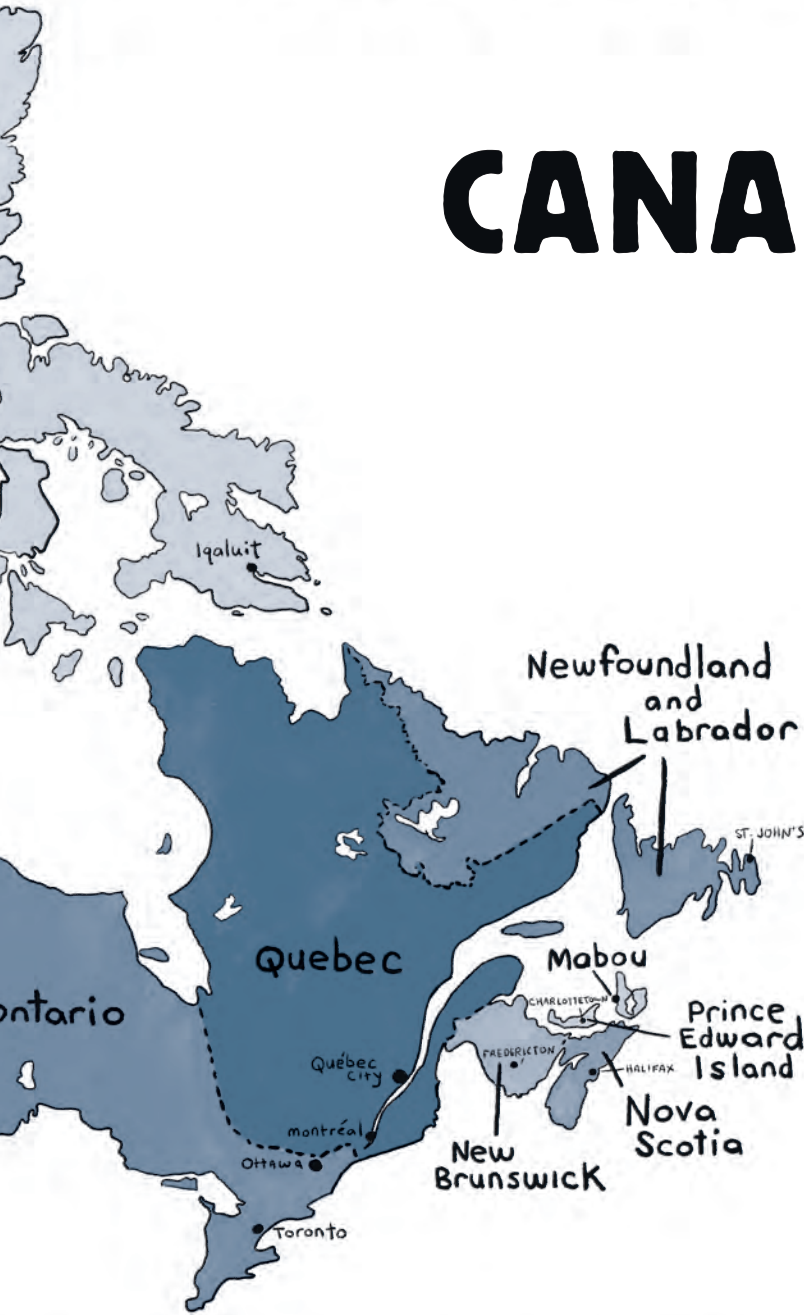
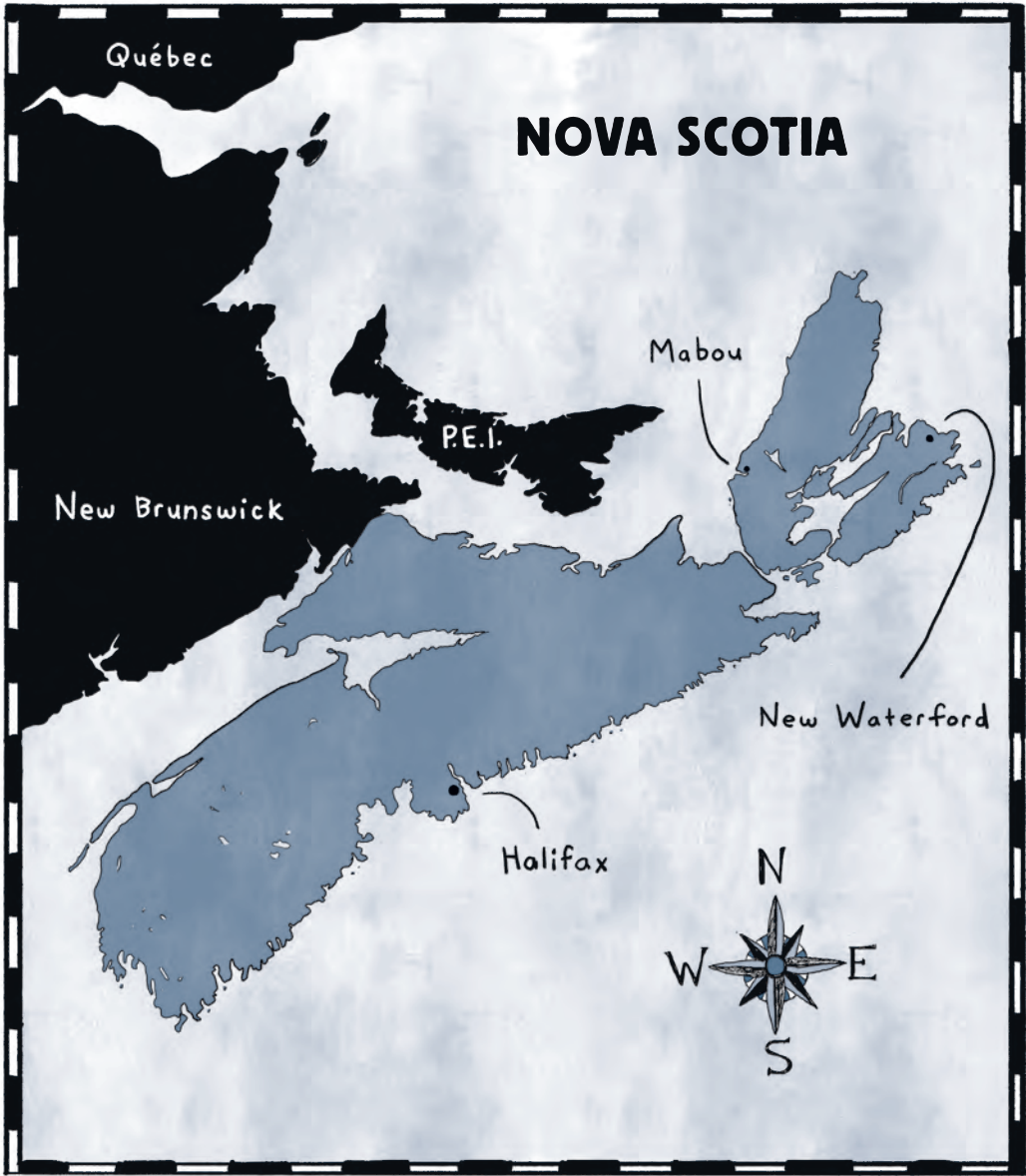
