

SPRING NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Community Elections:
 - Step-by-Step 2
- Thank you, Daniel 4
- Calling all Artisan Vendors, Uptown Emporium Wants You! 5
- Canadian CED Network
 - Manitoba 5
- Community Reminders 5
- NACC Board of Directors Meeting & Christmas Luncheon 2021 6
- Condolences 7
- Seymourville: Making a Model 7
- Spruce Up Your Story – Red River Mutual 7
- Bylaws: Purpose and Process 8
- Funding and other Community Supports 10
- 211 – Manitoban’s Low Barrier, Personalized Assistance 11
- Historic Glance: Easterville and the Grand Rapids Dam 13
- Recipe Share and Call out 15
- About NACC 16



Photo credit: Moose Lake, MB

NACC’s 50th Annual General Meeting & Trade Show - DATE CHANGE

It is the 52nd year for NACC but only the 50th that we ‘gathered’ for this event. The NACC 52nd Annual General Meeting is upon us and scheduled for **August 23 – 25** (22nd and 26th being travel days). Being the 50th and to make up for time lost and in the excitement of being able to see you again or meet you for the first time, we are working to make this year’s AGM a memorable one!

This AGM will see the **election** of the **NACC Executive**. The positions up for election are – a Regional Chair for each of the three regions, and the President. Your participation in this important governance process is important. If you have questions about the nomination or election process, please contact our office. Also, up for voting are resolutions put forward, NACC Bylaws, and selection of auditor for the association. It has been an unprecedented two years so here’s hoping we will have unprecedented interest in filling these important leadership positions and meeting/exceeding membership’s needs.

AGM THEME CONTEST - Submit the winning theme for this year’s AGM and receive a **prize!** The 49th AGM theme was *Honouring the Past – Shaping the Future*. To submit your entry, you can either call NACC at 204-947-2227, email Sara (NACC’s Administrative Assistant) adminasst@naccmanitoba.com, or by mail (address on back page). **DEADLINE for contest entry is May 31st, 2022.**

Help us make this AGM one that responds to areas of interest for your community. We would love to hear your suggestions and to share your community success stories.

Community Elections: Step-by-Step

The upcoming regular election in Northern Affairs Communities (NAC) is legislated for: **Wednesday, October 26, 2022.**

Running for a council position in a community election is an excellent way to get involved with your community and make a difference. If you are interested in learning what the position entails, obtain a copy of the *Running for Council* guide from your local council office.

To qualify as a candidate, you must be:

- a Canadian citizen
- at least 18 years of age on the day of the election
- a voter of the community
- not subject to any disqualification under The Northern Affairs Act or any other act

The Northern Affairs Act contains a complete list of the qualifications and disqualifications.

Elections are run in accordance with the Community Councils Election regulation. During the election period, a copy of the regulation and relevant sections of the act are to be posted in your council office.

Regular elections fall on the fourth Wednesday of October every two years. Terms are staggered, so half of council is elected one year. Terms are for four years and start 14 days after the day of the election and expire 14 days after the next regular election that completes the term. A current council member who wishes to run for a different office, but whose term does not expire in the year of the election must resign at least 21 days before election day.

Voters List

Each regular election starts with preparation of the voters list. The established community boundary is used for election and the list must contain all persons qualified to vote in a community election. Persons wishing to make revisions to the list about themselves may do so by contacting the community senior election official (SEO). The revised voters list verifies who can vote. A person is qualified to vote in an election who is a:

- Canadian citizen 18 years of age or older
- resident of the community, and has been so for at least six months before election day

No revisions can be made to the voters list following the close of nomination and the day of the election, except for the purpose of adding voters at the time of voting or providing a sealed envelope ballot package.

Nomination

A nomination notice will be posted in your community at least seven, but not more than 21 days before nomination period ends outlining the positions open and term, date, time and place nominations will be received and how to obtain nomination papers. Anyone pursuing a nomination must file these papers with the SEO on nomination day between the hours of 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. It is important to note the SEO cannot receive nomination papers that are incomplete or from persons who are not qualified. You become a candidate once your nomination papers have been accepted by the SEO. Any campaign activities undertaken must be within regulation guidelines. A candidate who wishes to withdraw their nomination has until 2 p.m. on the day after nomination period ends.

Two days after nomination period ends and the period for candidate withdrawal has expired, if the number of candidates is equal to the number of council vacancies, candidates are declared elected by acclamation. The SEO then posts the official results. If there are fewer candidates than vacancies, those candidates would be declared elected by acclamation and the act permits a council to appoint a person who was eligible to be nominated into the vacant position. If there are more candidates than vacancies an election is declared. The names of candidates are publicly announced at the council office, along with the notice of election outlining dates and times when voting will be open for casting ballots.



Election Day

In an election year, election day is held on the second Wednesday in October at the places and times stated in the notice. The voting place is to be open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Election officials will be present to assist voters, to check each person who votes is on the voters list and to initial the back of the ballots. Any person whose name does not appear on the voters list must establish proof of identity (by providing a government issued document containing their name, civic address and photo or at least two other documents that provide evidence of their identity to the election official) and take an oath prior to receiving a ballot. A candidate can appoint up to two scrutineers in writing who may be present at a voting place.

