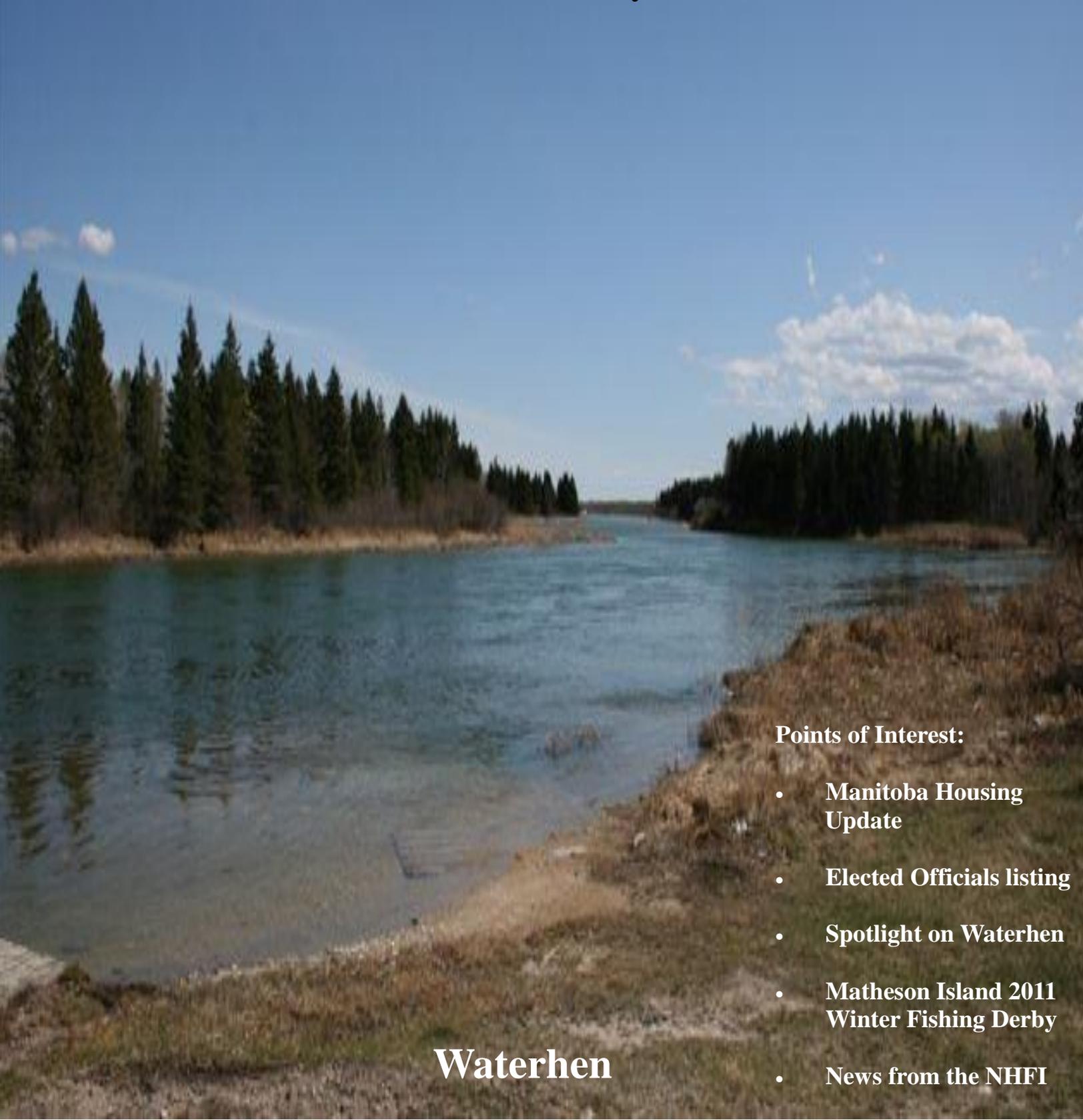


WHISPERING PINES

The Northern Association of Community Councils

Winter 2010 –2011



Points of Interest:

- **Manitoba Housing Update**
- **Elected Officials listing**
- **Spotlight on Waterhen**
- **Matheson Island 2011 Winter Fishing Derby**
- **News from the NHFI**

Waterhen

PRESIDENTS REPORT

NACC BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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MARTHA CHARTRAND (204) 458-2420

WESTERN SEC/TREASURER:

HAROLD FLEMING (204) 732-2675

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Reg Meade—President



Another year has gone by just like that, and I'm confident in saying many of us have accomplished a lot this year and look forward to the New Year.

