

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Welcome

Welcome to the new citizens to Morden in 2007!

We invite you to join us in the many planned "Chautauqua Spirit" events, as Morden celebrates its designation as a Cultural Capital of Canada in 2008. This distinguished award goes to communities that have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to arts and culture. Morden is the first Manitoba community to receive this award. Watch for upcoming planned activities. 2008 will be another great year of celebration in Morden! Congratulations to the hard-working committee members for the successful application! A job well done!

In the April 2004 issue of Harrowsmith Country Life magazine, the Town of Morden was named as one of the ten "Best in Country Living" places in Canada. This designation brought Morden a lot of publicity. The community continues to reap the benefits, as newcomers are arriving from across Canada. Many of the newcomers are taking early retirement and choosing Morden as the place to enjoy their retirement years. Welcome and may you be blessed with many happy years here!

According to new housing starts, Morden will see the third consecutive year of population growth averaging at just over 4% per annum. With the consistent growth in population, there is a lot of interest in commercial development. New business will certainly be welcome to satisfy the ever increasing demand for products, choice and service.

Business Opportunities

Opportunity abounds in Morden! As CDO, I learn of businesses and franchises looking to start up in Morden. These potential new businesses need managers. In some situations, investment capital may be required. If this may be of interest to you, or if you know of someone that would be interested, please contact me. With the population growth reaching 4% for the 3rd year in a row, combined with an expected increase in tourism created by the new Minnewasta Club House and the proposed new facility for the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre, now is the time to invest in a business in Morden.

Job Bank

The Job Bank has been available on the Town website at: www.mordenmb.com for several months now, with favourable

comments from employers. Employers as well as persons seeking employment are encouraged to use this free service.

Congratulations

Congratulations to those businesses that opened in Morden in 2007. You are a welcome addition to the business community! We wish you every success!

Cheryl Digby - Community Development Officer

NEWCOMER SERVICES

In 2006, Morden ranked in 4th place as a top ten destination for immigrants arriving to Manitoba through the provincial nominee program. Top communities were;

- Winnipeg - 4691,
- Winkler - 790,
- Steinbach - 356,
- Morden - 149,
- Brandon - 114.

Morden is also receiving many newcomers from other parts of Canada.

Are you interested in services provided to newcomers to Morden and area?

There is a desire to form a Community Interest Group to look at needs of newcomers and how the community can best respond to the needs. A meeting is planned for January 17, 2008 in the Civic Centre meeting room at 12:00 noon. Bring your own lunch and any ideas or suggestions you may have. Everyone with an interest in integrating newcomers into the community of Morden is encouraged to attend. For more information call me at 822-5088.

Cheryl Digby - Community Development Officer

CONTACT US - WE ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU

- Ernie Epp - Chief Administrative Officer 822-4434 (epp@mordenmb.com)
- Darlene Ehnes - Executive Assistant 822-4434 (dehnes@mordenmb.com)
- Garry Hiebert - Director of Finance & Admin 822-4434 (ghiebert@mordenmb.com)
- Les Wieler - Director of Public Works 822-5119 (lwieler@mordenmb.com)
- TBD - Director of Community Services 822-5431 (____@mordenmb.com)
- Cheryl Digby - Community Development Officer 822-5088 (cdigby@mordenmb.com)
- Carol Wilkinson - Community Resources Officer 822-4434 (cwilkinson@mordenmb.com)
- Brad Neduzak - Police Chief 822-6292 (bneduzak@mordenmb.com)
- Andy Thiessen - Fire Chief 822-3888 (athiessen@mordenmb.com)

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Dec 2007
Issue 15



TOWN OF MORDEN
100-195 Stephen Street
Morden, Manitoba
R6M 1V3

Phone: (204) 822-4434
Fax: (204) 822-6494

Website:
www.mordenmb.com

*We are here
to serve you.*

Mayor:
Doug Wilson

Councillors:
Alex Fedorchuk
Wayne Hosea
Maurice Butler
Irvin Wiebe
Ron Laverty
Brian Hildebrand
Lincoln Neufeld

Management Team:
Ernie Epp
Darlene Ehnes
Garry Hiebert
Les Wieler
TBD
Cheryl Digby
Carol Wilkinson

