



Just Moved!

Your Penticton Checklist

Congratulations on your decision to move to Penticton. Welcome home!

Moving can be stressful; this checklist will help things go as smoothly and quickly as possible.

Step 1 - Temporary Accommodations

You might need somewhere comfortable to stay before you find the right house or apartment. Try searching:

Travel Penticton has an online inventory of places to stay, including B&Bs, motels, vacation rentals, hostels and beach camping visitpenticton.com

Online Classifieds:

skaha.ca and kijiji.ca and kelowna.craigslist.ca and classifieds.castanet.net

Online bed and breakfast listings and bookings:

airbnb.ca & vrbo.com & okanaganvacationhomerentals.com

Examples of accommodation spots that offer various rooming options, including suites with kitchenettes:

Ramada Penticton pentictonramada.com

Empire Motel empiremotel.bc.ca

Bowmont Motel bowmontmotel.com

Holiday Beach Resort Motel holidaybeachmotel.ca

Step 2 - Find a Permanent Home

skaha.ca and kijiji.ca and kelowna.craigslist.ca and classifieds.castanet.net

broadstreet.ca/cities/penticton

pentictonapartments.com

pacificcoveproperties.com

chasevalley.ca/residential-rentals

MLS Listings realtor.ca

Real Estate Agents with Rental Listings

Realty Executives Penticton realtyexecutivespenticton.com

Step 3 - Necessities

Electricity & Water

To set up a utilities account you will need two pieces of ID with your signature, and if you're renting, a copy of your rental agreement. You can [download the form](#) and email or fax it back, or you can visit City Hall at 171 Main St. Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm. Service is usually set up the next day. Same day hook up is available for an additional fee.

Natural Gas

Natural gas connections are handled by Fortis BC. You will need a driver's license or social insurance number—to set up an account. If you are an existing customer, you can transfer your account. Calling at least 2 days prior to your move-in is recommended. You can reach Fortis BC at 1-888-224-2710.

Garbage/recycling

The City of Penticton posts the garbage collection schedule online. Depending on your address, you can see which day of the week garbage is picked up. If you need to confirm your day of the week or you need recycling information, call **250-490-3888**. More information on garbage collection and recycling is available on the [City website](#).

Please note If you live outside the City of Penticton your waste collection may be handled by the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS). Visit the [RDOS website](#) for schedules and details that are relevant to you.

After you move, you'll have a lot of packing materials and other household items. Here's some information that might help:

- Once a year, large items such as furniture or appliances are picked up at curbside;
- You can purchase stickers for additional garbage (over the 2 bag limit) at City Hall, 171 Main St;

Other waste such as E-waste, glass, plastic wrap, styrofoam, etc can be taken to [J&C Bottle Depot](#) (200 Rosetown Ave) or [Campbell Mountain Landfill](#) (901 Spiller Road)

Telephone, internet and cable

There are several telecommunications companies that offer telephone, internet and/ or cable services in Penticton.

- Shaw | [shaw.ca](#) | 1-888-472-2222
- Bell | [bell.ca](#) | 310-BELL-2355
- Telus | [telus.com](#) | 310-CALL-2255
- Rogers | [rogers.com](#) | 250-770-8900
- Virgin | [virginmobile.ca](#) | 250-276-1205

Or the local service provider, **ABC Communications** [abccommunications.com](#) | 250-770-1394

Free wireless internet is also available downtown (on Main St. and Lakeshore Drive) as well as in numerous cafes and restaurants.

Step 4 - Government Administration

Change of address

Once you've settled, mail sent to your old address can be forwarded to your new address for up to a year (for most Canadian addresses). You can also specify which mail should be forwarded and which should not. Set up a mail-forwarding alert online or by visiting the closest Canada Post Office.

Visit Service Canada at 386 Ellis Street to:

- Update or apply for your Passport. For more information visit the [Government of Canada's Passport Help Centre](#).