I have been busy with meetings and functions as the holiday season rushes in. In November, I attended the release of the Manitoba Metis Policy, where I am pleased to hear many strides have been made in a positive direction.

Earlier this month, I attended the Manitoba Housing meetings in The Pas and Thompson. With new progress and plans for housing being made, I look forward to continuing our positive relationships and progress for the ongoing issues within our communities. Despite what some may think is a slow progress, if we look back and recognize what has been accomplished, I believe we would be right in saying we have been resilient in our actions and we are only getting stronger.

Here at the NACC office, in Winnipeg, we hosted our annual Christmas Luncheon. It was a great turnout and I was grateful for the opportunity to sit back and have lunch with all honored guests. To name a few of whom attended are: the Honourable Kerri-Irvin Ross, Minister of Housing and Community Development; Harvey Bostrom, Deputy Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs; The Honourable Steve Ashton, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation; and Grand Chief David Harper, MKO. Thank you to all who attended and thank you to the NACC staff for organizing a wonderful luncheon.

As you all know, our 41st Annual General Meeting is approaching. It may seem far away, but plans have already begun. We have noted your comments from the last AGM and are considering them as we make plans for next year. Resolutions from last year's AGM are also progressively being responded to.

Last but not least, I want to send out Happy Holiday's to all. May the New Year bring you great luck and happiness!

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Helgi Einarsson—Eastern Chairperson

As the year comes to a close, it's a very good feeling to look back on the progress we have made in 2010, and be proud of ourselves, our community members and councils. I have finished commercial fishing for the season, this year was very productive and will hopefully continue in the next season.

I have been busy attending meetings with and on behalf of the NACC.

We have started planning the 41st AGM, and are listening to all of your comments from the 40th AGM to ensure that the 41st AGM is even more successful and productive.

The 2010 resolutions have been sent out, and we have already begun to receive responses.

On behalf of Chandler, Barb, and myself I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Merry Christmas, and all the best in the New Year!



Frances McIvor—Northern Region Chairperson

As councillors, we must grapple with budget constraints, complex infrastructure grants, maintenance of roads and public services, creating economics, development strategies for land use, planning and answering calls at all hours from residents—our world is complicated. We must work with full time and part time Mayor and Councillors to develop strategies for ongoing issues.

I truly believe we have to work hard to bring a great sense of pride to our communities and create positive atmospheres. We should be open, honest, accessible and try our best. We need to be flexible and have a willingness to support solutions. The board and staff of NACC is a perfect fit to assist communities in understanding these complexities. In the many workshops I have attended, the word used most often is PERSPECTIVE - the missing ingredient in many of our lives.

On behalf of Glen, Martha and myself, I would like to wish all of you a safe, productive and joyous holiday season!



Anne Lacquette—Western Region Chairperson

It's hard to believe that another year has passed.

The regional meetings will be held either the end of February or beginning of March, 2011 in Dauphin. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

The resolutions presented to NACC by the Western Region at the conference have been forwarded to the appropriate Ministers and Departments. Responses have started to slowly come back.

I have been attending meetings with Manitoba Housing. If you have any problems or concerns, do not hesitate to contact our staff at NACC, they would be more than happy to assist you.

I would like to congratulate newly elected and re-elected Mayors and Councilors.

On behalf of Larry, Harold and myself, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year!



Executive Director's Report

I would like to welcome everyone to another issue of the Whispering Pines. The NACC office has been busy since the Annual General Meeting in August – resolutions have been sent out to applicable parties and we are receiving some very positive responses in return. We have begun to plan the 41st AGM that will be held from August 16-18th in Winnipeg. Once again, we will be asking for community councils to donate a prize to our silent auction if they are able to do so. The money raised at the AGM helps to cover the costs of travel and hotels rooms for our attendees.

NACC staff have attended numerous meetings in the past few months, starting with the announcement of the Manitoba Metis Policy. We have been representing all communities in Thompson, The Pas and Dauphin on the discussion with Manitoba Housing and the changes that will be made in the New Year. On December 9th, NACC held their annual Christmas Luncheon with many special guests in attendance.

Congratulations to all newly elected officials who have begun to support the best interests of their communities. If NACC can be helpful in anyway, please contact the office and we will use our resources to work closely together.

We at NACC feel that 2010 has been a successful year, and have high hopes that partnerships and positive outcomes will only continue to grow in 2011. We thank you for all your input and dedication to your community in the past year, and look forward to working more closely with you in 2011.