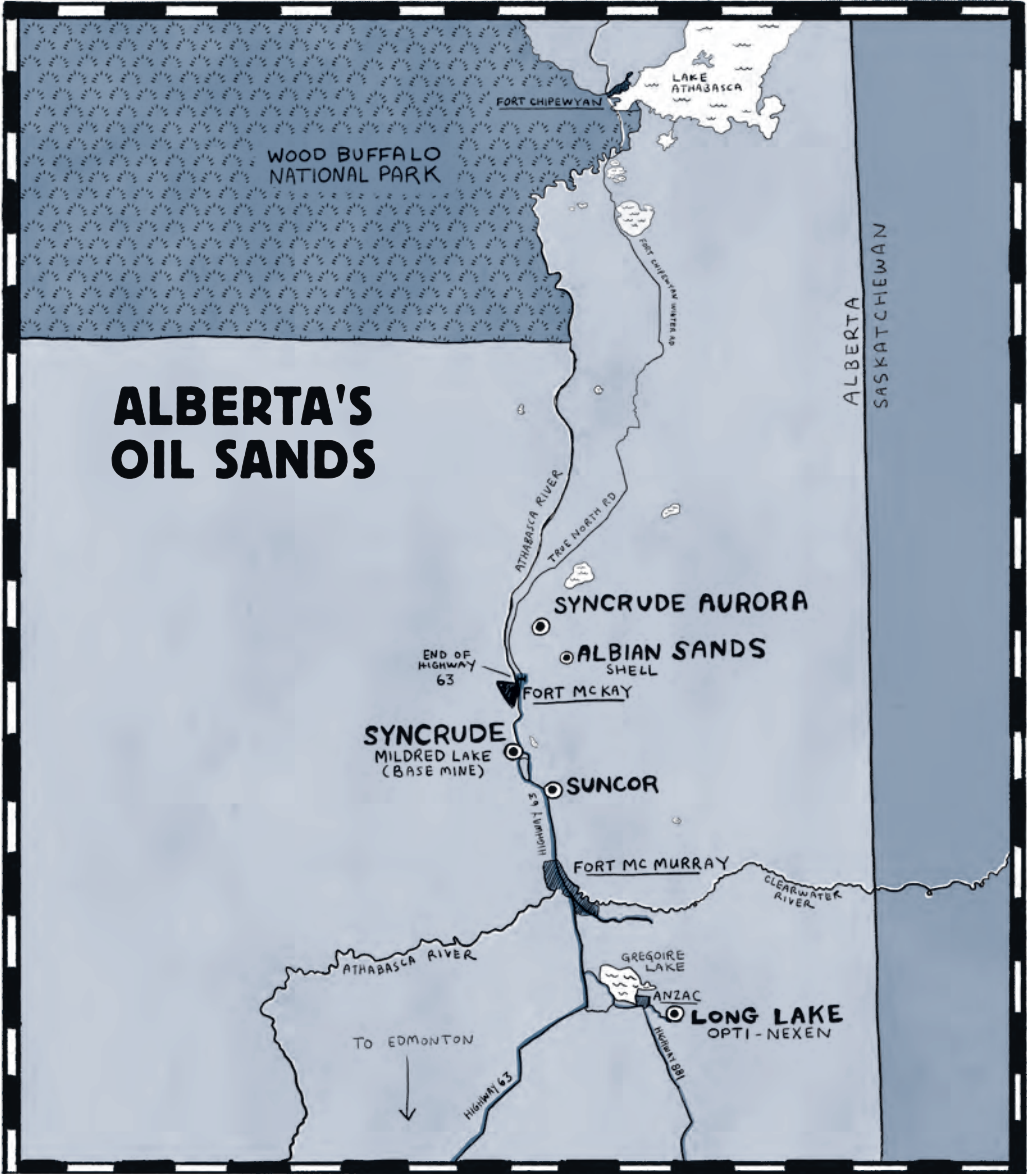