Advance Voting and Sealed Envelope Voting

If you know you will be unable to vote on election day, you may vote at the advance voting or arrange with the SEO to vote by sealed envelope ballot. At least one advance voting must be held 4 to 7 days before the regular voting 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

A sealed envelope ballot is for voters who are unable to come to either an advance or regular voting because of a disability, caregiver to a person who is unable to leave home, expects to be absent from the community or some similar reason per regulation.

After the Voting

At noon on the day after the election, the SEO publicly announces the election results at the community council office. Results are read in order of the most to least votes. A copy of the official results will be posted publicly. Two weeks after the election, winning candidates start their 4-year term. Within 30 days of being elected, each person must make and file with the community administrative officer an oath of office and statement of assets and interests (conflict of interest form) prior to entering on the duties of a council member.

With Rights Come Responsibilities

While it's understandable, not everyone may want to run for office, in a democratic system, everyone should vote. It's a right, but it's also a responsibility.

Your vote is your say in governing your community and it's important to get involved and make a difference.

If you would like more information on elections or running for office in your community, please contact your SEO. If you do not know who your SEO is, contact your community council office to find out. The October 2022 election is fast approaching and it's important to know where to get answers to ensure elections are problem-free.

Who Does What in Community Elections Roles and Responsibilities of Election Officials

Election officials are responsible to ensure elections take place properly and efficiently. While election officials are often community members, they must act in a non-partisan manner to make sure the election follows the democratic process. There are two key election officials: the SEO and the assistant SEO.

SEO

The SEO has overall responsibility for ensuring the community election process takes place according to regulation. The SEO serves as supervisor over all community election officials, ensures a properly conducted election and is responsible to both the council and principal electoral officer (PEO). The SEO can call upon the PEO for direction in interpreting and applying regulations.

Assistant SEO

The assistant SEO is responsible to the SEO and assists the SEO in any manner the SEO directs. This may include preparation of the voters list and overseeing changes to the voters list. Before every regular election or by-election, the voters list is prepared and revised, adding any new names and making other changes such as spelling corrections. In special cases, names can also be removed from the list. This list must be an accurate list of all persons qualified to vote. The assistant SEO may also serve as a voting official.

Voting Official

Appointed by the SEO, the voting official assists the SEO in duties at the voting place. A voting official may also work as an interpreter.

If you would like more information on the responsibilities of election officials, please refer to the *Election Official's Handbook* published by Manitoba Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations (IRNR). A copy is available on the Manitoba government website at

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/inr/resources/community-docs.html>.

Duties of the PEO

During community elections, the PEO, appointed by the IRNR minister, has overall responsibility for coordination of election matters. Their responsibilities include:

- arrange training resources for election officials, as required
- maintain records of all elected officials and their terms of office
- provide advice to election officials respecting resolution of unusual situations, including general interpretation of the election regulation
- supervise recounts and assist judges in election matters referred to the courts
- monitor election inquiries referred to or from the minister to ensure they are conducted as required by the election regulation
- maintain records of all PEO orders relating to elections
- provide the minister with an annual report reviewing all election related matters

Donna Sitko, senior analyst with the Executive Director's Office of the Northern Affairs Branch in Thompson is the PEO for community elections.

PEO contact information:

59 Elizabeth Drive (Box 20), Thompson, MB R8N 1X4

Cell: 204-679-0678 / Fax: 204-677-6525 /

Email: donna.sitko@gov.mb.ca

After the Election

Community Council Roles and Responsibilities

Canada's Constitution Act assigns responsibility for local government to the provinces. In turn, the provinces grant local authority and decision-making powers to the governments closest to the people – local governments.

Under the Northern Affairs Act, community councils normally consisting of elected councillors and a mayor, serve as the local governments in NACs.

Community councils are responsible for providing services to the community. They work closely with department staff and outside organizations to deliver capital projects like community halls and roads. They also provide water and wastewater services, road clearing, land use planning and maintenance for community infrastructure and assets.

The roles and responsibilities of local government vary from community to community, but the overall is to strive toward good governance through leadership, programs and services that ensure the people of the community will be healthy and safe. Members of council are responsible for developing and evaluating policies and programs, participating in community and council meetings and management of the community.

Thank you, Daniel

As you may remember, the former principal of École Communautaire La Voie du Nord in Thompson, **Daniel Couture**; who walked the winter road to Brochet in 2021, stopped into the NACC office to present NACC a cheque for just over \$3,000 that he raised on his journey. Daniel; NACC thanks you for all you have done for Brochet and other communities like it and we are excited to see what you do next!

You can find his first article "Brochet Winter Road" in the Spring 2021 newsletter (issue #3) at naccmanitoba.com/newsletters to learn more about his journey.



Daniel (right) presenting cheque to E.D. Linda (left).

Calling all Artisan Vendors, Uptown Emporium Wants You!

