

The community of Garden Hill is located on the north shore of Island Lake across from the Métis community of Stevenson Island, a regional service centre. Garden Hill First Nation is located 610 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg and 300 air kilometres southeast of Thompson.

History

Until 1969, Garden Hill, Wasagamack, St. Theresa Point, and Red Sucker Lake all comprised the single Island Lake First Nation.

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

Language

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

Reserves

AmikWachink Sakahikan IR

Area: 3,310 acres (1,340 hectares)

Garden Hill First Nation

Area: 18,180 acres (7,357 hectares)

Pe-ta-waygamak IR

Area: 15,054 acres (6,092 hectares)

Seeseep Sakahikan IR

Area: 3,365 acres (1,362 hectares)

Wesha Kijav Wasagamach IR

Area: 503 acres (204 hectares)

Total number of reserves: 5
Total area: 40,413 acres (16,354 hectares)

Population

According to the regional population statistics of Dec. 31, 2003, the First Nation has an on-reserve population of 3,198

and an off-reserve population of 335. The total First Nation population is 3,553.

First Nation Government

The Chief of the Garden Hill First Nation is David Harper.

Councillors are: Jack K. Harper, Dino Flett, William T. Flett, Abraham Harper, Robert Wood, Amos Wood, Russell Wood and Lee Harper.

The Chief and Council were elected Jan. 29, 2004 under Band custom for a term of two years.

Garden Hill First Nation
Island Lake, MB

ROB 0T0
Phone: (204) 456-2085
Fax: (204) 456-9315

Land Entitlement Status

The First Nation has no outstanding treaty land entitlement.

Education

First Nation members attend the Band-operated Garden Hill Elementary school, which has an enrolment of 550, and the Garden Hill First Nation High School, which has an enrolment of

149. Each school offers levels K4-S4 (Grade12). First Nation members also attend schools off-reserve.

The total First Nation student enrolment on and off-reserve for 2003-2004 is 710.

Health Care

Garden Hill Nursing Station
First Nations and Inuit Health Branch
Health Canada
Island Lake, MB
ROB 0T0
Phone: (204) 456-2343
Fax: (204) 456-2866

The nearest hospital is located in Norway House. There are eight nurse at the nursing station on-reserve.

Child and Family Services

Island Lake First Nation Child and Family Services.
General Delivery
Garden Hill, MB
ROB 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 was mandated in April of 1997, serves four First Nations, and has a sub-office in Winnipeg.

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

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, curling rink, skating rink, community club hall and the schools which include playing fields, a gymnasium and an auditorium.

Infrastructure

Water Supply:

The community obtains water directly from Island Lake which is chlorinated by a small treatment plant and distributed via a standpipe system. There is one house on a well; eight houses have cisterns; 267 houses have water barrels; and 236 houses have no service. The RCMP use a holding tank for drinking water.

Sewage Disposal:

Pit privies are utilized by all residents. The schools, teacherages, and nursing station utilize a sequencing batch reactor. The RCMP utilize a septic field.

Garbage Disposal:

The community has a landfill site.

Roads:

Garden Hill is not accessible by all weather road, however, there is a winter road from Bloodvein. The main road consists of 11.9 kilometres and a secondary road of 9.8 kilometres.

Electrical Service:

Service is provided by land line.

Postal Service:

Air mail service is provided four times per week.

Police Protection:

The First Nation employs two First Nation constables. RCMP on Stevenson Island in Island Lake.

RCMP Island Lake:

(204) 456-2626

Fire Protection:

The First Nation has a fire truck and twelve-person volunteer fire department.

Communications

The First Nation receives radio from Thompson and Winnipeg. The CBC operates a rebroadcast transmitter for CBC-TV in the community. The First Nation operates a satellite dish.

Single telephone party exchange and toll service is available.

Transportation

There is a 3,500 foot gravel airstrip from Stevenson Island a few kilometres away across the lake. This airstrip is serviced by scheduled flights. There are dock facilities for boats and float planes.

Resource, Economic and Employment Development

Economic Base:

Commercial fishing and trapping

Commercial and Business Services

- Garden Hill Laundromat
- Garden Hill gas bar
- Perimeter Airlines
- Island Lake Lodge
- School bus
- Ministic Air/Charter Service
- Northern Store
- Garden Hill Construction Co.
- Sportsplex and Arena
- Chicken Delight
- Ministik Place (store)
- Meechim Place Restaurant
- convenience store