CANADA







ALBERTA'S OIL SANDS

WOOD BUFFALO NATIONAL PARK

FORT CHIPEWYAN

LAKE ATHABASCA

ALBERTA
SASKATCHEWAN

SYNCRUDE AURORA

ALBIAN SANDS SHELL

FORT MCKAY

SYNCRUDE MILDRED LAKE (BASE MINE)

SUNCOR

FORT MC MURRAY

GREGOIRE LAKE

HANZAC

LONG LAKE OPTI-NEXEN

END OF HIGHWAY 63

TO EDMONTON



Highway 63

ATHABASCA RIVER

TRIKE NORTH RD

ATHABASCA RIVER

CLEARWATER RIVER

Highway 63

Highway 88

PEACE RIVER

THIS STORY STARTS IN 2005.
I AM TWENTY-ONE YEARS OLD.



THIS IS ME AT TWENTY-ONE.
I'M MUCH OLDER NOW, AND
THREE DIMENSIONAL.



I HAVE JUST GRADUATED FROM
UNIVERSITY WITH AN ARTS DEGREE,
PAID FOR WITH STUDENT LOANS.



I'M FROM CAPE BRETON,
A BEAUTIFUL ISLAND OFF THE
EAST COAST OF CANADA, IN THE
PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.



CAPE BRETON USED TO EXPORT FISH,
COAL, AND STEEL; BUT IN 2005,
ITS MAIN EXPORT IS PEOPLE.

IT'S NOT A UNIQUE STORY
IN ATLANTIC CANADA.



NOR IS IT A NEW ONE. EVERY
CAPE BRETON FAMILY HAS HAD ITS
SHARE OF EMPTY CHAIRS AROUND
THE TABLE, FOR A HUNDRED YEARS.



FATHERS, SIBLINGS, COUSINS; GONE
TO THE "BOSTON STATES," GONE
TO ONTARIO, GONE TO ALBERTA—
GONE TO BE CHEAP LABOUR WHERE
BOOMING INDUSTRIES DEMANDED IT.



THE ONLY MESSAGE WE GOT ABOUT A
BETTER FUTURE WAS THAT WE HAD
TO LEAVE HOME TO HAVE ONE.

WE DID NOT QUESTION IT, BECAUSE
THIS IS THE HAVE-NOT REGION OF A
HAVE-NOT PROVINCE, AND IT HAS NOT
BOOMED HERE IN GENERATIONS.



I NEED TO TELL YOU THIS—
THERE IS NO KNOWING CAPE BRETON
WITHOUT KNOWING HOW DEEPLY
INGRAINED TWO DIAMETRICALLY
OPPOSED EXPERIENCES ARE:



A DEEP LOVE FOR HOME, AND THE
KNOWLEDGE OF HOW FREQUENTLY
WE HAVE TO LEAVE IT TO FIND
WORK SOMEWHERE ELSE.



THIS PUSH AND PULL DEFINES US. IT'S
ALL OVER OUR MUSIC, OUR LITERATURE,
OUR ART, AND OUR UNDERSTANDING
OF OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD.



TO "HAVE-NOT" IS A MENTAL STATE
AS WELL AS AN ECONOMIC ONE.



OH THE SWEAT ON THE
BACK IS NO JOY TO BEHOLD
IN THE HEAT OF THE STEEL
PLANT OR MINING THE COAL

AND THE FOREIGN-OWNED
COMPANIES FORCE US TO FIGHT
FOR OUR SURVIVAL
AND FOR OUR RIGHTS

*The Island
by Kenzie MacNeil



AND IF THE BETTER FUTURE IS ELSEWHERE, THE PRESENT IS FULL OF NEWS CONFERENCES WHERE IMPORTANT MEN CRUSH LOCAL INDUSTRIES LIKE A CIGARETTE UNDER A SHOE, WHILE PEOPLE WITH ACCENTS LIKE MY OWN DESPERATELY DEMAND TO KNOW HOW THEY WILL LIVE NOW.

TELL US THE TRUTH!

I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT MY LIVELIHOOD!



I WON'T LET YOU DESTROY MY LIFE AND THE LIVES OF MY CHILDREN!

YOU'RE A LIAR!

WE'RE HERE AND WE'RE NOT GOING AWAY! WE'RE NOT "GOIN' DOWN THE ROAD!"

YOU CAN'T CHANGE IT.

I KNOW THIS IS HARD.

CBC
January 14, 2000



I LEARN THAT I CAN HAVE OPPORTUNITY OR I CAN HAVE HOME. I CANNOT HAVE BOTH, AND EITHER WILL ALWAYS HURT.



I LEARN, BY TWENTY-ONE, THAT ANY JOB IS A GOOD JOB. EVEN A BAD JOB IS A GOOD JOB; YOU'RE LUCKY TO HAVE IT.

IN 2005, THE PLACE TO GO TO FIND THE GOOD JOB, THE GOOD MONEY, THE BETTER LIFE, IS THE OIL SANDS OF NORTHERN ALBERTA.

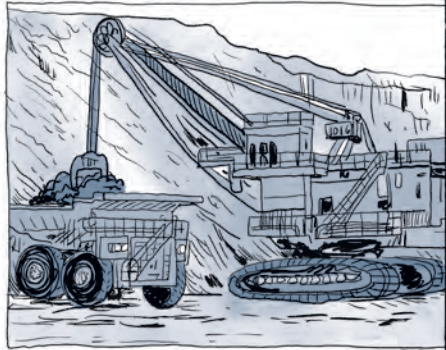
EVERYONE IS GOING.



