



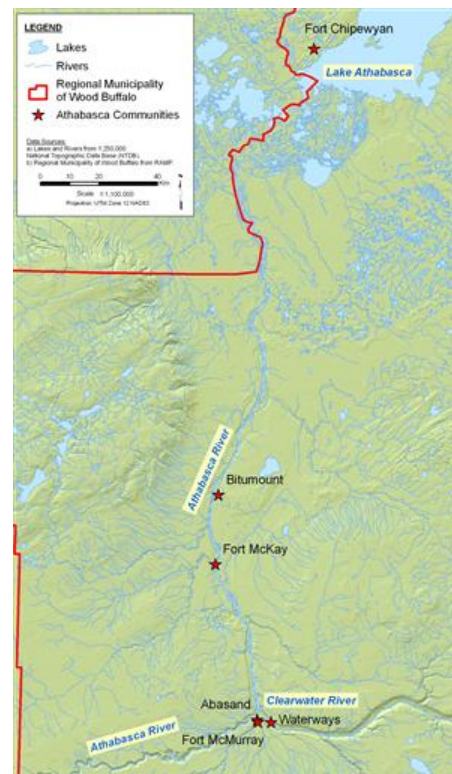
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## Communities of the Athabasca

The Athabasca region has been home to [First Nations communities](#) for thousands of years, prior to contact with Europeans in 1788 during the expansion of the fur trade. Many of these groups lead nomadic lifestyles, shifting locations as seasons changed and caribou herds migrated. Following contact with European settlers and the establishment of the fur trade, communities became less nomadic and small communities were established across the region (Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, 2003). With the advent of industrial developments, these communities became increasingly established and evolved into the towns we know today as:

- [Abasand](#)
- [Bitumount](#)
- [Fort Chipewyan](#)
- [Fort McKay](#)
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- [Waterways](#)



**Communities of the Lower Athabasca**  
Source: Hatfield Consultants  
(click to enlarge)

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