

The R.M. *of* Morris

ENJOY SOME PRAIRIE HOSPITALITY !



Welcome to the picturesque villages and calm beauty of the prairie farmlands of southern Manitoba. Cruise along the well-kept highways and byways of the R.M. of Morris southwest of Winnipeg, and enjoy the lush crops that thrive in this fertile valley.

Our Heritage

Ojibway people were the earliest occupants of this area. Fur traders settled the Morris area in the late 1700s because of its strategic location along the Red River. By 1869, ox carts were carrying settlers to the areas around the Scratching River (now the Morris River) and with the arrival of the new railway, the population began to grow.

Ontarians homesteaded here, and a large contingent of Mennonite farm families from Russia arrived. Farming held great promise, and it still forms the backbone of the economy in the R.M. of Morris.



A Great Place for Business

The RM of Morris is a prosperous and growing agricultural community, noted for its productive soils and a diversified agricultural base. The median age of the population in the R.M. is 33.

Several small urban centres provide the services needed by the agricultural community. The larger ones contain commercial and industrial enterprises and the services needed by the agricultural industry. Planning policies accommodate development that will keep urban areas vibrant with a minimum of regulations.

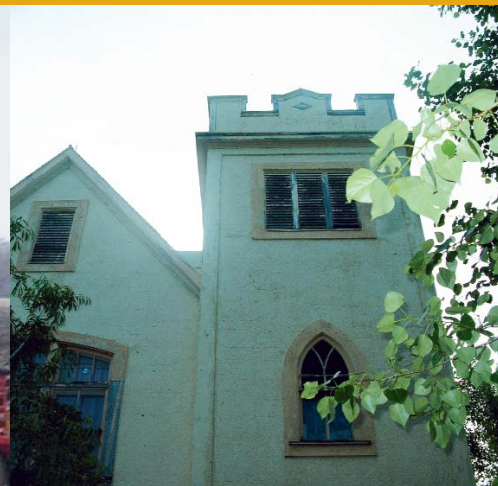
Our development plan includes meeting the future growth needs of the urban centres.



The Prairie Breadbasket

The Red and Morris Rivers flow through this flat valley, and repeated flooding in the past has left the valley floor covered in rich river silt. The fine textured black soils are some of the most fertile agricultural soils in the world.

Whereas 80% of cultivated farmland used to be seeded to wheat, farmers now grow canola, sunflowers, lentils and other specialty crops such as strawberries, raspberries and various vegetables. Other types of agriculture include poultry, beef, dairy, and hogs.



Our Communities

Aubigny

The community hall is the centre of activity in this peaceful village nestled on the east side of the Red River near Highway 75. People who have been gone for twenty years come back for the annual card party, which is attended by people from many different parishes. Community members donate food and prizes and all the proceeds go to the church.

Kane

Kane is lovely rural district nicely located on a major road and close to Winkler and Plum Coulee. Residents call this a safe and economical area in which to live. Town water is available for everyone and there's a large green space for kids to play. The earliest Mennonite families settled in this area during the 1890s.

Lowe Farm

Good education for children, paved streets, cooperation and community spirit characterize this pretty prairie village. It's a caring community, and "when people in this town decide to do something, it gets done," says a Lowe Farm resident. The Lowe Farm Country Café is an example; it was built by community effort when the previous café closed down. Lowe Farm is noted throughout the RM for its good baseball teams.

McTavish

This small hamlet has always been proud of its community spirit. It is named after four McTavish brothers who arrived from Ontario to homestead in the area during the 1880s. Located between Morris and Rosenort, McTavish is known for its plentiful willow trees and grassy marshes.

Rosenort and Riverside

When he first saw the lands near the Scratching River, Heinrich Ratzlaff, first mayor of Rosenort, wrote the following words on the trunk of a tree: "It is good to be here, let us build our homes." Well-built homes, fine gardens and finely-tended fields and farms characterize these two thriving communities. The credit union and a Co-op grocery store reflect the value of sharing of common resources, and the churches attest to the importance of spirituality in daily life. Known for industrial prosperity, businesses in this area manufacture agricultural equipment such as augers, grain bins, truck boxes and drill fills that are exported around the world. A florist and the local teahouse add zest to life. Rosenort is also a retirement community with three seniors' complexes. Recreational needs are met with two parks, an indoor hockey arena and a vintage tractor club.



Sewell

The hamlet of Sewell was originally named De Wet, after a General De Wet of the Boer War. The C.P.R railway was built through Sewell in the 1880s, and the area became well settled around the turn of the century.

Sperling

This friendly community has small-town charm while being handy to the city. Its sociable atmosphere has attracted young families, with many workers commuting to Winnipeg for work. A local attraction is the Studio Gallery, which serves supper with entertainment every Friday as well as Saturday coffee and Sunday brunch. Sperling has a population of 700, and is home to thriving steel fabricator Sperling Industries Ltd. Sperling's arena facility plays host to hockey, curling, and broom ball competitions.



Come to Visit! Come to Stay!

**The Rural
Municipality
of Morris**

Box 518
207 Main Street
Morris , MB R0G 1K0
Phone: (204) 746-2642
Fax: (204) 746-8801
rmmorris@mts.net

Council meets on the
second Wednesday of
every month.