



The Keystone Province

Established 1870
5th Province

Did You Know?



- Manitoba got its name from the Cree words *manito wapow*, meaning the “narrows of the spirit.” At the narrows of Lake Manitoba, crashing waves make a unique, bell-like sound that is said to come from a huge drum beaten by a *manitou*, or spirit.
- The famous storybook bear, Winnie-the-Pooh, was named after a black bear cub in the London Zoo. The bear’s owner was Lieutenant Harry Colbourn, a Canadian soldier and veterinarian serving in Britain during World War I. He named the bear Winnie because he missed his hometown of Winnipeg.
- Winnipeg is home to the Royal Canadian Mint, where coins for Canada are *minted* (made out of metal).
- Manitoba is home to one of the largest wolf populations in the world.
- The Winnipeg Art Gallery houses the largest collection of modern Inuit art in the world.
- The corner of Portage Avenue and Main Street in Winnipeg was the intersection of two fur-trading trails, one following the Assiniboine River to the west and the other going to Hudson Bay in the north. Many businesses opened by this corner, and this intersection is still one of the best known addresses in the country.
- The Winnipeg Falcons won the first ever Olympic hockey gold medal in 1920.
- Churchill, in northern Manitoba, is the polar bear capital of the world. People can take tours onto the tundra where polar bears make their dens.
- Every spring in Narcisse, Manitoba, mating season brings thousands of red-sided garter snakes slithering out of cracks in the rocks where they live.

Quick Facts



Capital city: Winnipeg

Population: 1,318,128

Total Area: 647,797 square kilometres (250,116 sq miles)

Population Density: 2.20 persons per square kilometre (5.70 per sq mile)

The Place



Climate

Manitoba holds the record for Canada’s greatest temperature swings between summer and winter. Some areas in the province see a 60°C (140°F) swing in one year! So Manitobans enjoy warm, sun-filled summers as well as cold, crisp winters with temperatures well below freezing. This climate of extremes is called a *continental* climate. Afternoon temperatures in July and August average 25°C (77°F), while average winter temperatures range from -27 to -18°C (-17 to 0°F). More than half of the annual precipitation falls in the summer months. Most of southern Manitoba receives 110 to 140 centimetres (43 to 55 in) of snow each year, with the heaviest snow (160 cm, 63 in) falling in the Duck and Riding mountains in the northeastern area.



Average Seasonal High and Low Temperatures

Spring: 6/-6°C

Summer: 22/10°C

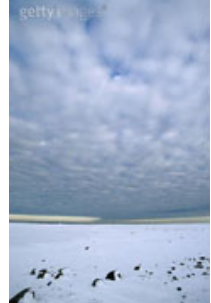
Fall: 7/-3°C

Winter: -12/-22°C

Geography

Manitoba covers 649,950 square kilometres (250,947 sq miles), which is 6.5 percent of Canada. It is almost a third the size of Mexico and three times the size of the state of Minnesota. It is the eighth largest province in Canada. Manitoba is nicknamed the Keystone Province because it lies in the centre of the country. Manitoba is bordered in the north by the territory of Nunavut, in the northeast by Hudson Bay, and in the south by North Dakota. To the west is Saskatchewan and to the east is Ontario.

South and central Manitoba are dotted with lakes formed thousands of years ago after the ice age. The largest of these surviving lakes is Lake Winnipeg, covering 24,500 square kilometres (9,459 sq miles). Most of the land to the south of these lakes is prairie land and has rolling hills and valleys. In northern and western Manitoba, the land rises to form *plateaus* (high, flat land) and small mountains. Duck, Riding, and Porcupine are a few of the mountain ranges found in this area. Baldy Mountain is Manitoba's highest point, at 832 metres (2,730 ft). The northern portion of the province is part of a region called the Canadian Shield, which is a U-shaped area of ancient rock elevated above sea level. The southern part of the shield has thick forests, while the northern part is covered in *tundra* (rolling, treeless plains in which the ground under the topsoil is permanently frozen).