Jennifer V. Association
Fort McMurray
smell of oil
air over the
River Mine,
pat the size of
blocks. Feil
hydraulic she
dumper trucks
sticky sand th
eventually be
crude oil.
"That smell?
drocarbons,
Jones, chief
ficer at Athab
Energy Inc.
like money."
Lots of mone
Canada has b
energy power
separating pe
from sand. O
also called t
found across
berta, 385 kil
northeast of
The Associati

IT'S BOOMING THERE. OIL IS WORTH MORE THAN EVER. THOUSANDS OF JOBS. NO END TO THE MONEY. IT'S THE BEST AND FASTEST WAY OUT OF A DEBILITATING STUDENT DEBT. AND I AM EAGER TO SEVER THAT WEIGHTED ANCHOR.

The smell of money

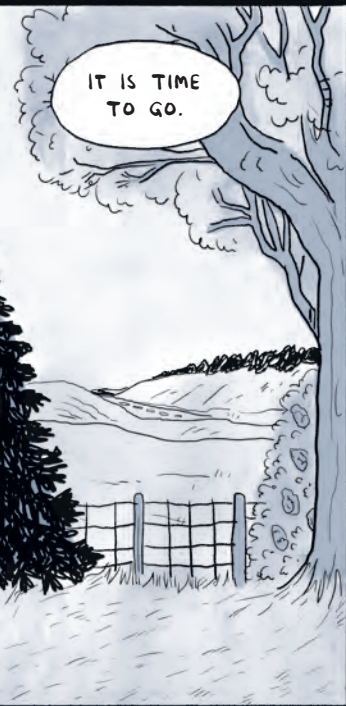


A giant shovel drops a load of ore oil sands into a heavy-hauler-pickup truck at the Sincere Millennium Mine. (Jim Frantz)

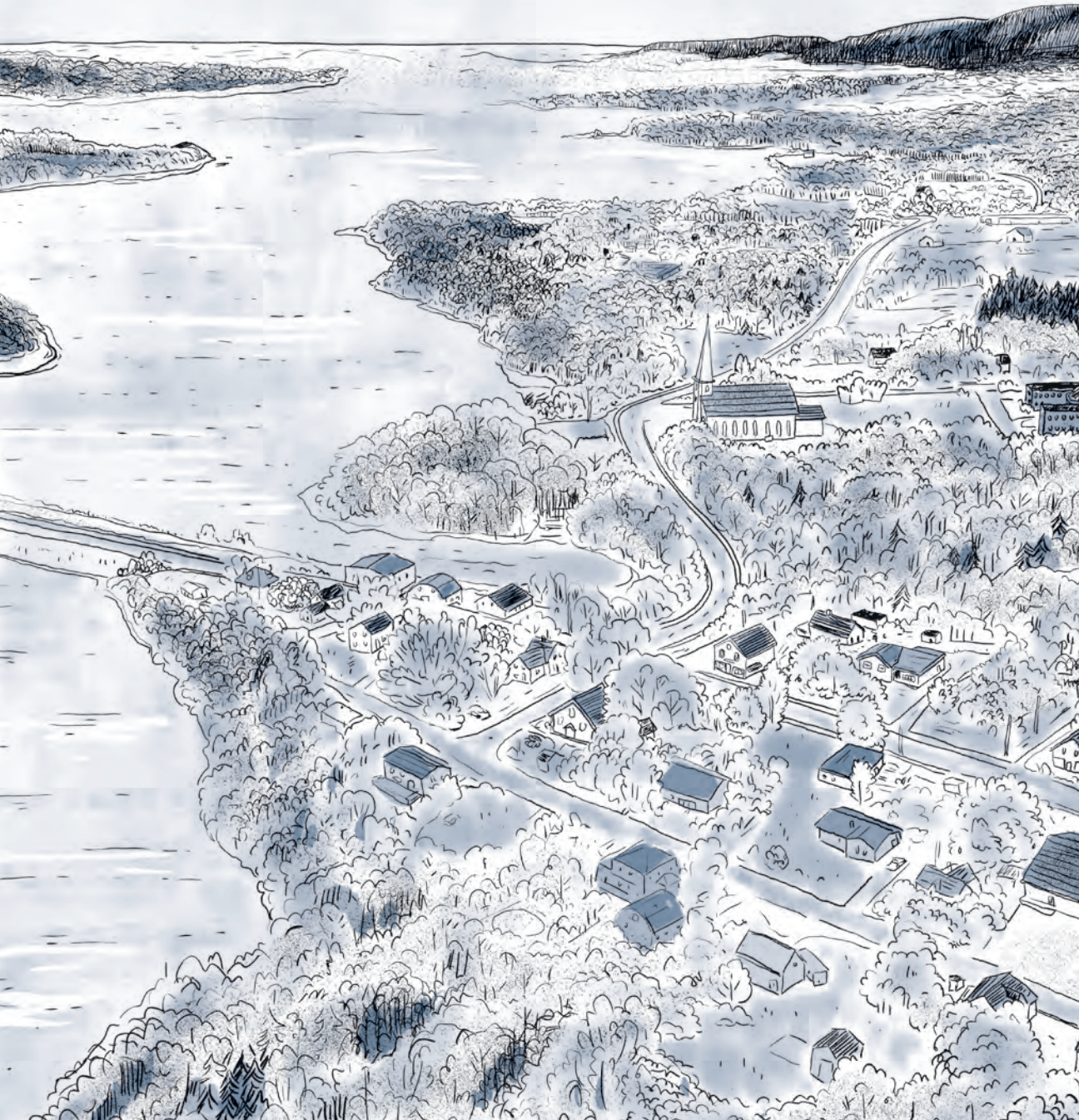
IT IS TIME FOR ANOTHER EMPTY CHAIR AROUND THE TABLE.



IT IS TIME TO GO.



