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# Matheson Island

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## **Community Overview**

### **History**

The community is situated on the island of the same name near The Narrows on Lake Winnipeg. Nearby are Princess Harbour, Pine Dock and the Bloodvein reserve. While Pine Dock is on the same side of the lake as Matheson Island, the other communities are about 16 kilometres (km) across the lake.

### **Access**

An internal road runs the length of the island from the ferry landing. The ferry connects to Provincial Road (PR) 234 in the part of the community known as Islandview and an all-weather road to Provincial Trunk Highway 8 north of Riverton. Winnipeg is 224 km to the south of the island.

### **Governance**

The community was recognized in 1969 and is represented by a mayor and council under The Northern Affairs Act.

### **Economic Overview**

Present economic activity centres around commercial fishing, followed by trapping, some saw logging and local services. Peat Moss farms along highway 234 employ a number of residents as well. Commercial fishers deliver their catch to the Islandview fish station which is then shipped to Freshwater Marketing Corporation in Winnipeg. Trapping is done in the Bullhead Registered Trapline Zone. Snake Island Contractors are the owners and operators of the sawmill and most of the lumber has been used locally for building purposes. They employ local residents in the operation.

The Matheson Island Community Development Corporation was formed to encourage economic development and growth. The community with Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) operate the cable ferry and winter road during the ferry off season.

### **Contacts**

Matheson Island Community Council  
6 Ken Bird Dr.  
Matheson Island, MB R0C 2A0

Phone: 204-276-2150

Fax: 204-276-2196

Phone: 204-276-2390 Hall

Email: [mathesoncouncil@lincsat.com](mailto:mathesoncouncil@lincsat.com)

website: [www.mathesonisland.ca](http://www.mathesonisland.ca)

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### **Staff**

The community employs a community administrative officer and assistant, public works employee, water operator and backup, fire chief, emergency coordinator, three ferry operators and two winter road employees.

### **Statistics**

Census Year	Population
1985	150
1991	128
1996	111
2001	99
2006	117
2011	103
2016	101
2021	131

*\*information is from Statistics Canada*

### **Households**

There are 80 housing units.

### **Boundary**

Manitoba Regulation 67/2009 refers to Director of Surveys at Winnipeg as No. 19224. 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	\$9,100
Real Property	\$4,604,910

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Total	\$4,614,010
Grants-in-lieu	\$428,640
Exempt	\$290,950
<b>Rate of Taxation</b>	
General Municipal	5.7 mills
Business Tax	3.75%
<b>School Levies</b>	
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. Additional portable forestry-style equipment is available for grass and brush fires. The volunteer fire department responds locally.

#### **Police**

Police response is from the Arborg RCMP detachment. Phone: 204-376-5251.

#### **Medical**

Medical response is based on ambulance service from Riverton. Phone: 204-642-4040. Hospitals are located in Arborg and Gimli.

### Communication Services

#### **Phone**

BellMTS Pine Dock Exchange provides individual line service and digital switching with toll free calling to: Arborg, Hecla, Poplarfield, Riverton, Vidir. Office toll free: 204-225-5687.

#### **Cellular Service/Wi-Fi**

Unavailable.

#### **High-Speed Internet**

Available.

### Community-Based Services

#### **Airstrip**

Kitchi Airways, a local contractor, operates an unattended limited maintenance 3,500' x 100' gravel strip adjacent to the community.

#### **Ferry Services**

Marine Services of MTI operate the ferry *MV*. The cable ferry *C. F. Ingemar Carlson II* operates between Islandview and Matheson Island on a daily basis with connection to PR 234. Schedule: Monday to Saturday 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

#### **Hydro**

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

#### **Water**

There are 37 drilled private wells and some water intakes from Lake Winnipeg.

#### **Wastewater**

Wastewater is collected by pump-out truck and treated by a lagoon located in the community.

#### **Waste Disposal**

A solid waste site is located on the island near the community.

#### **Schools**

The Matheson Island School, operated by Frontier School Division, serves 15 students from Nursery to Grade 9. Phone: 204-276-2118.

#### **Recreation Facilities**

- baseball field
- community hall and office
- indoor rink

### Commercial Services

#### **Transportation**

- Gardewine North and Riverton Transfer provide freight service out of their respective terminals in Winnipeg and Riverton.

#### **Business Directory**

Business	Phone
Berns Bakery (Seasonal)	204-276-2195
Kitchi Airways	204-276-2630
Matheson Island Co-op	204-276-2136
Matheson Island Fish Plant	204-276-2201

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### **Government Services**

#### **Provincial Government Departments**

Manitoba Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources

Regional Operations, Eastern Region, District Office and conservation officer Phone: 204-378-2261 in Riverton. Fire operations manager Phone: 204-345-1419 in Lac du Bonnet.

#### **Manitoba Environment and Climate Change**

Regional drinking water officer Phone: 204-642-6134 and environment officer Phone: 204-641-4091 in Gimli. The 24 hour environmental emergency response line toll free: 1-855-944-4888.

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

Public health inspector Phone: 204-785-5209 in Selkirk.

#### **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 Arborg or Bloodvein 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: 204-785-5090 in Selkirk.

Community Development Branch, Interlake Region regional consultant Phone: 204-642-6014 in Selkirk.

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 or toll free: 1-888-267-8298.

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