

# HOUSTON , British Columbia

The District of **Houston** is nestled in the beautiful **Pleasant Valley** located on the **Highway 16** Transportation Corridor between Prince George and Prince Rupert. Also known as the "**Steelhead Capital of the World**", Houston is very well known for its supreme **fishing**, warm **hospitality**, and its **natural beauty**. Home to **steelhead, spring and coho salmon runs**, and also home to the **Wet'suwet'en** people, the main staples of the community have always been agriculture, mining, and forestry, and recently eco-tourism. Houston one of the largest wood processing mills in the country, **Canfor**, and serves as the home community to many of the workers at the **Huckleberry copper mine**, located 125km south of Houston. Originally a **farming** community with the rich soils often found in valley bottoms, Houston has grown to become an **industrial centre**. It remains a **quiet and peaceful** region where the pace is slower, people are friendly, and the visitors are made to feel welcome.

Over the years, Houston may have evolved, but that pioneering spirit and the ambient presence of opportunity has never disappeared.

## Community Characteristics

<b>Population</b>	2126 (2016 Census) Serves ~4000
<b>Demographics</b>	Average age is 37
<b>Access to the Community</b>	Highway 16 (300 kms) northwest of Prince George. Daily direct flights from Vancouver to Smithers Regional Airport (plus 60 km drive)
<b>Things to Do</b>	Adventure tours, bird watching, baseball/softball, soccer, boating, canoeing, kayaking, world-class fly fishing (and the world's largest fly rod!), hiking, walking trails, wild-life viewing, curling and hockey rink, 9 hole golf or mini-golf, skateboard park, mountain biking, shopping, public library, rock climbing, X-country skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, and a new Leisure Facility with a 4-lane 25m pool, leisure pool with lazy river, hot tub, sauna and fitness gym.
<b>Local activities</b>	Farmers Market, Pleasant Valley Days, Canada Day, Drag Races, Mud Racing, and Christmas Light-Up

## Locum Support

<b>Welcome/Orientation Process</b>	Hospital and clinic tour EMR training
<b>Accommodation</b>	
<b><i>Bearspaw Suites</i></b>	
Amenities	Private suites & rooms, breakfast, wifi, fridge, microwave, BBQ, patio, nearby park, mountain view, quiet.
<b><i>Knotty Pines Bed &amp; Breakfast</i></b>	
Amenities	Breakfast, TV, microwave, fridge, wifi, BBQ, patio, mountain view, quiet (8km to Houston center)
<b><i>Sunshine Inn</i></b>	
Amenities	Fridge, microwave, wifi, complimentary tea & coffee, parking, free airport shuttle.



## Practice Environment

<b>Health Authority</b>	Northern Health Authority
<b># Specialists</b>	Visiting Specialists in Gynecology, and Pediatrics & other allied health professionals. 6 Specialists in Smithers (as well as numerous visiting specialists also serving the area.)
<b>Locum Coverage</b>	Through <a href="#">Locums of Rural BC</a> Supported by <a href="#">Pacific Northwest Locum Network</a>
<b>Inter-professional team</b>	Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Nurse, Mental Health Clinicians, Home Care Nurse, LPN, Primary Care Physician
<b>EMR System</b>	MOIS
<b>Practice environment</b>	3 outpatient clinics in the community, including the Houston Primary Care, Steelhead Medical Centre, and (Women's Health) Houston Health Centre. The Houston Health Centre provides urgent care and ambulatory outpatient services. If patient requires trauma services, he/she are directed to the closest regional hospital in Smithers.
<b>Standard Set of Medical Equipment</b>	Otoscope-ophthalmoscope, tuning forks, reflex hammer, thermometers, peak flow meters, Doppler, BP monitor, cordless speculums.
<b>CME events</b>	Available periodically through PNW Division of Family Practice, & Practice Support
<b>Facilities</b>	The Houston Health Centre offers urgent Care, X-ray, lab, outpatient services, public health, residential & assisted care, home & community care & supports, mental health & addictions, diabetic counselling, physiotherapy, hospice, child & infant development programs, public health, & a women's health clinic.
<b>Emergency Services</b>	Urgent Care, 24-hour BC & Air Ambulance, Smithers Regional Airport
<b>Rural Subsidiary Agreement Designation</b>	A



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