On behalf of the staff at NACC, we wish you a very festive holiday season, and all the best in the New Year!

Mallory Fleming

"If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes."

- St. Clement of Alexandria

Office Closure

Please note that the NACC office will be closed for the holidays from December 22, 2010 at noon until January 4, 2011 at 8:30am.



MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of NACC is to be a meaningful and effective advocacy group. To improve the quality of life in Northern Association Communities by having positive, proactive meetings with Ministers and Cabinet on issues affecting our communities and to inform and involve community councils and residents in our progress. We believe that all communities are unique and that their needs and interests should be recognized.

Community Websites

Community websites are a great way to showcase local talent, advertise local businesses, and gain more interest in community activities!

If your council is interested in a community website, please contact the NACC office so we may discuss funding opportunities and other details with you!

Elected Officials

Baden

Contact person:
Lorraine Chartrand

Barrows

Mayor: Brenda Hather
Councillors:
David Bourassa
Marline Bourassa
Herman Cook
Wally Genaille

Camperville

Mayor: Nestor Chartrand
Councillors:
Kenny Richard
Harley Chartrand
Shirley Parenteau
Gloria Chartrand
David Chartrand
Maurice Lavallee

Crane River

Mayor: Alfred Morrisseau
Councillors:
Norma McKay
Joseph Spence
Robert McKay
Brenda Spence

Duck Bay

Mayor: *Elaine Ferland*
Councillors:
Julian Boucher
Keith Sanderson
Charlotte Boucher
Louie Genaille
John H. Parenteau
Charlene Chartrand

Mallard

Mayor: *Lorne Huhtala*
Councillors:
Andrew Lacquette
Richard Schwenzer
Holly Schwenzer

Meadow Portage

Mayor: Ernest Michalot
Councillors:
Harold Fleming
Heather Bass
Ken Woods
Mac Sliworsky

National Mills

Contact Person:
Virginia Chartrand

Powell

Contact person:
Tina Munro

Red Deer Lake

Contact Person:
Irene Chamberlain

Rock Ridge

Mayor: Harold Sanderson
Councillors:
Robert Lavallee
Dale Tardy

Salt Point

Contact person:
Herb Arpin

Spence Lake

Mayor: Carl Sabiston
Councillors:
Aggie Bass
Brian Sabiston
Jim Sabiston
Ken Spence

Waterhen

Mayor: *Larry Chartrand*
Councillors:
Diane Trumbala
Judy Popowich
Virginia Spence
Chad Taylor

Brochet

Mayor: David Laponsee
Councillors:
Adolph Cook
Ralph Cook
Ralph Merasty
Gertie Thomas

Cormorant

Mayor: *Douglas Genaille*
Councillors:
Larry Ladouceur
James Nabess
Freda Parenteau
Helen Fenner

Cross Lake

Mayor: Clarence Smith
Councillors:
Cameron McLeod
John L. McLeod
Keith Settee
Robert (Bob) Smith

Dawson Bay

Mayor: Leslie Burrell
Councillors:
Lou-Ann Burrell
Orin Carlson

Easterville

Mayor: Ethel McKay
Councillors:
George Young
Cecil Umpherville
Walter Umpherville
James Umpherville

God's Lake Narrows

Mayor: Dora Bland
Councillors:
Leslie Anderson
Jeremy Bland
Earlen Bland

Granville Lake

Contact Person:
William Anderson

Herb Lake Landing

Contact person:
Jim Corman

Ifford

Mayor: Jim Chornoby
Councillors:
Raymond Beardy
Molly Beardy
Dwayne Flett

Moose Lake

Mayor: Sandra Lambert
Councillors:
Ralph Buck
Dolcey Fournie
Dennis Buck
Lawrence Knight
Clifford Ballantyne

Nelson House

Mayor: Bella Leonard
Councillors:
Theresa Hart
Fred Prince
William Leonard
Cecilia Tait

Norway House

Mayor: Cristo Spiess
Councillors:
Gertrude Meikle
Glen Flett
Carl York
Danny Swanson
David Williamson
Lloyd Nielsen

Pelican Rapids

Mayor: Lorna Hilda
Holmstrom
Councillors:
Leona Genaille
Albert Campeau
Janet Genaille
Jane Leask

Pikwitonei

Mayor: Martha Chartrand
Councillors:
Annette Cordell
Percy Laubmann
Christine Campbell

Sherridon

Mayor: Nick Benyk
Councillors:
Donna Calvert
Eric Erickson
Donnell Nice
Debi Hatch

