

A HISTORY OF
LAKE MINNEWASTA
AND
COLERT BEACH

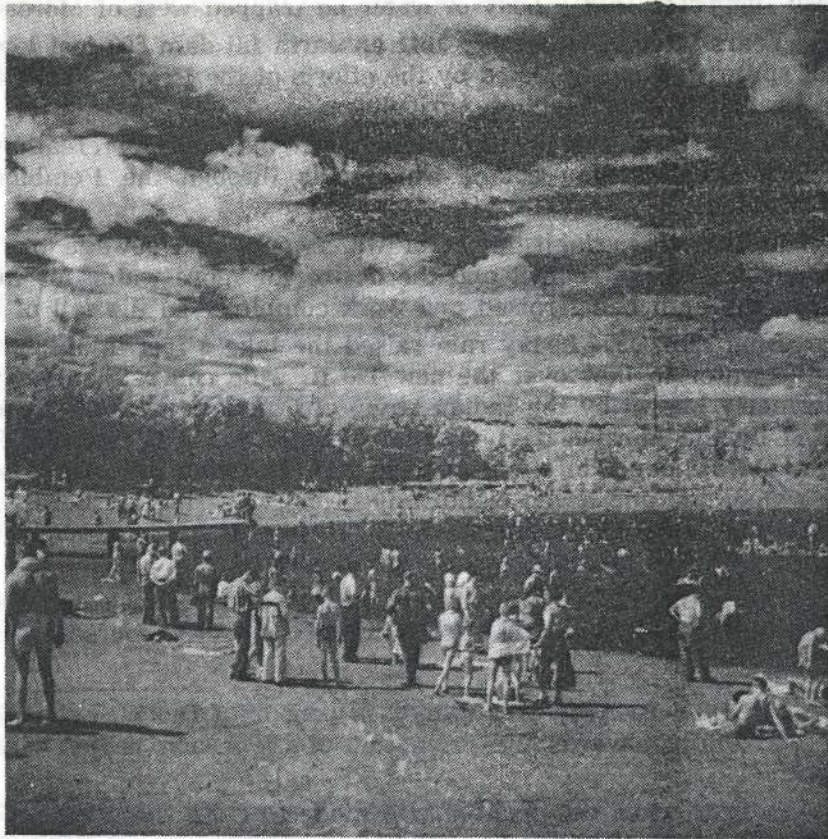
Aerial view of Lake Minnewasta

1980.





1941 - 1962



Brief History of:

**MORDEN DAM,
LAKE MINNEWASTA
AND COLERT BEACH
WITH A FINANCIAL REPORT**

On **JANUARY 21st, 1897**, Mr. J. F. Galbraith, editor of the Morden newspaper, recommended a dam be constructed on the creek one mile west of Morden.

In **1908-09**, Mr. T. Searle, station agent of the Great Northern Railway, also suggested that a body of water be trapped west of Morden.

Years later in **December 1941** an earth fill dam 600 feet long with a 25 foot spillway was completed by the efforts of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation branch of the Dept. of Agriculture.

March 25th, 1942 water flowed down the spillway creating Lake Minnewasta situated in a coulee which cuts through the Pembina hills west of Morden.

In **1950** the establishment of waterworks and sewage by Mayor D. A. Duncan and his council and the desire for more water for industry resulted in the dam being raised and work completed in the fall of 1953.

June 15th, 1954 heavy rain raised the lake 8 feet in 10 hours and caused the water to flow over the new 120 ft. wide concrete spillway. The creek formerly known by the Indian name of Pinancewaywinning was thus obstructed by the Morden dam with an elevation of 1085 feet and 95 feet above the C.P.R. depot in town, to form the attractive imposing L-shaped body of water, one and seven eighth miles long, covering 144 acres, known as Lake Minnewasta. The deepest spot is 70 feet. It has one island and is surrounded by trees providing shade and beauty.

The entire district rejoices at the possession of a copious supply of fresh water which formerly rushed down the water course to Hudson Bay.