- Discuss your Employment Insurance, Canada Pension Plan, Universal Childcare Benefit, Social Insurance Number, Disability Benefits, and Foreign Credentials Referral

Visit Service BC at 40 Calgary Avenue to:

- Update the address on your BC Driver's Licence or to switch to a BC driver's licence from another province or country. (Please bring your old Licence with you)
- Update or enroll in the provincial healthcare program (Medical Services Plan). If you are a resident of BC, you are required to enroll. You can do it in person or online. There's a waiting period before coverage starts, so apply early!
- Update or register to vote provincially

Step 5 - Healthcare

[Penticton Regional Hospital](#) is at 550 Carmi Avenue

We have 4 walk-in clinics:

- Apple Plaza Walk-In: 1848 Main Street
- Peach City Medical & Urgent Care: Cherry Lane Mall
- Skaha Medical Centre: 162-1848 Main Street
- Sage Medical Clinic: 101-2210 Main Street

Ways to find a family Doctor:

- Call the Penticton Regional Hospital at 250-492-4000 to see if any doctors on their listing are taking new patients
- Use the [find-a-physician tool](#) maintained by the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Sometimes walk-in clinics are also able to refer you

Step 5 - Family Life

Finding quality childcare

The best way to start your search is to contact Penticton Child Care Resource and Referral (CCRR). They provide information on a variety of child care options in Penticton and surrounding areas- including larger commercial facilities, smaller licensed daycares and in-house childcare providers. [Set up a referral online](#) or call 250-492-2926.

The Facebook group [Penticton Childcare](#) is a great place to post questions about childcare and learn about some of the in-house daycare providers that may not be posted elsewhere (websites like Skaha.ca, Kijiji & Craigslist might have even more in-house options). You can join the [Penticton Moms](#) Facebook page get connected with other parents and to meet up for playdates in the area.

Other Family Support and Advice

The Pentiction and District Community Resources Society is an umbrella organization providing a wide assortment of support and programs for families. From Special Needs assistance to counselling and child care referrals, the team are well acquainted with all Pentiction services and can help you find what you need. They can also help you apply for the Ministry of Children and Family Development Child Care subsidies. [Visit their website for more details.](#)

Registering your child for school

Pentiction's public schools belong to School District 67: Okanagan Skaha. For a full listing of elementary, middle and high schools in the area (as well as French immersion and alternative learning programs), visit their online listing. www.sd67.bc.ca

To register your child for school, follow the instructions on the registration page. First, use the school boundary maps to identify which school your address is assigned to. Different application forms are required for families from other areas, or those registering their child for Kindergarten).

Pentiction is home to a French language public school, [L'école Entre-lacs](#). The [Pentiction Centre for Exceptional Learning](#) offers an education program for students with special needs.

There are also 3 private religious schools in the area, Holy Cross Elementary (K-8), Concordia Lutheran School (K-6), Pentiction Christian School (K-12)

Out & About

Pentiction has wonderful amenities for families - from our outdoor parks, beaches, playgrounds, and splashparks, to our aquatic and recreation programs at the Community Centre, there are activities for all ages and interests. Learn about City Facilities and Amenities [here..](#)

You're moving to a region filled with festivals and events for every interest. Check out visitpentiction.com and downtownpentiction.org to see what's coming up.

Our natural environment maybe new to you. Get acquainted with safety around wildlife by visiting Wildsafebc.com. If you're planning on hiking or camping, you can plan your trip with sitesandtrailsbc.ca

[Skaha Bluffs](#) is a renowned rock climbing site with over 600 routes to explore. You'll find great hiking and cycling through the area as well. If you need some training to increase your skills you can take classes with skaharockclimbing.com or visit [Hoodoo Adventures](#)



Biking is a very popular activity and our region offers incredible road, mountain and downhill opportunities with a wide variety of trails, world class events, and picture perfect scenery. Visit [Bike Pentiction](#) to learn more

Step 6 - Insurance

Insurance for cars, trucks, trailers and vehicles

If you are from BC, visit any Autoplan Agency to update your auto insurance and address. There are **10 agencies** in Pentiction.

