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# Thicket Portage

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## Community Status

Thicket Portage is located on the Hudson Bay Railway line, now operated by Omni Trax, between Landing Lake to the south and Wintering Lake to the north. The community is about 48 km south of Thompson and about 256 km Northeast of The Pas.

The community was originally known as Franklin Portage after the Franklin expedition. It is one of the portages in the route used to connect the Nelson River system with Wintering Lake.

The railway provides the only all-year surface transportation linkage to the outside. The community establishes a winter road for six to eight weeks every winter.

The community is governed by a mayor and council under *The Northern Affairs Act*.

## Community Contacts

### By mail

Thicket Portage Community Administrative Officer  
Box 80  
Thicket Portage, Manitoba R0B 1R0

### By phone

Call (204) 286-3296 or (204) 286-3207  
Fax (204) 286-3256  
Email: tpcc3@hotmail.com

### Office hours and staff

Office hours are:  
Mon - Fri. 8:00am to 5:00pm  
The community also employs a public works employee and an outreach worker.

## Community Statistics

### Population

1985	198
1991	192
1996	204
2001	137
2006	156

Information from Statistics Canada after 1985.

### Households

There are 50 housing units in the community.

### By-laws

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

### Boundary

Manitoba Regulation 161/95, as amended, refers to Director of Surveys Plan 18830. See map.

### Property Assessment and Taxes

Values of Assessment	
Business	\$15,800
Real Property	431,100
Grants-in-lieu	457,240
Exempt	1,422,530
Total	2,310,870

### Rate of Taxation (mills)

General Municipal	5.20
School levies	
Foundation	12.33
Frontier School Division (#48)	17.60
Business Tax	3.75%

Information from 2010 assessment roll and tax bylaw of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs.

## Emergency Services

### Fire

Fire fighting capability is based on a fire truck and equipment from the community fire hall. Portable forestry equipment is also available for grass and brush fires. Ten volunteer fire fighters.

### Police

There is a local Constable in community. Police respond from the Thompson detachment as well, RCMP, phone (204) 677-6909.

### Medical

Medical response is based on a community health worker, and a visiting nurse twice a month Any additional response is based on transporting the patient to the Thompson Hospital.

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This community qualifies for the Northern Patient Transportation Program. Doctors visit once a month.

### Community-based Services

#### Airstrip

Manitoba Transportation and Government Services, Northern Airports operate a 2,220' x 75' crushed rock airstrip with terminal and remote-controlled lighting near the community. Office is in Winnipeg, phone (204) 945-3421, or airport manager, phone (204) 286-3278.

#### Hydro

Provided by Manitoba Hydro as land-line power. Residential rates are:

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

Hydro Regional Office is at Thompson, phone (204) 677-2357.

#### Telephone

Manitoba/Internet –Broadband Tower Services provides individual-line service and digital switching with toll-free calling to Thompson. Call MTS toll-free at (204) 225-5687.

#### Water

Water is pumped from Landing Lake via heat-traced - line to a Water Treatment Plant, where it is chlorinated, pressurised and distributed to residents by piped system.

#### Waste Disposal

Twice weekly pickup is made in residential areas, and materials are deposited in a solid-waste disposal site near the community.

A piped system collects liquid-wastes and delivers it to a sewage treatment plant.

#### Schools

The Thicket Portage School, operated by Frontier School Division, has four teachers and five support staff, phone (204) 268-3264. There is also the Aboriginal Headstart Program for ages 1-6 – phone (204) 286-3284 located in the hall.

#### Recreation Facilities

- School
- Community Hall – Used by Head – start Program

#### Recreation Activities

- Aboriginal Head Start Program
- Bingo

- Card Games
- Gym Nights
- Winter Carnival
- Fishing Derby
- Sports Days
- Skating
- CAP Program (computer use)
- Baseball
- Walking Club
- Gardening

### Government Services

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

Manitoba Conservation, Regional Operations, North-east Region Office, District Office located at Thompson, phone (204) 677-6648.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Commercial Services

#### Accommodation

Private accommodation can be arranged.

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### **Transportation**

- Gardewine North provides freight services to Thicket Portage via Hudson Bay Railway out of Thompson
- VIA Rail provide scheduled passenger and small-parcel services from Thicket Portage to Thompson.

### **Businesses**

- A&M Convenience Store
- Petau' Store
- Canada Post

### **Economic Overview**

Thicket Portage, adjacent to the Wabowden-Thompson Nickel Belt, is located in an area suitable for both forestry and tourist development.

Tree-planting, fishing and trapping are seasonal activities, supplemented by employment in local services such as Health Care workers, Council Workers, New Beginnings Program

Fishers utilize lakes living/wintering near the community and deliver their catch to the Wabowden fish station.

Wild rice has been planted in some nearby areas.

Thicket Portage is located near Tolko Manitoba Inc.'s current and future logging operations.

Manitoba Hydro provide employment  
Once a year cleaning up areas.

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