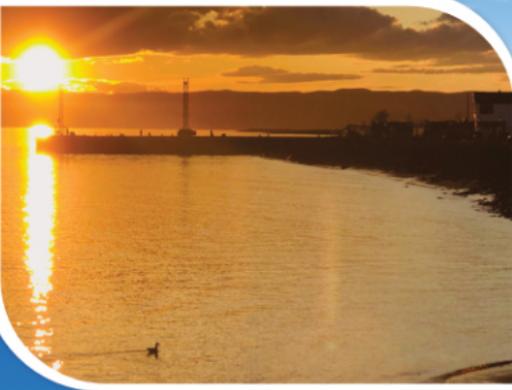
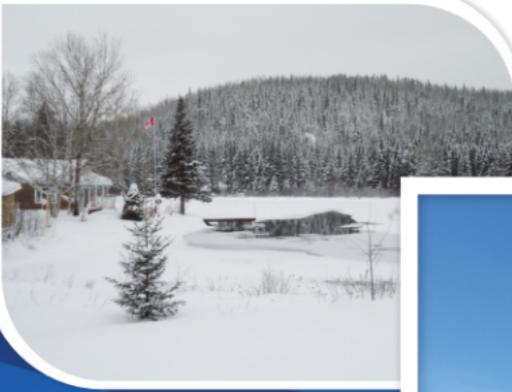


BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER...



North Shore
Community
Association



The NSCA can help you
make the North Shore home.

DISCOVER



The Côte-Nord is Québec's second-largest region, north and east from the Saguenay fjord to the Labrador border. Resource-rich, the region also boasts breathtaking landscapes that lend themselves as much to contemplation as to adventure, and tight-knit communities anchored by solidarity and mutual support. The North Shore is well served by regional airports, ferries, and highways, with myriad ways to discover the coast and the endless tributaries, or ramble into the depths of the boreal forest. Time is deep and slow here, and the region's residents are eager guides into the region's complex culture.

“Colonial settlements in the North Shore in the early twentieth century were largely related to resource extraction, such as lumber and iron ore, and the region's economy remains industrially driven.”

The Indigenous presence in the area is well established; the Innu and Naskapi have long been stewards of the land, which remains rich in natural resources. Colonial settlements in the North Shore in the early twentieth century were largely related to resource extraction, such as lumber and iron ore, and the region's economy remains industrially driven. The major development sectors today are forestry, mining, fishing, and aluminium. The network of rivers that course down to the Saint Lawrence supply considerable hydroelectric power: the region has fourteen dams, most notably the iconic, elegant arches of the Manic 5.



Made up of six regional county municipalities, the territory served by the North Shore Community Association has a total population of 87,644, and approximately 2,225 English-speaking residents, who live primarily in the larger cities of Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles, and in Port-Cartier. The thirty-odd towns have fascinating histories, from the windscreen complex in Fermont, to the lovingly restored wooden church in Rivière-au-Tonnerre.



WORK



Employment in the area ranges from seasonal labour, positions in the industrial workforce, jobs in the service sector, careers in health and social services or in community development, and opportunities in culture, heritage, and tourism. The population growth in the second half of the twentieth century stabilized the major centres of Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles, cities that offer comprehensive services and secondary industries. Industrial and manufacturing companies in the region steadily hire both specialized and general labour, and the administrative and community needs to buttress those industries provide employment for many.



“I knew when I chose my career path that it was to help people; now I help my people—encouraging activism among our community to seek out access to justice. I grew up here. Being able to work in the community, doing exactly what I envisioned, is extremely enriching.”

– *Me Angela Morency, lawyer, Sept-Îles*
(originally from Kegaska)

Depending on your field of interest and expertise, there are a number of scholarships and support services to make it easier to work and settle in the region.

PLAY



More recently, tourism has been a growth area, and international cruises include several stops along the North Shore. Sand beaches and peninsulas dot the coast, which in winter lends itself to snowmobiling and ice fishing; recreational and subsistence hunting and fishing are also favourite practices in the area. The region’s western boundary is the Saguenay River, where a national conservation area preserves and protects diverse and abundant marine life, including several whale species. To the east, the smattering of almost a thousand islands in the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve features breathtaking limestones outcroppings that provide the backdrop for kayaking or hiking trips. Several provincial nature reserves and regional parks also provide access to the wilderness. Farther north, the Laurentian mountains unfurl to the taiga and a 214-million-year-old meteorite impact crater anchors the Manicouagan Uapishka UNESCO

World Biosphere Reserve. Athletic activities and competitions capitalize on the region's stunning natural offerings.

"The region's western boundary is the Saguenay River, where a national conservation area preserves and protects diverse and abundant marine life, including several whale species."



