



Between
Camp and
Community:
Mobile Dwelling,
Place, and Proximity
in the Oil Sands
Region

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~with thanks and recognition to Bozhin Traykov, Marcella
Cassiano, Sandrine Jean, and Shingirai Mandizadza~

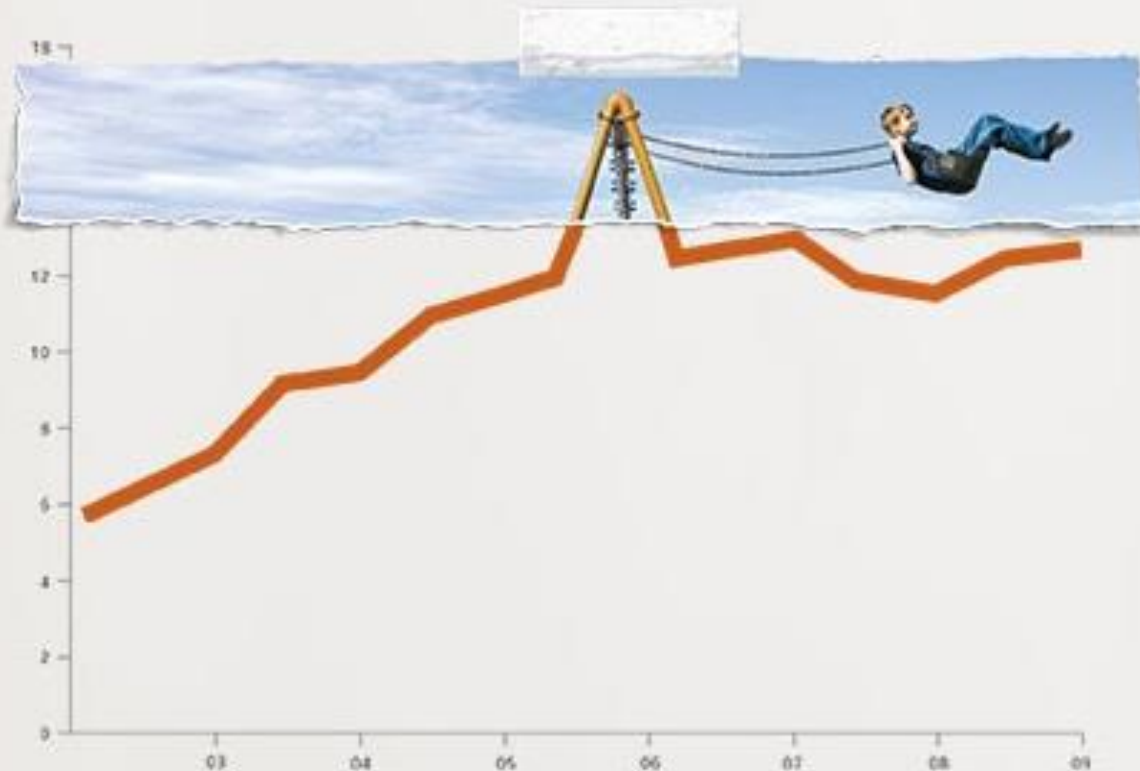


- 140,000 sq km
- 3rd largest reserves
- \$200+ billion in investment
- 200 projects approved to date
- 20% surface mining, 80% in situ
- labor and capital intensive
- up to 50,000 mobile workers



Report on Prosperity

Fig 7: Growth in Domestic Product



You know us for oil. Our story is one of production and money. But there's more to this place than you may think. There's a quality of life here that goes beyond money, giving people the confidence to build a future, to raise a family. Consider that over 80% of residents own their own home and that three new schools will open in a span of just five years. Is Fort McMurray rich? Sure, but like any community that prospers, our future is built upon our greatest resource, our people.

