

INFORMATION GUIDE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS COMMUNITY VISIT

Funded by REAP

Discover the South Peace

PHYSICIAN SHADOWING OPPORTUNITY

CHETWYND - DAWSON CREEK - TUMBLER RIDGE



South Peace
Division of Family Practice
An FPSC initiative

Sustaining Health. *Rooted in Rural.*

"EXPERIENCE RURAL CARE, EXPERIENCE REAL CONNECTION".

CHETWYND - DAWSON CREEK - TUMBLER RIDGE

Discover Rural Medicine in the South Peace

Curious about rural medicine? Come explore what makes the South Peace so special! Your site visit isn't just shadowing - it's hands-on learning, meeting incredible physicians and experiencing the warmth and spirit of our South Peace Division - **Chetwynd, Dawson Creek & Tumbler Ridge**.

Good Food and Even Better Conversation

This informal evening pairs students with local physicians—and often their families—for good food and even better conversation, far from the exam room and the white coat.

It's a rare chance to hear what rural practice is really like, straight from someone living it: the challenges, the rewards, the moments that make it worthwhile. Ask about a typical day, what drew them to a small community, how they balance work and family life here. In return, you'll walk away with honest insight you won't find in a textbook—and maybe a new mentor along the way.

A Visit Designed Around You!

We're excited to personalize your visit based on your interests, whether that's clinical experiences, emergency care, maternity care, or even exploring the outdoors. See firsthand how rewarding rural medicine can be while enjoying the perfect balance of work, life, and nature.

Adventure, Connection and Community

Beyond medicine, the communities in the South Peace offer small-town charm, vibrant arts and recreation programs, strong community connections, and a true nature's playground in our own backyard. Discover how a visit here can inspire your future in rural medicine while leaving you with unforgettable experiences.



Join for the Opportunity, Stay for the Community

Interested? Connect with us today - We would love to host you!



spregion@spdivision.ca



spdivision.ca

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW LONG IS THIS SHADOWING OPPORTUNITY?

The duration of the shadowing opportunity is flexible depending on available funding; however, a two-to-three-day experience is recommended to balance clinical exposure with community engagement. Scheduling is dependent on physician availability within our chosen community.

There is no required time of year, but please keep in mind that northern winters extend from October through April, and driving conditions during this period may affect travel plans. For the best experience, we encourage selecting dates that fit your schedule and allow for weekday clinical shadowing, as opportunities to observe clinical work in smaller communities are limited on weekends.

Please note: All shadowing experiences are subject to physician availability. While we aim for a two-to-three-day experience, individual shadowing sessions may range from 2-4 hours.

WHO CAN ATTEND THIS SHADOWING OPPORTUNITY?

You can book a solo shadowing experience or enhance the opportunity by sharing it with another medical student. To ensure an optimal experience within current community capacities, we recommend a maximum group size of two students.

WHAT DOES A CLINICAL SHADOWING OPPORTUNITY LOOK LIKE?

This personalized experience is designed to align with your interests while offering valuable insight into the role of a rural family physician. Family physicians are essential in providing primary care to their communities and often serve in local emergency departments, where emergency medicine skills are crucial, especially in smaller communities. In some locations, family physicians have expanded their practice to include specialized services such as oncology, surgical procedures, and labour and delivery. During the experience, you may spend 2-4 hours shadowing a rural family physician, with the remainder of their time engaged in community activities or exploration - either through scheduled programming or on their own.

WHAT IS INVOLVED IN AN OUTDOOR AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE?

We strive to provide a unique and immersive experience that highlights the community you are visiting. This opportunity offers valuable insight into local life, with the hope of inspiring you to return and practice here.

Seasonal activities vary, ensuring each visit reflects the distinct character of the community. We collaborate with community ambassadors and local residents to create an authentic experience. Depending on the time of year, available activities may include cross-country skiing, kayaking, hiking, museum visits, and trips to conservation centres, among others.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DINNER WITH A RURAL PHYSICIAN

This special gathering is arranged with available local physicians and occasionally their families, offering a relaxed setting to connect and socialize beyond the clinical environment. It provides local doctors a chance to share their experiences and gives you the opportunity to ask questions about rural practice and community life.



Discover the South Peace!

COMPENSATION

To ensure we can accommodate as many students as possible, we offer reimbursement for the following:

Accommodations*: We can pay for up to 3 nights if required, but please choose the most cost-effective option when booking. Submit your receipts for reimbursement.

Fuel/Travel Expenses*: Keep all fuel receipts and submit them for reimbursement. Airfare may be covered in some cases - please discuss options with the coordinator.

STEPS FOR PARTICIPATING IN A CLINICAL SHADOWING COMMUNITY VISIT EXPERIENCE

We are excited to offer you the opportunity to experience rural medicine first-hand in one of our South Peace communities. To help us plan a visit that is meaningful and tailored to you, please click here: [COMMUNITY VISIT FORM](#)

Arrange Travel & Accommodation:

Students are responsible for booking their own travel and accommodations.

Welcome to the Community!:

You will be greeted by your host community and begin your shadowing experience.

Submit Receipts:

After your visit, submit receipts for eligible reimbursement.

Share your Reflections:

Once your visit is complete, we ask that you provide a short reflection on your experience. Did it meet your expectations? Did it influence your interest in rural practice? Are there areas you would like to explore further on future visits? Please include a few photo's we may share with our Board of Directors in our reports.

Share your reflections



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