

WELCOME TO

# Northlands Denesuline

\*This overview is still under review by community leadership



**TEACH  
FOR  
CANADA**

edlanete



ANDRE ANTSAEN  
MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM  
← U'ine' v'p' u' ←



# Northlands Denesuline First Nation

Dear Teachers,

On behalf of Northlands First Nation, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our community as a teacher at Petit Casimir Memorial School.

Northlands Denesuline First Nation is a remote fly in community located north of 55 in the boreal forest of northern Manitoba, Canada. The village is located on the north shore of Lac Brochet. Just over 1000 Dene speaking people are members of Northlands Denesuline First Nation, with over 850 members living here. There are no permanent roads connecting Lac Brochet with other parts of Manitoba. Many residents travel using the Lac Brochet Airport located near town. During late January and into March there is a temporary winter road that is accessible to Thompson.

Lac Brochet is a very close knit community and is serviced with many different amenities. We have a new state of the art Nursing Station that was built and opened in 2018. The Northern Store provides locals with groceries, hardware and Canada Post. There is an arena, band hall, band office, Catholic Church, and a new Water Treatment Plant. We are currently at the start of a new Eco-Industrial Park which will bring forth recycling initiatives and organic composting to support local gardening.

Our school offers MFNERC Curriculum as well as our own culture and language and cultivation of a safe, inclusive community-based learning environment. We are a K-12 with approximately 240 students. The school is equipped with a Computer Lab, Science Lab, Industrial Arts, Library, Dene Language, Gym, Land Based Education, Sensory Room, Resource and Guidance.

Once you are settled you will discover a wide range of activities and events that take place throughout the year, which will give you the opportunity to get to know members of Lac Brochet beyond the school community. You will learn the language, traditions and values that are so important to our school, students and members.

Masi Cho!

Dorine Denedchezhe-Kemp  
Principal and Education Director



# A Brief History

- 13,000 years ago** Archaeologists suggest that the ancestors of the Dene first came to this land between 13,000 years ago.
- 1714** First contact between the Dene and the Europeans did not occur in this area until the early 1700's, although the existence of the former was well-known through reports by the Cree, the middlemen in the fur trade. The Dene were referred to as Northern Indians at this time. In 1714 the Dene were brought into the fur trade through the efforts of Thanadelthur, a Dene woman who had been captured by the Cree.
- 1716** Peace was made with the Cree, much thanks to the persuasion of Thandelthur. It is written that "her voice was nearly gone from persuading her people" to make peace with the Cree.
- 1717** Thanadelthur fell ill in the beginning of 1717, and succumbed to her illness on February 5, 1717. In 1717 the Hudson Bay Company built Fort Prince of Wales at the mouth of the Churchill River. This was the fulfillment of a promise to Thanadelthur, to provide easier access to trade for her people.
- 1861** Roman Catholic Conversion: First Baptism performed by Fr. Vegreville
- 1907** Treaty # 10 Adhesion, was signed in Brochet on August 19, 1907. Fr. Turquetil acting as an interpreter. Petit Casimir, Chief of Barren Land Band, Jean Baptiste, Headman, and Andre Antsanen signed the Treaty document with an "X". A total of 232 received Treaty payments by noon of August 21st.
- 1927-1978** Students were sent to Residential School: 51 years in total
- 1947** Within 2 months, an epidemic of measles killed 79 adults and children in February & March 1947
- 1973** In September 1973, people began to move from Brochet to Lac Brochet. People made their log cabins and lived in it. Some lived in tents until their log cabin homes were built.
- 1978** People of Lac Brochet voted on March 21 in favor of dividing Barrenlands Band, and creating a new band called Northlands Band. Guy Hill Residential School closed.
- 1981** NLB gets Hydro Electric Power
- 1984** Bill C-31
- 1995** Dene Education Authority established  
Petit Casimir Memorial School opens Nov 10, 1995
- 1996** Daycare opens. Running water and Septic Tanks
- 2017** 300 year Commemorative Gathering: Thanadelthur  
New Nursing Station is being built

**Community**

**THE PROBLEM**  
Exclusion of SDFN and NDFN from Comprehensive Land Claim Negotiations in Dene Traditional Territory North of 60 (1993)