COLERT BEACH, was named in honour of Dr. W. Colert for his interest and effort towards the promotion of the beach project and lake facilities.

In **1952**, when the decision was made to raise the present dam of 1941, public spirited citizens directed their interests so that the public in southern Manitoba and their respected visitors should be assured of all the advantages of the improved Lake Minnewasta.

In order to provide recreation in the form of swimming, diving, boating, fishing, camping, water skiing, ski jumping and surf board manoeuvres a beach committee was formed to guide, direct and finance operations. This committee was composed of representatives from:

1. Municipality of Stanley.
2. The Towns of Morden and Winkler.
3. Game and Fish Associations of Morden and Winkler.
4. Chambers of Commerce of Morden and Winkler.
5. The Canadian Legion, Morden branch.
6. The Kinsmen Club of Morden.
7. Private interested individuals & Experimental Farm Personnel.

THE FOLLOWING has therefore been arranged and provided by the direction of the Beach Committee:

1. Purchasing of land for a road to the proposed beach.
2. Facilities — (a) for beach, boat dock, ski club area. (b) water from town filtration plant, concession booth, diving tower, caretaker, lifeguard, electricity, gravel, bath house comforts (modern), kitchens, camping area, and boat.
3. Projects to beautify and maintain the grounds in a gratifying and pleasing manner.
4. Keep water clear of algae by proper deposits of copper sulphate so that Red cross swimming lessons can be provided in crystal clear water.

FINANCES have been provided by donations and by the invitation of the beach committee for the public to contribute 50 cents a day or a \$2.00 season privilege entrance per car.

The following financial report of expenditures by the district and committee should be a surprise as to the extent of results obtained by co-ordinated efforts. The report is self explanatory from the inception of the beach project to date of July 1962.

COLERT BEACH EXPENDITURES and FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Paid by W. Colert 1952 February for bulldozing 4 acres	\$160.00	
Labour for dynamiting stumps	200.00	
Road to lake	633.78	\$993.78
2. Paid by Morden citizens, hauling bush soil from 4 acres of beach area, October 1952, 4800 yds.		2620.00
3. Grading road, equal amounts, Dept. of Public works Ward 6 Stanley Municipality		1326.76
4. Paid by Game and Fish, Winkler & Morden 1953 July and August gravel	1433.55	
Pier and crushed rock	990.91	2424.46
5. Paid Morden Motors & J. Wiebe hauling timber from Morris		
6. 1954 Float dock, P.D. Dyck \$16.57, Livingston Hardware \$1.80, Monarch Lumber \$108.91, Beaver Lumber \$32.00 totalling		159.28
8. Timbers for dock donated by Mr. Tom Lewis, Morris, Man. 35 — 10x12x8, valued at	280.00	
15 poles 20 feet long, estimated value	750.00	1030.00
9. Gravel donation Winkler Chamber of Commerce 1953		150.00
Morden Chamber of Commerce, 1953 - 1954		250.00
Business men and truckers		312.32
10. Paid by Kinsmen, Morden, stones	12.00	
Swimming pier	336.15	
Slide	154.25	
Donation	500.00	1002.42
11. Paid by Morden Kinnettes, donation 1954		200.00
12. Paid by Beach Committee 1954, pump, wells, bath rooms, concession booth		5752.36
13. Anonymous donation, gravel hauling etc.		550.00
14. Gratis and Extras, cultivate and plant 1800 trees and cultivate land, estimated at		2500.00
15. Beyond the above mentioned was the constructive effort of the P.F.R.A. as well as many hours of labour donated by willing and interested citizens of the communities of Darlingford, Morden, Winkler and Plum Coulee, and, the road program of pavement by the Provincial Government.		
TOTAL SPENT 1952 to 1954, estimated at		20,821.38
Total Spent 1955 to 1958		16,834.00
Total Spent 1958 to 1961		12,000.00
Ski Club approximate expenditure		6,000.00
Total Spent 1961 to June 1st 1962		3,656.26
Estimated spring clean-up, painting, and two shelters to July 1st, 1962		930.00
GRAND TOTAL TO JULY 1st, 1962		\$60,241.64

BIGGEST OF ITS KIND. When the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation built Morden Dam it held back water from Dead Horse Creek to create what was subsequently named Lake Minnewashta Reservoir.

