

WASAGAMACK FIRST NATION First Nation No. 299

The Wasagamack First Nation is located on the western shore of Island Lake, about 12 kilometres to the north of St. Theresa Point, 281 kilometres southeast of Thompson, and 607 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg.

History

The First Nation is a signatory of the 1909 adhesion to Treaty 5.

Language

The native language is the Island Lake dialect Oji-Cree.

Reserves

Feather Rapids I.R.

Area: 1,166 acres (472 hectares)

Naytawunkank I.R.

Area: 1,025 acres (415 hectares)

Wasagamack I.R.

Area: 18,400 acres (7,446 hectares)

Total Number of Reserves: 3

Total Area: 20,591 acres (8,333 hectares)

Population

According to the regional population statistics of Dec. 31, 2003, the First Nation has an on-reserve population of 1,312 and an off-reserve population of 111. The total First Nation population is 1,423.

First Nation Government

The Chief of the Wasagamack First Nation is Cornelius Wood. Councillors are Alfred Harper, Joseph Harper, Brian P. Harper and Jeffery Whiteway.

The Chief and Council were elected on May 2, 2003, under Band custom. The First Nation officials typically serve a two year term.

Wasagamack First Nation
Wasagamack, MB
R0B 1Z0

Phone: (204) 457-2337

Fax: (204) 457-2255

Land Entitlement Status

The First Nation has no outstanding treaty land entitlement.

Education

First Nation members attend George Knott School (First Nation-operated) which offers levels K4-S4 with an enrolment of 472. First Nation members also attend schools off-reserve.

The total student enrolment on and off-reserve for 2003-2004 is 480.

Health Care

Wasagamack Nursing Station
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
Health Canada
Wasagamack, MB
R0B 1Z0
Phone: (204) 457-2024
Fax: (204) 457-2348

There is a nursing station with three nurses located on-reserve. The nearest hospitals are in Norway House and Thompson.

Child and Family Services

Island Lake First Nation
Child and Family Services.
General Delivery
Garden Hill, Manitoba.
R0B 0T0
Phone: (204) 456-2015
Fax: (204) 456-2641

The head office is in Garden Hill and the director is Alfred Wood. Island Lake First Nation Child and Family Services serves four First Nations and has a sub-office in Winnipeg.

Wasagamack Field Office
Island Lake First Nation
Child and Family Services
Wasagamack, MB R0B 1Z0
Phone: (204) 457-2459
Fax: (204) 457-2153

WINNIPEG Sub-office
Island Lake First Nation
Child and Family Services
3rd Floor - 338 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB
R3C 0T2
Phone: (204) 987-9444
Fax: (204) 943-4604

Community Services

On-reserve facilities include an administration office, recreation facilities, pool hall and school bus.

Infrastructure

Water Supply:

The community obtains water from Island Lake. Water is chlorinated and disbursed via water truck and two standpipes. The Administration office has its own river intake. There are 22 houses that have water trucked to cisterns; and 241 houses have water trucked to barrels.

Sewage Disposal:

Pit privies are utilized by most residents. The school, teacherages and RCMP are serviced by a small primary treatment plant. The nursing station, Northern store and Administration office utilize a septic tank and field. There are 22 house that have trucked septic service and 241 houses have no service.

Garbage Disposal:

Two garbage trucks provide garbage pick up to all

residences with disposal to a landfill site constructed in 1995.

Roads:

Wasagamack is accessible by winter road via St. Theresa Point. The community has approximately 20 km of internal roads.

Electrical Service:

Service is provided via land line.

Postal Service:

Air mail is delivered three times per week. The First Nation administers daily, the postal service located on-reserve.

Police Protection:

The First Nation employs one Band constable. The nearest RCMP detachment is located on Stevenson Island in Island Lake, where three provincial contract officers are on staff. Two constables are also located at Island Lake. RCMP Island Lake:
(204) 456-2626

Fire Protection:

The First Nation has one fire truck.

Communications

The First Nation receives radio from Thompson.

CBC-TV is rebroadcast in the community. The First Nation also operates a satellite dish. Single party telephone exchange is available.

Transportation

A 4,000 foot airstrip and air terminal are maintained at St. Theresa Point, the regional service centre, with charter service to the community. There are also dock facilities for float planes and boats.

Resource, Economic and Employment Development

Economic Base:

Commercial fishing and trapping

Commercial and Business Services

- Ralph Harper's Motor Repair Shop
- School Bus
- Wasagamack Construction
- Commercial fishing
- Northern Store Inc.
- McDougall's Catering
- McDougall's Pool Hall
- Jerry Knott's Café
- Wood's Video
- Nancy Harper's Bakery
- F.E. Wood's Crafts
- McDougall's Hauling Service
- Louis P. Wood's Convenience Store
- Wasagamack Convenience Store
- Wood's Main Street Hall
- Publication service
- Perimeter Airlines (St. Theresa Pt.)