•	•		•
Browns' Clearwater West Lodge 597-2884	10c 9o 26s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	S	•	•		•	•	•	•		•
Bunnell Park Camp- ground 597-6932	26s							•		•										
Camp Quetico 929-2266	11c	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Canoe Canada Outfitters 597-6418	6c 15o bunk houses	•					•	•		•	S				•	•	•	•	•	•
Canadian Quetico Outfitters 929-2177	1o															•	•	•		•
Crystal Beach Resort 929-1156	34s 4c	•	•		•		•	•	•	•			•	•	•		•	•		
Dawson Trail Campgrounds 929-2571	156s							•	•	•			•	•			•			
Eva Lake Resort & Marina 929-2451	9c 6o			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	H		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Finlayson Lake Resort 597-1511	6c 30s	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•		
Hillcrest Resort 929-3441	7c	•		•	•		•	•		•			•		•		•	•		
Indiaonta Resort 947-2581	10c	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	S		•	•	•	•	•	•		

called.

collected

Kashabowie Outpost Ltd. 929-2140		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
McCauley Lake Resort 597-6187	8c	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Morris' Tourist Camp 929-2341	7c 9r 8s				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
✓ Perch Lake Resort 597-1233	6c 20s	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Powell Lake Resort 597-2891	4c 1o				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Quetico Discovery Tours 597-2621															•	•	•	•	•	•
Quetico North Tourist Services 929-3561	3r	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Quetico Wilderness Outfitters 947-2263		•													•	•	•	•	•	•
✓ Soft Wilderness Adventures 597-1377															•	•	•	•	•	•
✓ Sunset Country Outfitters 929-1188	1o 5c	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tip Top Lodge 934-2300	8c				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
✓ Voyageur Wilderness Program 597-2450	3r bunk houses	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Shading indicates winter accommodations and/or services.

7.2 Tourist Attractions

Aside from the breathtaking natural beauty of Atikokan, many tourists visit Atikokan to experience and participate in the unique and fascinating tourist attractions. Atikokan is a well-planned community that is fully equipped to serve the needs of the tourists and citizens alike. New tourist attractions, development and community improvements are a top priority for Atikokan.

7.2.1 Atikokan Centennial Museum and Historical Park

The Atikokan Centennial Museum hosts arts, crafts and natural science exhibits as well as providing workshops and other related activities.

The Historical Park's log cabin offers permanent exhibits of the fur trade, early pioneers, mining, logging and railway history from the museum's private collection. Some of the exhibits presented at the Historical Park are the Shevlin-Clarke locomotive, alligator tugboat and Euclid dump truck. Tours of the historical park or museum can be arranged by calling 597-6585 for an appointment. The historical park is open from early May to late October, however, the large outdoor exhibits are open to the public year round.

7.2.2 Quetico Provincial Park

Atikokan is situated in the heart of one of the North West's most breathtaking and scenic vacation land. Quetico Provincial Park is an internationally renowned canoe area of over 4655 square kilometers. Among its tangled network of jewelled lakes and rivers lies a land of dazzling cliffs, spectacular waterfalls in this great northern forest. Immense solitude, rare wildlife, few people and excellent fishing allow visitors to explore both this wilderness and themselves. Quetico is the perfect location for an overnight getaway or a month long sojourn.

Access to the park is through one of six entry stations, located along the perimeter of the park. In this wilderness area, travel is non-mechanized (with some exceptions for guides of the Lac La Croix First Nation) and a can and bottle ban is in effect.

Dawson Trail Campgrounds and the French Lake entry to Quetico Provincial Park are located 48 kilometers east of Atikokan on Highway 11. This entry to Quetico is along an early travel route from Lake Superior to Rainy Lake. Dawson Trail Campgrounds are Quetico's only car campground opportunity. 107 regular and 49 electrically equipped campsites, beaches, hiking trails and a playground, provide hours of entertainment for families of all ages. Dawson Trail is also home for the Quetico Information Pavilion and the John B. Ridley Research Library, where visitors can read about Quetico's natural and cultural history, from biology and ecology to Ojibwa culture to stories from the fur trade. Interpretive programs are offered throughout the week, during the operating season. For more information regarding Quetico Park, phone: (807)597-4602.

7.2.3 White Otter Castle

The legend of Jimmy McQuat lives on through the magnificent three-story castle he built on the shores of White Otter Lake. At the turn of the century he single handedly constructed the log castle from red pine logs that he cut, hauled and interlocked. The castle has recently been restored through the efforts of the Friends of White Otter Castle. The castle is 64 km north of Atikokan and is accessible by boat, plane and snowmachine. Guided tours of the castle can be arranged by calling 597-1377.

7.2.4 Little Falls Lookout

Little Falls Lookout is a great place to view one of Atikokan's most beautiful attractions, Little Falls waterfall. Little Falls is surrounded by a natural setting that is a perfect get-away spot to relax.

7.2.5 Downtown Atikokan

Atikokan's downtown shopping area offers a full range of services in a comfortable and relaxing environment. Atikokan's downtown core is a one-stop centre with services ranging from a grocery store, laundry services, pharmacy, hardware stores,

restaurants and clothing stores. Atikokan also boasts a mall, which houses a variety of unique and interesting stores. In the Atikokan area there are over 250 businesses.