Police Chief:
Brad Neduzak

Fire Chief:
Andy Thiessen

SEASONS GREETINGS

*from the Council and staff of the
Town of Morden.*

*We wish you all the timeless treasures of
Christmas, the warmth of home, the love of family
and the company of good friends. From our
family to yours,*

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

Civic Centre, Public Works & Recreation Centre Offices

- Monday - December 24th, - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
- Tuesday - December 25th, - CLOSED
- Wednesday - December 26th, - CLOSED
- Monday - December 31st, - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Tuesday - January 1st, - CLOSED

NOTE:

For water/sewer emergency services contact the
Public Works 24-Hour access line at 822-5119.

REMEMBER:

Water Bills due date for December is
December 28th, by 4:30 pm.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Christmas Trees may be dropped off at the
compost site located at Mountain Street South or
placed on the curbside for pickup on

January 7th, 2008.

Please be patient as the team will be chipping the
trees as they pick them up so the process of
collection may take a while.

Points of Interest

Welcome Wagon
Needs You



Page 2

Chautauqua
Spirit Update



Page 2

Overnight
Parking Ban



Page 4

Dog Licences
By-Law



Page 5

DVD
Available



Page 6

WHAT IS COUNCIL UP TO?

Here are a few things this Council has been and continues to work on.



1. Fire Agreement – A new agreement has been agreed to between Morden and Stanley. Morden's Fire Department will continue to cover the westerly 60% of Stanley. In coming up with a value for the service provided, Morden presented what it believed to be our true costs. As a result, Stanley will see a significant increase in annual rates.
2. Boundary Adjustment – With the growth Morden is seeing, we are in the process of hiring a consultant. Once hired, a study will be done to determine which directions Morden's boundaries should be adjusted. Eventually a report is prepared to submit to the Province for consideration.
3. Recreation Centre – After a great deal of work by Council, staff, and consultants, this project is about to start. For those who want a closer look at what will be happening, the drawings will remain in the Civic Centre front foyer till Christmas.
4. Strategic Plan – The best way for an organization to ensure the important things get done is to have direction by way of a strategic plan. Council has been working on updating the Town's strategic plan. This will be in place for 2008.

CULTURAL CAPITAL OF CANADA

CHAUTAUQUA IS COMING!

The Executive Committee is meeting on a weekly basis in an effort to get the project together for 2008. We are very pleased with the support that all the organizations are giving and look forward to working with everyone throughout 2008. Without these dedicated people we would not have received this prestigious award or be able to move forward with the project. Thank You.

EVENTS LIST

Planning is progressing well and we hope to have a complete list of all the events printed in a program and listed on the website in January.



GETTING INVOLVED

If you would like to get involved, you are welcome to contact Nancy Penner the project co-ordinator on 822-4937. There will be many opportunities to assist in making this a success and it is best that everyone go through one central contact.

COMMUNICATION

Starting in January there will be an advertisement in every issue of the Morden Times and the Southern Shopper listing the upcoming events as well as any changes to events that had already been posted in the program.

BANNERS & BILLBOARD

Canadian Heritage will be supplying us with banners and a billboard. These will be installed as soon as they arrive.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- **Chairperson:** Larry Danielson 822-3104 or ldanielson@mts.net
- **Project Co-ordinator:** Nancy Penner 822-4937 or nancy_penner@mts.net
- **Visual Arts Manager:** Yvonne Peters 822-3406 or infor@discoverfossils.com
- **Music Events Manager:** Wes Hamm 822-3095 or wkhamm@xplornet.com
- **Speech Arts Manager:** Gerald Pauls 822-5399 or gpauls@mts.net
- **Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre:** Dave Wilkinson 822-3406 or director@discoverfossils.com
- **Town of Morden:** Ron Laverty 822-5272 or ronlaverty@hotmail.com
- **Town of Morden:** Carol Wilkinson 822-4434 Ext 224 or cwilkinson@mordenmb.com

WEBSITE

The website is the place to check for up to date information throughout 2008. This will be the first means of communicating updates and changes to events.

www.chautauquaspirit.com

SAY HI TO YOUR NEIGHBOUR

Have you noticed the number of new faces in Town? Wondering where your new neighbour is from? Based on our growth the past few years, these questions likely come up quite often.