Wildlife

Manitoba has varied wildlife. In Manitoba's early history, herds of bison roamed the prairies. But bison hunters killed many of the animals, and the bison almost became extinct. However, the bison have made a comeback on the prairies. Manitoba has established herds to increase the number of bison. The grizzly bear does not exist in the wild in Manitoba any more.



Flora and Fauna

Common Animals

American white pelican
 Beaver
 Bluejay
 Coyote
 Elk
 Great blue heron
 Great gray owl
 Moose
 Porcupine
 Raccoon
 Red-sided garter snake
 Ruffed grouse
 White-tailed deer
 Woodpecker

Common Plants

Ash
 Aspen
 Birch
 Black spruce
 Cedar
 Elm
 Jack pine
 Oak
 White spruce
 Tamarack

Endangered Animals

- Baird's sparrow
- Burrowing owl
- Eskimo curlew
- Loggerhead shrike
- Peregrine falcon
- Piping plover
- Uncas skipper
- Whooping crane

Endangered Plants

- Great Plains ladies' tresses
- Small white lady's slipper
- Western prairie fringed orchid

Environmental Issues

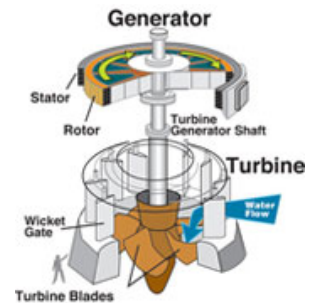
Climate Change

Manitoba is addressing the issue of global warming, particularly since the province's economy depends so heavily on *renewable resources* (natural resources that get used up slower than they are restored) like forests, farming, and water supply. Manitoba is developing and investing in alternative energies such as wind power and *ethanol* (alcohol made from grain). Also, the province is finding ways to change manufacturing, industrial, and farming processes to reduce the amount of *greenhouse gases* (atmospheric gases that warm the Earth) that are polluting the atmosphere.



Hydroelectric Power

Since Manitoba contains many bodies of water and rivers, the province is developing large amounts of *hydroelectric power* (water-powered electricity). This power is cheaper than traditional power supplies and produces no harmful gases. However, the *hydroelectric power* process can include changing the flow of rivers and lake levels. Environmentalists and residents living near *hydroelectric power* plants argue that these changes, in turn, have a negative effect on the local environment. The power plants can slowly wear away land and, in some cases, permanently change the traditional lifestyle patterns of *indigenous* (native) peoples.



Resources and Industries

Agriculture

Farming has been Manitoba's largest industry since the late 1800s. Wheat is the most important crop. Manitoba grows canola and flax in addition to other grains. In fact, Manitoba produces the most sunflower seeds in all of Canada! *Mixed farming* is a popular form of farming in which the farmer grows *cash crops* (crops for money) and raises livestock on the same farm. Most *mixed farms* raise beef cattle, but dairy farms are more common around Winnipeg.



Manufacturing

In recent years, manufacturing has become a major part of Manitoba's economy, providing thousands of jobs for Manitobans. The major manufacturing industries include food, paper, farm machinery, *fabricated metals* (everything from nuts and bolts to aerospace materials), transportation equipment (buses, motor homes, and fire engines), and all kinds of clothing (including gloves and ski wear). More than half of all products manufactured in Manitoba are *exported* (sold to other countries).





Mining




The cities of Flin Flon, The Pas, Thompson, and Bissett contain rich mineral deposits. Most of Manitoba's nickel is mined at Thompson. This nickel is used to make stainless steel for food processing, transportation, and construction equipment. More than half the copper mined in Manitoba is used to make electrical wire and cables, while zinc is most commonly used to coat iron and steel products, making them rust-resistant.



