

# BUNIBONIBEE CREE NATION (Oxford House) First Nation No. 301

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Oxford House Reserve No. 24 is located along the eastern shoreline of Oxford Lake at the mouth of the Hayes River and is approximately 950 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg. The reserve is located on a ridge of land between Oxford Lake to the west and Back Lake to the east.

## History

The First Nation has an outstanding treaty land entitlement. The First Nation is signatory to the 1909 adhesion to Treaty 5.

normally serve a two-year term with the next election scheduled for November, 2005.

Phone: (204) 538-2347  
Fax: (204) 538-2445

The nearest hospitals are located in Norway House and Thompson. There are two community health representatives on-reserve.

## Language

The native language is Cree.

Bunibonibee Cree Nation  
Oxford House, MB  
R0B 1C0  
Phone: (204) 538-2156  
Fax: (204) 538-2220

## Child and Family Services

## Reserve

Oxford House I.R. No. 24  
Area: 12,049 acres (4,876 hectares)

## Land Entitlement Status

The First Nation has an outstanding treaty land entitlement.

Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba  
100-701 Thompson Drive  
Thompson, MB  
R8N 2A2  
Phone: (204) 677-1500  
Toll Free: 1-800-667-4734  
Fax: (204) 778-8428

## Population

According to the regional population statistics as of Dec. 31, 2003, the First Nation has an on-reserve population of 2003, off-reserve population of 322. The total First Nation population is 2,325.

## Education

First Nation members attend Oxford House School, (First Nation-operated) which offers levels K4-6 with an enrolment of 378. The 1972 Memorial High School, operated by the First Nation, offers Grade 7 - S4(Grade 12), with an enrolment of 186. First Nation members also attend schools off-reserve.

The head office is located in Thompson with a sub office in Winnipeg and a field office serving the Bunibonibee Cree Nation. The Director is David Monias.

The agency was mandated in July 1984 and serves 12 First Nations.

## First Nation Government

The Chief of the Bunibonibee Cree Nation is Bailey Colon.

Councillors are Tommy Weenusk, Thomas Crane Jr., Paul Brian Weenusk, Alan Dennis Grieves, Johnny Ross Chubb and Forbes James Weenusk.

The total student enrolment on and off-reserve for 2003-2004 is 564.

## Health Care

Oxford House Nursing Station  
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch  
Health Canada  
Oxford House, MB  
R0B 1C0

Oxford House Field Office  
Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba  
General Delivery  
Oxford House, MB  
R0B 1C0  
Phone: (204) 538-2622  
Fax: (204) 538-2627

The Chief and Council was elected November 22, 2003. First Nation officials

Winnipeg Sub-office  
Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba  
201 - 274 Smith Street  
Winnipeg, MB

R3C 1K1

Phone: (204) 987-9480

Fax: (204) 987-9489

## Community Services

On-reserve facilities include an administration office, arena, and baseball diamond, as well as the school gymnasium and facilities. Local outdoor activities include, fishing, boating, snow shoeing and snowmobiling.

## Infrastructure

### Water Supply:

The community obtains water from Oxford Lake. It is chlorinated and delivered via water trucks. There are 67 houses with water trucked to cisterns; and 294 houses with water trucked to barrels. The school, teacherages, personal care home and nursing station utilize a piped system and simple chlorination. The Northern Store has a similar private system.

### Sewage Disposal:

Pit privies are utilized by most residents. There are 67 houses that have trucked septic service; and there are 294 houses with no service. Some members have their own septic fields. Large facilities utilize a small primary treatment plant. The Northern Store has a septic field.

### Garbage Disposal:

Two landfill sites are utilized. There is garbage pick-up daily.

### Roads:

Oxford House is accessible via winter road routed through Cross Lake. Nine hours by vehicle from Oxford House to Thompson. Freeze-up is in late October to early November. Break-up is in late May and early June.

### Postal Service:

Air mail is delivered five times a week.

### Electrical Service:

The community is serviced by a land line.

### Police Protection:

Oxford House employs two First Nation constables. The nearest RCMP detachment is located in Oxford House, where three provincial contract officers are on staff.

### RCMP

Oxford House: (204)538-2413

### Fire Protection:

The First Nation has three fire trucks with limited fire fighting capabilities, ancillary equipment, and a fire hall. Ten men are trained to the basic level.

## Communications

Oxford House receives radio from Thompson. CBC-TV is re-broadcasted in the community. The First Nation also operates a satellite dish.

The community operates its own radio station locally. Single party telephone and mobile exchange is available.

## Transportation

A 2,500 foot gravel airstrip is maintained in the community and serviced by scheduled flights through Perimeter Air and Air Manitoba out of Winnipeg or by Calm Air Skyward of Thompson. There are dock facilities for both boats and float planes.

## Resource, Economic and Employment Development

### Economic Base:

Trapping  
Fishing  
Some commercial businesses  
Fuel wood

## Commercial and Business Services

- Gravel Company
- Transport Company
- School Bus
- Pool Hall
- Fishing Lodge outcamp
- Knee Lake Fly-In Fishing Lodge
- John Sinclair Jr. Construction
- Northern Store
- Okimow Taxi
- Gilbert North Construction
- Housing Construction
- Oxford House General Store
- Oxford House (Cree) Development Corporation
- Sinclair's Confectionary
- Sadie's Restaurant
- Clifford Grieves Construction
- Skyward Air
- Perimeter Airlines
- Calm Air