Our accelerated growth started in 2005, with 112 residential units built that year. Residential units include houses, condos, and apartments. In 2006 it was 103. This year we're expecting 125. At this rate, on average we're growing by over 4% a year. That may not sound like much, but it is. In the 2006 census, numbers showed Manitoba grew by 2.6% over a 5-year period. At the rate we're growing, by the beginning of 2010 close to 25% of people living in Morden won't have lived here at the start of 2005.

Our businesses are always looking for more employees, so the Town has been working on encouraging this growth. And it doesn't happen overnight. Many times decisions made can take years to make a difference. With the current growth we are seeing, its obvious those earlier decisions are working.

Where is everyone coming from? Yes there are people coming from other countries. Many are also coming from other places in Manitoba. We're also seeing people move here from other provinces.

Recently one couple from Alberta retired to Morden. Why? They wanted to move back to Manitoba, searched the internet and were convinced by our website Morden was the place to move to. They don't know a soul here.

Many people make a difference to helping people decide to move here, and one person needs a special thank you. The most important person in encouraging this growth is the one the potential or new Mordenite meets. You. In my position I meet lots of new residents, and a lot of the time its their experience visiting our community, whether during Corn & Apple or while here for a job interview, that has made them decide Morden is where they want to live. Isn't that the same for all of us, whether you've lived here all your life or like me are relatively new to Town? Morden is where you want to live.

So the next time you see a new face on the street, say hi. After all, that person might be your new neighbour in a few weeks.

Ernie Epp - Chief Administrative Officer

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Progress Reports for Department Projects:

- Construction on the Recreation Centre Re-development is planned to begin early January.
- Council has approved the purchase of a new Zamboni which should arrive in February.
- We hope to replace the handicap play structure in Morden Park. The grant application process has started.
 - A new condenser has been installed on the Ice Plant at the Recreation Centre.
 - Thank you to the United Way and Co-op for providing FREE Public Skating once a month.
 - Minor hockey is in full gear with 16 teams of boys and girls.
 - Morden Minor Hockey 'early morning breakfast hockey' practice is a great success. This is open to the public with breakfast served after the practice. Sponsored by Morden Minor Hockey, Giant Tiger, Co-op, and the Town of Morden.



Other Items of Interest:

Over the past 5 years the Town has invested a lot of money towards lighting in Morden Park. In the last few months there has been an increasing amount of vandalism on the lights. If you notice any unusual activity in the park please do not hesitate to call the Morden Police Department or the Community Services Department.

"I encourage anyone who has questions or concerns about the facilities or services that we provide to contact the Community Services Department office at 822-5431 at your convenience."

Gord Maddock - Facilities Manager

WELCOME WAGON

Welcome Wagon Needs You!

There are two positions open.



#1 - **Visiting New Moms** at the Hospital - able to go to the hospital in the morning three times a week. Must have a car and computer. Full job training given.

#2 - **Welcomes Newcomers** to Morden. This is more of an evening/weekend job - but some visits can be done in the day time. Hours very flexible with family life. Must have a car and computer. Full job training given.

Both positions are paid positions and have the benefits of a home based business. Being computer literate is very important. To find out more contact;

Sandra Ross
Welcome Wagon Area Manager
(204) 888-2726 or (204) 956-4033
Toll Free 1-877-675-8466

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Progress Report:

- Paving work has been completed for the year. Some areas (Greenwood and Nelson St. North) were not completed due to wet conditions - they will receive 2nd lift in 2008. We were able to complete all our work due to the good fall weather.
- Concrete paving is complete, this includes (600 ft.) Jefferson West to 9th St. South and a section of road just north of Laverendrye Dr.(Boston Pizza). There is now a street just north of the restaurant.
- Remote water meter retrofit installations are ongoing. The goal is to eventually retrofit all the water meters to remote read capability so that meters can be read when needed and the resident's will not be inconvenienced. This program works quite well, and the public has by and large been very co-operative. Thank you



Morden to keep expanding and growing.