Downtown Atikokan offers culture and history in addition to its numerous services. Historical exhibits from Steep Rock Iron Mines are scattered throughout the downtown core for all to enjoy. Keep your eyes open for the five beautifully painted murals that have been placed on selected buildings courtesy of the Atikokan Mining Attraction Inc. The Historical Park is also located downtown and offers shoppers a chance to enjoy some of Atikokan's history.

Shoppers can relax and enjoy their shopping experience due to the accessible layout of the downtown area. All stores and shops are within walking distance to one another. Park benches, rest areas and bicycle lock-up stands are placed downtown for added convenience and comfort.

7.2.6 The Pictograph Gallery

The Pictograph Gallery is an artist-run gallery that features arts and crafts by local and regional artists. The Pictograph Gallery has exhibited the art of many local artists for the first time; encouraging them to pursue their art further. The main exhibit changes monthly. The gallery gift shop has works from many local artists and craftspeople. There are a great variety of items for sale including: pottery, weaving, paintings, prints, jewelry, hand work, basketry and wood work.

The Pictograph Gallery is located on the lower level of the Voyageur Mall. The gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday 12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The opening is dependent on volunteer availability. For more information about participating in the Pictograph Gallery or displays at the Gallery call 597-4344.¹

7.2.7 The Atikokan Mining Attraction

During the development of the Steep Rock Iron Mine and the Caland Ore Mine, more earth was moved than was used in the manufacture of both the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Panama Canal. During their operations, Steep Rock and Caland shipped more iron ore than has been used in the manufacture of every car ever built in Canada.

The history of the Steep Rock Iron Range development is being researched and recorded by the Atikokan Mining Attraction. They have been working at it for years, in order to:

- Preserve, present, celebrate and educate people about the amazing and exciting mining history of the Atikokan area, emphasizing not only the project but the people involved.
- Enhance and encourage the tourist industry in Atikokan.
- Strengthen Atikokan's economic future.

¹ Pictograph Gallery, The Pictography Gallery, Atikokan (information sheet) (Atikokan, 1995).

- Link with other local and Northwestern Ontario attractions and facilities, whether existing or under development.
- Emphasize how the environment, once mined, is returning to its natural state.

Through their displays at the Mining Attraction Museum, located on Burns St. next to the Post Office, and throughout Main Street, the Mining Attraction is ensuring that the legacy lives on. For more information, call (807)597-6818 or write:

The Atikokan Mining Attraction
P.O. Box 1298
Atikokan, ON
P0T 1C0

7.3 Tours

7.3.1 White Otter Castle

This magnificent structure was built by one man, alone, Jimmy McQuat. It is a symbol of man's triumph over nature and of the creative impulse that most people possess but seldom express. The castle is located in the Turtle River-White Otter Lake Provincial Waterway Park. This one day tour includes lunch at the castle. Contact Soft Wilderness Tours at (807)597-1377.

7.3.2 Quetico Discovery Tours

This company conducts family canoeing and hiking tours on the red-pine lined lakes of Quetico Provincial Park. Photography and nature tours for all ages provide outdoor learning vacation in the Park. Phone (807)597-2621.

7.3.3 Mineral Collecting

Steep Rock Iron Mines and Caland Iron Mines are the perfect locations for mineral collecting. And amateur rock hounds travel great distances to participate in rock hound tours guided by local geologists/ To arrange a guide to assist in collections, prior notice is required. In addition, a fee will be charged. For more information contact Ray Bernatchez at 597-4526.

7.3.4 Bird Watching

With its location in the heart of the northern boreal forest, the Atikokan area offers birders many interesting species, especially during nesting season. The Atikokan area has one of the largest concentrations of bald eagle nesting sites available. Tour guide Dave Elder can be reached at (807)597-2008.

7.3.5 Walleye Hatchery

The Atikokan Sportsmen's Conservation Club is a local volunteer organization that operates a fish hatchery dedicated to improving stocks of the most popular sports fish in the area. The hatchery, located beside Little Falls, is capable of hatching up to three million walleye each spring. Local members will arrange a tour and an explanation of the hatchery by appointment. Contact Bill Beyer at 597-6486, Gerry Jefferson at 597-4423 or John Charbonneau at 597-6592.

7.3.6 Ontario Hydro Generating Station

Ontario Hydro Generating Station offers tours free of charge to individuals or groups. The tour will inform visitors of the operation of a 230 megawatt coal fired generating station. To book a tour, contact Randy Angus at 597-5267. Advance notice is required.

7.3.7 Atikokan Forest Products

This modern sawmill produces random length/width lumber and woodchips from jackpine, and spruce trees. Located just east of Atikokan at the end of Highway 623, the sawmill and planing mill employ over 250 people. Tours may be arranged by calling 929-2521.

7.3.8 Proboard Manufacturing

The largest employer in Atikokan, Proboard Limited manufactures particle board, which is used for cabinet and furniture making throughout North America. Tours may be arranged by calling (807)597-6921.