Thicket Portage

Mayor: Donald Pronteau
Councillors:
Charlene Mercredi
William Brightnose
Maurice Clemons
Joseph Dorion

Wabowden

Mayor: Reg Meade
Councillors:
Leon Benson
Rene Settee
Brent Mader
Norman Sr. Campbell
Frances McIvor
Myrna Dram

Aghaming

Contact Person:
Robert "Bob" Bull

Berens River

Mayor: Allan Atlookan
Councillors:
Angela Hood
Virginia McKay

Bissett

Mayor: Doug McPherson
Councillors:
Jonathan Friesen
Lisa Spence
Patti Grapentine

Dallas-Red Rose

Mayor: Barbara Marcyniuk
Councillors:
Mike Grabowski
Virginia Grabowski

Dauphin River

Mayor: Helgi Einarsson
Councillors:
Ms. Dale Einarsson
Tim Adamson

Fisher Bay

Mayor: Clarence Govereau
Councillors:
Walter Govereau
Emily Govereau

Harwill

Mayor: Danny Webb
Councillors:
Ryan Forster
Kenneth Webb

Homebrook

Mayor: Eric Olson
Councillors:
Arvid Nottveit
Kris Cook
Arnold Hillyer
Aaron Olson

Island Lake

Mayor: Richard Birch
Councillors':
Dwayne Chornoby
Brian Chornoby
Ivan Spence
Peter Hancock

Loon Straits

Contact person:
Brian Monkman

Manigotagan

Mayor: Larry Wood
Councillors:
Dale Boulette
Elaine Simard
Helen Thomas
Bill Courchene

Matheson Island

Mayor: Alan Ward
Councillors:
Kevin Mowat
Deborah Ladouceur
Patricia Broadhead
Dennis Puetz

Pine Dock

Mayor: *Darrell Monkman*
Councillors:
Dawn Monkman
Dorothy Mowatt
Margaret Simondson
Leslie Mowatt

Princess Harbour

Contact person:
Myrtle Magnusson

Seymourville

Mayor: *Burnel Helgason*
Councillors:
Anthony Seymour
Gabriel Boulette
Ted Seymour
Joshua Seymour

Members listed in italics are new to their current position



“Building it RIGHT”

**Manitoba Aboriginal & Northern Housing
Conference 2011**

Date: February 8, 9 & 10, 2011

The Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, MB

Presentations/Workshops on:

- Northern Housing Technologies
- CMHC Housing Quality Initiatives (HQI)
- Saw-Milling Demonstration
- Alternative Housing Styles: Log & Timber Frame
- Arctic Hot Roof
- Housing Authority Management
- Energy Efficient Housing
- Land Use Planning
- Training for Local Lumber Production
- Best Practices from First Nations Forestry Housing Programs
- Rustic Furniture Production



Tuesday Evening: Tradeshow & Reception

Wednesday Evening: Banquet and Entertainment

Honouring Graduates of Standing Tree to Standing Home Instructor Program

For more information call:

Ph: (204) 221-5209

Fax: (204) 415-9822

Or Visit <http://www.frontiersmb.ca>

In Partnership with:



First Nations Forestry Program Programme forestier des Premières nations



Matheson Island 12th Annual Winter Fishing Derby 2011

Silent
Auction

Matheson Island Community Council

12th Annual Winter Fishing Derby 2011

Matheson Island, Manitoba

Saturday, February 26th, 2011

1 pm-4 pm

Prizes : Category One (no age limit)

1st Heaviest Fish - 25% payout of entries

2nd Heaviest Fish - 15% payout of entries

3rd Heaviest Fish - 10% payout of entries

4th, 5th & 6th Heaviest fish prizes T.B.A. at Derby

Lightest Fish \$50.00



Prizes: Category Two (Age 12 & under only)

1st Heaviest Fish - 50% payout of entries

2nd Heaviest Fish - 35% payout of entries

3rd Heaviest Fish - 15% payout of entries

Door Prizes

Species: Any type, must be alive at weigh in

Registration Fee:

Category One: \$50.00

Those that purchase their Category One tickets by Feb. 11th, 2011 are entered to win one of the Early Entry Draws which are two - \$500 cash prizes.

The early entry draw will take place at 4:30 pm at the Community Hall on derby day.

