

# Welcome to Kitimat



## Hirsch Creek Golf & Winter Club

Come and play our exciting championship 18 hole golf course, with our front nine and its scenic views of the surrounding snow capped mountains. The Les Furber designed back nine is breath taking, especially our signature #11 par 4 hole with a 170 foot drop to the landing area from the tee boxes, and a pond off to the left which has snared many a golf ball. After an exhilarating round of golf, drop into the clubhouse for a delicious meal and cold beverage which can be enjoyed in the restaurant, bar or outdoor patio.



## Sam Lindsay Aquatic Centre

Kitimat's Olympic-size pool is the centerpiece of the aquatic centre that has been retrofitted and re-opened in March 2009. Relax in the hot tub or sauna, experience the rush of the waterslide or play in the lazy river and water fountains. The Aquatic Centre is part of the Tamitik Jubilee Sports Complex that is also home to one of Northern British Columbia's largest ice arenas, squash courts, boxing ring and an outdoor playground.



## Giant Spruce

Radley Park is home to British Columbia's largest living Sitka Spruce tree, the oldest known living organism in the Kitimat Valley. Registered in 1983 as the largest living Sitka Spruce in British Columbia, our "must see tree" is now protected by environmental law. The tree was broken off at 42.2 meters tall (139.26 feet) and measures 11.4 meters in circumference (37.62 feet). It would provide enough lumber to frame nine average houses!



## Moore Creek Falls

Located across from Rio Tinto Alcan, Moore Creek Falls are a photographer's delight. As you climb the rugged staircase carved into the hillside, the sound of snowmelt water rushing down the banks leaves you anticipating what's ahead. From the top of the stairs you get your first glimpse of the falls pouring into a rock lined pool. Following the path to your right will lead you to a full viewing area of the falls.



## Centennial Park

At the bottom of Haisla Hill visitors will find Centennial Park, another well-landscaped picnic area which is also the site of the community's war memorial, a Haisla totem pole and large water fountain.



## Hospital Beach

This ocean side beach (the original site of Kitimat's first hospital) is located just past Rio Tinto Alcan. It is equipped with barbeque pits, picnic tables and public washrooms. This beach is a popular gathering spot for visitors and locals during the summer months. At low tide, you can explore and find seashells and many small sea creatures. Hospital Beach is a great place to view the large ocean freighters that import Kitimat's industries raw materials and export finished products.

# Kitimat, British Columbia

Kitimat is nature at its best, in one of Canada's last true wilderness frontiers. The rugged Coast Mountains, tall forests, river and ocean views offer spectacular scenery to be enjoyed year round.

Kitimat is world renowned for its abundant sport fishing, both salt and fresh water. You'll find this a diverse city, with colourful first nations history, beautiful scenery, endless recreation, and modern facilities to accommodate all.

Kitimat exists because of its strategic tidewater location. Nestled at the end of wide, sheltered fjords which are directly connected to the "Inside Passage", the area supports two major industries: Rio Tinto Alcan (aluminum smelter), and Eurocan (pulp & paper).

Kitimat means "people of the snow" and welcomes you for a visit or as someone who will become a resident and member of our community!

## History

The community was planned and built in the early 1950's when the BC government attracted Alcan (Aluminum Company of Canada) to build a smelter here. It is known as a new town and was incorporated in 1953. The community was carefully thought out before construction began. The design was adapted from the garden city idea of Ebenezer Howard, who wanted to create a refuge for the factory workers during Britain's industrial revolution.

The name Kitimat comes from "Kitamaat" meaning "people of the snow" and was first used by a group of First Nations Tsimshians. They were taking a winter trip when they saw a mass of heads that seemed to move without legs along the snow-covered shoreline. "Git-a-mat", said one of the Tsimshian and the name was born. The Haisla men dug paths through the deep snow and were only partially visible.

CN Rail opened a rail line in 1954, and a highway connecting Kitimat to Terrace was opened in 1957. Before the rail line and the highway were opened, people arrived or departed by seaplane.

Kitimat residents originated from all over the world immigrating after World War II. At last count, 48 different languages were spoken in this diverse community ranging from Arabic to Vietnamese to Welsh. Kitimat celebrates its multiculturalism throughout the year.