The Flin Flon Craft Council project, *Uptown Emporium*, is looking to welcome new vendors. The *Uptown Emporium* assists crafters and artisans from Northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan with marketing their products on the Uptown Emporium website, physically at the storefront and assist with photography and provide a drop shipping warehouse.

To find out more about this amazing opportunity and/or if you are looking to help volunteer, please contact Sophia at 204.687.4913 or through social media @uptownemporium54. They are located at 83 Main Street Flin Flon, MB R8A 1J8.



Canadian CED Network Manitoba



**Canadian
CED Network
Manitoba**

Celebrate as the Northern Association of Community Councils joined the Canadian CED Network (CCEDNet) in March! CCEDNet is a national membership organization with members focused on Community Economic Development (CED). The network is made up of communities, non-profit community-based organizations, 'social economy enterprises' such as social enterprises and co-operatives, funders, credit unions, social finance organizations, and more.

CED aligns with NACC's promotion and facilitation of sustainable community development, particularly with the values of collaboration, self-sufficiency, and local ownership. CED prioritizes action and solutions rooted in local knowledge and led by community members. Often, it is focused on creating economic opportunities that improve social conditions to benefit everyone, address poverty, or support climate action.

CCEDNet's Manitoba Regional Network takes action at local and provincial levels towards a vision of sustainable, equitable, and inclusive communities directing their own futures. Their work supports local members and aims to build strength, knowledge, connection, and power in, and between, members and the broader community. NACC members are encouraged to participate in CCEDNet's capacity building and training work, CED public policy advocacy, and join in the Network activities! Find out more by subscribing to the newsletter (be sure to subscribe to Manitoba CED Bulletins!).

To get in touch with CCEDNet directly to learn more or see how the Network might be able to support you, contact Michael Barkman at m.barkman@ccednet-rcdec.ca or at 204.943.0547 ext. 203

Community Reminders

April 29th, 2022

Deadline to submit to department monthly fire and community safety officer reports

April 30th, 2022

Deadline to submit to department:

March 31, 2022 year-end financial statement

- recreation and wellness report (Oct. to March)
- property tax payments to avoid interest charges
- community safety officer annual work plan

June 1st, 2021

Deadline to submit to department:

- Requests for next fiscal's MCA revisions
- Reminder to send financial records to auditor
- Payroll report to MEBP administrator

July 30, 2021

- First quarter financial statements (April to June) due.



A friendly reminder that the NACC office has moved to
9-395 Berry Street, Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6

NACC Board of Directors Meeting & Christmas Luncheon 2021

The Premier of Manitoba, Heather Stefanson attended the meeting (virtually) to introduce herself, meet our board and to discuss working together to tackle community issues.



Premier Heather Stefanson in a virtual meeting with the NACC Board of Directors.

The Minister of Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations; Dr. Alan Lagimodiere and his assistant Alice joined NACC at the December board meeting to introduce himself to the board and have discussions on many topics that are of top priority for our communities.



Left to right: NACC President Reg Meade, IRNR Minister Dr. Alan Lagimodiere and NACC Executive Director Linda Payeur.

The meeting started with introductions and opened the floor to discuss a range of topics such as housing, water treatment plants, Ministry of Health, Justice, and Transportation to name a few.

As is the tradition at the Christmas Luncheon, Board members were accompanied by their partners to enjoy a Christmas Luncheon. Reg presented the NACC staff with Christmas gifts from the board. On the second day of the meeting, the staff was able to surprise the board with gifts of their own.



NACC President Reg Meade presenting a Christmas gift to Trinette Konge, NACC NHFI Program Coordinator.

Also in attendance for the luncheon:

- Michelle Dubik, *Deputy Minister of IRNR*
- Scott DeJaegher, *Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, IRNR*
- Tamy Burton and Tim Johnston, *Community Futures North Central Development*
- Alice Johnston, *Special Assistant to Minister Lagimodiere*



Glen Flett, NACC Northern Chairperson showing off the cooler tote bag that the board received as part of their Christmas gift.

Condolences



NACC would like to extend condolences to Aggie Bass's family, friends and the Spence Lake Community Council. We extend thanks and aptitude for the 19 she served as councillor for the community. She will be missed.

Making a Model

Story courtesy of Keith Seymour.

Constructed by Wesley Simard. Concept of a future Church for Seymourville.

Model Church dimensions: L 32" x W 16" x H 20" to the peak of the roof or 27.5" to the peak of the steeple

Seymourville Councillor Wesley Simard had a vision for a church that he wanted to build in the community. He decided to make a model of the build to show community members what the church could look like. He put a lot of craftsmanship into the construction, adding hard wood floors, pews, windows, an altar and cross. The removable roof allows admirers the ability to see the great attention to detail inside.



All photos courtesy of Keith Seymour

Spruce Up Your Story – Red River Mutual (by Red River Mutual).