Category Two:

\$10.00

Entry Tickets are available from:

Matheson Island Community Council Members

Gimli Snowmobile, Gimli

Powerbend Tire & Service, Arborg

Westshore Marine & Leisure, Arborg

Pro-Am Tackle, Winnipeg

True Value, Gimli

D&T's Shop Easy, Riverton

Selkirk/Wpg Area (Lynette) - 482-8339

Bruce's Marine, Gimli

Payments can be made by cheque or money order and mailed to Matheson Island Community Council,
General Delivery, Matheson Island, Manitoba ROC 2AO.

Cash will be the only method of payment accepted on the derby day. Interac is not available.

All participants must register at the Community Hall either Friday evening (Feb 25th, 2011) between 7:00pm-10:30 pm or on Saturday from 11:00 am-2:30 pm. Final entrants can be registered at Weigh in station from 2:30 pm -3:30 pm on derby day. You will be given your I.D. buttons at this time.

(please bring your own pail)

For further information: Matheson Island Council Office (204) 276-2150, Mona (204) 276-2053,

Debbie (204) 276-2226

Matheson Island Community Council is not responsible for any injuries, accidents, theft, or stolen property, etc.

For further updates please visit www.mathesonisland.ca

Please phone Mona at 276-2150 for information about the social evening to follow and for Winter Fishing Derby Rules

A Spotlight on



Waterhen is located between Lake Manitoba and Waterhen Lake. It lies on the east shore of Waterhen River, and has been represented by a mayor and council under the *Northern Affairs Act* since 1970.

The community was named after the Water Hen bird as they used to heavily occupy the area.

Economic growth has been developed through trapping, livestock production and commercial fishing, where a lot of the fishing activity has been focused on Lake Manitoba. With bear, deer, moose and fish in the area, hunting, fishing and trapping are popular in Waterhen. To assist in economic development, the community formed the Loon Development Corporation, and the council manages Wayside Ferry Park.

Due to its location at the intersections of Provincial Roads 328 and 276, some have considered Waterhen “The Hub” for its surrounding communities of Mallard, Rock Ridge, Skownan and Salt Point. The Waterhen school serves Waterhen and all the surrounding communities.

Offering a baseball field, multi-purpose recreation facility, outdoor rink and a toboggan slide, Waterhen has many opportunities for residents to keep active and entertained.



WATERHEN



Waterhen offers a variety of businesses, including a Post Office, the Waterhen General Store, a daycare facility and two lodges offering year round accommodations. The community also offers a Primary Health Care Center which is run by Parkland Regional Health Authority. There is a full time ambulance service serving several nearby communities, as well as providing transportation to hospitals in Dauphin, Ste Rose du Lac and Winnipegosis.

Contact information for the Waterhen Community Council:

104 North Mallard Road
Waterhen, MB
Ph: (204) 628-3358
Fax: (204) 628-3270
Email: wcc@inetlink.ca

Hours of Operation: Monday-Thursday
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Want to Showcase Your Community?

The Whispering Pines Newsletter is having a photo contest.

Send us photos of your community and if you are the winner your photo will be printed on the front cover of the next Whispering Pines issue and your community will be spotlighted. We will also add your photos to the NACC website.

We ask that the photos be taken in communities that belong to NACC. Please give a description of where the photo's were taken.

You can e-mail your pictures to naccinfo@mts.net or mail them to:

The Northern Association of Community Council's, 750-331 Smith Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2G9



Dauphin River

Northern Healthy Foods Initiative



Hello Whispering Pines readers,

Winter is one of my favourite seasons! I love waking up after a fresh snowfall and seeing the trees covered in a blanket of snow; of course I love it, I am not the one who has to shovel it!

Winter is the time to check any stored garden vegetables for signs of spoilage such as mould, discoloration or rotten sections. Spoiled stored vegetables or home processed goods (canned or frozen) should be discarded, always follow the rule *“If in doubt, throw it out!”*

The Northern Healthy Foods Initiative (NHFI) was recently recognized at the Food Secure Canada Assembly in Montreal, Quebec. NHFI representatives in attendance included: Jennell Majeran, Province of Manitoba; Raquel Koenig, Food Matters Manitoba; Byron Beardy, Four Arrows Regional Healthy Authority; and me, Amy Yonda, Northern Association of Community Councils. As a group, we hosted a workshop titled “Northern Food Security Roundtable”, and highlighted the basics of the NHFI, greenhouse projects, school gardening projects, northern gardening projects, nutrition awareness workshops, food preservation, poultry production, and the freezer program. Fellow attendees expressed gratitude towards the NHFI and acknowledged that the Province of Manitoba is making great strides in increasing food security in the North.

