



**THOMPSON NEIGHBOURHOOD
RENEWAL CORPORATION**
Thompson ihtāwīnihk tāpastāwin

The Citizen

Your Community Newsletter



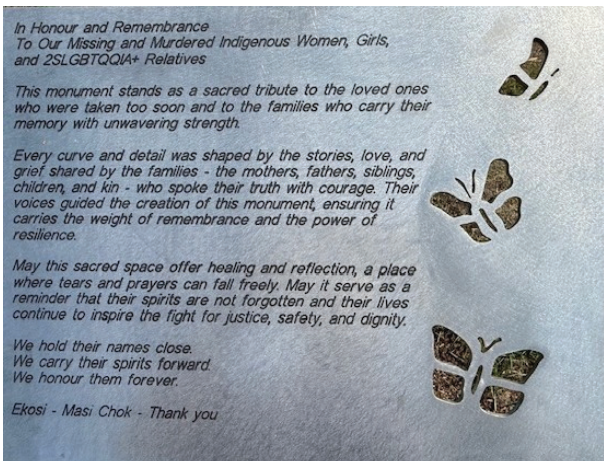
Monument to Honour and Remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ Relatives

On Friday August 29, the monument to honour and remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ Relatives was presented. On the plaque, next to the statute, the following was written:

This monument stands as a sacred tribute to the loves ones who were taken too soon and to the families who carry their memory with unwavering strength.

Every curve and detail was shaped by the stories, love, and grief shared by the families – the mothers, fathers, siblings, children, and kin – who spoke their truth with courage. Their voices guided the creation of this monument, ensuring it carries the weight of remembrance and the power of resilience.

May this sacred space offer healing and reflection, a place where tears and prayers can fall freely. May it serve as a reminder that their spirits are not forgotten and their lives continue to inspire the fight for justice, safety, and dignity.



*We hold their names close.
We carry their spirits forward.
We honour them forever.
Ekosi – Masi Chok – Thank you*

For comments or feedback on The Citizen please contact Oswald Sawh 204-677-0760 or email executivedi-rec-tor@tnrc.ca





Monument to Honour and Remember Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQA+ Relatives - Cont'd

The monument for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) and 2SLGBTQQA+ symbolizes disturbing statistics as pointed out by the Assembly of First Nations website <https://afn.ca/rights-justice/murdered-missing-indigenous-women-girls/>:

1) **Indigenous women are four times more likely than non-Indigenous women to be victims of violence.** Indigenous women make up 16% of all female homicide victims, and 11% of missing women, yet Indigenous people make up only 4.3% of the population of Canada.

2) **Indigenous women are twice as likely to experience violence from their current or former partner.** A little more than 13% of Indigenous people experience violence from their current or ex-partner, a proportion twice as high as non-Indigenous people (5.7%).

3) **Indigenous women are more likely to experience physical and sexual assault than non-Indigenous women.** 56% of Indigenous women have suffered physical assault, and 46% have experienced sexual assault. By comparison, about one-third of non-Indigenous women have suffered these assaults in their lifetimes.

4) **From 2001 to 2014, the average rate of homicides involving Indigenous female victims was four times that of those involving non-Indigenous female victims.**

These statistics are supported by the Government of Canada's website <https://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/rp-pr/jr/jf-pf/2017/july04.html>:

1) **Indigenous women represent 10% of the total population of missing women in Canada but are 5% of the total population.**

2) **Proportion of Indigenous women homicide victims increased since 1991.** In 2014, the rate of homicide of Indigenous women was almost six times higher than non-Indigenous women.

3) **Half of the homicides of Indigenous women were committed by a family member.** Of the total solved homicide cases of Indigenous women between 1980 and 2014, half (53%) were committed by a family member, a quarter (26%) by an acquaintance and 8% by strangers.