CAPE BRETON



FAMILY



NEIL BEATON
MEAT CUTTER
MABOU GROCERY STORE



KATIE BEATON
RECENT ARTS GRADUATE
MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY



MARION BEATON
FINANCIAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE
EAST COAST CREDIT UNION



BECKY BEATON
RECENT SCIENCE GRADUATE
ST FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY

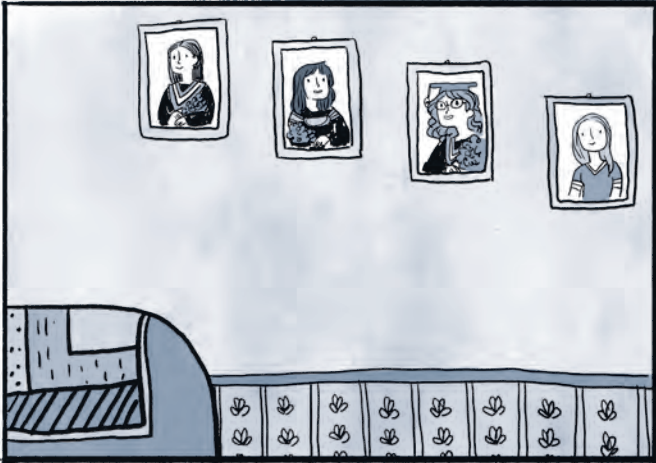


LAUREEN BEATON
GRADE ELEVEN
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT



MAURA BEATON
IN HER THIRD YEAR AT
ST FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY





Home
Employment
 Unemployment
 Industries
 Construction
 Cost of Living
 Location
 Population
 Services
 Business
 Before You Pack

Labour Market News
 Funded by Alberta Human Resources and Employment

Direct Employment

The oilsands companies provide direct employment for a workforce with trade, engineering, technological, management and administrative skills.

Oilsands plants operate year-round, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Buses transport workers from communities to oilsands surface mine and plant sites.

Indirect Employment

Oilsands companies also provide indirect employment opportunities through suppliers or contractors. Contract workers may work at the oilsands plants or another location.

Construction work is contracted or sub-contracted to construction companies. Camp facilities may be available to non-residents when the construction sites are located outside of Fort McMurray. Length of employment will vary with the number, timing, location and type of contract. Contract workers may be required to provide their own transportation to the place of work.

Some of the engineering work is done in Edmonton and Calgary. Large modules are often constructed in the Edmonton area and transported to Fort McMurray.

Spin-off Employment

Employment
 [Home] [Summary] [Lists] [Contact Us]

Last modified
 15 Dec 2004

- Compulsory Certification Trades
- Occupations
- Skills Required
- Safety
- Major Employers
- Union Lists
- Employer Web Sites
- Wage and Salary Information



Around Town
 My Community Forum Index >> Mymcmurray Com

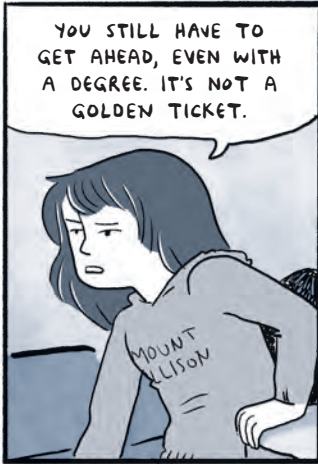
Topics

Announcement	
(1)	Announcement: Posting Messages on this B
Topics	
(7)	Safety Tips
(1)	Anyone know?
ROOM WANTED TO RENT	
Room 4 rent! Avail May 1	
Do you need a new job?	
Party Time!	
(1)	Deaths in McMurray
Furnished Basement Suite for Rent	
Fort Chip Medical Crisis	
(2)	Jobs?
camper for sale	











I JUST, LIKE, HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO TAKE? WHAT'S RIGHT?



IT'S KIND OF A GUESS NO MATTER WHAT, BUT DON'T WORRY, YOU'RE SMART. YOU'LL CHOOSE RIGHT.

YOU STILL HAVE ANOTHER YEAR TO DECIDE, LAUREEN.



I MEAN YOU CAN PROBABLY GET INTO ANY SCHOOL HERE THAT YOU APPLY TO.

DID YOU CHOOSE RIGHT?



HAHA, I HOPE SO. I TOLD MOM AND DAD THERE WERE GOVERNMENT JOBS IN HISTORY AND ANTHROPOLOGY.



ARE THERE?

NO.



ARE YOU GOING TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL?

A MASTERS? YEAH, IF I KNEW WHAT I WANTED.

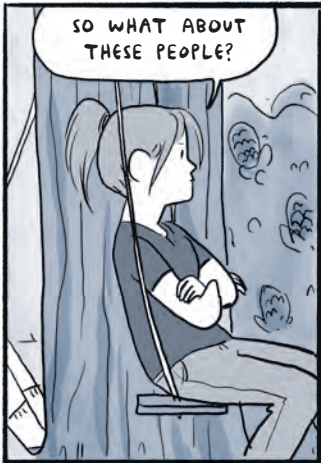


NO, I DIDN'T! GRAD SCHOOL IS DIFFERENT.



I WISH I COULD TELL YOU.





SO WHAT ABOUT THESE PEOPLE?



NOTHING.

THEY'RE JUST NOT US.



WE CAN'T FUCK AROUND LIKE THAT WITHOUT GETTING INTO DEBT WE CAN'T RECOVER FROM.



I GOT WHAT I GOT, AND IT'S A B.A., AND THERE'S NO JOBS.

I CHOSE WHAT I LOVED AND THOUGHT I COULD MAKE IT WORK.



UGH NO PRESSURE THEN! THANKS A LOT!