It's in this spirit that Red River Mutual created its community sponsorship program, designed to save and protect beloved spaces in our brokers' communities. The Spruce Up Your Story initiative isn't about bringing a brand-new rec centre or library to life – rather, it will honour and protect the spaces that are well-worn and well-loved – the places where stories are already being made.

We'll fund up to \$25,000 in cash for select, well-loved community spaces across Manitoba. Whether it's a roof fix on a youth centre or a fresh coat of paint on a park fence, Red River Mutual will restore select community spaces where people connect, laugh, learn, and share.

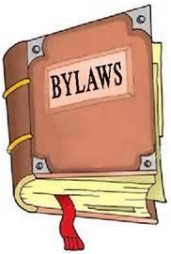
Submit your favourite community gathering space for consideration, via our submission form on Submittable, for a renovation or beautification project before May 31, 2022. Entries will be evaluated based on four pillars: community use, sustainability, opportunity for volunteerism, and a link that partners with Red River Mutual at redrivermutual.com/spruce-up-your-story/.

Bylaws: Purpose and Process

(Reprinted from IRNR *Community Contact* November 2001)

The publishers of Municipal World magazine define “bylaw” as follows: “The origin of the term bylaw is uncertain. In early usage, it designated a law made by the government of a bye (the name given by the Danes to the old English tun or township). Legal authorities cite Lord Coke as determining that “by” or “bye” signifies habitation and that:

... a bylaw may be defined as the law of some particular district (municipality) made by the inhabitants thereof or their authorized representatives, as distinguished from the general law of the province or the dominion.



“For the purposes of modern local government, a bylaw is a law passed by a municipal council, enacted within the scope of its statutory authority. Where authorized, it may prohibit, regulate or control particular activities or circumstances. It may authorize the acquisition or disposition of property, or the entry into an agreement by the municipal corporation. It is intended to bind the municipal corporation, the municipal council, the officers and servants of the municipality, and the public. Public includes both the inhabitants of the municipality and visitors or strangers, whether they have notice of the bylaw or not.”

Requirements

Some provincial legislation requires a council to enact a bylaw. Some legislation requires council to obtain the approval of or the submission to an external authority, prior to giving a bylaw third reading. Other bylaws may require special public hearings or meetings before each reading of the bylaw. Council has to determine which steps apply for each bylaw. Under The Northern Affairs Act, the Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs may delegate bylaw-making authority to community councils by regulation. The regulation identifies specific areas in which council may enact a bylaw.

If a bylaw is required in an area not delegated, then the minister must make the bylaw on behalf of the community.

To be found valid and enforceable in the courts, a bylaw must:

- a) have legal authority;
 - Community councils may enact bylaws under the delegated authority of the Minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs.
 - Incorporated communities enact bylaws under their own authority.
- b) be enacted by three readings at properly convened council meetings with a quorum of the council present, and authenticated in the manner required under The Northern Affairs Act;
- c) be within the power or authority of the community and must not conflict with federal or provincial legislation;
- d) be made in the interest and benefit of the residents of the community;
- e) be reasonable and not discriminatory;
- f) be clear in meaning;
- g) meet all required procedural conditions before enactment;
- h) be proclaimed to the public.

When Bylaws Take Effect

Before a bylaw can take effect, it must be “authenticated.”

- Incorporated communities are required to have the bylaw sealed and signed by the mayor or chairperson who presided at the meeting at which the final reading of the bylaw was done and at least one other council member.
- Community councils operating under the delegated authority of the minister have the bylaw authenticated by the registrar of the Bylaw Registry Office.

The bylaw would normally become effective on the registration date but a bylaw may include a clause specifying that it takes effect on a specified date, some time after the enactment of the bylaw by council.

Council’s Responsibility

Council has the responsibility to:

- a) fully consider all aspects of imposing restrictions on the rights of individuals or requiring individuals to take specific actions, for the common good of the community;
- b) fully consider the protection of individual rights so that discrimination does not occur;
- c) ensure that the proposed actions of the bylaw are within the authority of the council to carry out;
- d) consider how the bylaw will be enforced;
- e) provide an opportunity for public to make representations, to hear all persons wishing to make a comment for or against the bylaw and to consider the effects of the comments given.

The question for this issue is: What is the difference between a council resolution and a council bylaw you ask? Both actions are council decisions. But knowing when each is required can be confusing.

Council makes decisions by passing resolutions. Most of these resolutions approve council taking action on issues, authorizing expenditures or instructing staff to carry out specific tasks. These

decisions are administrative in nature and generally don’t affect the rights of the community residents. However, when council wishes to enact some decisions that will affect rights of residents (and others), this is done with a bylaw. The bylaw process allows for residents and others to express their comments and give input to the council. Council then considers and decides on the contents of the bylaw.

To enact a bylaw requires three council resolutions, essentially approving the same basic decision. For example: Council may approve a resolution to pay the dogcatcher \$10 per day for each dog caught and kept in the pound as required by the dog control bylaw. The bylaw requires three council resolutions passed at different meetings as well as one public hearing and posting of the bylaw for the public to be able to comment. Legislation requires council to enact certain decisions through bylaws. Everything else can be done by resolution. If you think that a bylaw is required for a council decision on a specific matter, be prepared to look in the legislation to confirm what you think. If you think a council resolution is sufficient but you’re not sure, search out the legislation.

