

HISTORICAL COMMUNITIES OF THE FISHING LAKE MÉTIS SETTLEMENT

The Historical Communities map illustrates movement and settlement patterns our members interviewed in this project. Movement, indicated with arched 'flight' lines between points, includes that which has occurred between residences (solid lines) as well as travel for work (dashed lines). Traditional uses activities that took place at past residences are marked by dotted lines. For each of these travel pattern types, as well as for the points marking historical towns of participants and their ancestors, colour coding distinguishes between the interviewee, spouses, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and great-great-grandparents. Historical towns that have been confirmed by archival research are marked by a symbol surrounding the town point. The symbology here can indicate that the point was either fully or partially validated by archival research or conflicted by it.

This map shows how ancestors of our Fishing Lake settlement members have come from and moved throughout the prairie provinces and beyond. Some have roots, going generations back, in the Paddle Prairie area, the Slave Lake region, Lac La Biche, throughout south-central Alberta, across the northern regions of Saskatchewan and stretching out to Manitoba and Montana to the south. More recent generations have concentrated moves mostly within Alberta with a high density of places lived and worked in and around the settlement but also Hay River, Paddle Prairie, High Prairie, Hinton and Fort McMurray. What is also apparent is the role modern political boundaries play in travel and use. Historically, our ancestors settled on both sides of the Alberta-Saskatchewan boarder. More recent movements indicate a stronger movement pattern within Alberta, responding to the artificial boundary, at least in terms of traditional use, of the provincial boarder.



