 **Moving Within Canada**

**Introduction**

* 9 million Canadians moved to another home between 2001 and 2006;
* 300,000 were to a different province;
* Migration is the movement from one place to live in another;
* May be permanent or temporary;
* Seasonal migration may include seasonal workers, or those who go to Florida for the winter.

**The Rural-Urban Shift**

* A great deal of our movement has been from the countryside to cities;
* Canada’s society is now overwhelmingly urban;
* Rural areas rely mainly on agriculture, fishing, mining, forestry, and primary industries;
* In 1900, most rural families were farmers;
* Today, only a tiny percentage of rural families are farmers.

**Why People Left the Land**

* In the past, rural families were large, because children could help out with the labour required;
* As technology advanced, new inventions reduced the need for much of this tough work;
* By 1900, steam-driven threshing machines were doing the work of ten people at harvest time;
* Families sold their farms to more prosperous farmers and moved to nearby cities;
* In doing so, they gained better access to services such as schools and hospitals.

**The Shift Continues**

* Canada’s population is still growing in the 21st century, but not outside of the major cities;
* Most resource-based communities which rely on primary industries are either just holding on or slowly dying;
* Their primary industries may be thriving, but machines have replaced human labour;
* As a result, there are fewer and fewer jobs available.

**Metropolitan Areas: Population Magnets**

* Six biggest metropolitan areas in Canada have nearly 45% of Canada’s total population;
* Together, they accounted for almost all of Canada’s population growth between 2001 and 2006;
* Many young people are attracted to cities by opportunities for college, entertainment attractions, and good jobs.

**Interprovincial Migration**

* Getting a job is an important reason why people move to a new community;
* Interprovincial migration is very much affected by employment prospects;
* It also directly shaped by the economy;
* Atlantic provinces have been losing people to Ontario and the West for 50 years;
* Alberta has experienced continual growth because of its oil industry.

**Conclusion**

* Alberta is a good place to get a job, as the provincial economy is driven by the demand for oil;
* In 2007, world oil prices rose to $100 a barrel, pushing the Alberta oil sands to maximum production;
* Edmonton is the oil capital of Canada;
* Every job in Alberta’s booming energy industry creates other jobs in retail, social services, and communications.