

Professional biography: Jim Murtha



Jim Murtha completed a BSc. in Physics in 1986 followed by a MSc. in Physics in 1989 at the University of Calgary. Jim began working for Environment Canada in 1989 as an operational weather forecaster. His first posting, after an intense training program lasting a year in both Montreal and Toronto, was working for the Maritimes Weather Centre in Bedford, Nova Scotia where he worked for about 2 and half years. His next posting was to CFB Namao just outside of Edmonton, Alberta where he supported military operations until the closure of the air base in 1994. From there he began to work as an operational forecaster in the Arctic Weather Centre located in Edmonton, Alberta. After about 4 years in the ARWC, Jim moved south to his hometown of Calgary to work in the Commercial Weather Services Division. In 2003, he returned to the east coast to assume a role as a lead instructor in the Meteorologist Operational Internship Program. During the years as an operational forecaster, Jim had numerous opportunities to be involved in research and development activities, including dispersion modelling projects and the development of regional and national software supporting operations.