**IN COURT**  
Ghotelne K'odtineh Dene in Court against Canada

**NEGOTIATIONS**  
Ongoing negotiations between Ghotelne K'odtineh Dene and Canada

**LOBBYING**  
Indigenous groups lobbying Manitoba and Canada to make a decision about the Overlap Agreements

**EXCLUSION**  
Ghotelne K'odtineh Dene excluded by Canada and the Inuit

**LEGAL ACTION**  
Ghotelne K'odtineh Dene hire Arne Peitz of the Public Interest Law Centre (1993)

**VICTORY 1995**  
CANADA AGREES TO OUT-OF-COURT NEGOTIATIONS

**VICTORY 2005**  
SDFN, NDFN, INUIT ACCORD

**VICTORY 2007**  
SDFN, NDFN, INUIT, ATHABASCA DENESULINE MOA

**VICTORY 2010**  
MANITOBA AGREES TO NEGOTIATE INUIT RIGHTS IN MANITOBA BASED ON 2005 ACCORD

**VICTORY 2016**  
MB, GKD & INUIT SIGN SOUTH OF 60 AIP

**VICTORY 2018**  
MINISTER DECIDES TO PROCEED BILATERALLY

**ISSUES**  
• GN stops participating in 2011  
• GNWT refuses to recognize Ghotelne K'odtineh Dene rights on same basis as Indigenous groups residing in NWT

**BILATERAL**  
• Mediation process with GNWT, Canada, GKD and AD  
• Lobbying for a Bilateral Treaty to allow our Agreement to be ratified without the signatures of the Government of Nunavut and Northwest Territories.

**ONGOING**  
• Negotiating Transfer and Implementation  
• N of 60 Crow Consultation: Nation and AK  
• South of 60 Consultation: Indigenous groups  
• Finalizing the Agreement  
• Finalizing M  
• Negotiating Implementation

ING Capital

on Funding

wn NWT Métis kaicho

Crown Manitoba oups

gal text in ts

ap Atlas

on Plan

Negotiations

- Community Vote
- Canada ratification

**WHAT IS IN THE TREATY?**

The Modern Treaty, once ratified, will explain all Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene rights North of 60 relating to:

- Land
- Harvesting
- Resource Management
- Funding for land based activities and implementation

**VICTORY**

**RIGHTS RECOGNIZED IN MODERN TREATY**

# The Land

Our community is located on Lac Brochet Lake in Northern Manitoba. We are one of two communities in Manitoba that signed Treaty 10, and we are one of the most northern First Nations in the province. It is very isolated and we are surrounded by pristine wilderness. We have one of the last pure bodies of water in North America.

We commonly see moose, bear, foxes, beaver, porcupine, caribou, and ptarmigan on our territory. We also have whitefish, jackfish, sucker, lake trout, walleye, greyline, and mariah fish. As for plants, sage, muskrat root, labrador tea, cloudberries, blueberries and cranberries grow on our land.

## Northlands Denesuline Community Map







### **School Values, Mandate, Vision & Mission**

*Empowering Today's Youth for Tomorrow's Future.*

Our vision is to empower today's youth for a meaningful and contributing life for the betterment of self and the community of Northlands Denesuline First Nation.

Our mission is to provide all members of Northlands Denesuline First Nation and all residents of Lac Brochet with the high standard of academic excellence and preparedness consistent with any other education system in the country, while simultaneously exploring, enhancing, celebrating, and fully integrating Dene culture, heritage, and language.

### **Unique Classes Offered**

- Industrial arts
- Dene language
- Land-based course
- Music

### **List of Extracurricular Activities and Clubs**

- Taekwondo
- Junior Rangers
- Drama Club
- Music
- Winnipeg Aboriginal Sports Achievement Centre (WASAC) Program
- Beadwork
- Arts and Crafts
- Baseball
- Hockey
- Volleyball



## Facilities

Our school has nine classrooms in the elementary with a library and a gym. The high school has a science lab, computer lab, Dene language room, two classes for the industrial arts, home economics room, and sensory room. There is also a staff room, front office, student record room, and boardroom.

The gym is outfitted with treadmills, rowers, stationary bikes, ellipticals, free weights, kettlebells, a monster station, and rubber bands

## A Day in the Life of a Teacher

<b>8:30 am</b>	Teachers arrive
<b>9:00 am</b>	Classes begin
<b>12:00 pm</b>	Lunch
<b>1:00 pm</b>	Classes start again
<b>3:30 pm</b>	Classes are dismissed
<b>3:30-4:30 pm</b>	Gym (everyday)
<b>4:00 pm</b>	Teachers' day ends

Teachers will have prep time 1-2 times a day during either gym, Dene language or computer class, or library time.