Oliver Veuillot-Interim Director, MMIWG Liaison Unit



MKO and its MMIWG Liaison Unit spearheaded this initiative that started in 2019 with funding by both the Government of Canada and the Province of Manitoba with the City of Thompson providing the location and lighting for the monument, the only one of its kind in Northern Manitoba. The process involved the use of **Treaty 1 Development Corporation** and designer **David Thomas** undergoing an extensive in-person and on-line consultation process

over 3 years that included communities of **Northlands Dene-suline First Nation, Fox Lake First Nation, Sapotaweyak Cree Nation, Shamattawa First Nation, Gods Lake First Nation, Bunibonibee Cree Nation, O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation** as well as allowing for and getting feedback from the public. The Unveiling Ceremony took place next to City Hall where the MMIWG2S+ Memorial Monument has been placed. **Heidi Spence** was the Master of Ceremonies. In attendance and also speaking were Nahanni Fountaine, Minister of Families, Angela Levasseur, Chief of NCN and Mayor Smook.. Messages were also brought forward on behalf of MP Hon. Rebecca Chartrand and MLA Eric Redhead.

After the unveiling, representatives from 4 families, personally impacted by a female in their family being killed had a chance to speak. **Melinda and George Wood** spoke of their 21 year



old daughter, **Christine Wood**, who went missing during a family visit in Winnipeg and later found murdered, *"It's been 9 years this month...our daughter was tragically taken way from us. This monument is a place to re-*

member our loved ones and their names." **Agnes Denechezhe** spoke of her niece, **Leona Tsessaze** who was killed, along with her friend, **Brent Denechezhe** 4 years ago in their home community of Northlands Denesuline First Nation, *"This monument is a tribute to our memory of our beloved Leona. It is a celebration of their lives and a symbol of our journey towards healing, let it stand as a beacon and a light of hope and remembrance. This monument stands as a lasting tribute of their legacy and a memory of love and community"*

Joe Danttouze spoke of his late sister, a Residential School Survivor who went missing in 1971 and **Hilda Anderson**, along with her brothers **Dennis and Keith**, honored their sister, **Dawn**, who was killed in 2011.

Oliver Veuillot, Interim Director of the MMIWG Liaison Unit commented, *"I want to acknowledge the families and survivors. Your strength, your courage, and your love have carried us to this day. This monument is here because of you — because you never stopped speaking, never stopped fighting, and never stopped loving."*

Oliver summarized the significance of the monument by saying, *"This monument is a place of remembrance. It is a place where we can come to honour the lives of our sisters, our mothers, our daughters, our aunties, and our Two-Spirit and gender-diverse relatives who were taken from us too soon. It is also a place of healing, where families, survivors, and community members can come together in ceremony, reflection, and solidarity. It is a place of teaching, a reminder to all Canadians that the violence against Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people is not history. It is a reality we must continue to address every single day."* Thanks to all of the sponsors and project partners, MKO, Government of Canada, Province of Manitoba, Vale and Treaty One Development Corporation and the City of Thompson.



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Thompsonite Profile - Ann Snihor - Long Time Artist, Health Care Provider and Business Owner/Operator

Many Thompsonites and local and regional art enthusiasts know the name of Ann Snihor. Ann was born and raised in Shoal Lake. After graduating with a nursing degree and working at the Misericordia Hospital at the time, she decided to apply for a nursing job in Thompson. She was hired by the Thompson General Hospital and relocate to Thompson in 1961. Here she met her love of her life, Mike, who was an RCMP officer stationed in Thompson at the time. *“I shared Mike’s love of the outdoors. In fact on our first date, he took me snowshoeing. On another date he took me icefishing.”* Ann’s love of the outdoors would be evident in her paintings years later.

After Ann and Mike were married, they travelled much of Northern Manitoba. *“We loved the North and lived all over it due to his postings...many isolated places of the Canadian North, places such as Churchill, the Yukon Territory and Nunavut. In 1983, while we were in Brandon, as a result of Mike’s last posting assignment, an opening came up in Thompson and we applied for it and he got it.”* Ann and Mike moved back to the Thompson for the second time with Mike retiring from the RCMP in 1987. Shortly after Ann and Mike started up an outfitting business in 1990 - **Trapper’s Mike Outfitting**. The business gave them an opportunity to work outside and for Ann, it gave her an opportunity to get a lot of subject matter for her water and acrylic paintings. *“Most of my paintings is of a specific area...aside from me seeing many parts of Northern Manitoba, my husband used to take a lot of pictures”,* commented Ann.

