NAV CANADA Regions

Canada’s Air Navigation System is divided into seven Flight Information Regions (FIRs). Each region has a Technical Operations team that keeps the operational infrastructure up and running, and each FIR has unique geographical and operational characteristics.

For each FIR, you will find information on the regional units and the work they do, including travel requirements.
**Vancouver FIR**

Vancouver FIR is one of the busiest airspaces in Canada, but its landscape provides unique logistical challenges for technologists travelling to remote sites.

CNS technologists can expect to spend about one week a month on the road, depending on the Maintenance Centre. They may be required to travel to remote sites using NAV CANADA vehicles, commercial and charter aircraft, helicopters, snowmobiles and boats. ATM technologists will have much less travel, but will work shifts at the ACC. A fully trained ATM technologist can expect to travel up to 10 nights per year.

Sites:
1 ACC (Vancouver)
4 Maintenance Centres (Terrace, Victoria, Kamloops and Kelowna)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 70

**Edmonton FIR**

The Edmonton FIR includes the airspace above the Yukon and Northwest Territories, most of Nunavut, the province of Alberta and portions of British Columbia and Saskatchewan. This makes it the biggest FIR of its kind in the world. Edmonton interfaces with most other regions in Canada, due to the large expanse of airspace controlled from the ACC.

CNS technologists will travel to remote sites for an average of one week a month. Due to the geographical area that the Edmonton FIR covers, these technologists use a mix of NAV CANADA vehicles, commercial flights, charters and snowmobiles. Some CNS technologists may choose to spend six months in Resolute Bay on a temporary assignment. At any given time, there are two technologists stationed in Resolute Bay. ATM technologists are stationed at the Edmonton ACC.

Sites:
1 ACC (Edmonton)
5 Maintenance Centres (Edmonton, Calgary, Whitehorse, Yellowknife, Resolute Bay)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 70

**Winnipeg FIR**

Being in the geographic centre of Canada and extending above the Arctic Circle, the Winnipeg FIR spreads across three time zones and a wide range of Canadian Geography. Technologists here can experience the beautiful vistas of the Prairies, the rugged wild of the Canadian Shield and the pristine North.

The travel requirements vary greatly between Maintenance Centres, with some CNS Technologists spending less than 20 days on the road per year and others as many as 100 days, should they want to travel more. At Maintenance Centres with less travel, technologists typically drive to destination. At the sites with more frequent travel, technologists take commercial airlines and private charters.

Sites:
1 ACC (Winnipeg)
5 Maintenance Centres (Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 60
**Toronto FIR**

Toronto FIR has the busiest airport in the country, Toronto Pearson, and is surrounded by other mid-sized airports. This region offers opportunities to work in cities in both southern and northern Ontario.

At the Toronto ACC and Tower, ATM technologists will work shifts, including weekends. CNS technologists at remote Maintenance Centres can expect to spend one week a month on the road using NAV CANADA vehicles or charter and commercial flights. Scheduled maintenance trips are usually planned for no more than four nights. Our southern Ontario maintenance centres have less overnight travel due to the proximity of navigational aids and other equipment sites.

Sites:
1 ACC (Toronto)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 80

**Montreal FIR**

Technologists in Montreal work in a bilingual environment, and the team is located across the province of Quebec, Baffin Island (Nunavut) and parts of southeast Ontario. CNS technologists are typically on the road one week per month, travelling by NAV CANADA vehicle or commercial and charter flights. ATM Technologists travel a few weeks per year for training. At the Montreal ACC and Tower, ATM technologists work shifts, including weekends.

Sites:
1 ACC (Montreal)
5 Maintenance Centres (Ottawa, Montréal, Val-d’Or, Québec City, Iqaluit)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 90

**Moncton FIR**

Moncton FIR is smaller in area but this team maintains equipment in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and PEI. Sites are a five-hour drive by NAV CANADA vehicle or a charter flight to Sable Island off the coast of Nova Scotia. CNS technologists can expect to spend five days a month on the road, maintaining the operational infrastructure, and a few weeks per year training. ATM Technologists work shift work but spend less time on the road, with 2-3 nights a year for maintenance and a few weeks a year for training.

Sites:
1 ACC (Moncton)
2 Maintenance Centres (Moncton, Halifax)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 45

**Gander FIR**

Being the most easterly FIR in the country means that this team not only maintains the navigational systems used within the FIR’s domestic airspace, but they also play an integral role in maintaining the systems that allow air traffic controllers to direct aircraft travelling over the North Atlantic between North America and Europe.

CNS technologists travel approximately 5-10 overnight trips per year, each lasting a couple of days. ATM technologists are located at the Gander ACC.

Sites:
1 ACC (Gander)
3 Maintenance Centres (Happy Valley/Goose Bay, Gander, St John’s)
Approximate Number of Technologists: 45