

SNOWSHOE INN

FORT PROVIDENCE | NORTHWEST TERRITORIES



SNOWSHOE INN

- Boat Tours
- Fishing
- Snowmobiling
- Festivals & Celebrations
- Art & Craft Demonstrations
- Wildlife Viewing & Photography
- Picnic Lunches
- Local Guided Tours
- Handmade Traditional Artworks
- On-site ATM

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Fort Providence or *Zhahti Koe* (Slavery for "mission house") established in 1869 is a small hamlet located midway between Yellowknife and Hay River on the banks of the Mackenzie River and in the middle of the Mackenzie Bison Sanctuary. Today, with its population of approximately 750 people, it is considered to be one of the central gathering places for the outlying communities of the Deh Cho (Slavery for "big river") region in the Northwest Territories.

The community hosts several festivals throughout the year where the local residents play host to friends, family and strangers from across the North and other areas of Canada to take part in the traditional games and celebrations. The hamlet is home to many talented artists who take pride in producing high quality Dene and Métis artwork. Many artists still use the same techniques as were used for many centuries.

Plan to spend a night in Fort Providence with our promise of a quiet and relaxing stay. Take the turn off Highway 3 to visit the friendly folks who await you at the Snowshoe Inn.

The Inn is located on the banks of the Mackenzie River and has been owned and operated by the Philipp family since 1965. Request a riverside room for a majestic view of the mighty Mackenzie River. There are onsite conference facilities including a private business centre, office space and a licensed dining lounge for group functions.

The Snowshoe Cafe, dining room and cocktail lounge are located directly across the street from the Inn. While you are staying at the Snowshoe Inn, be sure to visit the arts and crafts shop where you will find an excellent selection of artwork by local Aboriginal artists.

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WE'RE ALL ABOUT THE BUFFALO

Fort Providence is also home to North America's largest free-ranging herd of woods bison. Once thought to be near extinction, over a century of conservation efforts have grown the Mackenzie Wood Bison numbers to over 2000 – the largest free roaming herd

of healthy bison in northern Canada. You won't have to visit a zoo or special park to see or take photos of this majestic mammal – they roam our lands and roadways as they please.



SNOWSHOE CAFE

Visit our family style restaurant and try one of many customer favorites. Try our highly praised buffalo burger or perhaps our chopped bison steak. If you prefer to stick to the "tamer game" enjoy our signature Snowshoe Burger with an old fashioned milkshake on the side! We offer a menu that includes soup, salads, a variety of burgers, fish and chips, a full line of delicious entrees and home-style meals including pork chops with applesauce, steak sandwiches and there is often a roast

beef dinner served straight from the oven. We also believe in the importance of an all-day breakfast. The cafe is open seven days a week. Please contact the Inn for current hours and for assistance when planning for larger group functions and to discuss the use of our licensed dining lounge.



SNOWSHOE ART & CRAFT STORE

The Snowshoe Art & Craft store is well known and respected around the globe as being a leader in quality traditional art works and handmade items. If you are looking for a treasure or souvenir that will forever speak of the beauty of the Northwest Territories, or perhaps something that will remind you of the uniqueness of the northern First Nation peoples, then a visit to the Snowshoe Art & Craft shop is a must. The shop is proud to offer one of the finest selections of beadwork, birchbark baskets and carvings, as well as a selection of original paintings

and prints by local and area artists. Quillwork and moose or caribou tufting are a highly sought after item among our guests- the artisans of Fort Providence excel at both. The shop is located in the same building as the Snowshoe Cafe and is open Monday to Saturday 8 am to 8 pm; Sunday 10 am to 8 pm. The shop also accepts phone and email orders for most items. Please contact the Inn for further information.



FESTIVALS

There is no denying that Fort Providence is a small northern community where daily life focuses on time honoured traditions. One of those traditions is to host regular gatherings of people – from near and far – to celebrate life and local Aboriginal culture. The community celebrates **Bison Jamboree (March), Aboriginal Day (June 21) and Mackenzie Days (July/August)**. Folks from far and wide will often travel long distances to join in the fun. People travel by water and across the land to come from communities where there is no road for travel. These festivals are an important part of life – they signify friendship, family and heritage – each event features many traditional games and competitions including the favourite team sport

of the Dene hand games. There are also outdoor events such as tea boiling, canoe races, and much more. The community also hosts the annual Kingland Ford Hockey Tournament in February. Everyone is always welcome to come out to watch or to join in the fun. You might want to bring your best moccasins and practice a tune or two as there's bound to be at least one jigging and talent contest at each event! Book your room early and mention the promotional code "FESTIVAL" to receive a special discount at the Snowshoe Inn for one of these events.

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