Public Works:

- New streetlights were installed on 8th St. up to and including 10th St. on the 200 blocks.
- New Christmas lights were installed on Stephen St., there will be more put up later in the winter.

Snow Removal:

REMINDER: The no parking ban is now in effect. We encourage residents to NOT park on the streets to allow us to properly clean snow off the streets, otherwise we have to come back after the vehicle is moved, which is inconvenient and incurs cost. Thank-you



If you have concerns please call 822-5119. When you have bouquets which we appreciate do the same!!

Les Wieler - Director of Public Works

Utility:

- The lagoon expansion project is completed and will greatly improve operation of the existing facility and allow

TOWN DVD ON-LINE



The Town promotional DVD is now available at the Civic Centre and on the website. Just visit the welcome page and click on the link to see the 10 minute DVD.

If you want a copy of your own you can purchase one for \$5.00. It is available in DVD and MPEG Formats.

BUSINESS LICENCES

Now is the time to re-new or purchase your business licence.

If you have a home based business in the Town of Morden, or you plan on conducting business within the Town of Morden but the business will not be located in a commercially assessed property, you must obtain a Business License at the Town of Morden Civic Office. The fees are as follows:

- \$35.00 per year for a hobby business, or a business conducted on a part time basis. (3 days per week).
- \$75.00 per year for a full time business (4 to 7 days per week)

If your business will be located outside the limits of the Town of Morden, but will be carrying on a business within the Town of Morden, please contact the Civic Centre for more information.

NEW LOGO PRODUCTS

**CHRISTMAS IS COMING!
OUR PRODUCTS MAKE GREAT
STOCKING STUFFERS**

Again a few new products have been added to our line of unique quality logo products.

The new additions are -



- Brass Pull Apart Key Tag
- Brass Business Card Holder
- Chrystal Laser Engraved 3D Key Tags



There are many other great products, which are on display at the Civic Centre and listed on the website.

www.mordenmb.com

2008 EVENTS IN MORDEN

Morden is a community that always has something happening. One convenient way of letting people know your event is taking place is by having it listed on the Town of Morden website "Calendar of Events". All you need to do is complete the online form OR email the details to;



cwilkinson@mordenmb.com



Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre

111B Gilmour Street,
Morden, Manitoba R6M 1N9
Telephone: (204) 822-3406 Fax: (204) 272-3303
Website: www.discoverfossils.com
Hours: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Daily



As we near the end of the year and reflect back on what has happened around here it is quite remarkable the way that things have developed. Staff and volunteers have been stretched to do everything in the time that we had, but we made it!

Proposed New Museum Building

The feasibility study was due in September 2007; the first draft has only just been submitted to us. There is a delay before we reveal the precise details; I can say that we are all very excited about the proposed site plans and the initial designs.

Fund Raising Campaign

The fundraising campaign to raise the capital required to build our new museum will begin in the New Year of 2008 and we are looking for a number of people to join our fund raising sub-committee. If anyone feels that they have the necessary aptitude, skills and the spare time please contact us. The fundraising will likely be developed with a five tier framework - Local, Regional, Provincial, National and International. Our objective is to reach our funding goals without additional burdens on the taxpayers of Morden and district.

Gift Shop & Santasaurus

We have a good range of stock which will help with your Christmas gift ideas. You can stop by anytime, you don't need to buy museum admission to come in and browse the gift shop. Check out Santasaurus every Saturday in December!

Canada – World – Youth, Student Exchange Programs

We have had the privilege over the past few months of hosting four students from the Canada – World – Youth program. Blessed by the presence of Mai and Nahala the two lovely young Indonesian ladies with Adam & Pierre-Luc from Canada; plus all their pals who would drop by now and then. We hope that working here helped them gain some insight into Canadian life.

The students have been a great asset to the museum with a wide variety of work and projects completed which really helped to make this place run smoothly. We are particularly proud of the full guided tour that they all gave (in English!) to some visiting dignitaries from their exchange program. Great job, well done!

We will miss them and wish them well on the next stage of the project in Indonesia. Safe journey and God bless. This place will be very quiet without them!

Cultural Capitals of Canada 2008 – Chautauqua Spirit

We can now provide more detail of the projects awarded to the CFDC under the auspices of the CCC for 2008.

