

## Support our petition:

### Reclassify Grande Cache for the Northern Residents Deductions

We are writing on behalf of the Grande Cache Chamber of Commerce to ask for your support on an important cost-of-living and workforce issue for our community.

**We have launched a petition calling on the Government of Canada to reclassify Grande Cache, Alberta as part of the NRD Intermediate Zone (Zone B) under the Northern Residents Deductions (NRD) program.**

The NRD program recognizes the higher cost of living in remote and northern communities. While Grande Cache faces many of the same realities as communities that qualify—**long travel distances to urban centres, high fuel and freight costs, limited services, and harsh winter conditions**—we are currently excluded because we sit just south of the **55°00' N** latitude cut-off used for Alberta's Zone B.

Key points in the petition include:

- Grande Cache experiences the same environmental and economic hardships the NRD is meant to address.
- The original Task Force on Tax Benefits for Northern and Isolated Areas recommended moving away from rigid geographic cut-offs.
- The federal government has made exceptions in the past (e.g., **Haida Gwaii's reclassification in 2024** following sustained community advocacy).
- There is currently no clear, transparent pathway for communities like ours to apply for reclassification, despite comparable conditions.

### How you can help (takes 1–2 minutes):

1. Read and sign the petition here: <https://www.williamstevenson.ca/nrd>
2. Share it with your staff, colleagues, and networks
3. If possible, repost through your business social media channels to help increase local participation

If you'd like a short blurb for your newsletter or socials, reply to this email and I'll send one.

Thank you for standing up for Grande Cache. This is a practical step that can help support residents, strengthen local businesses, and improve our ability to attract and retain workers.