

Telephones – then and now

 In 1884, there were two telephones in Alberta. Now almost every home in Alberta has a telephone.

How have phones changed since 1884? Here are some photos.



Early 1900s



About 1906: These linesmen are putting up telephone poles.



1920s:
A linesman at work

Did you know?

- ✓ In the early 1900s, many telephone poles and lines went up in Alberta.
- ✓ In the 1930s, people in Alberta began to make calls across the country.



About 1910: A doctor on the phone



1919: An operator at a switchboard

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1940s to 1980s

About 1940:
A clerk on the phone



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1955: A man on a car phone

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1970: A woman in a phone booth

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Did you know?

- ✓ In the 1970s, many farmers had party lines. Neighbours had to share one phone line.
- ✓ In 1986, people in Alberta started to use portable cell phones.

1980s: An early cell phone



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Today

How do people get phone service today?

- ✓ Many people have phones with landlines. Landlines use telephone lines and special cables.



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phones with landlines



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cell phone



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cell phone tower

- ✓ Cell phones are very popular too. They are wireless. They use radio waves.

- ✓ People can also talk to each other on satellite phones and on the Internet.



satellite

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satellite phone

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Internet call

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Source for "Did you know?" boxes: www.abheritage.ca/telephone/