
Matheson Island

Community Overview

History

The community is situated on the island of the same name near The Narrows on Lake Winnipeg. Nearby are Princess Harbour, Pine Dock and the Bloodvein reserve. While Pine Dock is on the same side of the lake as Matheson Island, the other communities are about 16 kilometres (km) across the lake.

Access

An internal road runs the length of the island from the ferry landing. The ferry connects to Provincial Road (PR) 234 in the part of the community known as Islandview and an all-weather road to Provincial Trunk Highway 8 north of Riverton. Winnipeg is 224 km to the south of the island.

Governance

The community was recognized in 1969 and is represented by a mayor and council under The Northern Affairs Act.

Economic Overview

Present economic activity centres around commercial fishing, followed by trapping, some saw logging and local services. Peat Moss farms along highway 234 employ a number of residents as well. Commercial fishers deliver their catch to the Islandview fish station which is then shipped to Freshwater Marketing Corporation in Winnipeg. Trapping is done in the Bullhead Registered Trapline Zone. Snake Island Contractors are the owners and operators of the sawmill and most of the lumber has been used locally for building purposes. They employ local residents in the operation.

The Matheson Island Community Development Corporation was formed to encourage economic development and growth. The community with Manitoba Infrastructure (MI) operate the cable ferry and winter road during the ferry off season.

Contacts

Matheson Island Community Council
General Delivery
Matheson Island, MB R0C 2A0

Phone: 204-276-2150

Fax: 204-276-2196

Phone: 204-276-2390 Hall

Email: mathesoncouncil@lincsat.com

website: www.mathesonisland.ca

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Staff

The community employs a community administrative officer, administrative assistant, public works employee, water operator and backup, volunteer fire chief, three ferry operators and two winter road employees.

Statistics

| Census Year | Population |
|-------------|------------|
| 1985 | 150 |
| 1991 | 128 |
| 1996 | 111 |
| 2001 | 99 |
| 2006 | 117 |
| 2011 | 103 |
| 2016 | 101 |

**information is from Statistics Canada*

Households

There are 69 housing units.

Boundary

Manitoba Regulation 67/2009 refers to Director of Surveys at Winnipeg as No. 19224. See map.

Property Assessment and Taxes

Information is from the 2020 assessment roll and Tax Rates and Levy Regulation (2020) of Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations.

| Value of Assessment | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Business | \$9,400 |
| Real Property | \$3,720,630 |
| Grants-in-lieu | \$474,800 |

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| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Exempt | \$274,770 |
| Total | \$4,479,600 |
| Rate of Taxation | |
| General Municipal | 5.7 mills |
| Business Tax | 3.75% |
| School Levies | |
| Education Support | 8.828 mills |
| Frontier School Division #48 | 13.202 mills |

Emergency Services

Fire

Firefighting capability is based on a pumper truck and equipment from the fire hall. Additional portable forestry-style equipment is available for grass and brush fires.

Police

Police response is from the Arborg RCMP detachment. Phone: 204-376-5251.

Medical

Medical response is based on ambulance service from Riverton. Phone: 204-642-4040. Hospitals are located in Arborg and Gimli.

Communication Services

Phone

BellMTS Pine Dock Exchange provides individual line service and digital switching with toll free calling to: Arborg, Hecla, Poplarfield, Riverton, Vidir. Office toll free: 204-225-5687.

Cellular Service/Wi-Fi

Unavailable.

High-Speed Internet

Available.

Community-Based Services

Airstrip

Kitchi Airways, a local contractor, operates an unattended limited maintenance 3,500' x 100' gravel strip adjacent to the community.

Ferry Services

Marine Services of MI operate the ferry *MV*. The cable ferry *C. F. Ingemar Carlson II* operates

between Islandview and Matheson Island on a daily basis with connection to PR 234. Schedule: Monday to Saturday 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Hydro

Manitoba Hydro provides landline electric power. Office toll free: 1-888-624-9376.

Water

There are 37 drilled private wells and some water intakes from Lake Winnipeg.

Wastewater

Wastewater is collected by pump-out truck and treated by a lagoon located in the community.

Waste Disposal

A solid waste site is located on the island near the community.

Schools

Matheson Island School, operated by Frontier School Division, serves 17 students from Nursery to Grade 9. Phone: 204-276-2118.

Recreation Facilities

- baseball field
- community hall and office
- indoor rink

Commercial Services

Transportation

- Gardewine North and Riverton Transfer provide freight service out of their respective terminals in Winnipeg and Riverton.

Business Directory

| Business | Phone |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Berns Bakery (Seasonal) | 204-276-2195 |
| Kitchi Airways | 204-276-2630 |
| Matheson Island Co-op | 204-276-2136 |
| Matheson Island Fish Plant | 204-276-2201 |

Government Services

Provincial Government Departments

Manitoba Conservation and Climate

Drinking water officer Phone: 204-642-6134 in Gimli. Environment officer Phone: 204-785-5023

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in Selkirk. The 24 hour emergency response line
toll free: 1-855-944-4888.

Regional Operations, Eastern Region, District
Office and conservation officer Phone:
204-378-2261 in Riverton. Fire control officer
Phone: 204-345-1419 in Lac du Bonnet.

Manitoba Economic Development and Training
Communities Economic Development Fund
(CEDF) Phone: 204-778-4138 in Thompson
(Head Office) or toll free: 1-800-561-4315.

Manitoba Finance
Employment Standards Branch Phone:
204-945-3352 in Winnipeg or toll free:
1-800-821-4307.

Workplace Safety and Health Branch toll free:
1-855-957-SAFE (7233).

Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living
Public health inspector Phone: 204-785-5209 in
Selkirk.

Manitoba Indigenous and Northern Relations
Northern Affairs Branch, North Central Region
Phone: 204-622-2110 in Dauphin. The 24 hour
emergency number toll free: 1-866-735-3111.

Manitoba Infrastructure
Emergency Measures Organization, General
Office and emergency management advisor toll
free: 1-888-267-8298.

Manitoba Justice
Circuit court sits at Arborg or Bloodvein
coordinated by the Selkirk Regional Court Office
Phone: 204-785-5077.

Manitoba Municipal Relations
Community and Regional Planning Branch,
Regional Office Phone: 204-785-5090 in Selkirk.

Interlake Region, Recreation and Regional
Services Branch Phone: 204-642-6014 in Gimli.

Office of the Fire Commissioner, emergency
services officer Phone: 204-726-6855 in
Brandon. The 24 hour emergency response
number toll free: 1-888-253-1488.

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