



## **AREA 3 - BERENS RIVER**



Traditional community name: Miimiiwiziibing (Pigeon River)

#### Access:

Two flights per day via Amik Aviation and Northway Aviation. Overland access is by

gravel, all-weather road from Manigotogan or via winter road.



**Treaty territory:** Treaty 5



**Population:** Approximately 2500 on reserve (Berens River First Nation) and about 135 residents of the Northern Affairs community of Berens River.



On the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg, approximately 270 air kilometres north of Winnipeg.



School: Berens River School



Indigenous Language(s):

Anishinabemowin (Saulteaux dialect)



January

#### Average Temperatures:

July High -17° C High 26° C Low 13° C Low -27° C

### **BERENS RIVER SCHOOL**

Grades: Nursery to Grade 9 and Adult Education **Enrollment:** Approximately 400 Staff: Approximately 70

Frontier School Division is known for friendly people, cultural diversity, and the natural beauty of Northern Manitoba.

We are committed to the success of all students and believe that quality, inclusive education includes Indigenous perspectives, local language(s) and cultural programming. Providing meaningful, appropriate, and locally relevant education is a shared responsibility of all staff members.



#### Teacherages

There are 20 teacherages located next to the school which include one, two, and three bedroom units. These teacherages come in a variety of options including detached two-story houses, duplexes, and mobile homes.

Frontier School Division subsidizes rental fees and provides maintenance. Teacherages in Berens River are fully furnished and pets are allowed. Cell service and wireless high-speed internet are available but must be arranged and paid for by the tenant.

#### PROGRAM AND ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHT

The school offers a Saulteaux language program for nursery to grade 8. Students have opportunities for learning traditional skills on the land at the school's Wilderness Camp. A formal graduation ceremony is held each year for grade 9 students who must leave the community to complete their high school education elsewhere.

#### **About the Community**

Indigenous peoples have inhabited and harvested resources from the east side of Lake Winnipeg for at least 6,000 years.

Located in the scenic Boreal Forest on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg, the community of Miimiiwiziibing (Pigeon River) was renamed Berens River in honour of Jacob Berens (b. 1832-35, d. 1916), who was made Chief during Treaty Five negotiations in 1875.

Today, the community of Berens River includes both the Northern Affairs community of Berens River and Beren River First Nation.

Amenities include a Northern Store, pharmacy, nursing station, daycare centre, coffee shops, arena and community hall.

The local economy is based on fishing, trapping, and forestry.

# Frontier School Division spans nearly 75% of the province and is organized into 5 Areas.





#### **Frontier School Division Contacts**

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