And, while the PFRA was building the dam, farmers and citizens formed a volunteer labor brigade which hauled hundreds of loads of sand to make what was later named Calert Beach. Proud of their work, the volunteers now refer to it as "the biggest dam beach in Manitoba", writes W.T.J.

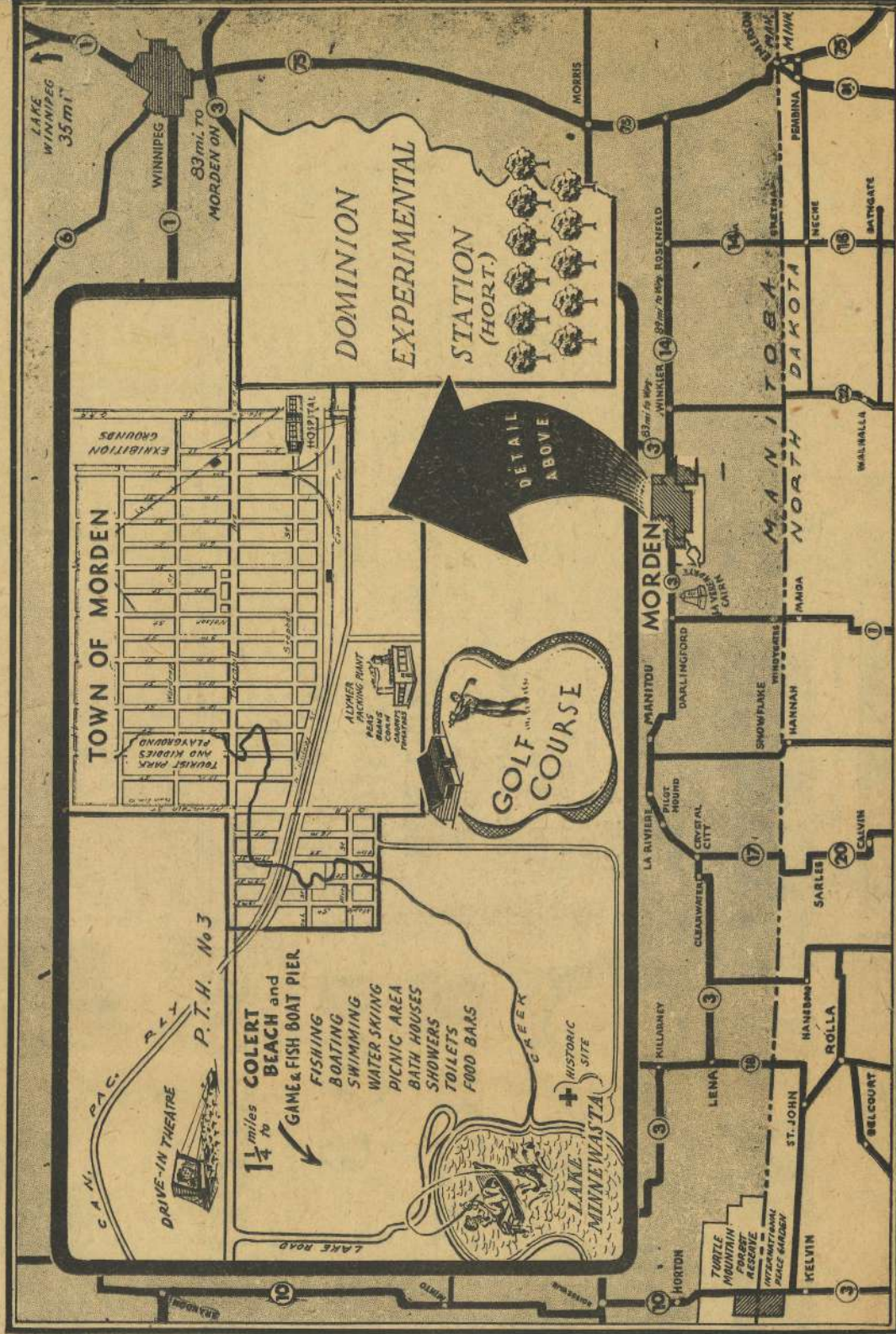
Or they could say it was the biggest by a dam-site

