

Little Grand Rapids First Nation is located 268 air kilometres northeast of Winnipeg, on the shores of Family Lake near the Manitoba/Ontario border. The reserve is spread out over an eight kilometre stretch along the lake shore.

History

The First Nation is signatory to Treaty 5 signed in 1875.

At the time of the signing of Treaty 5, the residents of the community were considered to be part of the Berens River First Nation.

An Order-In-Council dated February 25th, 1930, established the reserve and granted it separate First Nation status as per the 1888 survey of 8.75 square miles at the narrows of the Berens River.

Language

The native language is Ojibway.

Reserve

Little Grand Rapids I.R. No. 14
Area: 4,956 acres (2,006 hectares)

Population

According to the regional population statistics of Dec. 31, 2003, the First Nation has an on-reserve population of 989 and an off-reserve population of 281. The total

First Nation population is 1,1270.

First Nation Government

The Chief of the Little Grand Rapids First Nation is Raymond Ernest Keeper.

Councillors are Roy Dunsford, Edward Bushie, Patrick Owen, Martin Owen, Nelson Keeper and Jeremiah Bushie.

The Chief and Council were elected July 28, 2003. The First Nation officials normally serve a two-year term with the next election scheduled for July, 2005.

Little Grand Rapids First Nation
Little Grand Rapids, MB
R0B 0V0
Phone: (204) 397-2264
Fax: (204) 397-2340

Land Entitlement Status

The First Nation has no outstanding treaty land entitlement.

Education

First Nation members attend the Little Grand Rapids School, which offers levels

K4-S4 (Grade 12), with an enrolment of 218. The school is First Nation operated under the Southeast Tribal Division for Schools Inc. First Nation members also attend schools off-reserve in Winnipeg.

The Southeast Resource Development Council administers PHP students on behalf of the First Nation. The total SERDC PHP student enrolment for 2003-2004 is 262.

Health Care

Little Grand Rapids Nursing Station
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
Health Canada
Little Grand Rapids, MB
R0B 0V0
Phone: (204) 397-2115
Fax: (204) 397-2016

There is a nursing station with three nurses in the Little Grand Rapids community. The nearest hospital is located in Pine Falls.

Child and Family Services

Southeast Child and Family Services Inc.
4th Floor - 360 Broadway

Winnipeg, MB R3C 0T6
Phone: (204) 947-0011
Fax: (204) 947-0009

Little Grand Rapids Field
Office
Southeast Child and Family
Services Inc.
Little Grand Rapids, MB
R0B 0V0
Phone: (204) 397-2407
Fax: (204) 397-2272

The head office is located in
Winnipeg and the Director is
Burma Bushie.

The agency was mandated in
April 1983 and serves nine
First Nations.

Community Services

On-reserve facilities include
an administration office,
school bus, three small
general stores and a pool hall.

Infrastructure

Water Supply:

The Little Grand Rapids
community obtains water
from Family Lake. The water
is treated and distributed to
the community through
either a piped distribution or
trucked delivery system.
There are 159 houses that
have piped water, and 59
houses have cisterns.

Sewage Disposal:

There are 159 houses that are
served by a piped sewage
collection system. The
remainder are served by
holding tanks. The sewage is
treated with a two cell
aerated sewage lagoon which

is discharged through an
effluent ditch to an inland
lake.

Garbage Disposal:

The First Nation maintains
one landfill site.

Police Protection:

The First Nation employs
First Nation constables who
are responsible for both Little
Grand Rapids and Paungassi
communities. There is onsite
RCMP Detachment at Little
Grand Rapids.

Fire Protection:

The First Nation has pumper
fire truck operated by a
volunteer fire department.
Approximately 70% of the
community can access fire
hydrants.

Communications

The community receives AM
radio from Winnipeg. CBC-
TV and FM radio are
rebroadcast in the
community. Single-party
telephone exchange is
available.

Transportation

There is a 3,000-foot airstrip
on provincial crown land
across the lake from Little
Grand Rapids. Scheduled air
service is available every day
from Sowind and Northways
Airlines. Access from the
airport is restricted to boat or
float plane during the
summer months. During the
winter, the community can be
accessed by snow machine or
vehicle over the ice. During

the freeze up and spring thaw
the site is only accessible by
helicopter.

There is no permanent access
road, although winter roads
are constructed annually and
provide access either from
Pine Dock to the west side of
Lake Winnipeg. Another
route goes across to Bloodvein
(on the east side of the lake)
and continues east to Little
Grand Rapids. An additional
route would be via PTH #304
on the east side of Lake
Winnipeg, situated north east
to the community. Pine Dock
is accessible by all weather
road via PTH #234. There
are approximately 9
kilometres of internal roads
in the community.

Air Charter Services:

Perimeter Airlines, Northway
Aviation, Mission Air,
Skyward and Keystone Air
Service.

Resource, Economic and Employment Development

Economic Base:

Fishing, trapping and
seasonal rice harvesting

Commercial and Business Services

- School bus
- Little Grand Rapids General
Merchants
- Keywinds Grocery Store
- Northern Store
- Howard and Sons Grocery
Store