7.4 Recreation

7.4.1 Department of Parks and Recreation

The Atikokan Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for the maintenance of the arena, pool, baseball diamonds and parks. For additional information, call (807)597-6932.

7.4.2 Community Youth Sports Service (CYSS)

The Community Youth Sports Service is an organization that coordinates recreational activities for all members of the community. In addition to the activities offered by this service, CYSS also acts as an umbrella organization coordinating other recreational organizations in town. CYSS works in conjunction with these organizations in the promotion and organization of activities and events. For more information on activities offered by CYSS contact 597-CYSS (2977).

7.4.3 Atikokan Native Friendship Centre

The Atikokan Native Friendship Centre offers activities for all ages. Some of the activities include: crafts night, bingo, exercise classes, yoga, and an annual Pow-Wow. For more information on workshops and activities offered by the Native Friendship Centre call 597-1213.

7.4.4 Pioneer Centre

The Pioneer Centre is a self-sponsored organization for Seniors. The centre is open 7 days a week and offers activities such as: pool, carpet bowling, cards and other activities. For more information call 597-6080.

7.4.5. Little Falls Community Centre

The Little Falls Community Centre houses the curling rink and is located adjacent to the golf course. A fantastic view of the golf course and the curling rink can be enjoyed by those who choose to relax in the 19th Hole Bar & Grill. In addition, showers and saunas are available for those who wish to wind down after an active day.

7.4.6 Little Falls Golf Course

Atikokan has one of the most challenging and picturesque 9 hole (18 tee) golf courses in Northwestern Ontario. Water and tree hazards keep golfers of all skill levels on their toes. The pro shop is fully stocked with golf supplies ranging from golf balls to golf clubs. Rental carts and clubs are available.

All tees are closed in the evening from 4:00 - 6:00 on Wednesdays, for ladies' twilight golf and Thursdays, for men's night. Tuesday morning from 9:00 to 12:00 all tees are closed for Junior Day. The golf course is also available for cross country skiing in the winter months. For more information on designated tee-off nights, contact 597-6638.

7.4.7 Little Falls Curling Rink

A six sheet curling rink is located in the Little Falls Community Centre and is utilized in the winter months by the Atikokan Curling Club. The Atikokan Curling Club offers several leagues to join including: Men's, Ladies', Junior's and Mixed. In addition, the rink is also utilized by the Atikokan High School Team. For more information call 597-6638.

7.4.8 Mount Fairweather

Mount Fairweather is located approximately 5 minutes north of Atikokan, off Hwy. 622. The hill's vertical height is 70 m (230 ft.), making it the highest vertical hill between Thunder Bay and the Rockies. The hill offers a dozen different runs that will cater to all skill levels. The hill is serviced by a T-bar for the main runs and a tow rope for

the beginner run. After a long day on the slopes, skiers can relax in the Chalet overlooking the hill. The Chalet is equipped with a canteen, television and video facilities. The hill is open on Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Christmas vacation and Spring Break. For more information on Mount Fairweather contact Bryon MacDonald at 597-1287.

For youngsters between the ages of 5 and 12 that are interested in competitive downhill racing, the Nancy Green Racing League is offered during the ski season.

7.4.9 Atikokan Arena

The Atikokan Arena has an artificial ice surface, heated viewing area, canteen and 4 change rooms. Organizations that utilize the arena include: Atikokan Figure Skating Club, Atikokan Ringette Club, Minor Hockey League, Intermediate Hockey League, Old Timer's Hockey League, Atikokan Voyageurs (high school league) and Atikokan Broomball Club. Times are also scheduled for public skating. For more information on programs offered at the Atikokan arena call 597-6458.

7.4.10 Outdoor Skating Rinks

There are three outdoor rinks: Hemlock Rink, Lone Pine Rink and Don Park Rink. All rinks are maintained by the Community Youth Sports Service volunteers.

7.4.11 Atikokan Swimming Pool

The Atikokan Swimming Pool is a 5 lane, 25m pool. There are many programs offered at the swimming pool including: wake-up swim, Aetna, Red Cross swimming lessons, deep water running, public swimming, family swimming, Bronze Medallion classes and Royal Life Saving classes. For those who wish to swim competitively, the Nakokita Swim Club is open to all ages. For more information on programs offered by the Atikokan Swimming Pool contact 597-6478.

7.4.12 Hogarth Pit Bowling Alley

Hogarth Pit is equipped with 8 lanes for 5 and 10 pin bowling. The bowling alley is equipped with a canteen (fully licensed by the LCBO) and rental services (shoes). Bowling leagues include: 5 pin and 10 pin Youth league with 5 different levels, 5 pin mixed league, 5 pin Legion league, 5 pin ladies league, 10 pin mixed league and a developmentally handicap league. For more information on bowling leagues contact 597-6406.

7.4.13 Baseball Diamonds

There are five baseball diamonds in Atikokan. Two of the diamonds, White Street Ball Park and Don Park Ball Park, are equipped with a canteen, stands and an announcers

box. The other three ball diamonds are located at St. Patrick's school, Hemlock school and North Star Community school.

Baseball leagues in Atikokan include: mixed hardball for youngsters ages 9 to 16, T-ball, mixed softball, girls' softball, and mixed lobbball. For additional information contact CYSS (807)597-2977.