## Health Services

- Kitimat General Hospital and Health Centre
- General Practitioners
- Anesthetist
- General & Orthopedic Surgeon
- Kitimat Public Health Unit
- Acupuncture & Aromatherapy
- Dentists
- Chiropractor
- Optometrist
- Mental Health Centre
- Long Term Care Facility
- Assisted Living Facility



## Recreation & Leisure

### Indoor

Kitimat Museum & Archives

Kitimat Public Library

Mount Elizabeth Theatre

Tamitik Recreation Complex

- Two Ice Arenas

Sam Lindsay Aquatic Centre

- Newly renovated 6 lane pool with hot tub, 50 person sauna, lazy river, and water park toys, water slide, leisure and kiddies pools

- Squash & Racquetball Courts

- Strength Training Room

Riverlodge Recreation Complex

- Arts & Crafts Facilities

- Gymnasium

- Racquetball Courts

- Weight Room

- Snowflake Seniors Centre

- Kitimat Youth Centre

Hirsch Creek Golf and Winter Club

- Curling Rink

### Outdoor

Fishing

Hiking

Snowmobiling

ATV Adventures

4 Tennis Courts

6 Baseball Diamonds

Hirsch Creek Golf Course – 18 Hole

Soccer Fields

22 Playgrounds

Rifle Range

Cross Country Ski Trails

Snowshoeing

Kitimat Sk8 Park - Skateboard Park

Radley Park

Coghlin Park

Centennial Park

Giant Spruce Park

Hospital Beach

## Annual Events

January	Men's Curling Bonspiel Kitimat Winter Festival d'hiver
February	Mixed Curling Bonspiel
April	Spring Arts & Crafts Fair Kitimaat Basketball Tournament
June	Mr. & Mrs. Golf Tournament Bull-o-Rama Dragon Boat Races Multicultural Flag Raising Day
July	Canada Day Celebrations Junior Golf Open Ladies Open Golf Tournament National French Day
August	Men's Open Golf Tournament Mud Bog Races
September	Kitimat Chamber of Commerce Annual Fish Derby
October	Aluminum City Telethon
November	Fall Arts & Crafts Fair Ladies Curling Bonspiel



There are approximately 130 organized clubs, leagues, service and community groups in Kitimat. Arts, education, service clubs, ethnic associations and sports teams offer something for everyone.



## Heritage Park

Located outside the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Centre, Heritage Park is home to a variety of flags from all over the world which represent many of the different multicultural groups who reside in Kitimat. Visitors will also find benches, picnic tables, an information kiosk, covered gazebo and our Spirit Bear that is decorated with First Nations artwork. It's a perfect area for an afternoon picnic or rest stop.



## Kitimat Museum & Archives

Our local museum is another 'must stop' destination. Located in the lower City Centre, the museum is the place to trace the modern and pre-industrial history of Kitimat and the Kitimat Valley. The museum has exhibits presenting our interesting history from a number of different perspectives. They depict the way of life of the early settlers and the turn of the Century pioneers. They also display a fascinating glimpse of the culture and history of the earliest residents - the Haisla First Nations of Kitamaat Village.

Kitimat Chamber of Commerce &  
Visitor Information Centre  
Phone 250 632-6294 Toll Free 1-800-664-6554



## Kitamaat Village

The Kitamaat Village is home to today's Haisla population who represent a mix of coastal Tsimshian and Kwakiutl first nations. The village has lots to see and do and is open year round to visitors. Some of its attractions are two marinas, totem poles, art galleries, coastal exploration, canoe trips, wildlife viewing, fresh seafood restaurant and much more! For more information, contact Haisla Tourism at 1-877-424-7521 or 250-632-2020.



## Kitimat Public Library

Located across from Mountain View Square, the Kitimat Public Library offers videos/DVDs, music CDs, audio books, books and magazines. Services include interlibrary loans, internet access, meeting room rental, computer printing, photocopying and fax service.

Kitimat Chamber of Commerce  
A Vision into Tomorrow



## Coghlin Park

Located on Haisla Blvd, Coghlin Park is an amazing spot for a photo opportunity that should not be missed! This spot is a scenic lookout, picnic and garden area that looks onto the Douglas Channel. Kitamaat Village to the left, industrial sites to the right and coastal mountains in the background, a breathtaking view! The newest edition to this park includes shrubs and plants from the former Kemano town site.



## Kitimat River Fish Hatchery

The Kitimat Hatchery is operated by the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The species mix includes Chinook salmon, Chum salmon, Coho salmon, Steelhead and Cutthroat trout. When tours are available a guide will teach you the salmon life cycle from egg to adult and show you some of the salmon in their feeding tanks. The hatchery is wheelchair accessible and open Monday to Friday. Please call ahead for tours 250 639-9888.

[www.tourismkitimat.ca](http://www.tourismkitimat.ca)  
[www.visitkitimat.com](http://www.visitkitimat.com)