Ann remembered always having a love of painting. One of her earliest memories was when, at the age of 14 she entered an artist contest. *“it was to paint Robin Hood, so I sketched and I used colored pencils and I colored Robin Hood...I won*

the third prize...I have always been interested in art so when I retired from nursing, needing a hobby, I started painting more often” Her hobby became her second career after nursing as Ann has completed hundreds of paintings over the last 30 years. Aside from painting a lot of outdoor scenes, she also uses ducks and floral as subject matter. Ann has also received a lot of rewards, from 1998 to 2009, after which time she stopped recording it, she has won 3rd place four times, won 2nd place four times and 1st place twice. She has also been in a number of art shows and exhibits.

Her husband Mike passed away in 2004, but she continues to operate their business they started together, with the help of her son and daughter. *“My son is sheriff and my daughter is a nurse but the business is seasonal, we operate it for 2 weeks of the year,”* added Ann. For the rest of the year Ann does her paintings. In her work she portrays her love for the North by painting various landscapes. With her paintbrushes she tries to capture the peacefulness and beauty of the colourful Aurora Borealis and flowers. At the age of 87, Ann has built up quite a legacy, not only as a long time health care provider and the owner/operator of a business for over 35 years, but as a Thompsonite who has been able to showcase the beauty of Northern Manitoba through her art. Her paintings are widely

distributed and are in the Vatican City, Oklahoma, Alabama, Virginia, Michigan, South Africa, California, Germany, England, Quebec, Ontario and most of Manitoba.



River View Restaurant in Thompson

is hiring 2 permanent full-time (30 hours+/week) Restaurant Supervisors (NOC 62020), \$18.50 – \$20.00/hour, min 1 year experience with diploma or certificate.

Duties include: supervise, hire & train new staff, follow health and safety procedures, ensure food and service quality, address customers’ concerns, maintain records of stock & equipment, make work schedules.

Drop by 50 Selkirk Avenue or email info@riverviewrestaurant.ca today.



Celebration of Life - Helen McIvor

Helen Mae McIvor was born on April 10, 1939, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and was the only child of Ernie and Laura Barr. Helen passed away on July 17, 2025, after a 12-year decline due to dementia.

A Registered Nurse, Helen toured and worked in Europe in 1959–60 with two RN friends, sparking a lifelong love of travel. This eventually led her to Thompson, Manitoba, in 1960, after she met Jim McIvor at a Winnipeg hospital. They married in 1962. Upon reporting to the Thompson Hospital as a nurse, she was told, “We only hire single nurses.” In time, however, Helen secured a nursing position at the hospital as a married woman. Years later, she served as Chair of the Hospital Board for a three-year term. She was a strong advocate for organ donation, speaking to many community groups in Thompson.

As the mother of three active boys, Helen became deeply involved in the Thompson community. She found joy and purpose in the Thompson Music Festival, the United Church, and as a longtime member of the Aurora Singers. She represented various local businesses and welcomed newcomers to the community through the Welcome Wagon; helping many families establish roots in their new surroundings. With her active sons, Helen learned to ski, golf, and curl. She joined a Senior Ladies curling team, which represented northern Manitoba at the Provincial Curling Championships in Winnipeg, for many years.

Helen spent the last 20 years of her working life as a Financial Planner with Mutual Life of Canada, which later became Sun Life. Helen firmly believed that women should be involved in family finances, and she excelled in her profession. She was consistently a top salesperson and one of the few women to attend the Million Dollar Round Table, representing the top tier of the financial industry.

Helen is survived by her husband of 63 years, Jim McIvor, her sons and their families:

- Keith and Alisa (Lauren and Liam)
- Lee and Kim (Scott and Madison)
- Cam and Tammy (Amanda and Aidan)

Sincere thanks to all the staff at Northern Spirit Manor. Your kindness and care for Helen is deeply appreciated, and to Boardman Funeral Home for their compassion and guidance.