Weaving together food policy and community action: an agenda for change

I am excited to start planning for the spring and I am hopeful that this upcoming gardening season will be even better than the last! In the meantime if you require any information regarding the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative please contact me toll free at 1-888-947-6222 or by email at nhfinacc@mymts.net.



Talk soon,
Amy Yonda

Stop the spread of germs: Wash your hands!

Always wash your hands before:

- Preparing food
- Eating
- Giving medicine or treating a wound
- Touching a sick or injured person
- Handling contact lenses (inserting or removing)

Always wash your hands after:

- Preparing food, especially raw meat or poultry
- Using the toilet
- Changing a diaper
- Touching an animal or animal toys, leashes or waste
- Blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing into your hands
- Treating wounds
- Touching a sick or injured person
- Handling garbage or something that could be contaminated, such as a



Proper Hand Washing

1. Wet Hands
2. Soap and lather hands and arms
3. Brush fingernails
4. Rinse
5. Soap and lather a second time
6. Rinse for a second time
7. Dry your hands and arms



Do you care about food?

Want to do something to help out your community about food related issues?

Want to get together with other folks who care about these issues?

Or are you just looking for funding to help pay for some of these projects?

Then **LOOK BELOW!!!**

Over the past year, many community organizations and university researchers from across Manitoba have come together to form the Manitoba Alternative Food Research Alliance (MAFRA). In fact, over 50 community organizations supported the creation of MAFRA and many still play an active role in shaping our organization. We also have participants from the University of Manitoba, Brandon University, and the University College of the North, and others from University of Saskatchewan, University of Alberta, and even the University of Victoria. MAFRA has members from across urban, rural, and northern Manitoba. Our goal is to support community projects and research that work on food justice issues across Manitoba – and members from each region will help shape what MAFRA looks like in their communities.

So, what is food justice? We believe that food justice is achieved by promoting community food security, food sovereignty, and local food systems. Community food security ensures that people have access to local, fresh, healthy, culturally appropriate, fairly produced and affordable food. In turn, food sovereignty ensures that people have control over food systems and play an active role in providing their own food. Finally, local food initiatives support food grown, gathered and hunted sustainably and locally.

We have been really busy at MAFRA. Most importantly, we just put out a call for proposals. If you have an idea for a food project in your community, you may apply for a MAFRA small grant (\$500 to \$7000) to support your work. The proposals are due on January 15, 2011. We also have funds to help community members attend food-related conferences. If you are interested in holding food related workshops and other events in your community, we may also have some funds to help out.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to give us a call or send us a message (see contact info below). We would be happy to answer any questions or talk to people about the grant proposal process.

You can also check out our website (www.localandjust.ca). There is an ongoing blog on a wide range of food justice issues. We now have videos available too, on topics from the northern Indigenous fisheries to how to store vegetables. You can also learn more about MAFRA and our call for proposals, as well as check out a Food Calendar that will keep you up to date on food events across Manitoba. If you have an event coming up, please let us know and we'll be happy to advertise your event on our website.

MAFRA will be supporting community projects and research over the next five years. We look forward to working with people in northern Manitoba to help create a more just food system.

Phone: 204-474-9316
Toll Free: 1-866-580-8160
E-mail: localandjust@gmail.com

Family

Winter Word Scramble



itrewn _____

wosnnam _____

gegngo _____

tineioaspt _____

etimtns _____

styrof _____

ntasa lusac _____

oth lecotahoc _____

sotimlete _____

hrewat _____

ydacn neca _____

polduhr _____



Winter Activities



When the temperatures turn colder and the snow begins to fall, it's natural to want to move activities indoors where it's warm. Outdoor winter activities are abundant, so don't let those cold temperatures get you down!

1. Make a snow angel
2. Build a snow fort
3. Have a snowball fight
4. Build a snowman, snowgirl, snow-dinosaur, snow-dog or a snowboy. Don't forget to accessorize your snow creation with a hat, scarf, mittens, pine cones, buttons and more!

5. Build an igloo
6. Go bird watching
7. Go on a Winter Scavenger hunt
8. Collect pine cones to use for crafts, wreaths, etc
9. Go ice skating
10. Shovel a path in the yard to look like a snow maze
11. Go for a walk and look at the decorations your neighbors have put up
12. Go cross country skiing
13. Go snowshoeing
14. Take a walk and look for animal tracks
15. Go tobogganing

Section

Chicken & Wild Rice Soup

Ingredients

- 2 quarts chicken broth
- 1/2 pound fresh mushrooms, chopped
- 1 cup finely chopped celery
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1/2 cup finely chopped onion
- 1 teaspoon chicken bouillon granules
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 cup butter or margarine
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
- 1/2 cup dry white wine or additional chicken broth
- 3 cups cooked wild rice
- 2 cups cubed, cooked chicken

Directions

1. In a large saucepan, combine the first nine ingredients. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 30 minutes.
2. In a soup kettle or Dutch oven, melt butter. stir in flour until smooth. Gradually whisk in broth mixture. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Whisk in soup and wine or broth. Add rice and chicken; heat through.