★ ★ ★

Colert Beach
1954



Artist's Conception of Morden With Its Tourist Attractions



An artist's conception of the unlimited tourist attractions Morden and district has to offer to tourists and vacationers is presented in this compact map of southern Manitoba and northern North Dakota. The map is part of the many items presented in the new tourist booklet produced by the Morden Chamber of Commerce, which will be distributed shortly. Morden is presented in a larger detailed map above with its many and varied industries and recreations with an invitation to all visitors to pay the Town a visit and enjoy the many attractions offered.

July, 1955.

False Alarm At Colert Beach Wed.

What could have been a story with a tragic ending happily turned out to be a false alarm Wednesday morning. A spectator at the beach reported what she thought were the legs of someone in difficulty in the lake and reported it to the Red Cross instructors who were at the lake instructing swimming classes. The instructors dove into the water in an effort to recover the alleged victim for approximately 15 minutes and then the R.C.M.P. were notified, along with town constables W. Larke and Wm. Chapman. Dragging operations were carried out for some time and a boat owned by Dr. W. Colert was used in an effort to wash the unknown object to shore with no results. All members of the swimming class were accounted for and people began to breathe easier after learning that no mishap had occurred.

The booth operated at the waterside did a landslide business in cold drinks, ice cream and various other items to help the bather keep cool on the inside. A volunteer concert presented by members of the Carman Band on a platform erected on the beach was very much appreciated by all those who heard them and was a noble gesture on the part of the members of the Carman organization.

The Lake wasn't the only part of the town attracting visitors as large groups of visitors gathered at the Tourist park to eat their lunch and enjoy the games placed there by the Kinsmen club of Morden. The Experimental station drew its share of visitors to the picnic grounds and spacious lawns. Many varieties of flowers are in bloom at the Station and hundreds of people took advantage of the colorful show or just lolled around under shade trees.

Wednesday, July 20, 1955

Parking Regulations Needed



A conglomeration of cars on the parking space northwest of the beach is shown in this snap taken Sunday. Note the haphazard parking of the majority of cars, resulting in much wastage of parking space. Some solution to the parking problem will have to be found so the increased traffic which is bound to come can be accommodated on future Sundays or holidays. At times cars moving to and from the beach were barely able to squeeze through the line of cars parked on both sides of the road leading to the entrance to the beach from the south.

North shore of the beach -- before the raising of the level of the lake.



