# 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**





#### 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









1970: A woman in a phone booth

#### 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



### **Today**

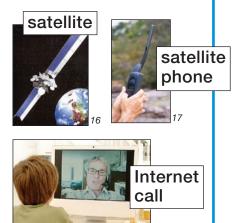
How do people get phone service today?

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





✔ 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.



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

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