Covid 19 Bites But Gardewine Delivers

Thank you for coming!

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to Gardewine for stepping up to deliver care packages to our communities and for their generous donation!



A huge thank you the Canadian Red Cross for supplying us with rapid test kits and masks and to **Gardewine, Riverton Transport** and **Perimeter Aviation** for delivering them to our member communities.



A friendly reminder that the NACC office has moved to 9-395 Berry Street, Winnipeg, MB R3J 1N6

Funding and other Community Supports

Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations (IRNR):

gov.mb.ca/inr/

Manitoba Indigenous Reconciliation and Northern Relations is focused on supporting healthy, safe and sustainable Indigenous communities.

Manitoba Chambers of Commerce:

mbchamber.mb.ca/initiatives-resources/covid-19-tools-resources/

The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce is a champion for sustainable economic growth leading to greater prosperity for business and communities in Manitoba.

Cando Inspiring Success

edo.ca 780.990.0303 Toll Free: 1.800.463.9300

To build capacity which strengthens Indigenous economies by providing programs and services to Economic Development Officers.

Cando offers scholarships annually to indigenous students and deadlines are August 1st and November 1st. Find out more at indspirefunding.ca/cando

Healthy Together Now

Heathlytogethernow.net Email: htninfo@gov.mb.ca

Program goals include:

- Supporting communities that lead prevention activities.
- Encouraging organizations, communities, regions and governments to work together to help prevent chronic disease.
- Building on and blending with existing prevention programs, and developing new ones.
- Increasing communities' knowledge and ability to run prevention programs for a variety of chronic diseases.

Healthy Together Now (HTN) funding is not ongoing or annual funding. It provides start-up funding, to support communities to start a project, deliver or carry out the project, evaluate results and enhance or expand the HTN project by working towards sustainability in the community.

Community Economic Development Fund:

cedf.mb.ca tel: 204.778.4138

Provides business assistance services for aspiring entrepreneurs and business of any size.

Canadian Tire Jumpstart

jumpstart@catire.ca tel: 1.877.616.6600

JumpStart has partnered with Canadian Tire to offer physical activity equipment to communities. The program supports community organizations to expand their recreation programming for financially disadvantaged children and youth to help them get active.

Please visit their site for the latest update on when the Fall application will be re-opened as it has been pushed back due to COVID-19

Community Futures Manitoba

Phone: 204.943.2905 Toll-Free: 1.888.303.2232

Email: info@cfmanitoba.ca

There are 16 Community Futures organizations (CFs) established throughout rural and northern Manitoba. The goal of each CF is to assist the communities in their region to develop their economic potential. To this end, CFs work with communities and their agencies and organizations to:

- Develop long term community economic development strategies and plans
- Coordinate resources to implement development plans and promote the region and its economic opportunities.

CFs further support the local economic development process by assisting area entrepreneurs with:

- Preparing and assessing business plans
- Providing business and market information
- Providing business loans:
- Standard Loan (up to \$150,000)
- Entrepreneurs with Disabilities (up to \$150,000)

To learn more, visit cfmanitoba.ca

The Northern Manitoba Food, Culture, and Community Collaborative (NMFCCC)

nmfccc.ca/grants.html tel: 1.204.990-1215

Culturally-appropriate food-related Community Economic Development (CED) and Cultural Reclamation is the focus of this collaborative. As a collaborative, they value shared-learning, reciprocity, respect and working with communities in a committed way. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to take part in networking and shared-learning opportunities to help projects grow and inspire other communities.

Kidsport Manitoba

kidsport.ca/manitoba/ tel: 204.925.5914

Kidsport provides grants to kids from families facing financial barriers so they can participate in registered sport programs and experience the lifelong benefits of a season of sport. Clubs eligible for KidSport funding must be active members of their Provincial Sport Organization (PSO).

Grants are intended to be used for sport registration fees; travel, competitions, uniforms and camps are not eligible for funding. Grants cannot be issued to programs/seasons that have already concluded. Deadline to apply is the 15th of each month.

The Winnipeg Foundation – Growing Active Kids

wpgfdn.org/ 204.944.9474 Toll Free: 1.877.974.3631

Grants are available to charitable groups by providing educational or recreational opportunities to children and youth. There are COVID-19 Emergency Grants as well as the Emergency Community Support Fund.

Futurpreneur Canada

futurpreneur.ca tel: 204.292.8158

Aged 18-39? Get an experienced mentor to help guide your business to success. Apply Now! To get connected with a business development expert, visit futurpreneur.ca and fill out the submission box or call (431) 336-2759

Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM) – Municipal Services Program

stewardshipmanitoba.org tel: 204.953.2010

MMSM is a not-for-profit, industry-funded organization that provides support and funding for the province's residential recycling programs. The program is operated under the Packaging and Printed Paper Stewardship Regulation 195/2008, a regulation under the Waste Reduction and Prevention (WRAP) Act. MMSM works on behalf of manufacturers, retailers and other organizations that supply packaging and printed paper to Manitobans. These businesses pay fees to MMSM, which are used to reimburse municipalities for up to 80% of the net cost of their residential recycling system.

