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# Island Lake

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## **Community Overview**

### **History**

The original settlement was established by the Hudson's Bay Company in 1818 and is listed as one of the posts occupied at the time of merging with the North West Company. The community consists of a group of islands near the north shore of Island Lake which include: Stevenson, Wass, Hamilton, Boothe, Chapins, RC Mission, Gravel and Lindsays. These Islands are quite close to the Garden Hill First Nation.

### **Access**

The community is 412 air kilometres (km) northeast of Winnipeg and 260 air km southeast of Thompson.

### **Governance**

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

### **Economic Overview**

Located in the Precambrian Shield region, small to medium deposits of lithium and nickel have been found and magnetic anomalies indicate further reserves. Bighorn Development Corporation at the Island Lake Ministic Site undertook rehabilitation of the Ministic gold mine shaft on the main vein. Diamond drilling in 1987 explored the Climpy and Rex veins. Active mineral exploration continues for other base metals, copper, zinc and additional gold reserves. Trapping and fishing provide income to the local economy. Sport fishing and hunting form the basis for some tourist operations. Island Lake is still a focal point in terms of the Northern Store and service sector.

### **Community Contacts**

Island Lake Community Council  
Box 39  
Stevenson Island, MB R0B 2H0

Phone: 204-456-2470

Fax: 204-456-2814

Email: stevenson4562@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### **Staff**

The community employs a community administrative officer, public works employee/ water and wastewater operator and backup, fire chief and emergency coordinator.

### **Statistics**

Census Year	Population
1985	86
1991	92
1996	93
2001	59
2006	69
2011	59
2016	79
2021	54

*\*information is from Statistics Canada*

### **Households**

There are 46 housing units.

### **Boundary**

Manitoba Regulation 67/2009 refers to Director of Surveys at Winnipeg as No. 18601A. See map.

### **Property Assessment and Taxes**

Information is from the 2023 assessment roll and Tax Rates Regulation (2023) of Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations.

Value of Assessment	
Business	\$89,900
Real Property	\$4,035,860
Total	\$4,125,760
Grants-in-lieu	\$1,910,560
Exempt	\$333,210
Rate of Taxation	
General Municipal	5.7 mills
Business Tax	3.75%
School Levies	
Education Support	8.140 mills
Frontier School Division #48	12.422 mills

### **Emergency Services**

#### **Fire**

Firefighting capability is based on a pumper truck and equipment from the fire hall. Portable forestry equipment is also available for grass and brush fires, with some equipment being located on other surrounding islands. The volunteer fire department responds locally. Emergency number Phone: 204-456-2701.

#### **Police**

Police response is from the Island Lake RCMP detachment. Phone: 204-456-2290. A lock-up is also provided.

#### **Medical**

Medical support is from the federal nursing station at the Garden Hill First Nation staffed with three community health workers and a dental assistant. A doctor provides clinic-type services Monday to Thursday each week. The nearest hospital is in Norway House, with most air flights direct to Winnipeg. The community qualifies for the Northern Patient Transportation Program.

### **Communication Services**

#### **Phone**

BellMTS provides individual line service and digital switching with toll free calling to: Wasagamach, Garden Hill, St. Theresa Point. Office toll free: 204-225-5687.

**Cellular Service/Wi-Fi/High-Speed Internet**  
Available.

### **Community-Based Services**

#### **Airstrip**

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure, Northern Airports operate a 4,000' x 100' crushed rock airstrip on Stevenson Island complete with terminal and remote controlled lighting. A private contractor provides fuel facilities. Office: 204-945-3421 in Winnipeg or airport manager Phone: 204-456-2736 or Fax: 204-456-2515.

#### **Hydro**

Manitoba Hydro provides service through the landline electric system. Office toll free: 1-888-624-9376.

#### **Water**

Lake water is treated and distributed to portions of the community, other residents have access to a truck/pail fill at the treatment plant.

#### **Wastewater**

Wastewater on Stevenson Island is treated by an extended aeration plant capable of handling up to 15,000 igpd (built in 2000). Other locations have private systems.

#### **Waste Disposal**

A solid waste site on Stevenson Island utilizes an incinerator to reduce the bulk of solid material. Wass Island has a solid waste site only.

#### **Schools**

The Stevenson Island School, operated by Frontier School Division, serves 13 students from Nursery to Grade 9. Phone: 204-456-2786. Students are ferried from the other islands by boat from spring to fall and by snowmobile in winter.

#### **Recreation Facilities**

- community hall (accommodates up to 150)
- curling rink (two sheets)
- community gym

### **Commercial Services**

#### **Accommodation**

- Island Lake Lodge, on Wass Island, provides overnight accommodation/meals.
- Triple C provides overnight accommodation on Stevenson Island.

#### **Transportation**

- Gardewine North, Horbas Transfer and Riverton Transfer provide winter road freight services. At other times of the year, they transport to the nearest air carrier serving the community.
- Perimeter Aviation provides daily scheduled flights from Winnipeg.

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- Air freight via Red Sucker Lake provided by Wasa Air.
- Chartered air service is provided by Custom Helicopters and Yukon Helicopters. Sabourin Lake Airways provides flights to northwestern Ontario.

### **Business Directory**

<b>Business</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Arnason Industries Ltd	204-456-2752
Garden Hill Convenience	204-456-2120
Laundry Mat	204-456-2257
Mikisew Store	204-456-2589
Ministic Store	204-456-2825
Northern Store	204-456-2333
Triple C Enterprises Ltd	204-456-2907

### **Government Services**

#### **Provincial Government Departments**

##### Manitoba Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources

Regional Operations, Northern Region, District Office and conservation officer Phone: 204-456-2362 in Island Lake. Fire operations manager Phone: 204-677-6623 in Thompson.

##### Manitoba Environment and Climate Change

Regional drinking water officer Phone: 204-642-6134 in Gimli. Environment officer Phone: 204-620-5797 or 431-355-2245 in The Pas. The 24 hour environmental emergency response line toll free: 1-855-944-4888.

##### Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care

Public health inspector Phone: 204-677-6472 in Thompson.

##### Manitoba Indigenous Economic Development

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

##### Manitoba Justice

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

##### Manitoba Labour and Immigration

Employment Standards Branch Phone:

204-945-3352 in Winnipeg or toll free: 1-800-821-4307.

Inspection and Technical Services, building inspector Phone: 204-945-3373 in Winnipeg or Email: [TechnicalServices@gov.mb.ca](mailto:TechnicalServices@gov.mb.ca).

Workplace Safety and Health Branch toll free: 1-855-957-SAFE (7233).

##### Manitoba Municipal and Northern Relations

Northern Affairs, North Central Region Phone: 204-622-2110 in Dauphin. The 24 hour emergency number toll free: 1-866-735-3111.

Community and Regional Planning Branch, Regional Office Phone: 204-945-8353 in Winnipeg.

Community Development Branch, Eastman/Norman Region regional consultant Phone: 204-268-6021 in Beausejour.

Office of the Fire Commissioner, emergency services officer Phone: 204-726-6855 in Brandon or Email: [firecomm@gov.mb.ca](mailto:firecomm@gov.mb.ca). The 24 hour emergency response number toll free: 1-888-253-1488.

##### Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure

Emergency Measures Organization, General Office and emergency management advisor Phone: 204-945-3050 in Winnipeg toll free: 1-888-267-8298.

