You know you’re a rural resident when…

- You’ve only met your program director over video conference.
- Your obstetrics preceptor gets called to the ER to place a chest tube.
- You’ve hurled obscenities at your computer after being instructed by “Up-To-Date” that the only way to make a diagnosis is to get a STAT CT scan.
- Your idea of “rush hour” is rushing to finish your 10 km run around the lake before your 2 minute drive to the hospital.
- Your idea of “rush hour” is hitting the one traffic light in town.
- Your idea of a wild weekend is a barn dance and a plowing competition.
- You’ve had an elderly patient try to “set you up” with their grandchild.
- Your CURRENT mailing address is “The little room next to the morgue, Random Rural Hospital, County Road 7.”
- You’ve delivered a baby in a canoe.
- You keep a snow shovel in your car … just in case.
- You’ve racked up 4678 kilometers on your car so far this year…and it’s only April.
- Your mailing address has changed 8 times in the past year.
- You’ve eaten a Canada goose.
- You’ve become lost, more than once, during a jog down back roads.
- You’ve body checked your preceptor during a hockey game.
- In return, your preceptor has elbowed you in the face during the same game.
- You’ve arrived by bus in a small town at 3 am, in the rain, with no map and with no idea of how to get to the hospital.
- You’ve had more meals at your preceptor’s house than you’ve cooked yourself this week.
- You’ve spent time in a sweat lodge.
- You’ve cross-country skied or canoed to the hospital.
- Your MSN name is “where_am_I_now@hotmail.com”
- Your preceptor wears Birkenstocks in the office.
- You’ve kayaked to the grocery store.
- You’ve arrived at work by air ambulance.
- You’ve paid $2 for an apple at a grocery store.
- You’ve hit a deer with your car.
- You can drive for 3 hours and easily count the cars on the road.
- At the local grocery store, one of your patients asks you to check her breast lump… right there in the middle of the aisle!
- Your next rotation is only a 36-hour drive away.
- Everybody in town knows your name, and you’ve only been there a week.
- Even the grannies in town drive Ford F-150s.
- Your car gets stuck in the snow on the way to work AND on the way home.
- You’re broadly-skilled, multitalented and one of the best-trained residents in Canada!!