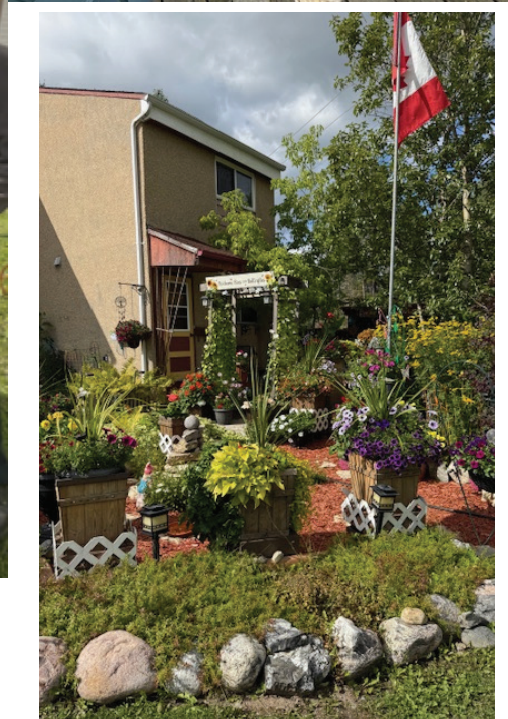
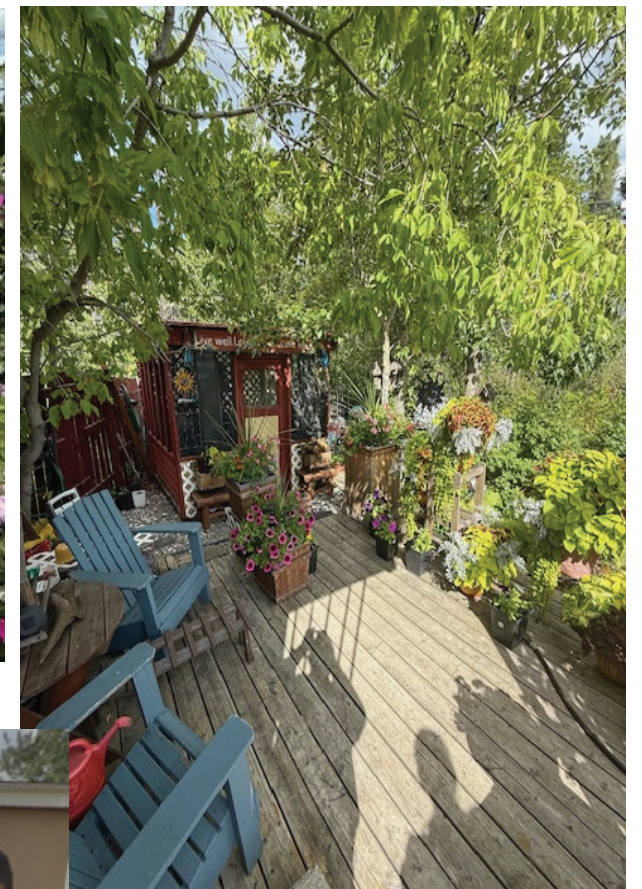


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Waterloo Gardens

Sunflower Alley...Sphere Tire Island...Rose Ridge...Tire Island...Spirilla Triangle...Cosmo Cove...Inukshuk Inlet and Petunia Table are just some of the names given to the wide assortments of flower and fauna arrangements at the end of Waterloo Drive called the **Waterloo Gardens**. **Phyllis Mitchell**, who has lived in the Waterloo area for over 20 years always had a small garden going but over the last number of years, especailly with **Lenny Shaw** coming on to assist Phyllis after she experienced a heart attack, Waterloo Gardens has become a star attraction in the City of Thompson. One only has to take a walk through the garden to fully appreciate the beauty and the hard work that went into it. Reflecting on the enourmous contribution by Lenny, Phyllis comments, *“Imagine*

one person carring these rocks one at a time and then digging up flower beds.” You only have to look at some of the details during your walk through to also appreciate the imagination put into, not just in caring, planting, growing and maintaining different areas of the garden, but in some of the landscaping details such as the walking stepping stones molded from sunflower leaves. The work done by Phyllis and Lenny is a testament to what is possible when it comes to the beautifaicon of Thompson and Thompson Pride. The TNRC would like to thank Phyllis and Lenny for all they have done when it comes to the beautification of their neighbourhood and the City of Thompson. You can see more of Waterloo Gardens by visiting their Facebook page.





Thank You to the Thompson Community Foundation!!!

THANK YOU

Thompson Community Foundation

With the generous support of \$9,824 from the Community Foundation of Thompson, our Summer Youth Engagement Program has been a success.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A LASTING DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN AND OUR COMMUNITY



SUMMER CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

Because of your generosity, 79 kids enjoyed 32 days of free summer camp filled with learning, fun, and memories. Thank you for making this possible!