Spring 1977



Spring 1978

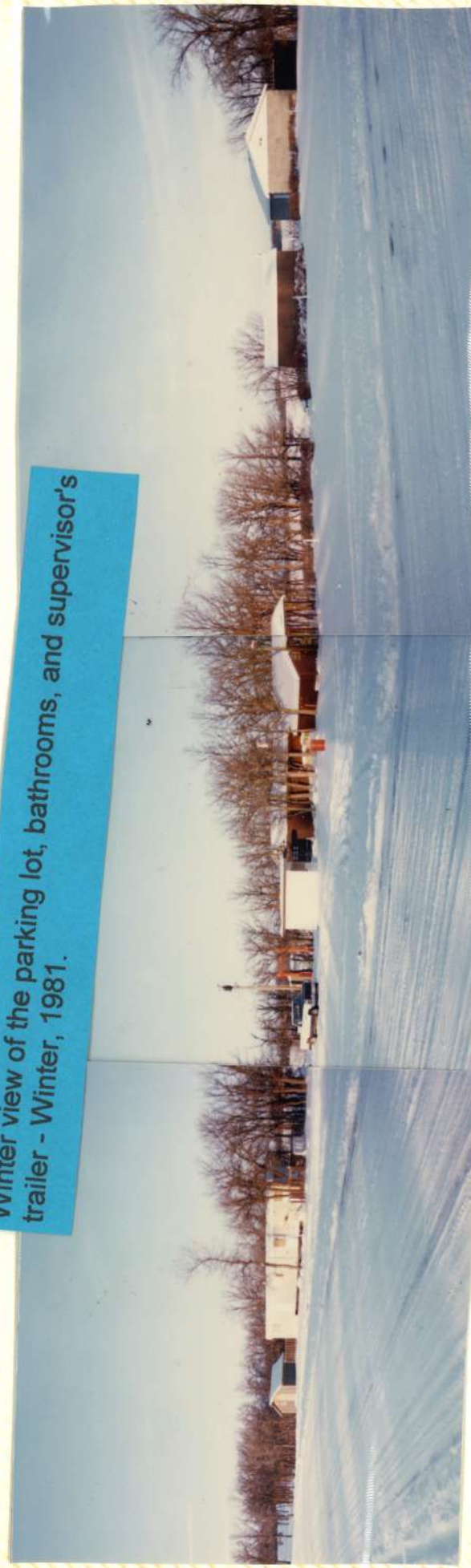
Sign at entrance - 1980



Ice fishing at Lake Minnewasta - Winter, 1979.



Winter view of the parking lot, bathrooms, and supervisor's trailer - Winter, 1981.



Letters to the Editor

Fees too high

One evening last week, my husband and I decided to drive to the lake, when to our dismay, saw that same little booth beside the road. It seems that one has to pay \$1.50 just to drive to the lake and have a look at it.

It really makes me wonder how the Beach Committee can charge anyone to drive down a provincial road. It is my understanding that the re-construction of the dam and spillway was provincially funded and that we are paying for this through our taxes. Donations have been made to do any necessary work to the beach area. We are already paying for the use of the water in our homes and I don't think one should be charged to take a swim in the lake.

I just can't see how you expect people to pay these outrageous fees for camping or the pleasure of using a boat on the lake. There is a government campsite which is just a half hour's drive from here that charges only \$7/season. That includes camping plus the use of one's boat. Now that's a far cry from the large fees our Beach Committee is asking us to pay. I'm sure most campers would rather drive the forty miles or so and pay for the extra gas to go to the government campsite than pay the high prices at our own lake. It really seems a shame when one has to go elsewhere to enjoy water sports just because there happens to be a few money-hungry people around. I thought the lake was there for our enjoyment, not to make some fortunate people rich.

I don't imagine that I'm the only citizen of Morden that feels this way about the situation. If there are others that feel this way, don't just take it as one of those things that can't be changed, we have rights too! I don't mind supporting my community but this is ridiculous.

Karen Borne,
Morden, Manitoba.

Letters to the Editor

Committee replies

We are writing in reply to the letter which was written to the editor in the June 23 edition of the Pembina Times.

The Beach Committee is a non-profit organization which is made up of members who volunteer their time and effort and do not expect any payment for this. We, as members pay the same fees as the public, be it for car fees, camping fees or boating fees.

Organizations donating monies designate areas in which it is to be spent and are advised as dispensation of the same. Money raised by the Beach Committee through gate fees, boating fees, and camping fees, etc., are used for the upkeep and beautification of the area and to pay wages for groundskeeper, caretaker, gatekeepers, and lifeguards. Fees are also used to cover the cost of vandalism and theft. (The financial statement may be seen in the classified section of this weeks' paper.) The town of Morden does not support the Beach Committee financially, but have on occasion provided us with funds in unforeseen difficulties. The money provided by the government this year was to replace the concession booth, diving boards, lifeguard tower, and to relocate the boat dock and boat dock area which was damaged or destroyed when the level of water was raised. Due to the fast rising of water the money allocated to boat dock will cover only about one half of the cost of relocating. The remainder of this money has to be raised by the Beach Committee.