The Context of "Community" in Fort McMurray

Employment-Related Geographical Mobility in the Oil/Tar Sands

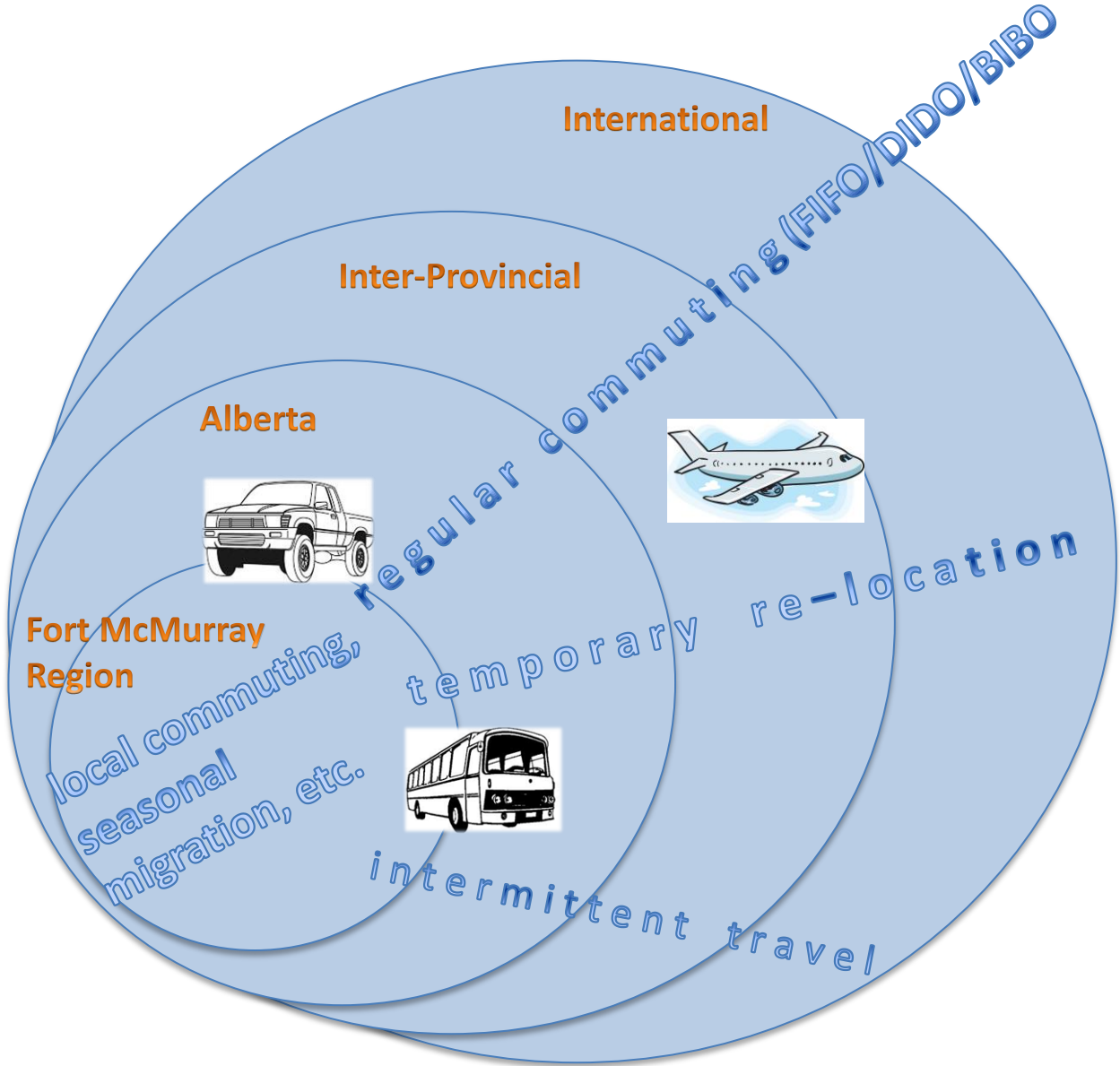
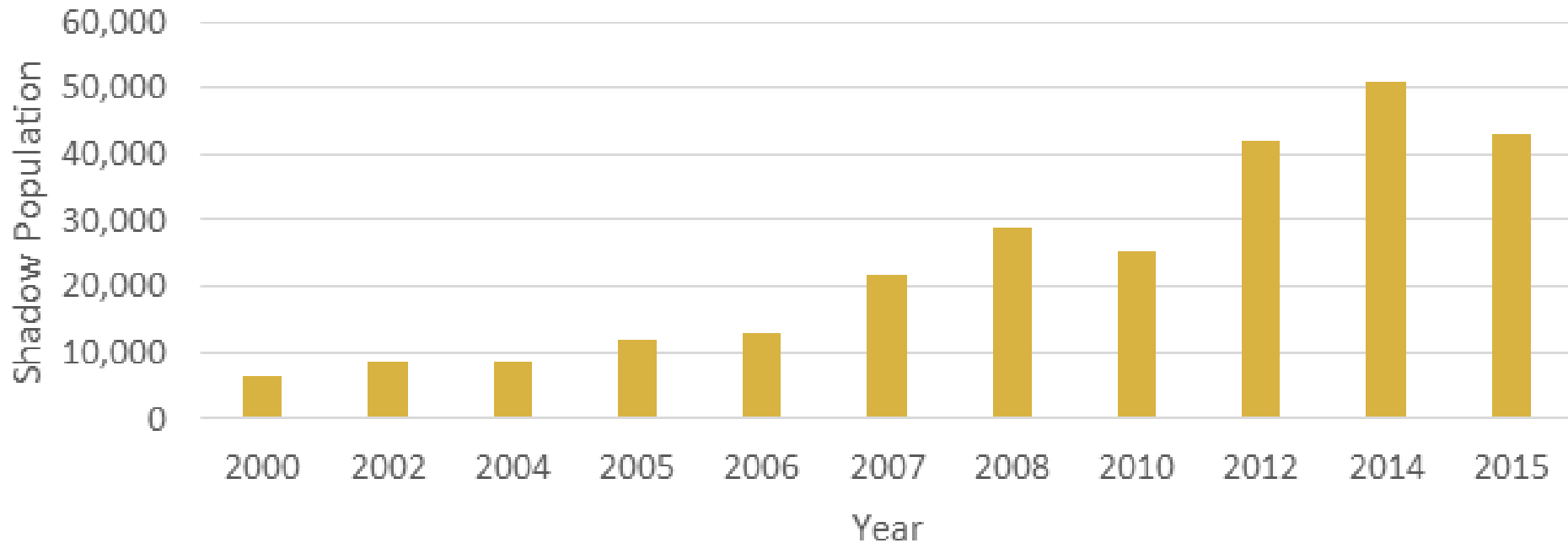