7.4.14 Snowmobile Trails

There are 450 km of groomed snowmobile trails in the Atikokan area. The trails run in all directions from Crane Lake, Minnesota to Ignace and Kashabowie to Mine Centre. The Atikokan trails are part of the TOPS (Trans Ontario Provincial Trail Systems) Trails. The TOPS Trails are a network of trails that interlink Ontario allowing avid snowmobilers to travel across the province. All the trails in the area are maintained by the Atikokan Sno-Ho Snowmobile Club.

7.4.15 Tennis Courts

There are six tennis courts in Atikokan. Four of the tennis courts are located at the Atikokan High School and the remaining two tennis courts are located on Maple Crescent. The two Maple Crescent courts are sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club and have recently been refinished with a blacktop surface. All courts are open to the public free of charge. For additional information, contact CYSS (807)597-2977.

7.4.16 Badminton Courts

During the summer months, the Little Falls Curling Rink is used as badminton courts. For a fee of \$2.00, badminton players of all ages can utilize the 6 courts that are available. For additional information call (807)597-6638.

7.4.17 Basketball Courts

There is one full basketball court located at North Star Community School and one on Clark St. Four half courts are located at the Atikokan High School.

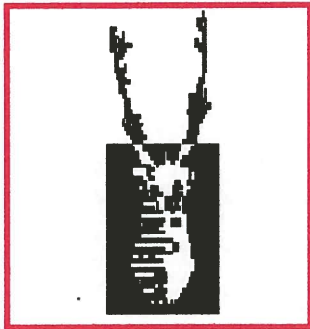
7.4.18 Volleyball Court

Plans for a beach volleyball court are currently in the works. For information, contact CYSS (807)597-2977.

7.4.19 Soccer Field

Three soccer fields are located at North Star Community School. During the summer months, the Community Youth Sports Services organizes soccer leagues for children between the ages of 4 and 16.

7.4.20 Waterfront Walking Trails



One of Atikokan's most attractive features is the winding Atikokan River that runs through the heart of the town. To complement the River, over 5 km of Waterfront trails offer a spectacular view of the Atikokan River, Little Falls and the Golf Course. For nature lovers, this is a great chance to enjoy the birds, animals and interesting flora and fauna. During the winter, the trails are ideal for cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, hiking and snowmobiling.

The trails offer a variety of terrain with portions that are accessible to those who are physically challenged. There are a number of benches and picnic areas along the way if you wish to rest or just enjoy the scenery.

The Waterfront trails are maintained by the municipality and are in excellent condition. All trails are identified with bollards that are marked with the caribou symbol.

7.4.21 Parks and Playgrounds

There are six parks and playgrounds that are maintained by the Township of Atikokan. Both of the elementary schools; St. Patrick's and North Star Community are equipped with playground equipment.

7.4.22 NorthWest Paintball

Northwest Paintball is an action adventure game of skill, which requires the participant to shoot opponents with paint filled balls. The paintball field is located at Finlayson Resort, approximately 15 minutes from town. Games are held most Saturday's and Sundays, dependant upon participation. Weekday games may also be arranged with advance notice, for groups of 8 or more. For more information, call (807)597-1433.

7.5 Entertainment

7.5.1 Atikokan Entertainment Series

The Atikokan Entertainment Series is organized by a group of local volunteers who bring in cultural family entertainment for the Atikokan area. The season for the entertainment series is from September to May. Season memberships are available at a reasonable rate.

Past performances include: the Thunder Bay Symphony, The Rankin Family, Manitoba Theatre Centre, Jason McCoy, Magnus Theatre, John McDermott, and Stewart McLean & the Vinyl Café. For more information, call 597-2219.

7.5.2 Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series

The Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series (ACES) presents entertainment to children between the ages of 2 years and 12 years. Shows presented by the Entertainment Series include Al Simmons, Purple Dragon Puppet Troupe, The Ontario Ballet and Noele Hall and the Stinky Sneaker Band (Rock 'n Roll Feet).

Series tickets are available for children, adults and families at very reasonable prices. For more information on upcoming performances or series tickets call 597-4582.

7.5.3 Friendship Theatre

Every Friday and Saturday night the Friendship Theatre shows the most up-to-date films. The theatre can hold up to 134 people and is equipped with a canteen. For more information on show times contact 597-1220 or 597-4382.

7.6 Annual Events

7.6.1 Snow-A-Rama (Timmy Ride)

This fundraising event is held during the last weekend in January and is coordinated by the Atikokan Kiwanis and the Sno Ho Club. Participants obtain pledges in support of Easter Seals and those who raise a minimum of \$75.00 are eligible to participate at no cost. The day begins with a 100km snow machine ride, beginning in downtown Atikokan and ending at the historic White Otter Castle. Lunch is served along the way and the evening is completed with an awards ceremony, dinner, and dance. For additional information, contact D. Beauregard 597-6643

7.6.2 Winter Carnival

The Winter Carnival is organized by the Atikokan Chamber of Commerce and offers winter activities for people of all ages. This ten-day event allows participants to enjoy the fantastic Atikokan winter, with activities such as: family ski day, snow sculpture contests and sledding and skating parties. For those who prefer to escape the winter weather, there are activities such as: beach parties, swimming parties and bowling, Contact L. Braun 597-1599