*Happy Holidays
from the NACC
Board of
Directors and
Staff*



The Lifesaving Society - Manitoba Branch



Did you know that drowning rates in northern Manitoba are disproportionately higher when compared to other parts of the province? The Lifesaving Society – Manitoba Branch has recognized the need for water safety education in these areas and

we have designed a Northern Water Smart® program intended to suit the needs of northern and remote communities.

This program began in 2005 when one lifeguard-instructor travelled to 6 communities. In 2010 the Society had 5 instructors and a year-round coordinator who have travelled to as many as 40 communities. Since the programs inception 117 trips have been taken to these communities and more than 6500 people participated in our Water Smart® education programs.

The primary goal is to reduce the number of drownings and water-related injuries occurring in northern Manitoba. We are achieving this goal directly by teaching basic water survival skills through a unique program known as Swim to Survive®. Our instructors also provide the Pleasure Craft Operator course, reinforcing the need for safe boating practices, and helping people obtain their Transport Canada PCO Card requirements. Finally, we teach Emergency First Aid and CPR. This is all done at almost no cost to the community residents. (Communities must provide safe lodging accommodations and some meals for our instructors). In today's world, that is a deal.

The Northern Water Smart® program is designed to raise awareness and improve personal safety whenever they are in, on or around water.

The Lifesaving Society is a national non-profit, charitable organization whose mission is water safety and injury prevention through our lifesaving education and training programs.

The Northern Water Smart® Program has been made possible by generous funding and support from a number of agencies, including the Province of Manitoba Aboriginal and Northern Affairs and Health Canada. If you want more information on any of our many programs, look for us on the web at www.lifesaving.mb.ca or contact: Lisa Bruce by calling (204) 956-2124 or email watersmart@lifesaving.mb.ca. And yes, we're on Facebook; Lifesaving Society Manitoba Branch.



JOIN THE CENSUS TEAM

The 2011 Census is staffing early enumerator jobs for remote and northern areas of the country. Census for these residents will take place between February and April 2011. These areas include parts of Nunavut and Manitoba.

What?

Crew Leaders: As a crew leader, you will be responsible for all activities related to the collection of the census information in an area. You will train, lead and supervise a team of enumerators.

Enumerators: As an enumerator, you will work in northern communities to identify and list dwellings on maps and complete census questionnaires with local residents.

When?

Applications are now being accepted and the work period is between February and April, 2011.

Where?

These non-office jobs will require you to work in northern communities and remote areas.

Are you?

- *18 years or older
- *a Canadian citizen or eligible to work in Canada
- *interested in short term work
- *a resident of a community where census enumeration is taking place
- *available to work in remote locations as part of an enumeration team.

Note:

Candidates must pass a written test, interview, reference check and RCMP security clearance.

Additional information is on the application website.

APPLY www.census2011.gc.ca

1-866-773-2011

TTY 1-800-363-7629

ADVERTISING!!

Did you know you can advertise in the Whispering Pines?
For a business card size advertisement:
Community members NO CHARGE
Non-Community members \$25

Contact NACC
Toll Free 1-888-947-6222

News From Manitoba Housing

In February, 2010, the Government of Manitoba's Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) created the HCD Northern Region of Manitoba Housing, in response to ongoing suggestions from northern tenants and communities. The Northern Region has responsibility for:

- A) Approximately 900 northern rental housing units located in eight (8) communities (Thompson, Leaf Rapids, Gillam, The Pas, Snow Lake, Cranberry Portage, Flin Flon, and Churchill). Currently, this portfolio is managed out of offices in The Pas, Thompson, and Churchill by Manitoba Housing staff;
- B) Approximately 1,400 Rural & Native Housing (RNH) rental units located in 150 rural and remote communities throughout Manitoba. The RNH portfolio is currently managed by three (3) housing agencies: the Community Housing Managers of Manitoba (CHMM), an agency of the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) manages approximately 1,230 rental units Province-wide; the Wabowden Housing Board Inc. (WHBI) manages sixty-one (61) rental units in Wabowden, and Sagemace Housing Inc. (SHI) manages 106 rental units in Camperville.
- C) All northern new-housing delivery, including housing built directly by Manitoba Housing, housing built through partnerships with the non-profit sector, and the delivery of existing housing repair programs such as the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP), and the Emergency Repair Program (ERP);
- D) Northern programming for Neighbourhoods Alive!