Audio Visual – Renowned film producer David Rabinovitch is creating three things, a short introductory video, a 20 minute education video and an hour long drama documentary film.

Education Kits - Four education kits will be developed with consultants to cover the paleontology work of CFDC in the school curriculum.

CFDC Workshops – Four special workshops are planned to enlighten people interested in museums and paleontology, especially about the CFDC fossil collection, dig site work and lab work.

Linkages to Universities – We need to be more interactive with universities to gain credibility in the science world. In the summer of 2008 we anticipate field trips from 5 Canadian Universities with professors and students, plus some college students and lecturers.

Digitization of the Fossil Collection – This is another very major project, which is groundbreaking. We will digitize our entire fossil collection. This means that the written descriptions will be transferred from paper reports into computer files with corresponding digital pics of each fossil. The whole file will then be uploaded onto the website opening up our fossil collection to researchers, students and scientists world wide on the internet. The object is to attract paleontologists & the curious public to come and visit us here in Morden to see fossils of special interest.

Special Songs – This is an exciting project. Special songs about CFDC and the fossil collection will be written, recorded and performed by the favourite local performers, Lulu and the Tomcat. We can't wait for this one!

Joint Venture – PaleoWorld Research Foundation

We have an exciting new joint venture with PaleoWorld, the US paleontology research foundation. They will be bringing field jackets of fossils collected this summer in Montana for the lab work to be carried out in our laboratory. Their researcher Joseph Hatcher will be spending his time here uncovering some triceratops and other exciting finds. Hopefully we will be able to provide a glimpse of them to you. Welcome Joey!

Check out our website www.discoverfossils.com - it is full of useful information. The blogs are especially entertaining. Thanks to our board and the great volunteers who continue to make this place so very special.

Dave Wilkinson - Executive Director
Anita Janzic - Curator
Yvonne Peters - Administrator

Morden Police Service News

OVERNIGHT PARKING BAN IN EFFECT

A reminder that the Town of Morden parking ban, By-Law #15-2006, will be in effect after the first significant snowfall to allow for snow clearing. Vehicles will be prohibited from parking on the street between the hours of 12 midnight to 8:00 am. Any vehicles parked on the roadway when snow clearing is necessary are subject to a fine of \$20.00 and/or being towed. Please listen and watch for the notices through the media.



CHECKSTOP

The Morden Police Service will be conducting checkstops once again throughout the Holiday Season, specifically targeting impaired drivers. We remind people to drink responsibly and plan ahead with the Christmas and holiday celebrations. If you are consuming alcohol, arrange for a designated driver or call a cab. Have a plan to get home safely!

CALL FOR HELP

Citizens are encouraged to call the police immediately when a suspicious incident is taking place. Often people are hesitant to call, unsure if it is important or of any significance at the time. These minor incidents can often lead to more serious crimes, which at the time, could have possibly been avoided if police were notified. The officers on duty will assess the call at the time and attend if time permits. It is beneficial for us to be contacted and determine if it is nothing at the time, rather than called after the fact. Police are available 24 hours a day by calling 822-4900.



If anyone has questions, please call the Morden Police Service at 822-6292.

B.J. (Brad) Neduzak, - Chief of Police

ON-LINE JOB BANK

An on-line job bank is available on the Town of Morden website to help employers fill vacancies.

Looking for a Job?

Browse our list of job openings to find the job you're looking for.

Local Employers

Advertise all your vacancies for free to reach job-seekers from all around the world.

www.mordenmb.com

Morden Fire Department News

WOW. It is always this time of year when people take a few moments to reflect on how the past year has been and what they can look forward to in the New Year.



At the Fire Dept we are no different. 2007 has been a whirlwind to say the least. We have moved into a new Fire Hall (not something you do every year) and also had the honor of being awarded the "Volunteer Group of the Year Award" by the Morden Area Foundation. An acknowledgement that is truly humbling and special.

FIRE SERVICE TO RM OF STANLEY

The Town has also completed a fire service contract with the RM of Stanley. Both municipalities worked hard to accomplish this new fire agreement and credit needs to be given to the people involved with this process.