The organization is governed by a Board of Directors that represent:

- Grocers
- Consumer products
- Beverages
- Alcohol beverages
- Retailers
- Printed paper
- Restaurants

Remote and First Nations communities that are only accessible by winter roads, ice roads and/or rail access, can apply for Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba's (MMSM) Municipal Recycling Funding Payments with a reduced list of MMSM's mandatory materials.

American Express in the Community - Cultural Heritage

americanexpress.com/ca/en/corporate-and-social-responsibility.html

email: amexcanadafoundation@aexp.com

American Express believes that serving communities is not only integral to running a successful business it is part of their responsibility as citizens of the world.

They do this by supporting not-for-profit organizations that are:

- Preserving and enriching our diverse cultural heritage
- Developing new leaders for tomorrow
- Encouraging community service where our employees and customers live and work.

Northern Water Smart Program 2022 – Lifesaving Society of Manitoba

lifesavingsociety.mb.ca/water-smart/northern

Lifesaving Society Manitoba's Northern Water Smart Programs are designed to teach water safety, how to swim, boat operation as well as CPR & Emergency First Aid. The Program is hosted throughout July and August but applications must be completed and submitted by **4:00 p.m. on May 27th, 2022.**

To find out more information, contact the Water Smart Coordinator at info@lifesaving.mb.ca.

To learn more about all the NHFI programming offered through NACC, please check out our NHFI tab at naccmanitoba.com. If you don't want to miss a 'beet,' 'bee' sure to sign-up to receive regular NHFI email updates here: naccmanitoba.com/nhfi/news/

211 – Manitoban’s Low Barrier, Personalized Assistance

The 211 Manitoba service is part of the broader 211 Canada network. This co-ordinated national information network allows individuals to look for local resources in communities across Canada and enables them to assist family members, friends and clients in other provinces.

“The Manitoba government is proud to partner with United Way Winnipeg in support of 211 Manitoba, which provides low-barrier, personalized assistance and enables access to information on programs and services quickly and easily,” said Minister Rochelle Squires. “As we have seen throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical that we mobilize quickly and work together, and 211 is another tool to help us co-ordinate our efforts to protect Manitobans.”

Manitobans can dial 211 from anywhere in the province, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to connect with a community navigator who will help them find appropriate resources nearby. Individuals can also search the 211 website at mb.211.ca.

Hemp Sense – Food Preserving Pillow



Introducing the Food Preserving Pillow patented by Hemp Sense! Hemp Sense Pillow that is produced in a Certified Food Grade Facility which has been proven to slow down ripening in fruit and vegetables.

Benefits to using the all-natural Hemp Preserving Pillow allows you to:

- Make less trips to the grocery stores
- Save your money and time
- Saving landfill space while reducing gas emissions
- 100% Natural, Biodegradable, & Compostable

To learn more about the Food Preservation Pillow or have questions, visit hempsense.net or email them at info@hempsense.net or phone 204.548.2782



Easterville and the Grand Rapids Dam

(Written by James Waldram, published on the Manitoba Historical Society webpage, Spring 1988).

The people of Chemawawin, now Easterville, first heard of the plans for a dam at Grand Rapids in the spring of 1960, even though actual planning of the project had been underway since at least 1957. Chemawawin at the time was a small, semi-isolated community of some 350 people. Located at the confluence of the Saskatchewan River and Cedar Lake, the people of the community supported themselves through hunting, fishing, trapping, and occasional wage labour in a small sawmill. There were no roads to the community, and no electricity for the Band members. Log houses and tar-paper shacks provided shelter from the bitter Manitoba winters. Cedar Lake and the Saskatchewan River provided the only transportation routes to towns such as The Pas and Grand Rapids. People only occasionally ventured forth from Chemawawin to these places, and usually only for quick visits to execute some economic transaction. Then it was back to the security of the “Old Post.”

To an outsider, Chemawawin might have looked poor. But it was not. The people enjoyed a rich social and cultural life, and obtained the necessary income from the abundant natural resources of the area. The community was located in a beautiful site, with thick ground cover. Poverty, being a relative concept, had no meaning to these people.

When the people of Chemawawin were informed of the impending Grand Rapids dam, a project which would flood out virtually all of their community and necessitate their relocation to a new site, they came face-to-face with their own version of the treaty commission: The Grand Rapids Forebay Administration Committee, or Forebay Committee for short. Constituted by the Manitoba government and consisting of civil servants whose numbers varied over the years, the Forebay Committee was charged with the responsibility of negotiating with the Indians for the surrender of the reserve land at Chemawawin, and for selecting new reserve land elsewhere

in the region. The Forebay Committee proved to be an amorphous body, with the power to negotiate but not to act, and was given a mandate to modernize as well as relocate the Indian and Métis residents of Chemawawin. But, like “poverty,” “modernization” too is a relative concept.