History

Time Line

	<i>Aboriginal</i> (native) peoples inhabit the land of Manitoba thousands of years before European explorers arrive	
AD 1400		
1400	Manitoba <i>indigenous</i> (native) peoples grow <i>maize</i> (corn) and hunt bison and trade with other First Nations peoples from the south (what is now the United States) and east (what is now eastern Canada)	
1600		
1610	Henry Hudson sails his ship, the <i>Discovery</i> , into the bay that now bears his name	

1612	Captain Thomas Button winters two ships (the <i>Discovery</i> and the <i>Resolution</i>) at Port Nelson as the Europeans search for the fabled Northwest Passage around Hudson Bay in Manitoba	
1670	King Charles II of England gives Rupert's Land to the Hudson's Bay Company, along with sole rights to the fur trade in the area	
1682	The first fur-trading post in Manitoba opens at York Factory	
1690	Henry Kelsey explores Northern Manitoba from Hudson Bay to the Saskatchewan River	
1700		
1733–38	French explorer and fur trader Pierre Gaultier (La Vérendrye) builds Fort Rouge at The Forks, the site where the Red and Assiniboine rivers meet	
1800		
1812	Settlers from Scotland arrive at Point Douglas and establish a settlement called the Red River Colony at what is now Winnipeg	
1816	Twenty settlers and two <i>Métis</i> (people with both European and native parents) are killed in the Battle of Seven Oaks	
1821	The Hudson's Bay Company and the North West Company unite, and the fight over the fur trade ends	
1869–70	The Red River Resistance between the local <i>Métis</i> and Canadian authorities is led by Louis Riel	
1871	Canada and the First Nations of Manitoba sign Treaties 1 and 2	

1870 The Canadian federal government passes the Manitoba Act, creating the province of Manitoba



1878 John Norquay becomes the first *Métis* premier of Manitoba



1885 Louis Riel and eight *aboriginal* people are hanged for their involvement in the Northwest Rebellion

1900

1912 A boundary change (to 60° north latitude) finalizes Manitoba's current borders

1916 Manitoba becomes the first province in Canada to allow women to vote and to run for public office





1919 Manitoba workers go on *strike* (stop working) because of long hours and low pay; this *strike* was called the Winnipeg General Strike



1929 The Hudson Bay Railway from The Pas to Churchill is completed



1950	The Red River overflows its banks, forcing 100,000 people out of their homes	
1952	Manitoba allows First Nations peoples the right to vote in provincial elections	
1969	The Red River Floodway is completed	
1985	The Supreme Court of Canada rules that all of Manitoba's laws, written in English, must be translated into French	
1994	Manitoba First Nations peoples sign the Framework Agreement Initiative, providing for research into the self-government of First Nations peoples in Manitoba	
1997	The worst flooding in 150 years forces 80,000 people to flee the Red River Valley	
2000		
2006	The Grey Cup, the Canadian Football League (CFL) championship, is held in Winnipeg	
2011	The Atlanta Thrashers National Hockey League team relocate to Winnipeg and are renamed the Winnipeg Jets	
PRESENT		

First Peoples

The first people to live in Manitoba harvested multiple resources in different seasons. They hunted herds of bison, caribou, and elk across the land. Some harvested *man-o-min* (wild rice) by paddling their canoes through rice beds, sweeping the long rice stalks over the sides of the canoe with sticks so the green rice would fall off and fill the canoe. Then they would roast the rice till it was brown and toss it into the air on blankets until the dried husks fell away. Manitoba's first peoples met to trade goods and share in festivals and celebrations. The Forks (in Winnipeg) was a popular gathering place for *aboriginal* (native) groups for more than six thousand years.



The Fur Trade

From the 1600s to the mid-1800s, *indigenous* (native) peoples were involved in the fur trade. Europeans established several forts near Manitoba First Nations settlements. These forts were run by the Montreal-based North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company, based in London, England. King Charles II of Great Britain had given a large portion of the land that is now Manitoba to the Hudson's Bay Company, calling it Rupert's Land after his cousin, Prince Rupert. In 1869, the new Canadian government bought Rupert's Land from Hudson's Bay Company.