## Special School Events

- Cultural week – fall, winter, spring and at the end of the year
- Spirit Week
- Thanksgiving Feast
- Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser
- Christmas Feast and a Christmas Concert
- Science Fair
- Graduation Feast
- Career Fair
- Bingo Fundraisers
- Terry Fox Run
- Snow Day
- Shooting every Saturday through the junior rangers

We also host culture camps each fall and spring which include dog mushing, snaring, snowshoeing, building shelters, and learning basic wilderness survival. The Education Authority owns a cabin 8km away from the community.





## Teacherages

We have single unit and three-bedroom (two beds) teacherages. If a large family is coming a third bed can be added into the three-bedroom teacherage. All teacherages are furnished with tables, chairs, and couches. Teachers are responsible to bring their own television and set up their own satellite, phone, and internet. Single unit teacherages' rent costs \$400, while the three-bedroom units cost \$500.

We prefer to not have pets in the teacherages to help keep the buildings maintained, however, exceptions can be made if the teacherage is kept clean.



# Life in the Community

## Community Events and Activities

We have many community events throughout the year. Our events are open to everyone. Some of them are:

- Remembrance Day Ceremony
- Sports Day
- Field Day
- Fishing Derby
- Carnival
- Snowman Contest
- Christmas Parade
- Seasonal contests
- Poker Derby
- Monster Bingo

We participate in traditional canoe trips on Brochet or Wollaston Lake. Teachers are invited to participate in sweat lodge ceremonies. We also host peyote healing ceremonies.

In November and March there is a caribou hunt. In the summer we have a fish camp that includes a fish fry, games, scavenger hunt, and the cleaning, dressing and preserving of caribou.

We have a local hockey team and play volleyball, basketball, baseball, Indian ball, hand games, and drumming.

We have a hockey arena in the community. It is open in the winter until April.

## Services in the Community

You can hear about what is going on in the community on the local radio station (99.9), and on the bulletin boards at the school, airport, store, nursing station and band office. We also have a Lac Brochet Buy and Sell on Facebook, which teachers are welcome to join.

We have a Northern Store in our community where you can buy essentials. You can also freight food into the community on airplanes. And, you can order food through “Food Mail” program.

We do not have cell service in the community. Teachers can make phone calls and text using WIFI at their home and school using applications such as WhatsApp.

## Access

Our community can be accessed by airplane year-round, or via a winter road through Lyn Lake. Perimeter Airlines flies in and out of the community.





# Around the Community



①

The Northern Store

②

A Family Snowman Contest

③

Christmas Arts and Crafts Contest

④

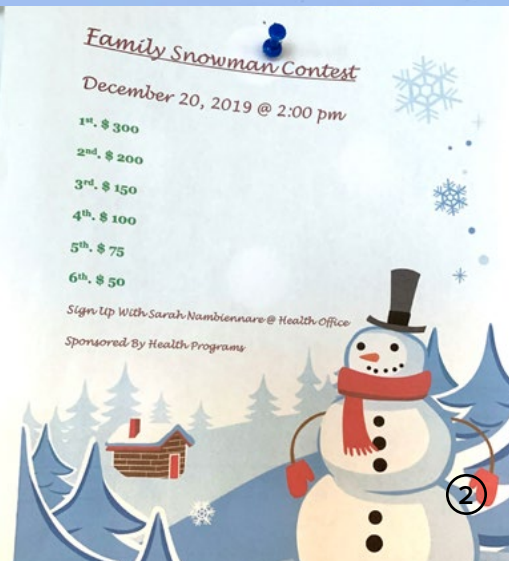
The Band Office and the arena

⑤

The Northlands Denesuline Health Centre

⑥

The Lac Brochet Airport





# Quick Facts



## Population On-Reserve



**629**

## Language Spoken



**Dene and English**

## Treaty



**Treaty 10**

## Average Yearly Temperature



**-20°C**  
January

**22°C**  
July

## Access



**Year-round**



**Jan - Mar**

**Northlands Denesuline  
Mailing Address**

**Petit Casimir Memorial School  
Box 60 Lac Brochet  
MB R0B2E0**





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CR number: 819967282RR0001