If you are moving from outside of BC, the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) is the only place to purchase basic auto insurance.

To get insurance, visit any Autoplan Agency. You will need:

- 2 pieces of identification such as driver's license, passport, birth certificate or similar identification;
- The vehicle's current registration in your name (or a bill of sale);
- a BC Inspection report. You can have this completed at any designated inspection facility; and
- If possible, bring a claims history letter from your out-of-province insurance company to document your driving history.

More details are available on the ICBC website. While ICBC must supply basic coverage, you can pair it with optional coverage from alternate insurers if you would like.

Insurance for homes, renters and strata properties

Unlike auto insurance, home insurance in BC can be purchased from a variety of providers. Some popular choices in Pentiction include:

- BCAA | www.bcaa.com 1-800-JOIN-CAA
- Johnson Meier | jmins.com 1-888-256-4564
- CAPRI | capri.ca 1-800-670-1877
- The Co-operators | cooperators.ca 1-877-545-2667
- Westland | westlandinsurance.ca 250-493-9393
- Underwriters | underwriterspentiction.com 250-492-4320
- Valley First | valleyfirst.com 250-493-7773



Step 7 - Looking for Work

Traditional employment

If you are looking for work in Penticton and area, register with the local [WorkBC Employment Services Centre](#) (run by the YMCA). They provide information, services, programs and support during your job search.

Check out our South Okanagan job board:

StartHereOkanagan.com

START HERE Okanagan

YOUR [WEBSITE](#) FOR LIFE AND WORK IN PENTICTON & SOUTH OKANAGAN

Self employment

If you want to start, move or buy a business in Penticton contact our Economic Development Office at economicdevelopment@penticton.ca or **250-490-2591**. We can connect you with prospective properties, suppliers, incentives, training, and financing opportunities to help your business thrive.

We also encourage you to check out Penticton's [Economic Development Profile](#), which includes key market, sector and labour force information. It also lists local business services like trade associations, business improvement areas and the Chamber of Commerce.

Virtual and mobile work

By 2020, 58% of all employment is expected to be contract based, with much of it being performed remotely. Many companies already pride themselves on having employees all over the globe and offer flexible teleworking options. Penticton is becoming a hub for these independent workers who value a scenic, healthy lifestyle.

Things to love about choosing Penticton:

- no time wasted in traffic
- a close-knit community that celebrates sports, arts, the natural environment, local food and beverages
- excellent telecommunications speed and reliability
- two airports within an hour's drive (with daily, direct flights to Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and international destinations).

Jobs are more portable than ever before. If you're a virtual or mobile worker (or would like to become one), check out Penticton's virtual work hub at pentictonworks.ca, or follow our pages on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), hashtag #pentictonworks. Cowork Penticton offers a physical workspace on demand.

Step 8 - Finding Your People

A new city can be daunting, but Penticton has a robust social scene with networking & leisure groups to suit everyone. Here's a selection to consider:

- [South Okanagan Immigrant & Community Services](#) offer language and settlement support for any newcomers to Canada
- [Penticton Newcomers Club](#) 3rd Monday of each month
- [100 Women & 100 Men](#) networking & charitable giving
- Chamber of Commerce [Business After Business](#)
- [Rotary Club](#) 2 clubs: [Penticton Okanagan Rotary](#) (Tues 7am) and [The Rotary Club of Penticton](#) (Wed 12pm)
- [Penticton Women in Business](#) 2nd Tuesdays 12pm
- [Junior Chamber International](#) for young professionals
- [Cowork Penticton](#) weekly gathering for independent professionals
- South Okanagan Tech Professionals' monthly [#TechBrew](#)
- [South Okanagan Tabletop Board Games](#) meets twice a month - all ages and skill levels welcome