First Nations peoples traded furs in exchange for European goods such as tea, sugar, flour, and woven cloth. During this period of relative peace, First Nations peoples and European traders worked together to meet everyone's needs. Many French and British traders married *aboriginal* (native) women. The children of these unions were called *Métis*, French for "mixed." They shared the cultures and religions of their parents' different backgrounds and developed their own unique customs. Unfortunately, this harmony between natives and newcomers changed with the arrival of more European immigrants into First Nations lands.

The Red River Colony

The Red River Colony was the first permanent European settlement in Manitoba. It was a farming settlement formed in 1812 by Scottish immigrants who were fleeing poverty in their homeland. They were led by Lord Selkirk of the Hudson's Bay Company. The farmers based their settlement at the intersection of the Red and Assiniboine rivers, called The Forks. They experienced many problems in their new settlement. Attacks of grasshoppers threatened their grain and vegetable crops, as did the unexpected flooding of the Red River. In addition to these environmental hazards, the North West Company and the local Métis felt threatened by the colonists, who they feared would take control of trade routes and food supplies. Several conflicts followed over the next few years, including the Battle of Seven Oaks, in which a group of Métis killed several colonists. In 1821, the North West Company joined together with the Hudson's Bay Company.



Red River Resistance

The *indigenous* (native) peoples of the Red River region, particularly the Métis (who made up 60 percent of the area's population), were upset about the government's purchase of their homeland. They didn't think the Hudson's Bay Company had the right to claim ownership of their traditional territories. In 1869, Métis leader Louis Riel led a successful takeover of Fort Garry and set up a temporary government there. The Métis wrote down a list of the rights they wanted and sent it to the national government in Ottawa. After much bargaining, the national government eventually granted the Métis the rights and lands they demanded. But rather than resolving the problem, this grant further angered the unfriendly settlers, and over time, the Métis lost most of their land. Many fled Manitoba for places farther west.



The Last, Best West

The Canadian national government encouraged westward expansion after Manitoba became a Canadian province in 1870. The area would need large numbers of immigrants to inhabit and work the land to become a developed province. In the late 1800s, in order to gain full access to the land, the government signed several Numbered Treaties with the chiefs of the native peoples in the region. As part of these treaties, the native peoples gave up their rights to the land in exchange for enough land for their families, some food aid and help from the government, and the right to hunt and fish on the land. In most cases, the chiefs had no choice but to sign the treaties. The government set up *reserves* (land set aside for native use), but it often was not as much land as was promised. Many native children were sent away to *residential* (boarding) schools where they were given Christian names and forced to speak only English or French. These schools were often crowded, did not provide the children with proper nutrition or health care, and often led to them losing touch entirely with their culture and identity.



At the same time, the government began a campaign to bring immigrants from all parts of the world. The most common slogan used in such campaigns referred to Canada as “the last, best west.” Pamphlets, such as “A Practical Handbook and Guide to Manitoba and the Northwest,” were sent to every library in Great Britain and eastern Canada, as well as to many places in the United States. Canadian Pacific Railways immigration pamphlets often showed prairie farming in an idealized way. Other pamphlets were sent to Europe. Thousands of Germans, Ukrainians, and other eastern Europeans came to Manitoba to take advantage of the free land.

Russian *Mennonites* (peaceful, independent Protestant groups) fled to Manitoba from Russia in search of religious freedom and *exemption* (release) from military service, bringing with them new farming practices. Icelandic settlers came to Manitoba in the 1870s and set up a settlement on the western shores of Lake Winnipeg. They named their village Gimli, which means “paradise” in Icelandic. With the quick growth of the Canadian railroad, workers were always needed. Many of those workers were Chinese immigrants, who often supported their families back in China. All of these groups brought their unique heritages to the young province, creating an early blend of cultures in “the last, best west.”