HAHA SORRY!



WELL WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IN THE OIL SANDS? JEEZ, IT'S...

"THE OIL SANDS."



I PICTURE YOU WORKING IN A MUSEUM, NOT "THE OIL SANDS."

ALL I WANT TO DO IS PAY OFF MY STUDENT LOANS.



BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT JOB TO GET THERE OR WHAT I'M DOING. I JUST KNOW THAT'S WHERE PEOPLE GO FOR GOOD MONEY.



DON'T TELL MOM AND DAD THAT, THOUGH. I DON'T WANT THEM TO WORRY ABOUT ME.



MOM!



I PUT THE STUDENT NEWSPAPERS WITH MY COMICS IN THIS BOX. I MARKED IT.



DON'T THROW THEM AWAY, OKAY??



KATIE, I WOULDN'T DO THAT.

I'M JUST LETTING YOU KNOW IT'S THERE.



YOU MUSTN'T EVER LOSE THE CREATIVE GIFTS YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN.

MOM.



YOU CAN'T TELL ME THAT ALL THE TIME AND THEN TELL ME TO BE A NURSE!



I CAN'T DO BOTH.



I SUPPOSE YOU CAN'T.



OH! HEY UNCLE—
I DIDN'T HEAR YOU
COME IN.



YOUR DA WAS
TELLING ME YOU
WERE THINKING OF
HEADING WEST!



TELL YOU WHAT I'D DO,
WHAT I SEEN IN THESE
WORK SITES...



IF I WERE YOU, I'D GET
A JOB IN A TOOL CRIB
OUT THERE.



WHAT'S A
TOOL CRIB?



IT'S NOT TOO BAD,
IT'S JUST HANDING
OUT TOOLS,
INVENTORY.



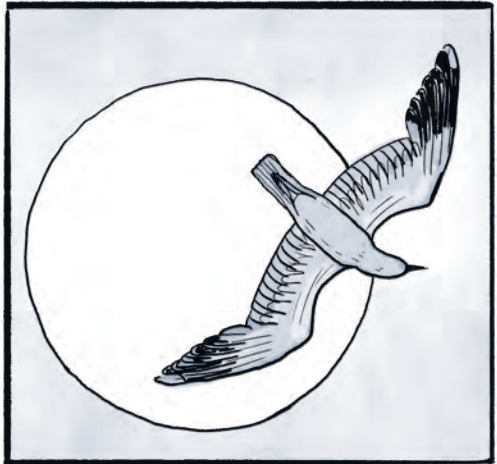
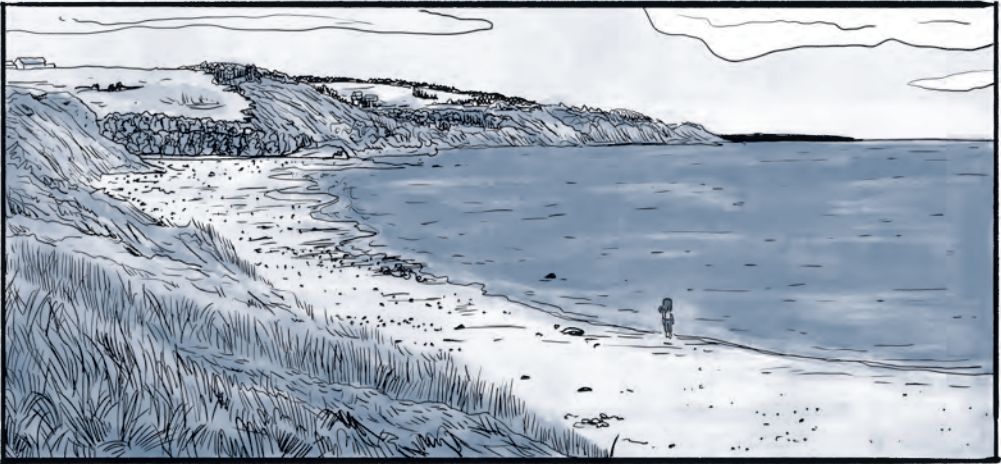
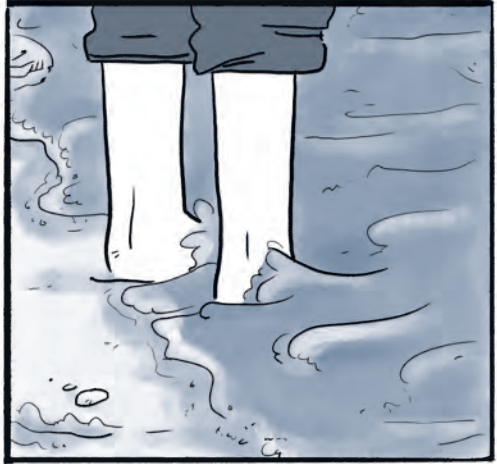
BUT—YOU CAN DO IT ON
SITE, GET THE LABOUR
WAGES, AND YOU DON'T
NEED A TRADE.



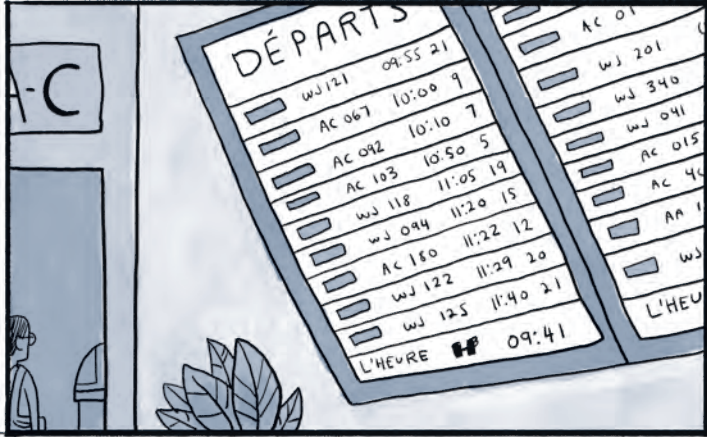
THAT'S
GOOD?

