 **How Do People Decide Where to Live?**

**Employment**

* Large urban centres attract people because they offer a variety of opportunities;
* Small communities are usually based on natural resources, and only off a small percentage of the jobs in Canada.

**Nice Weather**

* Canada is a cold country in winter and a reason why 90% of the population live within 160 km of the southern border;
* A community with a mild winter is a better place to live in general.

**Affordable Homes and Cost of Living**

* Shelter costs usually take over ¼ of the monthly budget;
* Prices and rents are high in large cities and “boom” areas;
* A budget has two parts: income and expenses;
* Expenses include taxes, shelter, food, and transportation;
* Money left over can go to entertainment and miscellaneous.

**Health Services**

* Access to health care professionals is important to everyone;
* Specialized services may be less available in low populations areas;
* Urban places may have hospitals, research laboratories, and teaching centres;
* Most doctors are drawn to large cities.

**Canada’s Top Ten – Ranking**

* Ranking of Canada’s top ten cities.

**Conclusion**

* Six most important factors to decide where to live in Canada:
  + Employment;
  + Nice weather;
  + Affordable homes;
  + Cost of living;
  + Safe neighbourhoods;
  + Health services.