Winnipeg General Strike

At the beginning of the 20th century, Winnipeg was the third largest city in Canada and a centre for manufacturing, particularly of metals. Lumber and grains were also important. However, many workers grew tired of working long hours for very low wages. Sometimes, labourers worked for twelve hours a day, seven days a week. To protest poor working conditions, 30,000 workers walked away from their jobs on 15 May 1919, which became known as the Winnipeg General Strike. This strike lasted for six weeks. All services stopped completely. No newspapers were delivered. No milk or bread deliveries were made. The post offices shut down and the streetcars did not run. City and government workers supported the strike, and the police stayed on duty only because the workers asked them to. Angry workers took to the streets.



As people in different areas of the country heard about the Winnipeg strikers, they began holding sympathy strikes to show their support. At least 20 cities across the nation held strikes in support of the discouraged workers. Fearing the strike would spread, Winnipeg’s mayor, C.F. Gray, called in the North West Mounted Police to restore order to the city. On the day that became known as Blood Saturday, the North West Mounted Police charged the gathered protesters, swinging bats and firing on the crowd. Two strikers were killed. After that, the momentum for the strike soon collapsed. Not much had changed for the workers. The Winnipeg General Strike was one of the most important strikes in Canadian history.

The Challenge of Flooding

In early 1950, the Red River overflowed its banks, causing a disaster in Winnipeg. Hundreds of square miles turned into an enormous lake, several bridges were destroyed, and nearly 100,000 people were evacuated from their homes. In response, the Red River Floodway protection system was constructed during the 1960s and was one of the largest earth-moving projects in the world at the time.

In April and May 1997, the Red River once again overflowed, this time in the worst flooding Manitoba had seen in over 150 years. The flood affected the entire Red River Valley, including areas of Manitoba, North Dakota, and Minnesota. Heavy autumn rainstorms, followed by a huge winter snowfall, worsened the usual flooding of the Red River. The ground was unable to absorb the extra water, and when the spring thaw came, the Red River swelled far above what was expected. In May of that year, in fact, the river was so large that locals called it the “Red Sea,” as it covered an area of 1,840 square kilometres (710 sq miles). About 80,000 people were forced to evacuate as a result of the flood, which caused hundreds of millions of dollars in damages. The Canadian and Manitoba governments worked together on expanding the Red River Valley Floodway, building and improving the system of *dikes* (walls that hold back water), so a similar catastrophe could be avoided in the future.