The people we employ are paid wages because they hold responsible jobs. The caretaker looks after the needs of everyone in our campground, boating and swimming area. It is her responsibility to make sure no one is disturbing anyone else, or damaging anyone's property. She, together with the lifeguard often find themselves babysitting for children whose mothers have left them at the gate because they did not want to pay the car entry fee. Which is more costly, the \$7 season pass or their childrens' safety? If we did not have the co-operation of the caretaker, Town Police, and RCMP, Lake Minnewasta would become a "party place" with broken beer bottles and garbage strewn all over. The peace and quiet which campers and swimmers appreciate would not be there. The caretaker spends 24 hours at her job. How many of us would commit ourselves this way? The groundskeeper keeps the area in a good

and safe condition for all to enjoy. Without him the grounds would be a physical embarrassment to the Morden area and would drive the visitors away. The gatekeepers are there to collect fees and have found on occasion to take unlimited abuse from the public, when all they are doing is following instructions of the committee. Our lifeguards are fully certified and are here for our and our children's protection and safety.

Provincial Parks are funded by the government. All of us pay taxes and within these taxes, money is designated to upkeep and supervision of these parks even if we do not utilize them. Colert Beach is not a Provincial Park and therefore we must charge a fee for entry, boating and camping. Our rates are less for camping and for car entry fee compared to Provincial Parks. The big difference is we charge boat rates, which were priced at the suggestion of the Morden Boat Club.

It is our objective to make Colert Beach a safe and enjoyable place to visit for the Morden residents and also for the people in the surrounding areas. We encourage you to write if there are any questions you may have in regards to the beach area. Please send enquiries to Mr. Ed Maddock, president, Box 1696, Morden, Manitoba.

Yours truly,
Connie Thiessen, Secretary
Morden Beach Committee

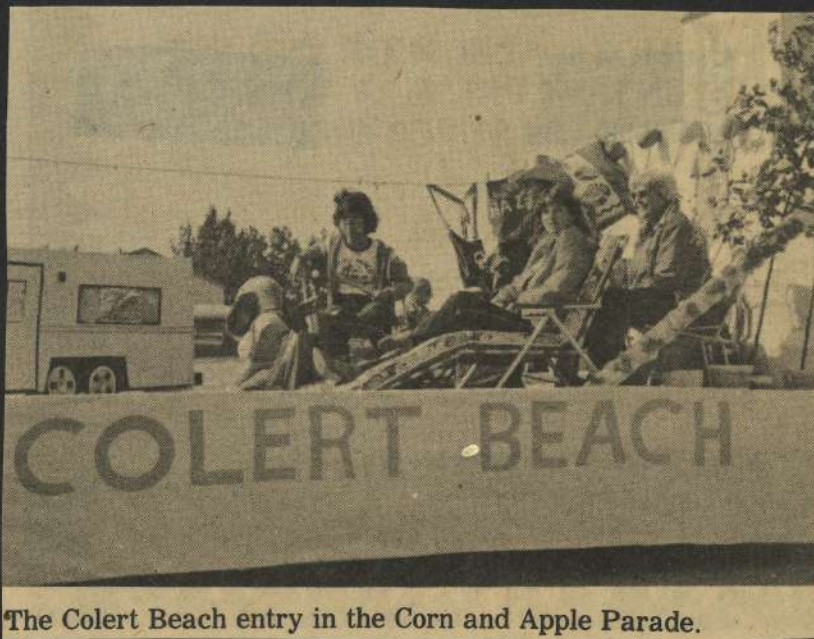
MORDEN BEACH COMMITTEE FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1981