7.6.3 Sno Ho International Rally

The International Rally weekend or Poker Run, is an annual event organized by the Sno Ho Club. Different routes for the rally are chosen each year. Contact G. Martin 597-5595

7.6.4 Lion's Curling Sight Spiel

The annual Curling Sight Spiel is a mixed-team fundraising event, which is held each March and is hosted by the Atikokan Lion's. The entry fee is \$120 per team and includes curling, dinner and prizes for everyone. 50% of the profits are donated to the "Leader Dog for the Blind" program, and 50% are donated to the local diabetes association. Contact W. Krukowski 597-2160

7.6.5 Figure Skating/Ice Show

Also held in March and hosted by the Atikokan Figure Skating Club, the Ice Show is an entertainment delight for all ages. Contact L. Legaree 597-1347

7.6.6 Recreation, Home & Leisure Show

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions in early May, this trade show hosts over 50 exhibits for all your Recreation, Home & Leisure needs. Draws are held daily and a complete food bar is available. Contact L. Braun 597-1599

7.6.7 Vintage Car Show

Car enthusiasts won't want to miss this one! Proud owners come from all over North Western Ontario to participate in the annual show, which is held during the last weekend in May. Early registration will take place on Friday evening, with a Poker Run set for Saturday morning. Main Street is closed to traffic for the Saturday afternoon "Show and Shine" and public voting. A dinner and dance are held on Saturday evening and the show comes to a close on Sunday with the trophy presentations. Contact P. Barna 597-1587 or D. Sabeau 597-5837.

7.6.8 N.W.O. Ride for Sight

The Ride for Sight was first held in Atikokan in the summer of 1996 and was such a success that it is being brought back in honour of the 100th birthday celebrations in 1999. This is a fundraising effort that provides a weekend full of fun and activities geared towards motorcycle enthusiasts, however, everyone is encouraged to attend.

On-site camping is available, with live bands performing on both Friday and Saturday nights. Some of the highlights include: motorcycle games, a poker run, BBQ, parade, show and shine display, and raffles for various prizes including a new Harley Davidson. Anyone who raises a minimum of \$100 in pledges is able to enjoy the activities free of charge. All funds raised are donated to the RP Foundation – Fighting Blindness. Contact A. Carter 597-5890

7.6.9 Native Pow-Wow

The Native Pow-Wow is an annual event held in June and hosted by the Atikokan Native Friendship Centre. It features drum groups from various reserves and native dancers from the surrounding area. Everyone is encouraged to attend and a feast is provided (free of charge) to all visitors and participants. Contact ANFC 597-1213

7.6.10 Native Aboriginal Day

This Family Fun Day is also hosted by the Atikokan Native Friendship Centre, and includes food, outdoor games and activities, and prizes for all. Contact ANFC 597-1213

7.6.11 Canada Day Celebrations

The Canada Day celebrations usually begin with a flag raising ceremony, followed by a Parade. A Family Day is then held outside the Centennial Museum, with organized children's games and free hot dogs, corn and pop available for all. For additional information, call (807)597-6585.

7.6.12 Cavalcade of Stars

What originally began as a night of "silly fun" over ten years ago, has evolved into an evening filled with hilarious lip-syncing comedy acts performed by a group of talented locals. After taking a two-year sabbatical, the group has reformed and will be ready to once again delight audiences with their political satire. Contact J. Payne 597-6214

7.6.13 Atikokan Bass Classic

This is an artificial lure only – live release bass tournament, which takes place on Dashawa, Crowrock and Turtle Lakes. The tournament is held in August and is open to all fishermen; recreational, amateur and professional. Contact W. Nash 597-2010

7.6.14 Kiwanis Fall Fair

A carnival atmosphere is what you'll find at the Kiwanis Annual Fall Fair. Highlights include rides, games of chance, children's games, display booths, baking contests, gardening exhibits, arts & crafts, a monster bingo, and a lottery raffle. Contact W. James 597-6928

7.6.15 Kiwanis Santa Claus Parade

The Annual Santa Claus Parade elicits wide spread participation from the many clubs, organizations and businesses in town. The floats are thoroughly enjoyed by kids and adults alike and Santa can always be counted on to make an appearance to hand out treats. Contact B. Bell 597-2000

7.6.16 Sports Days

Atikokan's annual Sports Days is an event you don't want to miss! With ten full days of exciting events and activities, Sports Days has become one of Atikokan's biggest attractions. Sports Days has something for all ages ranging from a Teddy Bear Picnic to Line Dancing to Seniors' Day!

Some of Sports Days main attractions include the Sports Days Lobbball Tournament; a Street Dance; Kids, Teens and Adults Scavenger Hunts; a Sports Days Parade; and the Sno Ho Club's & 4x4 Mudfling. These events attract visitors, young and old, from all over the country.

Sports Days is organized and run by a volunteer committee. Sports Days begins on the Friday of the long weekend in August and lasts for ten days.