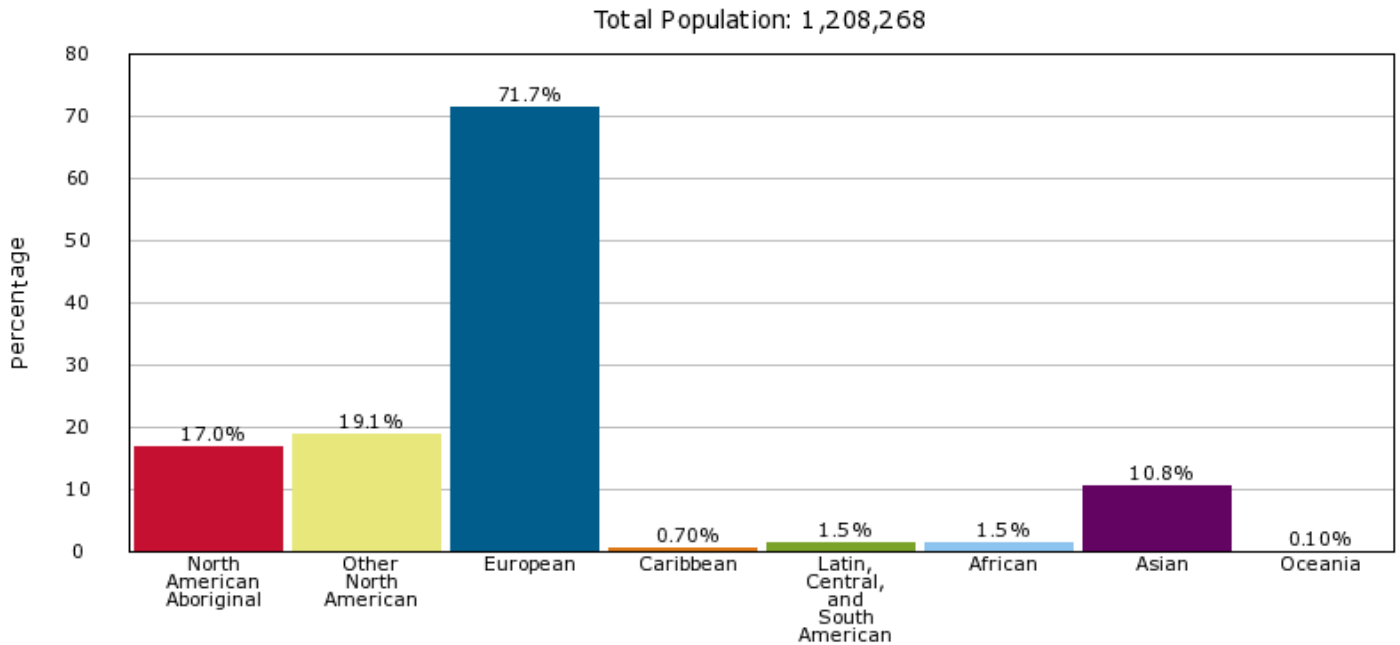
The People



Population

More than half of the population lives in the capital city of Winnipeg. Many different immigrant groups live in Winnipeg. Winnipeg also has many ethnic restaurants. The Chinese immigrants have a neighbourhood in Winnipeg known as Chinatown, which is the focus of their culture in the city. Chinatown offers examples of Chinese architecture, apartments, grocery stores, shops, and restaurants.

Other cultural groups have communities in Manitoba. In fact, Manitoba is home to the largest population of people of Icelandic descent outside Iceland. Manitoba has a large Ukrainian population, and many Ukrainians live around the area of Dauphin. Other large minority groups include Russian Mennonites and Germans. There are 63 First Nations groups in the province.



Canadians may belong to more than one group. Totals may not equal 100%.

Government

Federal

Senators: 6

Conservatives: 2
 Vacancies: 4

Members of Parliament: 14

Liberals: 7
 Conservatives: 5
 New Democratic Party: 2



In Canada, members of Parliament are elected from across the country. The leader of the party that wins the most seats in the House of Commons becomes the prime minister. The prime minister is the head of government in Canada. The monarch (today, Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom) is leader in name only. She appoints a governor-general to be her representative in Canada. The role of this governor-general is largely ceremonial. In Canada, there are two separate lawmaking bodies, the House of Commons, which is made up of elected members, and the Senate, whose members are appointed by the governor-general under the advice of the prime minister. The House of Commons debates and votes on *bills* (proposed laws). The Senate carefully examines the *bills* and decides whether to approve, change, or reject them. For a *bill* to become law, it must be passed by both the House of Commons and the Senate and be given *royal assent* (approval) by the governor-general.

Provincial

Capital: Winnipeg, population 730,018

Province Abbreviation: MB

Premier: Brian Pallister (Conservative)

Lieutenant-Governor: Janice Filmon

Members of the Legislative Assembly: 57

Female MLAs: 16

The lieutenant-governor of Manitoba represents the monarch (queen of the United Kingdom) and calls on the leader of the party with the most votes to be the premier. The premier chooses the members of the Cabinet from the elected Members of the Legislative Assembly, who represent voters. These members are then appointed by the lieutenant-governor. Each is placed in charge of a department such as education, health, or aboriginal affairs. The Cabinet members advise the premier, while the Legislative Assembly makes the laws.

Key Issues

Health Care

Canada has a *socialized* healthcare system, meaning health care is universally available to all citizens and is paid for, in large part, by the government. Individual provincial governments face the challenge of finding the funding to provide quality healthcare services to an aging population. Manitoba is attempting to maintain the level of patient treatment by educating and hiring more doctors and nurses and investing money in the development of new equipment and technology.

