
Island Lake

Community Status

Island Lake community consists of a group of islands near the north shore of Island Lake which include Stevenson, Wass, Hamilton, Boothe, Chapins, RC Mission, Gravel and Lindsays islands. These islands are quite close to the Garden Hill Indian Reserve. Both communities are located in the Precambrian Shield region of the province approximately 412 air km Northeast of Winnipeg and 260 air km Southeast of Thompson.

The original settlement was established by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1818 and is listed as one of the posts that were occupied at the time of merging with the North West Company.

All information in this report relates to the non-treaty community unless noted.

Island Lake is represented by a mayor and council under *The Northern Affairs Act*.

Community Contacts

By mail

Island Lake Community Clerk
Box 39
Stevenson Island, MB. R0B 2H0

By phone

Call (204) 456-2470, or (204) 456-2057
Fax (204) 456-2814

Office hours and staff

Office hours are:
Mon to Fri 8:00 -12.00 and 1:00 – 4:00

The community also employs a public works employee and volunteer fire chief.

Community Statistics

Population

1985	86
1991	92
1996	93
2001	59

Information from Statistics Canada after 1985.

Households

There are 47 housing units in the community.

By-laws

- Employee Benefits (by minister's regulation)
- Financial Reserves
- Fire Department

Boundary

Manitoba Regulation 161/95, as amended, refers to Director of Surveys Plan 18601A. See map.

Property Assessment and Taxes

Values of Assessment

Business	\$97,800
Real Property	1,430,400
Grants-in-lieu	504,800
Exempt	215,500
Total	2,248,500

Rate of Taxation (mills)

General Municipal	7.00
School levies	
Farm & Residential	5.75
Commercial & Other	17.00
Frontier School Division (#48)	22.75
Business Tax	4%

Emergency Services

Fire

Fire fighting capability is based on a pumper truck and equipment from the community fire hall. Portable forestry equipment is also available for grass and brush fires, with some being located on other islands in the community.

Police

Police response is from the RCMP detachment on Stevenson Island, phone (204) 456-2626. A lockup is also provided.

Medical

Medical support is from the federal nursing station at the adjacent Garden Hill Reserve. Staffing is three community health workers and a dental assistant. A doctor provides clinic-type services on Monday to Thursday each week. The nearest hospital is at Norway House, although most air flights are direct to Winnipeg. The community qualifies for patient transport assistance.

Community-based Services

Airstrip

Manitoba Transportation and Government Services, Northern Airports operate a 4,000' x 100' crushed rock airstrip on Stevenson Island complete with terminal and remote controlled lighting. A private contractor provides fuel facilities. Office is in Winnipeg, phone (204) 945-3421, or airport manager, phone (204) 456-2736 or fax (204) 456-2515.

Hydro

Provided by Manitoba Hydro through its land line electric system. Rates are:

Basic charge	\$ 6.25 /month
First 175 kWh	5.78 cents/KWH
Balance	5.16 cents/KWH

Hydro Office located at Garden Hill Reserve, phone (204) 456-2714.

Telephone

Manitoba Telecom Services provide individual-line service and digital switching with toll-free calling to nearby Wasagamach, Garden Hill and St. Theresa Point. Call MTS toll-free at (204) 225-5687.

Water

Water is pumped from Island Lake, chlorinated and distributed by combination of standpipes or limited distribution lines. Some houses have private water systems from the lake.

Waste Disposal

A solid-waste disposal site on Stevenson Island utilises an incinerator to reduce the bulk of solid material. Wass Island has a solid-waste disposal site only.

Sewage on Stevenson Island is treated by an extended aeration plant capable of handling up to 15,000 igpd, built in 2000. Other locations have private systems.

Schools

The Stevenson Island School, located on Stevenson Island, has two teachers and three support staff. Students are ferried from other islands in the community by boat from spring to fall, and by snowmobile in winter. Phone (204) 456-2786.

Recreation Facilities

- Community hall, accommodates up to 150 persons
- Curling rink, 2 sheets
- Outdoor skating rink, with change house

Recreation Activities

Island Lake Recreation Committee promotes, provides and fund raises funds for recreation activities. Bingo is held twice a month and all profits go towards recreation. Phone 456-2470.

Government Services

Communities Economic Development Fund, Head Office at Thompson, phone (204) 778-4138.

Manitoba Conservation, Regional Operations, Northeast Region Office, District Office located at Island Lake, phone (204) 456-2362.

Manitoba Conservation, Regional Operations, Northeastern Region, Fire control Officer located at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6627.

Manitoba Conservation, Regional Operations, Northeast Region Public Health, phone (204) 677-6703.

Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism, Regional Services Branch, Norman Region Office located at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6780.

Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs, Community Economic Development, Regional Office at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6792.

Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs, Community Planning Services, Regional Office located at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6700.

Manitoba Justice Circuit Court sits at Island Lake and is coordinated by the Thompson Regional Court Office, phone (204) 677-6759.

Manitoba Labour, Employment Services Standards, Employment Standards Officer is located at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6664.

Manitoba Labour, Office of the Fire Commissioner, Assistant Fire Commissioner is located at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6592.

Commercial Services

Accommodation

Island Lake Lodge, on Wass Island, provides over-night accommodation and meals.

Transportation

- Three firms, Gardewine North, Horbas Transfer, and Riverton Transfer provide winter road freight services. At other times of the year, they transport to the nearest air carrier serving the community.
- Perimeter Airlines provides daily scheduled flights from Winnipeg.
- Skyward Aviation provides flights to Thompson four days a week.
- Air freight via Red Sucker Lake provided by Wasa Air.
- Chartered air service is provided by Custom Helicopters and Yukon Helicopters. Sabourin Lake Airways provides flights to north-western Ontario.

Businesses

- Arnason Industries - (204) 456-2752
- Barefoot Construction – (204) 456-2511
- Bart Mart – (204) 456-2005
- Garden Hill Convenience – (204) 456-2120
- Mahan Store – (204) 456-2343
- Northern Stores – (204) 456-2333
- Quick Stop – (204) 456-2333
- Triple “C” Market Gardens & Freight Service – (204) 456-2907

Economic Overview

Mineral explorations have occurred in the area of Island Lake. Small to medium deposits of lithium and nickel have been found and magnetic anomalies indicate further reserves. Bighorn Development Corporation at the Island Lake Ministic Site continue rehabilitation of the Ministic gold mine shaft on the main vein. Diamond drilling in 1987 explored the Climpy and Rex veins. Active exploration continues for other base metals, copper and zinc, and additional gold reserves.

Trapping and fishing provide income to the local economy. Sports fishing and hunting form the base for some tourist operations.

Island Lake is still a focal point in terms of the Northern Stores store and the service sector.

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