The substance of what the Chemawawin people would be offered in return for the surrender of their reserve lands was communicated in a letter to the Chief in April of 1962. This letter, known alternately as the “Letter of Intent” or “Forebay Agreement,” [4] was, in effect, a 1960s version of Treaty No. Five, which the Chemawawin people had signed in 1876. Indeed, the parallels between the Letter of Intent and Treaty No. Five were not lost on the people, nor were its implications. They wrote to the Manitoba government:

We feel that this letter is similar to a Treaty. We cannot accept what we do not think is right, as it is not we who will suffer for our mistake, but our children and our children's children. [5]

But opposition to the dam was fruitless. The Manitoba government was committed to the project, and the people were warned that “the job is going to be built” [6] regardless of their decision to negotiate a compensation deal. Significantly, no lawyer was made available to the community to assist it in its deliberations. The Native people themselves likely did not know of the existence of lawyers as professional advocates, and there is no indication that they ever requested one. [7] The Manitoba government felt that it could represent the interests of these people adequately through its Forebay Committee. The Chemawawin residents, who spoke little English and who had had little extensive contact with non-Native governmental structures, were left to their own devices. Not surprisingly, the little opposition to the project that did exist soon dissipated. “Government” could not be challenged, and the people reluctantly accepted their fate. Similar to the way they reacted to the treaty of the past, the people eventually agreed to a package of “benefits,” this time from the provincial rather than the federal government, to go along with their new community.

Paramount among the anticipated benefits was the construction of a new, fully modern town, with named streets, electricity, running water, bus service, and automobiles. In effect, the people came to believe that their new community would resemble the prosperous neighbouring towns they had occasionally visited. The Letter of Intent clearly detailed many of these new benefits, including electricity, roads, a new school, and even cash. Its offer of a “planned” community was clearly linked to local perceptions of what was actually offered, and as with the treaties there are still arguments today over the extent to which oral but unrecorded promises were made to the people in attempts to get them to relocate. There are also disputes over the selection of the Easterville site itself, with the Manitoba government insisting that the people democratically selected the site from a short list of alternatives, and the people insisting that the Easterville site was the only one that was really offered to them as a location in which all of the promised services and facilities could actually be delivered.

While the vision of a new town rising phoenix-like from the hydro flood was the most tangible component of the Letter of Intent, almost forgotten was the clause committing the Forebay Committee and the Manitoba government to undertake “every step possible to maintain the income of the people of Chemawawin at the new site.” [8] And in 1965, when the first winters’ snows melted around the new Chemawawin community of Easterville making painfully visible the lack of soil and vegetation, and as the waters rising behind the Grand Rapids dam changed forever the face of the lake they knew so well, obliterating not only the shoreline but also the habitat for moose, muskrat and fish, the importance of this clause became evident. How would the economy and the lifestyle of the Chemawawin people be maintained in the face of such devastation?

The Letter of Intent notwithstanding, the Manitoba government proved reluctant or incapable, or both, of maintaining the people in their new site. Designed according to a southern urban model, the

community was characterized by new houses lining named gravel streets. The hub of the new community, located more or less at its physical centre, consisted of a new school, recreation hall, council office, co-op store and nursing station. The new community certainly looked modern, prompting Manitoba Hydro to actually describe it as similar to “a lakeside summer resort.” [9] The Manitoba government implicitly believed that infrastructural modernization was tantamount to “development.”



Easterville, 1979.

Source: James B. Waldram

But the site itself soon presented a different face to its new inhabitants. There was little actual ground cover or soil, and the location was dominated by gravel and rock outcrops that contrasted sharply with the natural beauty of the Chemawawin site. And the new site soon proved hazardous to health: the thick lime-stone prevented the establishment of pit toilets, and sanitation became a problem. The quality of the well water then became contaminated with human wastes. Floating debris began to disrupt the activities of commercial fishermen, who had difficulty locating moving fish populations in the years immediately following the flooding of the lake.

Beginning in 1971, the commercial fishery was closed by the provincial government as a result of mercury contamination likely caused by the flooding of the lake. Trapping became increasingly unproductive, as the rising waters behind the dam flooded out beaver and muskrat habitat. Eventually most people gave up trapping altogether. Similarly, it became more difficult to hunt moose along the flooded shorelines of Cedar Lake. Social assistance payments increased accordingly. The promised road access to other communities, particularly Grand Rapids and The Pas, proved to be a mixed blessing, for while the people could travel to these centres to shop and for recreation, access to alcohol greatly increased, and social problems related to alcohol abuse and unemployment soon became prevalent in Easterville.