THAT'LL SET
YOU UP IN THE
CAMPS, WHERE
THE REAL
MONEY IS.









I WISH YOU WERE LITTLE AGAIN!
A MOTHER SHOULD HAVE TIME WITH HER
CHILDREN—THERE WAS NEVER ANY
TIME WITH WORK AND—

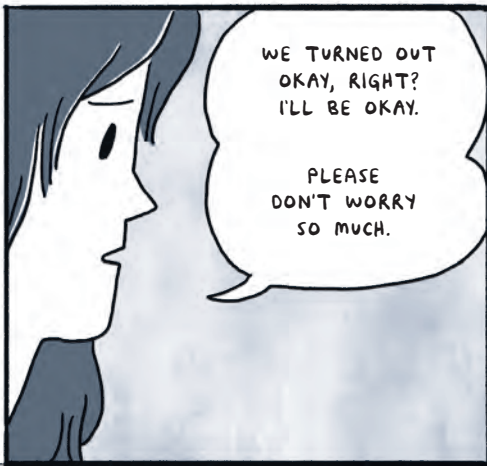


WE ARE PROUD OF
EVERYTHING YOU DID
FOR US!



WE TURNED OUT
OKAY, RIGHT?
I'LL BE OKAY.

PLEASE
DON'T WORRY
SO MUCH.



OF COURSE I WORRY,
KATIE, YOUR LIVES ARE
SO PRECIOUS TO ME.



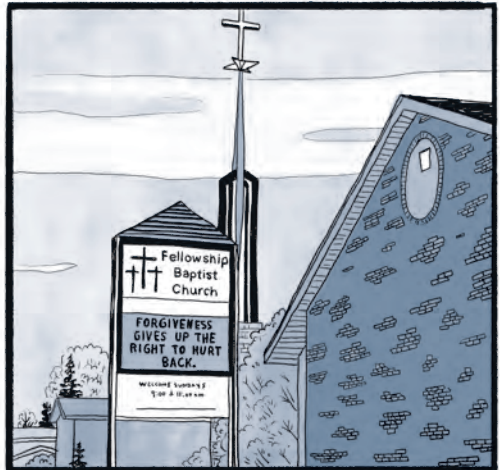
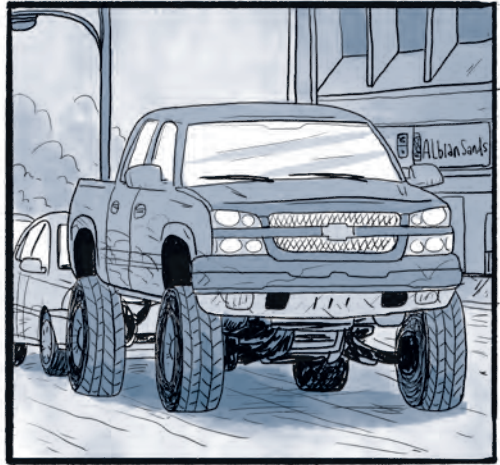
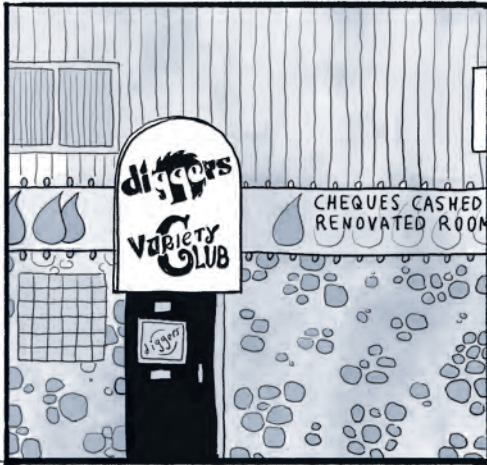
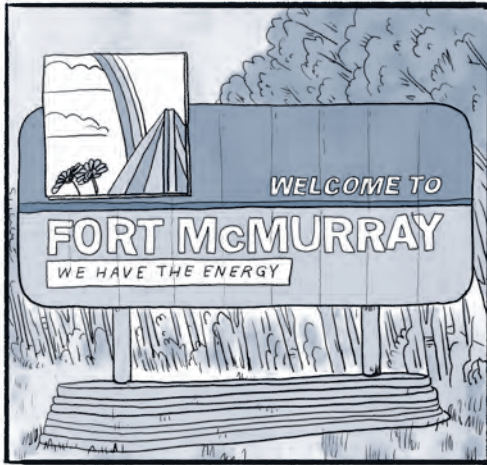
WHEN YOU CALL,
YOU CAN CALL COLLECT.
IT WON'T COST YOU.