7.7 Clubs and Organizations

7.7.1 Churches

Church of the Good Shepherd - Anglican
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day
Saints
Faith Lutheran Church
First Fellowship Baptist Church

Full Gospel Assembly - Pentecostal
Jehovah's Witness' Kingdom Hall
Riverview United Church
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
St. Patrick's Rectory

7.7.2 Service Clubs

Canadian Legion Branch #145
Canadian Legion Ladies' Auxiliary
Kiwanis Club
Knights of Columbus
Lions Club

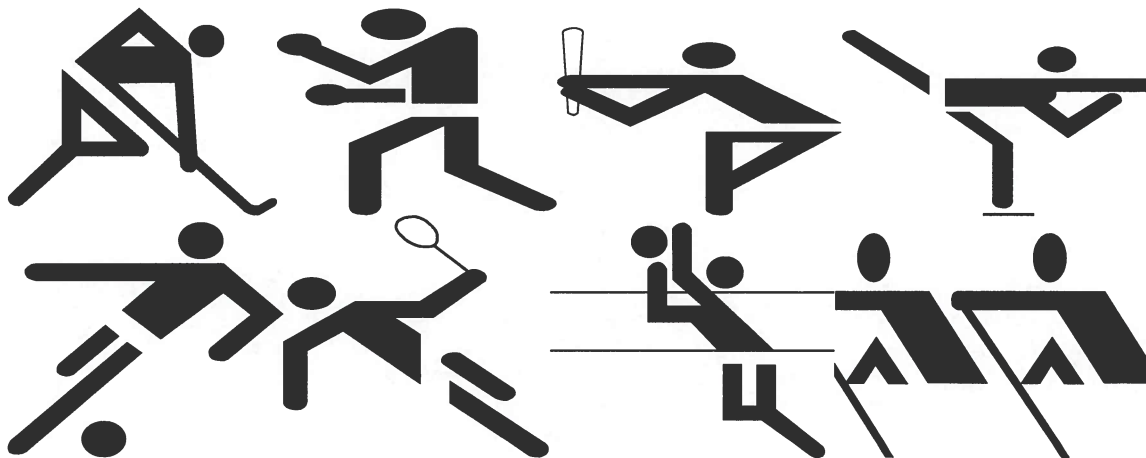
Lionelles
Masonic Temple AF & AM #668
Moose Lodge Branch #1672
Past Noble Grand

7.7.3 Recreational Clubs

Atikokan Bowling Association
Atikokan Curling Club
Atikokan Dance Club
Atikokan Figure Skating Club
Atikokan Guiding Association
Atikokan Lobball Association
Atikokan Minor Hockey Assoc.
Atikokan Ski Club
Badminton Club
Community Youth Sports

Over 100 groups / clubs / organizations

High School Outers Club
Horseshoe Club
Little Falls Golf Club
Little Falls Recreation Centre
Nordic Beaten Path Cross Country Ski Club
Karate Club
Nakokita Swim Club
Snow-Ho Snowmobile Club
Tourist Outfitters Association



7.7.4 Social and Cultural Clubs

Atikokan and District Association for

Developmental Services
Animal Care
Alcoholics Anonymous
Assoc. of Professional Engineers of
Ontario
Atikokan Arts and Crafts Assoc.
Atikokan Entertainment Series
Atikokan Fix-it Club
Atikokan Hospital Auxiliary
Atikokan Injured Workers Support
Group
Atikokan Ministerial Association
Atikokan Native Friendship Centre
Atikokan Sportsmen's Conservation
Club
Atikokan 2 3 4 Playgroup
Beta Sigma Phi Sorority
Block Parents
Brownies
Caland Manor Group Home
Canadian Arthritis Society
Canadian Cancer Association
Christmas Cheer Fund
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Support
Group
C.N.I.B.
Community Calendar Events
Crime Stoppers
Ducks Unlimited of Canada
Duplicate Bridge Club

Easter Seals Society
Friends of Quetico Park
Friends of White Otter Castle
Girl Guides of Canada
Heart and Stroke Foundation
Hope Rebekah Lodge #364
Horticulture Club
Mental Health Committee
Narcotics Anonymous
Neighbourhood Watch
Nurse Registry
Pictograph Gallery
Pioneer Club
Quetico-Atikokan Env. Research
Initiative
Rainy River Housing Authority
Reading Plus
Red Cross Society
Scouting Association
Search and Rescue
600 Starfighter Squadron Air Cadets
Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus
St. John's Ambulance
Teachers Federation
Telecare
Toastmasters
Tourist Information Bureau
TV Atikokan Productions Studio
Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Volunteer
Women of the Moose
Women's Resource Centre

VIII. FUTURE PROSPECTS

8.1 Tourism

8.1.1 Historic Boundary Waterway

In July of 1995, the western half of this spectacular waterway was officially opened. When complete, private watercraft will be able to travel some of the most pristine and picturesque watercourses in North America all the way from Atikokan to Minaki (Kenora area) and beyond.

8.1.2 Canoe Heritage Centre

The Township of Atikokan has submitted the concept of a Canoe Heritage Centre as a project for funding assistance from the Northern Ontario Heritage fund Corporation.