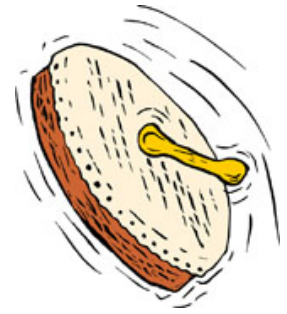


Aboriginal Education

With the growing First Nations population in Manitoba, the government faces the challenge of providing *aboriginal* (native) children and families with quality education. Educational services need to be available to First Nations peoples who choose to remain on the reserves. A different educational experience needs to be provided to those who choose to leave the reserves and integrate with the broader society of Manitoba and Canada. Government officials also struggle with the question of who should run education on the reserves. Some believe the government of Manitoba should be responsible for *aboriginal* education, but others think the First Nations peoples need to be in charge of services provided to their own people and children. Another debated issue is how to preserve and teach the different *aboriginal* languages spoken in the province.

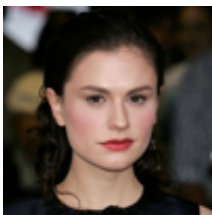
First Nations, Métis, and Aboriginal Peoples

Manitoba has 63 First Nations, including 6 of the 20 largest bands in Canada. Some of the largest groups are the Cree, Ojibwa, Dakota, Ojibwa-Cree, and Dene. Each group has territorial boundaries and speaks a different language. Manitoba is the province with the second highest First Nations population and the second highest number of First Nations members living on reserves. More than half of the First Nations population is under the age of 30. First Nations peoples in Manitoba are the fastest-growing part of the province's population; however, many First Nations peoples are not receiving the education they need to get good jobs. First Nations communities are also having trouble keeping up economically with this population growth. As a result, many youth are moving to cities, such as Winnipeg, to seek greater opportunities.



Some First Nations peoples choose to keep their traditional lifestyle, and some adopt a more modern way of life. Many First Nations peoples continue to live off the land by hunting, fishing, or harvesting wild rice for their food. Others have chosen different jobs, such as running manufacturing businesses or casinos. No matter how they make their livings, many First Nations peoples gather together at *powwows* (get-togethers), where everyone is welcome. These festivals and feasts include traditional dancing and drum music that dates back thousands of years. Some of these dances even tell stories, and the motions of the dance along with the beat of the drums represent the traditions of the people. As a result of this emphasis on family and celebration of culture, First Nations peoples have a strong sense of identity and pride in who they are and where they came from.

Famous People



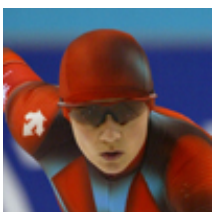
Anna Paquin

- *Louis Riel, Jr.* – Métis leader, father of Manitoba
- *Anna Paquin* – Actress
- *Sir William Stephenson (aka Intrepid)* – WWII spy, on whom the character of James Bond is based
- *Evelyn Hart* – Ballerina
- *Jonathan Toews* – National Hockey League player
- *Nellie McClung* – Women's rights activist



Jonathan Toews

- *Terry Fox* – Athlete and cancer activist
- *Cindy Klassen* – Olympic speed skater
- *Marshall McLuhan* – Communications theorist
- *Arthur Meighen* – Ninth prime minister of Canada
- *Loreena McKennitt* – Celtic singer
- *Ian Ross* – Métis playwright



Susan Auch

- *Susan Auch* – Olympic speed skater
- *Yvon Dumont* – Manitoba's first Métis lieutenant-governor
- *Chantal Kreviazuk* – Musician and actress
- *Fred Penner* – Children's entertainer
- *Clara Hughes* – Olympic speed skater and cyclist



Louis Riel, Jr.

