
Berens River

Community Overview

The community adjoins the independent Berens River reserve and lies on provincial Crown land. Information in this profile refers to the non-reserve side, unless otherwise noted.

Access

The community is located along the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg at the mouth of the Berens River. It is 292 kilometres north of Winnipeg by air. There are currently only winter road, barge and air linkages to the community.

Governance

The community was first recognized in 1970 and is represented by a mayor and council under The Northern Affairs Act.

Community Contacts

Berens River Community Council
Box 129
Berens River, MB R0B 0A0

Phone: 204-382-2417
Fax: 204-382-2798
Email: berensrivercc@outlook.com

Office Hours and Staff

Monday to Friday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The community employs a part-time community administrative officer, public works employee and back-up water operator.

Economic Overview

The area is part of the Precambrian Shield region of Manitoba. A large part of the region is quite flat and well forested while the balance is rock outcrops and marsh.

The economic activity includes fishing, trapping, forestry, wild rice and a rock quarry operation. Local logging contractors operate independently.

Community Statistics

Population	
1985	195
1991	140
1996	105
2001	42
2006	153
2011	111

**Information is from Statistics Canada.*

Households

There are 53 housing units.

Boundary

Manitoba Regulation 67/2009 refers to Director of Surveys at Winnipeg as No. 19549. See map.

Property Assessment and Taxes

Information is from the 2015 assessment roll and Manitoba Regulation 117/2015 tax rates and levy of Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations.

Value of Assessment	
Business	\$30,600
Real Property	\$650,040
Grants-in-lieu	\$338,830
Exempt	\$2,173,140
Total	\$3,192,610
Rate of Taxation	
General Municipal mills	5.7
Business Tax	3.75%
School Levies	
Foundation mills	11.61
Frontier School Division #48 mills	15.399

Emergency Services

Fire

There is no fire department.

Police

Police response is from the Selkirk RCMP detachment Phone: 204-482-3322. Temporary

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detention facilities are in the RCMP trailer in the community. This facility may be used until RCMP personnel arrive.

Medical

Medical response is provided by the staff of the federal nursing station located on the reserve. Serious cases will be airlifted to Winnipeg under the Northern Patient Transportation Program.

Communication Services

Phone

Manitoba Telecom Services provides individual line service and digital switching with toll free calling to Little Grand Rapids and Poplar River. Office toll free: 204-225-5687.

Cellular Service/High-Speed Internet

Available.

Wi-Fi

Unavailable.

Community Based Services

Airstrip

Manitoba Infrastructure, Northern Airports operate a 2,900' x 75' crushed rock strip with terminal building and remote controlled lighting on the edge of the community. Office Phone: 204-945-3421 in Winnipeg or Berens River Airport Manager Phone: 204-382-2021 or Fax: 204-382-2342.

Hydro

Manitoba Hydro provides landline electric power with limited emergency diesel power. Office toll free: 1-888-624-9376.

Water and Wastewater

Two basic water supply systems have been installed to provide potable water to the community on both sides of Berens River. Water pumped from Lake Winnipeg is filtered, chlorinated and distributed to pressurized standpipes. Some homes on the south side are directly connected to the distribution system. The reserve water system is independent of the community system.

Sewage is hauled by pump-out truck to a sewage lagoon located on the reserve, north of the river.

Waste Disposal

Solid waste is trucked to a disposal site on the reserve.

Schools

Frontier School Division operates the Berens River School located on the reserve, a consolidated school for both community and on reserve students. The school serves 299 students from Nursery to Grade 9. There is a principal, 23 teachers and eight or more support staff. Phone: 204-382-2153.

Recreation Facilities

- Arena
- Community hall

Government Services

Manitoba Sustainable Development

Regional Operations, Eastern Region, District Office and Conservation Officer Phone: 204-345-1407 and Fire Control Officer Phone: 204-345-1419 in Lac du Bonnet.

Environment Officer Phone: 204-345-1486 in Lac du Bonnet and Drinking Water Officer Phone: 204-945-8315 in Winnipeg. After hours emergency number toll free: 1-855-944-4888 (officers on call).

Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living

Public Health Inspector Phone: 204-345-1447 in Lac du Bonnet.

Manitoba Justice

Circuit court sits at Berens River coordinated by the Selkirk Regional Court Office Phone: 204-785-5077.

Manitoba Growth, Enterprise and Trade

Employment Standards Branch Phone: 204-945-3352 in Winnipeg or toll free: 1-800-821-4307.

Office of the Fire Commissioner, Deputy Fire Commissioner Phone: 204-726-6855 in

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Brandon. The 24 hour emergency number toll free: 1-888-389-3473.

Communities Economic Development Fund (CEDF), Head Office Phone: 204-778-4138 in Thompson or toll free: 1-800-561-4315.

Manitoba Indigenous and Municipal Relations
North Central Regional Office Phone:
204-622-2110 in Dauphin. The 24 hour
emergency number toll free: 1-866-735-3111.

Recreation and Regional Services Branch
Phone: 204-268-6021 in Beausejour.

Community and Regional Planning Branch,
Regional Office Phone: 204-268-6063 in
Beausejour.

Commercial Services

Accommodation

- Two facilities at Berens River offer both meals and lodging.

Transportation

- Summer access by motorized lake barge.
- Winter roads provide seasonal access for all classes of vehicles.
- Horbas Trucking and Riverton Transfer provide transportation services.
- Daily flights by Perimeter Aviation, SooWind Air and Northway Aviation provide all-year access to and from Winnipeg.

Business Directory

Business	Phone
Alix Enterprises, general groceries and merchandise	204-382-2341
Berens River Store	204-382-2760
Barra Inn, hotel	204-382-2379
Northern Stores	204-382-2118
Oshetoon Building Supplies	204-382-2016

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