Northern Village of Sandy Bay

Community Highlights

Sandy Bay is a community of over 1000 people on the eastern side of the division's jurisdiction. The town is located in the breath-taking beauty of the Precambrian Shield. The town grew as a result of the hydro-electric power station built in the late 1920's to supply power for the smelters and mines in Flin Flon, Manitoba. The dam is presently operated by SaskPower and is now totally automated.¹

Local Government

Mayor and Council²
- **Mayor:** Daniel Bear
- **Aldermen:**
  - Tony Bear
  - Ovide Morin
  - Jessi McKay
  - France Richard

First Nations Presence:³
- Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation (0.0 km)
- Mathias Colomb First Nation (0.0 km), based in Pukatawagan, Manitoba

Tribal Council:
- Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC)
- Swampy Cree Tribal Council

Métis Council:⁴
- Eastern Region I – Local #90

Demographics⁵

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Sandy Bay</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>Saskatchewan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>1175</td>
<td>33,919</td>
<td>968,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal population (%)</td>
<td>98.7%</td>
<td>85.8%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth population, 15 to 29 (%)</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Languages</td>
<td>Cree, English</td>
<td>Cree, Dene, English, Michif</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labour Force Participation Rate, 15+ (%)</td>
<td>43.5%</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>68.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Rate, 15+ (%)</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>40.3%</td>
<td>64.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment Rate (%)</td>
<td>38.6%</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median family income:</td>
<td>$20,512</td>
<td>$31,007</td>
<td>$58,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median earnings (persons 15+ years):</td>
<td>$9,120</td>
<td>$18,449</td>
<td>$23,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population 25+ with a high school diploma (%)</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
<td>26.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandy Bay</td>
<td>North</td>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population 25+ with a trades, college, or university certificate, diploma, or degree (%)</td>
<td>27.7%</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td>53.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Economic Environment**

**Key Industries – community and surrounding area**
- Local governance
- Hydroelectric power generation

**Major Employers**
- Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation
- Sask Power (Island Falls)

**Occupations**
- Retail & Service
- Construction/Carpentry
- Firefighting (seasonal)
- Tourism (seasonal)
- Professional occupations in governance and government funded agencies (e.g. health, education, corrections, social services, etc)

**Local Business Make-up**
- Convenience Store with gas, General Store, Radio Station
- Tourist Camps

**Local Financial Institutions**
- None

**Transportation Services**
- Road: Highway 135 (gravel)
- Air: Ross Air Service (water based charter company)
- Bus Service: No

**Strengths and Potential**
- Hydroelectric generating infrastructure related employment

**Challenges**
- Engaging youth; road improvements; housing

**Future Development**
- Hydroelectric expansion

**Training and Education**

**Post-secondary institutions**
- No

**Career and Employment Services**
- No

**High School and Elementary School**
- Hector Thiboutot Community School (Kindergarten to Grade 12)

**Library**
- Ayamickiwikamik Public Library
- Hector Thiboutot Community School
Northern Village of Sandy Bay

Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highway</th>
<th>Highway 135 (gravel)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Roads</td>
<td>Gravel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and Sewer</td>
<td>Water Source: Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water Treatment: Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water Distribution: piped water and sewer system to most businesses and residents. Village supplies the Band with water and wastewater services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wastewater Treatment: Facultative Lagoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power and Energy</td>
<td>Electric Power: Provincial grid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heating Fuels: oil, propane, wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Natural Gas: No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>High Speed Basic Internet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellular Service</td>
<td>No</td>
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Housing

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Sandy Bay</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>Saskatchewan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total private dwellings occupied by usual residents</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>9,245</td>
<td>387,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owned dwellings (%)</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
<td>71.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rented dwellings (%)</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>25.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwellings that require major repair (%)</td>
<td>47.9%</td>
<td>37.9%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average household size</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average value of owned dwelling</td>
<td>$134,867</td>
<td>$98,022</td>
<td>$132,111</td>
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Emergency Services

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RCMP</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>Sandy Bay Health Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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</table>
Recreation

- Sports Complex (1978, Skating Rink, Curling Rink and a Lobby Area)
- 2 Baseball Diamonds
- Soccer/Football Field
- Paddling Pool for tiny tots

- School Gym
- Community Beach
- 4 Playgrounds
- Basketball Court by Gym

Distance from Larger Centres

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandy Bay to:</th>
<th>Creighton</th>
<th>La Ronge</th>
<th>Meadow Lake</th>
<th>Prince Albert</th>
<th>Saskatoon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>km</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>598</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 Metis Nation of Saskatchewan available online: http://www.mn-s.ca/main/regions-andlocals/#2 Accessed December 2011
9 Saskatchewan Tourism, Parks, Culture, and Sport, Recreational Facilities in Northern Saskatchewan (April 2009).