



AREA 4 - SHERRIDON



Traditional Community Name:
Kississing Sakahigan
(Cold Lake)



Population:
Approximately 60



Cold Lake School:
Grades: Kindergarten to Grade 8
Enrollment: Approximately 15
Staff: Approximately 7



Access:
All-weather roads



Indigenous Language(s):
Neethowiw
(Th-Dialect/Rocky Cree)



Average Temperatures:
January
High -16 °C Low -25 °C
Record Low -32 °C
June
High 21 °C Low 9 °C
Record High 21 °C



Treaty Territory:
Treaty 5



Location:
Approximately 820 km northwest of Winnipeg and 183 km north of The Pas

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

The area in and around Sherridon has been inhabited by Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial. The local Cree named the lake here "kississing" a variation on the word "kisin", which translates to cold in English.

Later, Kississing became the name of a Metis road allowance community founded to the south of the settler community that had developed to support local mining activities in the area. By the 1920s, the community had adopted the name "Sherridon", combining the names of the prospectors Sherritt and Gordon who had developed the local Sherritt-Gordon mine. When this mine was depleted in the late 1940s, all mining equipment and buildings were moved north to Lynn Lake.

Today, the local economy is based commercial fishing, trapping, mining, forestry, tourism, and wild rice harvesting. At present, the abandoned mine is currently undergoing remediation and may become another source of employment in the future.



SUBSIDIZED HOUSING IN SHERRIDON

There are two houses for staff located steps away from the school: a three-bedroom bungalow, and a one-bedroom house built by students in the carpentry program at Frontier Collegiate in Cranberry Portage. Both houses are equipped with a fridge, stove, washer and dryer. Up to two pets are allowed.

Utilities are included in the rent and Frontier School Division provides maintenance.

Internet is available but must be arranged and paid for by the tenant.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Cold Lake School offers students opportunities to participate in a variety of Indigenous Way of Life activities and special events under the guidance of a local Knowledge Keeper. Activities include snaring rabbits, traditional story telling, beading, and more. The school also hosts a weekly sharing circle with students, where participants are encouraged to talk about their lives and the world around them. Because of the school's small size, students receive lots of personal attention and are provided with individualized support to ensure they find success in their education.

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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