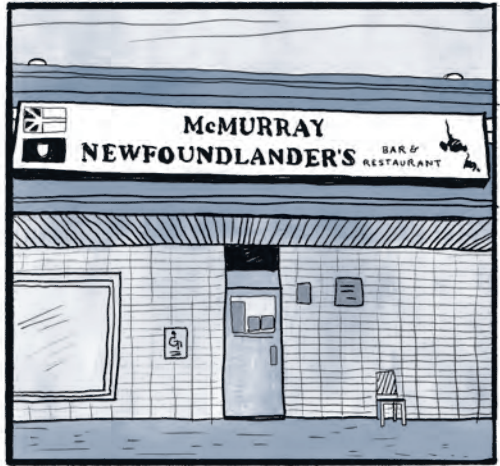
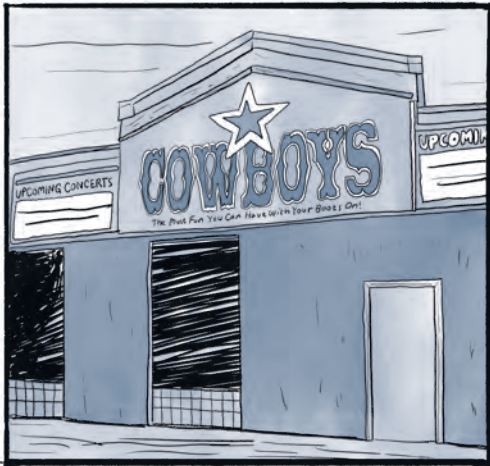


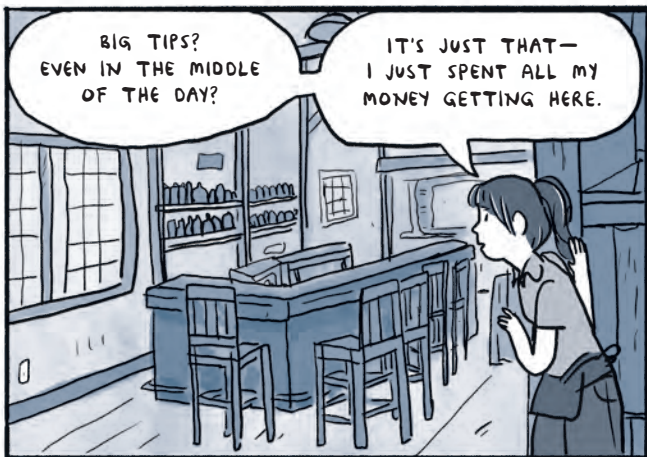
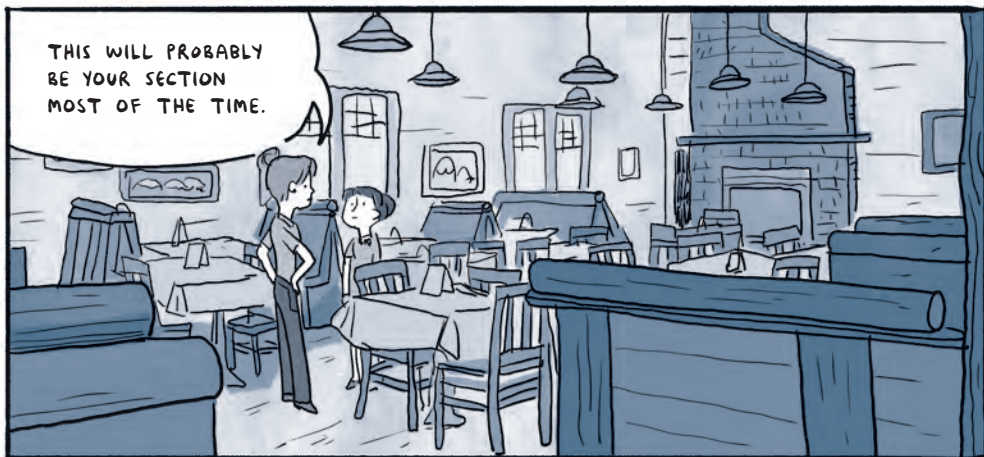
NO ONE DOES THAT
ANYMORE EITHER.

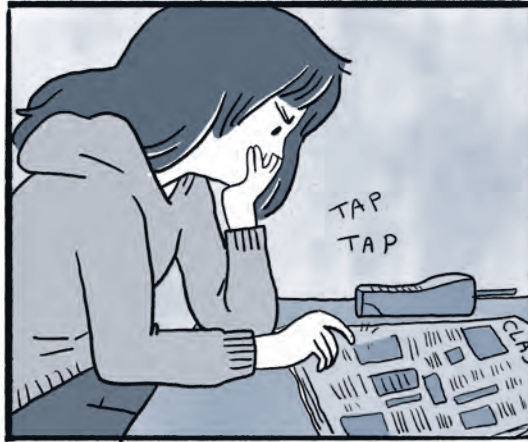


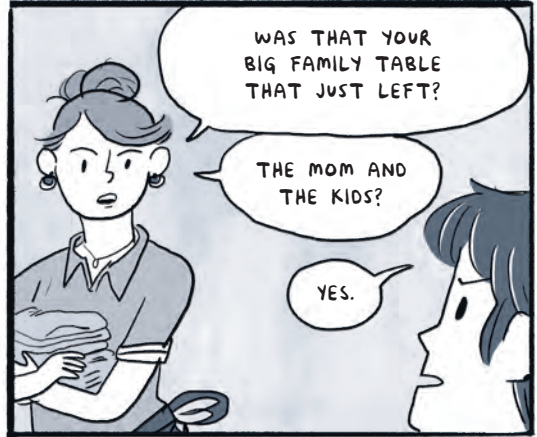






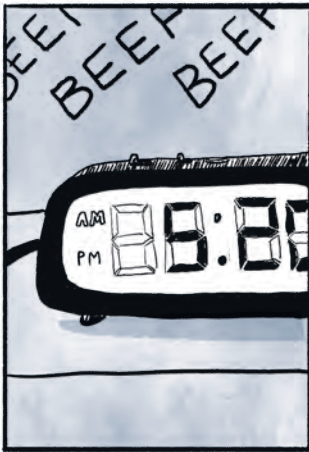
















SYNCRUDE MILDRED LAKE