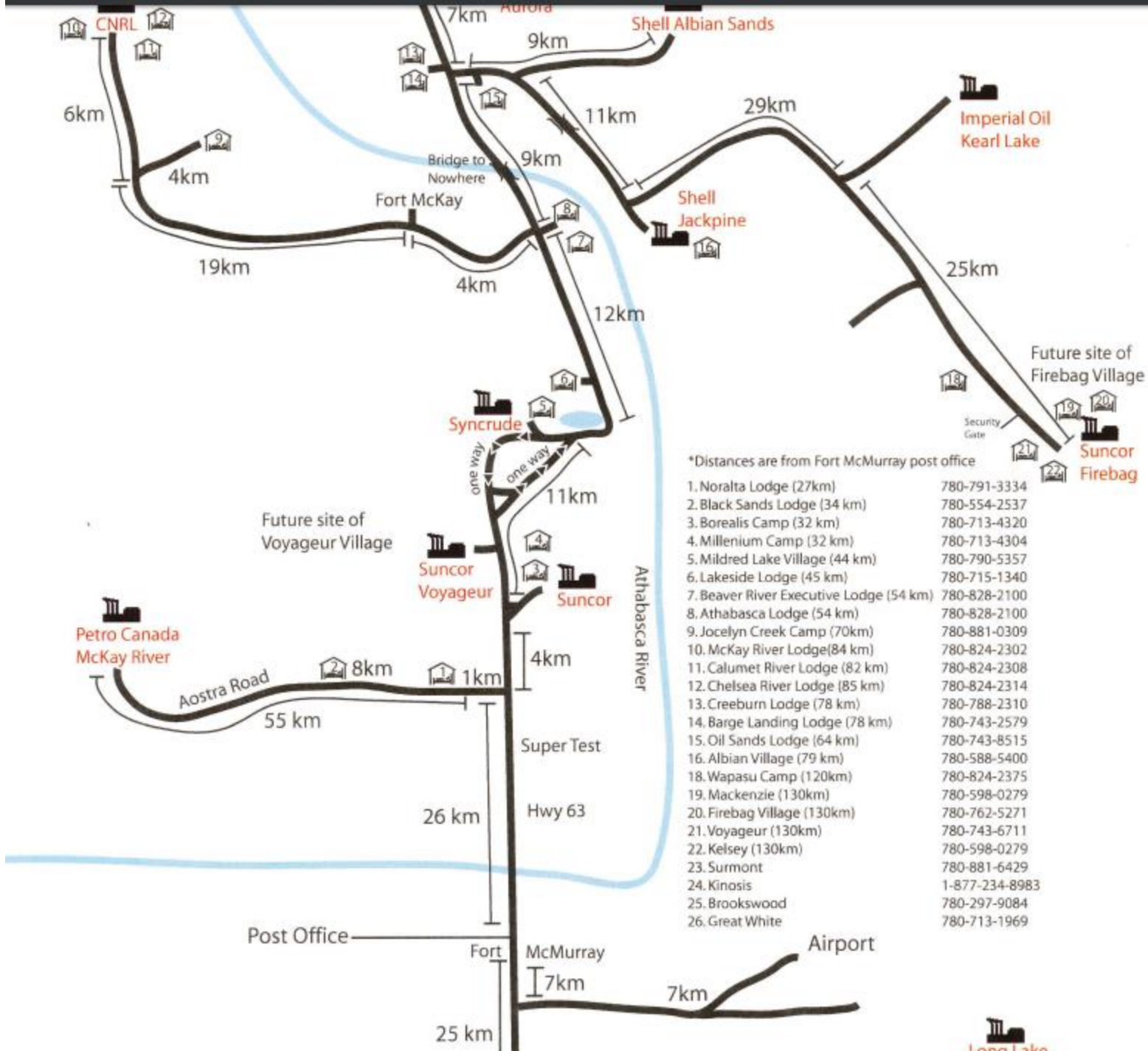


Fig 5.1 Total “Shadow Population” of OIL/TAR SANDS 2000 to 2015



(RMWB 2015 Census Report p. 67)





*Distances are from Fort McMurray post office

- 1. Noralta Lodge (27km) 780-791-3334
- 2. Black Sands Lodge (34 km) 780-554-2537
- 3. Borealis Camp (32 km) 780-713-4320
- 4. Millenium Camp (32 km) 780-713-4304
- 5. Mildred Lake Village (44 km) 780-790-5357
- 6. Lakeside Lodge (45 km) 780-715-1340
- 7. Beaver River Executive Lodge (54 km) 780-828-2100
- 8. Athabasca Lodge (54 km) 780-828-2100
- 9. Jocelyn Creek Camp (70km) 780-881-0309
- 10. McKay River Lodge(84 km) 780-824-2302
- 11. Calumet River Lodge (82 km) 780-824-2308
- 12. Chelsea River Lodge (85 km) 780-824-2314
- 13. Creeburn Lodge (78 km) 780-788-2310
- 14. Barge Landing Lodge (78 km) 780-743-2579
- 15. Oil Sands Lodge (64 km) 780-743-8515
- 16. Albian Village (79 km) 780-588-5400
- 18. Wapasu Camp (120km) 780-824-2375
- 19. Mackenzie (130km) 780-598-0279
- 20. Firebag Village (130km) 780-762-5271
- 21. Voyager (130km) 780-743-6711
- 22. Kelsey (130km) 780-598-0279
- 23. Surmont 780-881-6429
- 24. Kinosis 1-877-234-8983
- 25. Brookswood 780-297-9084
- 26. Great White 780-713-1969



“One of the areas that the municipality and industry disagree on is the camps. So the municipality, they don’t like the camps, the fly in, fly out. Because...they don’t see any benefit to the community. They want to establish livable community and...they may come in, they may use the medical, they may go to the restaurants. Go to the theatre. Use it – whatever. The facilities and services they have here, but they don’t pay any taxes and then they go back to their – wherever, right. So...for the regional municipality, they see it as a real negative. For industry, they see it as a real positive, because they’re located close to their work site and...they don’t have to drive on the highway, they’re on time at work. So that’s an example where there’s a real difference, and we’re...kind of sometimes caught in the middle in that sort of discussion.”