The Canoe Heritage Centre will be a themed interpretation, activity/demonstration facility where visitors will have the opportunity to explore the history and heritage of the canoe and actively engage in projects and activities related to the art and science of canoeing and canoe tripping. The centre will offer a unique learning experience, designed to capture the interests and engage the participation of canoe novices and aficionados.

The Canoe Heritage Centre will be the cornerstone and the catalyst to the thematic marketing of Atikokan as the "Canoe Capital of Canada" and possibly to the eventual integration of the canoe theme into the town's motif as well as its retail, service and manufacturing base.

8.2 Recreation

8.2.1 Waterfront Development

A citizens committee continues to develop trails and recreational uses along the Atikokan River, which winds its way through the community to Apungsisagen Lake.

8.2.2 Cross Country Skiing

A newly formed group is developing a trail network to challenge even the most avid skier and provide satisfaction to the novice.

8.2.3 Northwestern Ontario Snowmobile Trails Association

This regional group is continually developing and upgrading a 450 km network of trails which are tied into the Trans Canada Trail System. Marketing efforts are attracting snowmobilers from all over Canada and the U.S.

8.2.4 Intergenerational Centre for Arts and Alternatives

(Future)

A local committee has developed an action plan and is currently researching location possibilities and funding options, in order to establish an arts centre in Atikokan. The centre would be utilized for performing arts, visual arts, music, yoga, an art gallery, gift shop, and summer arts camp.

8.3 Economy

(Future)

8.3.1 Soapstone Quarry

A large deposit of high quality soapstone has been discovered near Atikokan. A quarry to extract this resource is planned for the near future. New soapstone occurrence, owned by Northern Soapstone has excellent carving grade material.

8.3.2 Mining

Recent projects in the area, such as the Pentland Firth gold project and Sawbill Bay Area, show strong potential for large tonnage low-grade open-pit potential. The Atikokan Resources Inc.'s new high-grade silver base metal discovery in the Lumby Lake area shows new potential for volcanic massive sulfide deposits.

8.3.3 Telecommunications

As the result of efforts put forth by the North-Western Regional Telecommunications Committee (NWRTC), Atikokan has recently had new fiber optic lines and advanced switching equipment installed. These aggressive efforts have opened the door for the area Health Care Providers, Educational Services and private businesses, by allowing them the infrastructure needed to further pursue key options such as video conferencing.

After completing a significant amount of planning and analysis, approval was received to form a Regional "Not-For-Profit" buying consortium to provide economical digital telecommunications infrastructure to all users in the 807 Area Code. The 807 NorthWest Network will be hiring a Project Coordinator to facilitate this.

The AEDC has also been successful in securing funding partnerships with the municipalities of the Rainy River District Municipal League, Thunder Bay Mobility and

the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund, in an effort to provide cellular service for the Highway #11 corridor and up Highway #71 to Sioux Narrows.

8.3.4 Community Care Access Call Centre

In November 1998, Atikokan was selected to establish and operate a new call centre for the Community Care access Centre. The call centre will simplify service delivery by allowing "one-stop shopping" for health care services. The plan is to have the centre up and running by March 1999, with the expectation of other agencies and businesses utilizing the service once it's in place.

8.3.5 The Quetico-Atikokan Environmental Research Initiative (QuAERI)

There is awareness amongst scientists, governments and environmental organizations of the need to establish sites for long-term ecological research and monitoring. Such sites provide a consistent and continuous source of data, which can be used to monitor, model and predict the state of the biosphere.

The Quetico Provincial Park area is well suited to long term ecological research because it contains representative ecosystems, which have been relatively unmanipulated by human activity (and where manipulations have occurred, the nature and extent is generally well known). Its status as a wilderness area also allows and provides the forces of nature to function freely and provides protection from future human manipulation.

QuAERI is a non-profit corporation that was formed in 1994 for the purpose of encouraging the integration of existing research projects and supporting proposals for new research within the Region.

8.4 Strategic Plan Summary

The Strategic Planning Committee is working towards meeting the present and future needs and desires of the population. The main goal of the Committee is to educate the community on current and future social, economic, political, cultural, technological and environmental issues.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Atikokan and District Association for Developmental Services. *Linking together for a stronger tomorrow* (brochure). (Atikokan and District Association for Developmental Services)
- Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series Committee. *Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series* (brochure). 1995. (Atikokan Children's Entertainment Series Committee)
- Atikokan Crisis Centre. *Program Descriptions* (information sheet). 1995. (Atikokan Crisis Centre)
- Atikokan Economic Development Corporation. *Atikokan Community Profile*. July 1990. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Atikokan Economic Development Corporation, et al. *Welcome to Friendly Atikokan* (newspaper). (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Atikokan Economic Development Corporation. *Who we are, What we do*. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Atikokan Energy Centre. *Welcome to the EcoHome - Atikokan's Advanced House*. 1995. (Atikokan Energy Centre)
- Atikokan General Hospital. *Annual Meeting of the Corporation*. Wednesday, June 21, 1995. (Atikokan General Hospital)
- Atikokan General Hospital. *1995/96 Operating Plan*. 1995. (Atikokan General Hospital)
- Atikokan High School. *Atikokan High School Handbook 1995-1996*. 1995. (Atikokan High School)
- Atikokan Inter-Agency Committee. *Atikokan Inter-Agency Committee Directory*. 1994. (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines)
- Atikokan Ski Club. *Experience Mount Fairweather* (brochure). (Atikokan Tourist Bureau)
- Bainbridge Brokers Ltd. *Housing Information and Statistics*. Atikokan, 1995.
- Union Gas Ontario Inc. *Monthly Rates and Charges* (information sheet). 1998 (Union Gas Office - Thunder Bay)
- Coffin, Tris. *Pay Dirt at Steep Rock*. Published by: Hudson's Bay Company, 1957. (Atikokan Mining Attraction Inc.)
- Community Counselling Services. *Information brochure*. (Community Counselling Services)
- Country Creek Estates. *Lot Prices for Country Creek Estates*. 1995. (Country Creek Estates)
- Employment and Immigration Canada. *Statistical Community Profiles by Postal Code Groupings*. 1994 and 1995. (Human Resources Development Canada)
- Family and Children's Services. *Information Sheet*. 1995. (Family and Children's Services)
- Hewitt, D.F. *Rocks and Minerals of Ontario*. Toronto, 1978. (Ministry of Natural Resources)