On January 1, 2011, the Northern Region of Manitoba Housing will assume management of 590 northern RNH units from the CHMM in the following 27 communities only.

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Berens River | Big Eddy |
| Brochet | Cormorant |
| Cranberry Portage | Cross Lake |
| Dawson Bay | Easterville |
| Fairford | Fisher Bay |
| Gillam | Gods Lake Narrows |
| Grand Rapids | Granville Lake |
| Moose Lake | Nelson House |
| Norway House | Oxford House |
| Pelican Rapids | Pikwitonei |
| Poplar River | Red Sucker Lake |
| Sherridon | Thicket Portage |
| Umperville | Wanless |
| Young Point | |

Staff operating out of The Pas and Thompson will, in time, provide all property management services to tenants in these communities, including repairs, maintenance, and rental administration. Effective January 1, 2011, tenants in the above communities should not contact the CHMM for repairs to their home. They should contact Manitoba Housing toll-free at **1-800-778-4311 24 hours per day, 7 days per week**. In time, staff will be in touch with tenants directly to ensure that their leases are up to date, and to make arrangements for the payment of rent to an office either in The Pas or Thompson. Until that time, Manitoba Housing requests that tenants continue paying rent to the same place that they always do.

REBUILDING NATURE GRANT PROGRAM

The Home Depot Canada Foundation and Evergreen are pleased to offer the *Rebuilding Nature Grant Program* to support environmental stewardship projects in communities across Canada.

The *Rebuilding Nature Grant Program* will provide community groups with grants of \$1,000, \$3,000 or \$12,000 – plus \$2,000 in The Home Depot gift cards – to cover the costs of tools and equipment, native plants and trees, and other expenses.

The *Rebuilding Nature Grant Program* is available to Canadian community groups whose project site is located near a community where The Home Depot has a retail presence.

Applications must be received in our office by February 11, 2011.

Please contact the NACC office for applications.

SAVE THE DATE!

NACC's 41st AGM will be held from August 16th to 18th, 2011.

This year's theme will be "Stepping Forward as we Stand Strong in Partnerships".

We look forward to celebrating another year with everyone!



Christmas

Whispering Pines is a quarterly publication of The Northern Association of Community Councils, which provides an essential means of communication between isolated communities and regions.

Whispering Pines has been serving as an information tool of northern communities since the early 1970's.

We encourage community council members to submit comments, suggestions, articles and ideas to the editor.

When submitting letters and articles please include the author's name, address and telephone number.

Letters may be edited and represent the opinions of their writers, they do not reflect the opinions of the Whispering Pines or its staff.

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We look forward to hearing from you!

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People worldwide observe many seasonal days of celebration during the month of December. Most are religious holidays, and are linked in some way to the winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere. On that day, due to the earth's tilt on its axis, the daytime hours are at a minimum in the Northern hemisphere, and night time is at a maximum.

Around the world, Christmas celebrations can vary greatly, reflecting differing cultural and national traditions. Countries such as Japan and Korea, where Christmas is popular despite there being only a small number of Christians, have adopted many of the aspects of Christmas such as gift-giving, decorations and Christmas trees.

Did you know ...



...that Santa Claus doesn't go by the same name in every country? In Brazil they call him "Papai Noel", in China he's known as "Shengdan Laoren", in Germany he's Christindl, in Portugal he's "Pai Natal", people in Spain know him as "Papa Noel", and in Turkey he goes by "Noel Baba" – just to name a few.

Valentine's Day

Saint Valentine's Day is an annual commemoration held on February 14th, celebrating love and affection. The day was established by Pope Gelasius I in 500 AD. It is traditionally a day on which people express their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending valentines. The day first became associated with romantic love in the circle of Geoffrey Chaucer in the High Middle Ages, when the tradition of courtly love flourished.

Modern Valentine's Day symbols include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged Cupid.

The modern cliché Valentine's Day poem can be found in the collection of English nursery rhymes *Gammer Gurton's Garland* (1784):

*The rose is red, the violet's blue
The honey's sweet, and so are you
Thou are my love and I am thine
I drew thee to my Valentine
The lot was cast and then I drew
And Fortune said it shou'd be you*