(Provincial Official)

Joslyn Mine SEIA 2010

15.5.2 Housing

The regional housing need associated with the project is estimated to be 345 to 410 units by 2018. This housing demand is equal to approximately 25% of the annual new-dwelling-supply response in the Fort McMurray market in 2008.

The project camp will reduce the need for housing in the RMWB urban area by 1900 to 2250 units.

15.5.3 Service Provider Effects and Mitigation

Demands on service providers in the region resulting from the project will increase commensurate with the relatively marginal and long-term population effect (see [Section 15.5.1](#)).

Though the use of a camp will reduce effects of the project on service providers in the region, past experience has shown that camp-based workers have an effect on certain services in the region, including increases in:

- the number of visits to medical facilities
- demand on policing services
- participation in some social support programs
- demand for commercial services



Wood Buffalo Eager To Bring Camp Workers Into Light

Details Category: [Northeastern Alberta](#) Created on 25 September 2011



Dave Kirschner would like to see many of the estimated 30,000 people staying in workcamps surrounding Fort McMurray reside in the city -- but there's nowhere for them to live. Houses just can't be built fast enough in the oilsands boomtown, where the availability of serviced land has been a problem for many years.

"We might not have the number of people living in workcamps that we do now if the [provincial] government had responded in the past to our infrastructure needs," says Kirschner, a councillor with the Regional Municipality of

Wood Buffalo, which is dominated by Fort McMurray. "But I think they [governments] get that now."

Oil & Gas Inquirer

Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation Review of MEG Surmont In Situ Project 2012

Attention: Director, Environmental Assessment
environmental.assessment@gov.ab.ca

RE: Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation Review of MEG Energy Proposed Terms of Reference

Dear Sir/Madam:

Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation Industry Relations Corporation (IRC), representing the Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation (CPDFN) is providing the attached review of the MEG Surmont Proposed Terms of Reference for your consideration. For ease of review, we are providing our input using track changes in Microsoft Word.

- [B] Describe the socio-economic effects of any construction camp required for the Project and identify:
- a) its location;
 - b) the number of workers it is intended to house;
 - b)c) the number of foreign workers the Proponent plans to bring in;
 - e)d) whether the camp will service the Project only or other clients;
 - e) the length of time the camp will be in service;
 - e)f) whether or not it will be a 'dry' camp; and
 - e)g) describe what services will be provided in the camp (e.g., security, recreation and leisure, medical services).

Recovery Committee rejects work camp proposal



By [Cullen Bird](#), Today staff

Thursday, February 9, 2017 12:49:38 MST PM



Coun. Allan Vinni listens during a presentation at the Wood Buffalo Recover Committee meeting in council chambers in Fort McMurray, Alta. on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2017. Cullen Bird/Fort McMurray Today/Postmedia Network.

Proximity and Mobile Dwelling

“[H]ow can we develop an alternative understanding of proximity that allows us to consider multiple forms of receptivity to other near-dwellers that are encountered in movement? . . . In this alternative understanding, rather than proximity giving rise to different kinds of mobility, mobility itself gives rise to different kinds of proximity” (Bissell 2012: 351-352)

“What such a perspective lends to analysis is a much more relational and processual understanding of place (Massey 1994)” (Bissell 2012: 350)



Fort McMurray evacuees (left to right) Emma VanDuinkerken, 11, Thomas Foss, 11, Gracie VanDuinkerken, 9, and Braiden Bourd, 7, play at the Canada North Camps-Wandering River Lodge south of Fort McMurray. *LARRY WONG / POSTMEDIA NETWORK*



Community

Looping

Camp

and

The On the Move Partnership is a project of the SafetyNet Centre for Occupational Health & Safety Research at Memorial University. It is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council through its Partnership Grants funding opportunity (Appl ID 895-2011-1019), RDC, CFI, and multiple universities and community partners.



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