- *The Guess Who* – Rock band
- *Adam Beach* – Actor
- *Nia Vardalos* – Actress
- *Guy Gavriel Kay* – Writer

Cultural Notes



Folk Festivals

Folk festivals are common in Manitoba. In the early days of the province, immigrants from many different countries settled in Manitoba. They held festivals in an effort to keep their unique cultures alive. Many of these ethnic folk festivals are still held today, and two of the oldest are the Icelandic Festival in Gimli and the National Ukrainian Festival at Dauphin.

Icelandic immigrants established the town of Gimli. The Icelandic Festival includes Viking reenactments and fun contests like sandcastle building. Each year, one woman is chosen to represent Iceland and is crowned the *Fjallkona* (woman of the mountains).

Traditional music and folk dancing form a large part of the National Ukrainian Festival. This three-day festival in early August celebrates the heritage of the many Ukrainian Canadians who settled in Manitoba. During this lively festival, the music of bagpipes, the thunder of traditional horseback riders, and the boom of the *Cossack* (Ukrainian ethnic group) cannon fills the air.



Curling

Curling is a very popular sport in Manitoba! Curling was developed in Scotland in the Middle Ages. Manitoba's earliest European settlers were Scottish and brought the sport to their new home. It is played on long, narrow sheets of ice between two teams, each with four curlers. Players try to slide large, smooth stones down the ice lanes to the *house* (target). Two players follow the stone with brooms, sweeping its path so it will slide smoothly and in a straight line. The team with the most stones near the centre of the *house* wins. *Bonspiels* (curling tournaments) are popular events, and the Granite Curling Club centred in Winnipeg is the oldest club in Western Canada.



Fun Facts & Contacts



Official Emblems

Provincial Flower

Prairie Crocus

The crocus is often the first flower to appear in the early spring. Its colour ranges from pale to deep violet, and it has a furry covering to protect itself from the cold.



Provincial Bird

Great Grey Owl

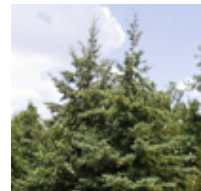
This is the largest owl in North America, with a wingspan of 1.3 metres (4.3 ft). It lives year-round in the forests of Manitoba.



Provincial Tree

White Spruce

This tree grows all over Manitoba and was chosen because it has been widely used by both early and modern cultures. Currently its fibres are used to make paper. The white spruce is also completely resistant to diseases.



Provincial Tartan

The dark red squares represent the natural resources of the province. The blue lines stand for Lord Selkirk—founder of the Red River settlement. The dark green lines signify the men and women of many races who have enriched the life of the province. The golden lines represent grain and other farming resources.



Provincial Coat of Arms

The beaver is the Canadian national animal, and the prairie crocus is the official flower of Manitoba. The beaver also represents the role of the Hudson's Bay Company and the beaver fur trade in Manitoba's early history. The crown is a symbol of the British monarchy. Horses played an important role in Manitoba's early settlement, while the unicorn is a symbol from the United Kingdom's coat of arms. The maple leaves, the wheel of a Red River cart, and the *aboriginal* (native) bead and bone decorations symbolize Manitoba's diverse past. The bison represents huge herds of bison that used to roam throughout the province and provided food for the *aboriginal* peoples and early settlers.



Major League Sports Teams

- Winnipeg Blue Bombers (CFL)
- Winnipeg Jets (NHL)

For More Information

To learn more about Manitoba, see www.gov.mb.ca. Or contact Travel Manitoba, 21 Forks Market Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 4T7; phone (800) 665-0040; web site www.travelmanitoba.com.

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Manitoba

EXTREMES

Highest: Baldy Mountain is the highest point in the province, at 832 metres (2,730 ft).

Hottest: The hottest temperature in Manitoba was 44.4°C (111°F) at St. Albans on 11 July 1936.

Lowest: The lowest point in the province is at Hudson Bay (sea level).

Coldest: The coldest recorded temperature was -52.8°C (-63°F) at Norway House on 9 January 1899.