"The North Shore has all the same services as the big cities, without the stress! I love nature, and the North Shore permitted me to enjoy my pastimes, such as hunting and fishing, while pursuing a career I'm passionate about—as a fishery officer."

– Brian Cross, fishery officer, DFO Baie-Comeau

The North Shore Community Association is a community development and support organization that helps gather together English-speaking communities across the region, including at social events. The NSCA sponsors film screenings at two local film festivals, organizes book clubs, holds regular activities for families and seniors as well as intergenerational activities, runs several early-childhood and literacy programs, and has opportunities for volunteer involvement—all of which provide meaningful connection and engagement, and make it easy to feel at home.

THRIVE



The NSCA, along with an extensive network of government and community partners, also facilitates access to information and support in health and social services, seniors services, employment and education, and culture and heritage. Services are available virtually and in person in every corner of the North Shore.

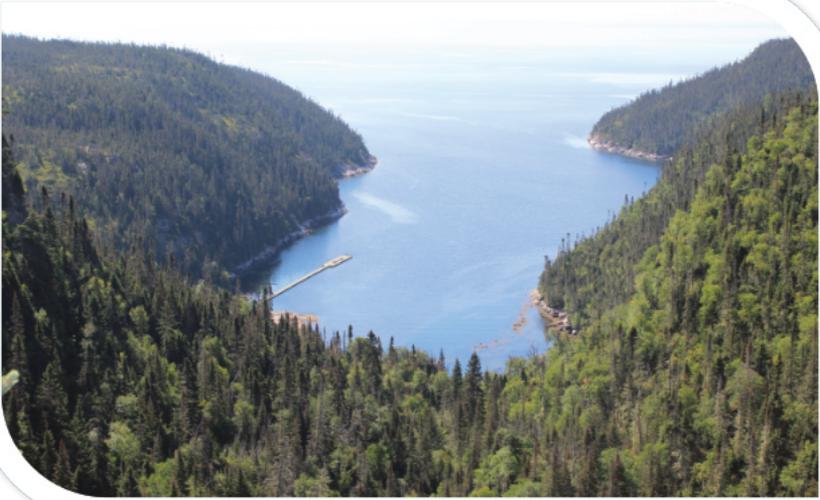
“What drew me to move here was the access to nature, to adventure, to open spaces. I wanted to give my children and myself a healthier lifestyle, away from the extra stress of urban centres.”

– *Laury Boulianne, psychosocial intervenor,
CALACS Baie-Comeau*



Community and commercial infrastructure and services across the region are modern and widely available. Québec offers state-subsidized daycare services and comprehensive public medical care and pharmacare to Québec residents. Baie-Comeau, Port-Cartier, and Sept-Îles have English schools, and the Cégep de Sept-Îles has a dedicated bilingual program. The proximity of university centres in Québec City, in the Lower Saint-Lawrence, and even in Montréal and the Eastern Townships offer countless possibilities in higher education for youth, many of whom return to the region. Basic medical services are available across the region, and Sept-Îles and Baie-Comeau in particular have high-quality facilities.

“Baie-Comeau, Port-Cartier, and Sept-Îles have English schools, and the Cégep de Sept-Îles has a dedicated bilingual program.”



With a lower cost of living, welcoming communities, easy access and proximity to work and play, inspiring cultural initiatives, and breathtaking wilderness and water, the North Shore is a world of possibilities.

“Working on the North Shore almost guarantees opportunities for permanent jobs in the field of your choice... especially if you’re bilingual! In a smaller workplace, it’s easier for your employer to recognize your skills and let you develop in the positions that best suit your goals and personality. I enjoyed studying in the city, but I missed living near nature. The North Shore brings you back to the most important things in life.”

- *Kyra Robertson, professional orientation counsellor, Cégep de Sept-Îles (originally from Sept-Îles)*

NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



The North Shore Community Association advocates for English-speaking communities, collaborates with partners, and delivers a range of services. The NSCA operates across the entire region, and has offices in Baie-Comeau and Sept-Îles.

For information on the North Shore and access to services, join the NSCA! Membership is free, and the community has access to newsletters and information, help with everything from health to employment and education, an active social-media presence, and social, cultural, and intergenerational activities.

Drop by to find out why there's no place like the North Shore.

North Shore Community Association

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Photo credits:

Front Cover

Winter landscape, Baie-Comeau — J. Lessard, Pointe-des-Monts up close — M. Coté,
Sept-Îles sunset — J. Lessard

Discover

Rapide Lake, page 2 — L. Bouchard, Daniel-Johnson Dam, page 2

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OSCN—Carmina Burana, Sainte-Amélie Church, page 3 — E. Talbot

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Thrive

Snow kiteboarding in Sept-Îles Bay, page 7 — L. Bouchard,
Baie Saint-Pancrace, Baie-Comeau, page 8 — M. Coté