



AREA 1 - GILLAM



Traditional Community Name:
None Known



Population:
Approximately 1,200
Approximately 500 on reserve



Gillam School:
Grades: Nursery to Grade 12
Enrollment: Approximately 280
Staff: Approximately 45



Access:
By air, by train, or by gravel roads



Indigenous Language(s):
Ininimowin (N-Dialect/
Swampy Cree)



Average Temperatures:
January
High -18 °C Low -26 °C
Extreme Low -36 °C
June
High 19 °C Low 3 °C
Extreme High 29 °C



Treaty Territory:
Treaty 5



Location:
Approximately 1,000 km north of Winnipeg and 250 km north of Thompson, Manitoba

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Gillam is located on the southeastern shore of Stephens Lake, which has been within the traditional territory of the mahkêsiw sâkahikan (Fox Lake) Cree Nation since time immemorial. Local amenities include a hospital, pharmacy, grocery store, hair salon, and recreation centre (library, movie theatre, fitness centre, skating and curling rinks). An important transportation route for the Cree, the Nelson River attracted many fur traders. One such trader, Captain Gillam, built two trading posts there in the 1600s. The town of Gillam was named after him upon its establishment in the early 1900s during the construction of the Hudson Bay Railway. Today, many residents are employed by Manitoba Hydro and other businesses supporting hydro-electric development.



SUBSIDIZED HOUSING IN GILLAM

Staff housing is primarily located within walking distance of the school. All available units are 3-bedroom detached houses outfitted with a fridge, stove, washer, and dryer. Heat and electricity are covered in the rent and maintenance is provided by Frontier School Division. Cell service and internet are available but must be arranged and paid for by the tenant.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Gillam School's mission statement is "At Gillam School, We: Care. Empower. Achieve. Celebrate." The school offers a Cree Language Program from kindergarten to Grade 6. Once children reach high school, courses on Truth and Reconciliation, Treaties and First Nations, Métis, and Inuit studies are offered as well. The school maintains a good relationship with the Elders and Knowledge Keepers of the local Fox Lake Cree Nation, and students have opportunities to go out harvesting on the land under their guidance. These experiences help students learn about local Indigenous history, and are crucial to the development of their Cree language and land-based skills.

REASONS TO JOIN FRONTIER SCHOOL DIVISION

- Our 39 school communities are populated with friendly people and are located in some of the most scenic areas of the province.
- There are many opportunities to engage with local Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers and to participate in local cultural events and activities.
- Frontier School Division is dedicated to the preservation and revitalization of Indigenous languages and cultures, as well as advancing the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee.
- We provide our teachers with PD and other supports to ensure our students receive a quality, inclusive education that includes Indigenous perspectives, local language(s), and cultural programming.
- Frontier School Division has a unique 3-tiered, grassroots governance system to help provide meaningful, appropriate, and locally relevant education in our schools.
- Frontier School Division spans nearly 75% of the province and is organized into 5 Areas.



Frontier School Division Contacts

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