“We are grateful to the Thompson Community Foundation for their generous support in helping us build a welcoming and inclusive community. – From Thompson Immigrant Services”




The Thompson Community Foundation has provided over **25 million in grants over the last 30 years** to various not for profits, community groups, charities, committees, and schools.

You can help them to continue their great work. Donations are tax deductible and can be made to the following Thompson Community Foundation Funds:

- General Managed Endowment Fund
- Operating Fund
- Arnold Morberg Memorial Scholarship
- CIM Scholarship
- Kerrie Brown Bursary - Scholarship Fund
- Troy Anan Fund
- Northern Social Work - Scholarship Fund
- Dylan Cripps Memorial - Scholarship Fund
- Scient Fair Fund
- Burntwood Junior Curling Club
- Hospital Health Foundation Fund
- Irene Evelyn Moore Fund
- 2018 Manitoba Games Fund

To find out more about the Thompson Community Foundation, email them at TCF@mymts.net.



Wildfire Relief

Vale Base Metals, Hudbay Minerals and Alamos Gold have come together to donate C\$1.25 million to support of wildfire relief efforts across northern Manitoba.



Pictured: Vale Base Metals' Thompson operation in northern Manitoba.





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Solitude of Four Complete 75 Day Canoe Trip

On Friday August 15th, Thompsonite Shelly Sloan ran into 4 young people about to board the train to Churchill that just completed an incredible 75 day canoe trip from Sea Gull Lake in Northern Minnesota up to York Factory in Hudson Bay. The approximate distance from Seagull Lake to York Factory is 2,011 kilometers, **basically equivalent to paddling 3 times the distance from Thompson to Winnipeg**, perimeter to perimeter. The journey involves paddling and portaging through the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) in northeastern Minnesota, crossing into Canada, then navigating through waterways in Manitoba to reach the sub-arctic environment near Hudson Bay and the historic site of York Factor. A journey that is not for the faint of heart or individuals who are not in good physical shape.



Timea Vrabcova, Kathleen Grube, Maren Johnson, and Ryan Mohr

Asked about their journey, the group commented, *“It was everyday out on the water, averaging 15 miles a day but sometime we would do, like the last day, we did 55 miles but somedays we would do 6.”* Asked why they decided to do this trip, they said, *“We all met at a summer camp as canoe guides in the summer of 2023. We had this bond of loving to be in the water and paddling and we were all in this transition time with being done with school, between seasonal work and we thought... why the heck not! There was also a crew of 4 women in 2016 who did the same route as we were planning to do so we had maps from them. So I think we are the 3rd or 4th crew from our camp that has done the same route”*

The 2016 canoe trip was referred to as the *Journey 4 Renewal*. Timea, Kathleen, Maren, and Ryan called their canoe trip the *Solitude of Four*. During the podcast under



Solitude of 4 with Shelly Sloan before they board the train to Churchill

paddleandportage.com, Kathleen, from Minneapolis commented on how a big part of the journey for her, surrounded by nature, will be *“learning how to listen”* as her and her fellow canoers paddle over the 75 days. Ryan commented on what they expect to be the toughest part of their trip, *“Lake Winnipeg is windy and wavy, it will involve a lot of night paddling.”*

Timea immigrated from Slovakia 6 years ago and has since lived in Minneapolis looks forward to a *“community based experience.”* For the four that came to Thompson and the many hundreds of visitors that come every year to our city, it was a pleasure to have them here, albeit for a short visit as they continue their Northern adventure.

Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation TNRC Administrative Assistant Job Description



Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation

The TNRC is hiring for an Administrative Assistant to assist the Executive Director in supporting our programs and activities.

The successful candidate will have good communication skills and a strong background in working with Microsoft programs. Experience in social media and booking would be considered an asset. If you are interested please forward your resume and cover letter to executivedirector@tnrc.ca or drop off a hard copy to the TNRC office at **Unit B-117 Commercial Place**. Thank you to all those apply but only candidates we wish to interview will be contacted. If you have any questions please contact Oswald Sawh at (204) 677-0760.