- Hilderman, Witty, Crosby, Hanna & Associates. *The Quetico-Atikokan Environmental Research Initiative*. Winnipeg, January, 1994. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Human Resources Development Canada. *The Ontario Labour Market*. 1994, 1995 and 1998. (Human Resources Development Canada)
- Hydro-electric Commission. Schedule of Rates and Charges (information sheet). 1995 and 1998. (Atikokan Hydro Office)
- Michels, R.E.. *The Atikokan Story*. Thunder Bay: Lehto Printers Limited, 1980. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Ministry of Community and Social Services. Are you on welfare or family benefits? 1995. (Rainy River District Social Services)
- Ministry of Community and Social Services. Income maintenance handbook. 1992. (Rainy River District Social Services)
- Ministry of Community and Social Services. Social Assistance and You (brochure). 1995. (Rainy River District Social Services)
- Ministry of Natural Resources. *The Forest Around Us*. Winter 1991. (Ministry of Natural Resources)
- Videon Cable TV. Information sheet. 1998. (Videon Cable TV)
- Paulson, Warren. *Toward a Community Strategic Plan: Atikokan Community Input Summary*. Atikokan: Words & Pictures, February 9, 1994. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Paulson, Warren. *The Little Town That Could*. 1993. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Pictograph Gallery. The Pictograph Gallery, Atikokan (information sheet). 1995. (Pictograph Gallery)
- Proboard Ltd.. Information sheet. 1995. (Proboard Ltd.)
- Quetico Centre. Information Sheet. Atikokan, 1995.
- Rainy River District Community Legal Clinic. Information sheet. 1995. (Community Legal Clinic)
- Reading Plus Program. *An Atikokan Profile for Literacy*. Atikokan, April, 1995. (Reading Plus)
- Scott, Charles. *Municipal Housing Statement 1991 Update*. Atikokan: Atikokan Economic Development Office, June 25, 1995.
- 75th Anniversary Booklet Committee. *A History of Atikokan - 75th Anniversary Edition*. Atikokan, 1974. (Atikokan Public Library 971.3117 HIS closed stacks)
- Skellings' Mining Review*. February 1, 1958. (Atikokan Mining Attraction Inc.)
- Statistics Canada. *Census 96 - Profile of Census Divisions and Subdivisions (Part A & B)*. 1996. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)
- Sun Dog Toy Library and Parenting Resource Centre. Information sheet. 1995. (Sun Dog Toy Library and Parenting Resource Centre)
- Township of Atikokan. 1995 Budget Summary. 1995. (Township of Atikokan)

Township of Atikokan. 1998 Tax Notices (information sheet). 1998. (Township of Atikokan)

Township of Atikokan. Official Plan of the Township of Atikokan. Thunder Bay: Proctor & Redfern Limited, February 1979. (Atikokan Economic Development Corporation)

Township of Atikokan. Ontario Municipal Roads System Kilometres (information sheet). February 2, 1995. (Township of Atikokan)

Township of Atikokan. Tax Dollar Distribution (information sheet). 1998. (Township of Atikokan)

SPECIAL THANKS

The Atikokan Economic Development Corporation would like to thank the people, businesses and organizations who contributed to the Atikokan Community Profile. A special thank-you goes out to:

Atikokan Chamber of Commerce
Atikokan High School
Atikokan Hydro
Atikokan Mining Attraction Inc.
Atikokan Public Library
Avenue A Realty
Bainbridge Brokers Ltd.
Bell Canada
Canadian National Railway - Edmonton Office
Community Youth Sports Services
Family and Children's Services
Human Resources Development Canada
Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministry of Northern Development and Mines
North Star Community School
Northwestern Health Unit
Ontario Provincial Police
Ontario Works
Proboard Manufacturing
Ray Bernatchez
St. Patrick's Separate School
Township of Atikokan - Administration Department
Township of Atikokan - Fire Department
Township of Atikokan - Parks and Recreation
Township of Atikokan - Public Works Department