Part of the agreement is that the costs of fire calls attended to in the RM of Stanley will continue to be covered by the taxes collected by the RM. What this means is that people in need of fire services or rescue situations do not need to worry about added expenses involved in responding to an emergency situation. At times this misunderstanding has been a problem. Property owners have tried to fight a fire by themselves thinking that the costs of Fire dept responses were too great. Valuable time and property has been lost in the process, when all that was required was to make a call to 911 and a full response of manpower and equipment are on their way to assist them at no charge. As you probably know, time is very important in fire fighting and the sooner we know of a problem the better we can serve you.

A simple Burning permit eliminates a lot of problems as well and is free of charge. A call to the fire dept is all you need to do and we can help with the rest. Many rural landowners have taken advantage of this program but there are some that may not know of the benefits.

RURAL HOUSE & ROAD NUMBERS



Something else that is new to rural residents this year is the new property Identification Numbers. When placing a call to 911, knowing your house number and road number are essential. This assists us in locating your residence very quickly. House number AND Road number are both important.

Thank you all for your support over the years and I look forward to many more.

Andy Thiessen - Fire Chief - Morden Fire & Rescue



Morden Branch of the South Central Regional Library
514 Stephen Street
(822-4092) morden@scrlibrary.mb.ca
www.scrlibrary.mb.ca

Regular hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays - 10 am until 8:30 pm
Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays - 10 am until 5:30 pm
Closed Mondays

LIBRARY NEWS

Mark these occasions on your calendar for December 2007 and January 2008!

- **December 20th & 21st** – Warm up with hot apple cider and cookies – bring a small donation for Christmas Cheer.
- **December 25th & 26th** – Library is **CLOSED** for Christmas & Boxing Day.
- **January 1, 2008** – Library is **CLOSED** for New Year's Day
- **January 15-26th** – Pre-School Story Time registration
- **January 24th** – Family Literacy Day plus 7:00 p.m - Pyjama Party at the Library
- **January 30th** – Pre-School Story Time begins



Call the Library for more information about any of the events. Please feel free to inquire about other groups that also meet in the library - Toastmasters, the Horticultural Society & CNIB support group.

Library Additions:

Recent Additions (Adult Fiction)

- Air Apparent by Piers Anthony
- A War of Gifts : an Ender Story by Orson Scott Card
- Weavers of War v.5 by David B. Coe
- Dust by Martha Grimes
- 20th Century Ghosts by Joe Hill
- The Sanctuary by Raymond Khoury
- Pandora's Daughter by Iris Johansen
- Anthony & Cleopatra by Collen McCullough
- A Christmas Beginning by Anne Perry
- The Race by Richard North Patterson
- Bones to Ashes by Kathy Reichs
- Amazing Grace by Danielle Steel
- Shoot Him if He Runs by Stuart Woods

Recent Additions (Christian Fiction)

- Stealing Lumby by Gail Fraser
- Home to Holly Springs v.1 by Jan Karon
- Just Beyond the Clouds by Karen Kingsbury
- Summer v.2 - (Sunrise Series) by Karen Kingsbury
- A Threat to Justice by Chuck Norris
- Breaking Free by Lauraine Snelling
- Cassidy by Lori Wick
- Elizabeth White by Elizabeth White

125 CELEBRATIONS

Morden's 125th Anniversary Committee would like to thank all the individuals and organizations that participated in the Morden 125th Anniversary events and helped to celebrate our community! There is one more event to come -

Dec 31 - Friends of Dance - New Years Eve Dance at the Recreation Centre - starting at 7:00 pm. This event will bring Morden's 125th year to a close.

125 Stories About Morden

Copies of this great little book about people, places and events in our community is still available for purchase. You'll find them at the Civic Centre, Morden Friendship Centre, the Library and Pembina Hills Arts Centre for \$15.00. Proceeds to the Morden Historical Society.



DOG LICENSES



Just a friendly reminder that all residents with dogs in the Town of Morden need to buy a **dog license** every year. Why not buy one today - it could save your pet's life!

When your dog(s) gets lost or runs away and we find it, the number on the license is registered to you with all your information so that we can contact you in a timely manner. Dog licenses run from January to December.

For more information on the Animal control **Bylaw 23-05** go to the Town of Morden website.