The spirit of the people of Chemawawin seemed to break once they were in Easterville. To paraphrase Robert Chambers, it seems as though once government has interfered extensively in a people's lives, they are never quite the same again. [10] Alcohol abuse became a problem as the economy withered, and government programs seemed incapable of stopping the destructive spiral. Granted, the new community looked modern, with its streetlights, gravel roads, new school, hall, and houses. But the image that infrastructural development gives is a misleading one. The promise of the Letter of Intent, fulfilled to a degree that is still a matter of debate, proved to be of little real value to the people. The extent to which the people of Chemawawin have recovered from the twin blows of relocation and hydro flooding is due, in large measure, to their own initiative and resilience.

4. S.W. Schortinghuis to Chief Donald Easter, 7 June 1962. Also known as the “Letter of Intent” or the “Forebay Agreement.”

5. Lake Winnipeg, Churchill and Nelson Rivers Study Board, *The Chemawawin Relocation, Social and Economic Studies*, Vol. 2, App. 8, Appendix H, 1974, p. 224.

6. Minutes, Grand Rapids Forebay Committee, Chemawawin, 22 March 1962.

7. Interestingly, a Community Development Officer was eventually stationed in the community to assist the people, but only after the Forebay Agreement had been signed.

8. Schortinghuis to Easter, 7 June 1962.

9. Manitoba Hydro, “Grand Rapids – Power Development by Manitoba Hydro,” Winnipeg: Manitoba Hydro, n.d.

10. Robert Chambers, ed., *The Volta Resettlement Experience*, New York: Praeger, 1970.

Recipe Share and Call out

Moroccan Red Lentil Soup

by OJ Sabiston. **This soup is vegan (unless you are using chicken broth)*

Cook time: Roughly 40 mins

Serves 6

Preservable: 1-2 months if frozen

Ingredients:

1/4 cup olive oil	1 medium or large onion, chopped	2 carrots, peeled and chopped
4 garlic cloves, pressed or minced	1/2 teaspoon dried thyme	1 ½ teaspoons of Garam Masala spice
1 teaspoon of salt, or more to taste	1/2 teaspoon of black pepper	pinch of red pepper flakes
3 bay leaves	1 cup of red lentils	2 cups of water
2 tablespoons of lemon juice	1 large can (28 ounces) diced tomatoes	

900 mL container of vegetable broth (or chicken broth)

2 teaspoons of paprika (or more depending on the level of warmth you prefer, to taste)

Directions:

1. Warm oil in a large soup pot (turn element on to high heat) and add chopped onions and carrots. Reduce heat to medium heat, and sauté onions and carrots for 8 minutes or more, making sure to stir as the vegetables are sautéing.
2. Add thyme, Garam Masala, and minced garlic to pot. Cook for another 30 seconds to ensure that garlic does not burn and add an entire can of diced tomatoes to pot. Cook for another 2 minutes, and then add water, broth, black pepper, salt, red pepper flakes, bay leaves, and paprika.
3. Increase heat to high to get soup boiling, stirring occasionally. Once soup is boiling, cover soup with lid, reduce heat, and let boil for 20 minutes.
4. Add lentils and lemon juice. Stir soup to ensure lentils do not stick to the bottom of the pot. Let the soup boil for another 10 minutes to cook the lentils (red lentils do not take long to cook).
5. Find and remove all 3 bay leaves. Then, transfer 4 cups of soup (try to get more solid parts of the soup as opposed to just getting the broth) to a large bowl, and use an emersion hand blender to blend the 4 cups of transferred soup. Once the 4 cups have a baby food consistency, transfer 4 cups back to pot and mix with the rest of the soup.
6. Let soup cool, and serve. Soup can be frozen for 1-2 months and eaten later.
Enjoy...

If you want to have your recipe showcased or added to the cookbook, fill out the printable recipe form on the NACC website providing as much information as possible and then either email Sara, the administrative assistant (adminasst@naccmanitoba.com) or fax it to the office: 204-947-9446.

***Note that the measurement of the rice in the *Old Fashion Chicken and Rice Soup* featured in the fall newsletter (Issue #4) was incorrect. The proper amount of rice is 1/2 cup not 1 1/2 cups.

About NACC

Incorporated in 1971, the Northern Association of Community Councils is a non-profit group representing the interests of 48 northern and rural Community Councils under the jurisdiction of Indigenous and Northern Relations (INR). NACC promotes and facilitates sustainable community development by:

- *Encouraging the development of local services on behalf of member communities.*
- *Ensuring that physical, social, and economic development in our communities remains a priority for the government.*
- *Providing information for the sustainable use of natural resources*
- *Coordinating and consulting on community-based projects and promoting self-sufficiency.*
- *Acting as a channel for effective communication and cooperation between communities, business, and governments*
- *Providing associates with information and opportunities through the annual conference for the resolution of community issues.*

OUR GOAL.....

Is to promote and encourage wherever possible the development of local government; and to assist in the improvement of services and the physical, social and economic development of all member northern communities of the NACC.

If you would like you NACC Regional Chairperson to visit your community or attend a meeting, please contact the NACC office.

IS THERE SOMETHING MISSING?

If there is something you would like to see included in the newsletter, please let us know!

We want to hear from you!

Feel free to contact Sara, the Administrative Assistant with article ideas, letters or upcoming event that you would like included.



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