Annual General Meeting Notices



Men Are Part of the Solution (MAPS) Annual General Meeting
 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
 Monday September 22, 2025
 Unit B-117 Commercial Place

MAPS is pleased to announce it's 23rd Annual General Meeting, to take place at its board room at Unit B-117 Commercial Place. MAPS will be reviewing its 2024/25 year and will also be providing updates on its upcoming year. For any questions please contact our office at (204) 778-6040



Thompson Neighbourhood Annual General Meeting
 Time: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
 Place: Thompson Regional Community Center - Multi Purpose Room
 Date: Friday September 26

Come out to hear about our 2024/25 *Year in Review* as well to get updates on the Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation's focus for the 2025/26 year. A light lunch will be served. All are welcome.



Public Notice

Seeking Input from Communities of Interest

Vale Base Metals – Community Engagement Initiative

Vale's Manitoba Operations is committed to responsible and sustainable mining practices. As part of our ongoing efforts to build respectful and transparent relationships, we are identifying Communities of Interest who may be affected by or have a genuine interest in our operations in Thompson, Manitoba.

We invite individuals, organizations, and communities—including Indigenous communities and organizations—to self-identify as Communities of Interest. Your voice matters in shaping how we operate and engage with the community.

You may be a COI if you:

- Live near or use the land around our facility or operations
- Represent an Indigenous community or organization
- Have environmental, cultural, or economic interests in the area
- Are part of a local, regional, or national organization with a stake in mining activities

How to Participate

To self-identify or learn more, please contact Ray Solski:

Phone: 204-778-2033
Email: Ray.Solski@vale.com

All information shared will be treated with respect and confidentiality, as requested.

Let's work together to ensure our operations reflect the values and concerns of the communities we serve.



TNRC Small Grants Fund



What is the small grants fund?

This grant, up to \$ 5,000 per project, is made possible through an agreement with the province of Manitoba and is administered by the Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation (TNRC). Funds are provided to local groups that support community building and community connecting projects that enhance the health and cohesion of our community. Successful grants will:

- Enhance the strength and cohesion of the community
- Emphasize community building / connection activities
- Have identified support of local residents
- Be sponsored by local groups (not individuals)
- Not be used for wages (honorariums are eligible)

Not be used for capital improvements to private property unless the property has been made available, free of charge, for community use and the improvements relate to the proposed community use

If interested in applying for a Small Grants Fund, please contact the TNRC at **677-0760** or email **executivedirector@tnrc.ca**. Application forms can be downloaded from **thompsonnrc.ca**.



Men Are Part of the Solution (MAPS) is now hiring a full-time clinician that will provide individual and group counseling for those who have experienced stressors, addiction, and trauma in their lives.

This position will assist the MAPS Executive Director to establish good work relationships and collaborative arrangements across sectors, community groups, research institutions, and funders.

Qualifications include:

- Degree in Counselling, Psychology, or Social Work or equivalent.
- Post-graduate experience, supervising and/or managing programs and/or individuals or groups.
- Comprehensive understanding of issues related to stressors, addiction, and mental health challenges.
- Working knowledge of a wide range of theoretical interventions and psychosocial assessments.
- The ability to function independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team required.
- Excellent written, verbal and interpersonal communication skills and organizational abilities are necessary.
- Operational housing or shelter experience and knowledge of the critical housing programs to support homeless challenges would be considered an asset.
- Working knowledge of Indigenous culture and previous experience working in Northern Manitoba would be considered an asset.
- Ability to communicate respectfully with clients and staff.

Interested individuals should forward their resume and cover letter to executivedirector@menarepartofthesolution.com or drop off your application to the MAPS office at 117-B Commercial Place, Thompson, MB R8N 1T1. MAPS thanks all those that apply but will be only contacting those that we wish to interview.

Community Concerns Hotline

Your Voice Matters!

At Vale's Manitoba Operations, we are committed to being a responsible neighbor and maintaining open communication with the communities where we operate. We understand that our activities may sometimes have an impact, and we want to hear from you.

If you have any concerns related to noise, traffic, environmental effects, or any other issues stemming from our operations, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Call our Community Concerns Line: 204-778-2888; or Email: Vale.MB.Public@vale.com

Your feedback helps us improve and ensures we continue to operate in a way that respects and supports our community. All reports are confidential and will be addressed promptly.

Together, we can make a difference.