INCOME		EXPENDITURES	
Gate	\$10,521.00	Caretaker contract	\$5,500.00
Camping	5,699.34	Gatekeeper wages	2,326.85
Rents	380.00	Lifeguards wages	1,675.96
T-Shirts	627.00	Grounds Keeper	465.11
Refund Ins.	20.01	Hydro	1,317.99
Town Donation	500.00	Telephone	102.53
	<u>\$17,747.35</u>	Repairs & Maintenance	3,538.04
		Supplies	236.86
		Tickets & Advertising	603.63
Profit	\$204.53	Licence & Insurance	99.00
Balance in Bank		Capital Expenditures	457.75
Jan. 1/81	1,957.40	T-Shirts	1,029.40
Balance		Miscellaneous	189.70
Dec. 8/81	<u>\$2,161.93</u>		<u>\$17,542.82</u>

T-shirts on hand-value - \$691.00
 Cost of moving trailer & concession booth - \$1,700.29
 (Paid out of 1981 income)
 Received from Town of Morden - remove \$1,700.00
 SAVINGS ACCOUNTS FOR NEW WASHROOMS - \$4,398.07

E.W. Maddock
Pres. & Treas.

August, 1981.



The Colert Beach entry in the Corn and Apple Parade.

Building of the new spillway and raising of the lake - 1981.



1981-82.

Building of the new camper washroom
with the help of volunteers - campers
and Lions Club members.



Ken Peters
Ed Maddock
George Derksen

Jake Neufeld
Lyle Meeks



George Derksen

Henry Friesen
Jack Olafson



George Derksen





Ed Maddock
Allan Porter



Ken Peters
Ed Maddock
Allan Porter
George Derksen



July 9th, 1982.

The public is cordially
invited to the
OFFICIAL OPENING
of the new facilities at
COLERT BEACH
at 2:00 p.m.
on Saturday, July 9th

- * *Tour facilities*
- * *Coffee & Donuts*

Beach facilities opening July 9

The official opening of the new facilities at Morden beach at Lake Minnewasta will be held on Saturday, July 9, beach committee chairman Ed Maddock told the Times recently.

"We will be opening the new concession booth, washrooms, diving board and

lifeguard tower at 2 p.m. on July 9," Maddock said.

Maddock said there will be a number of presentations at that time and that Morden Mayor Max Friesen and Stanley RM Reeve George Froese will be invited to participate in the event. Coffee and doughnuts will be served.

The new beach facilities were necessitated by the raising of the level of the Lake last year to increase the water supply. Maddock estimated that the approximately \$25,000 had been spent on the concession booth and other facilities. The materials for the washrooms have cost about \$17,000 to date, Maddock added, pointing out that the Morden Lions Club have donated nearly 1,100 hours of labour for the construction of the building.



Presentation by the Morden Legion of \$10,000 for construction of the new camper washroom.

Mickey Monaghan (Legion Auxillary), Andy Blatz (one of original MBC members), Ed Maddock (MBC member and Chairman), Howard Reichert (Legion), Bob Bissett (Legion), Bill Cramer (Legion).

Presentation by MBC of certificates of appreciation to the volunteers who worked on building of the new facilities.





Inveiling of the plaque of recognition on the camper washroom.



Plaque at entrance to Lake Minnewasta.



  
MORDEN DAM
AND RESERVOIR ENLARGEMENT
A CANADA-MANITOBA PROJECT
COMPLETED IN MORDEN'S CENTENNIAL YEAR
JULY 1982

PEPA CONSTRUCTED ORIGINAL DAM IN 1941
AND RECONSTRUCTED AND RAISED IT IN 1982

AGRANDISSEMENT DU BARRAGE-RESERVOIR
À MORDEN
OUVRAGE CANADA - MANITOBA
TERMINE EN JUILLET 1982
ANNÉE DU CENTENAIRE DE MORDEN

L'ARID A CONSTITUÉ LE PREMIER BARRAGE EN 1941
ET L'A RECONSTRUIT EN L'EXHAUSSANT EN 1982.

1980's.

New boat dock
1983



Hazel White
(Campground Supervisor)

Harvey Bergan
(M.B.C. member)



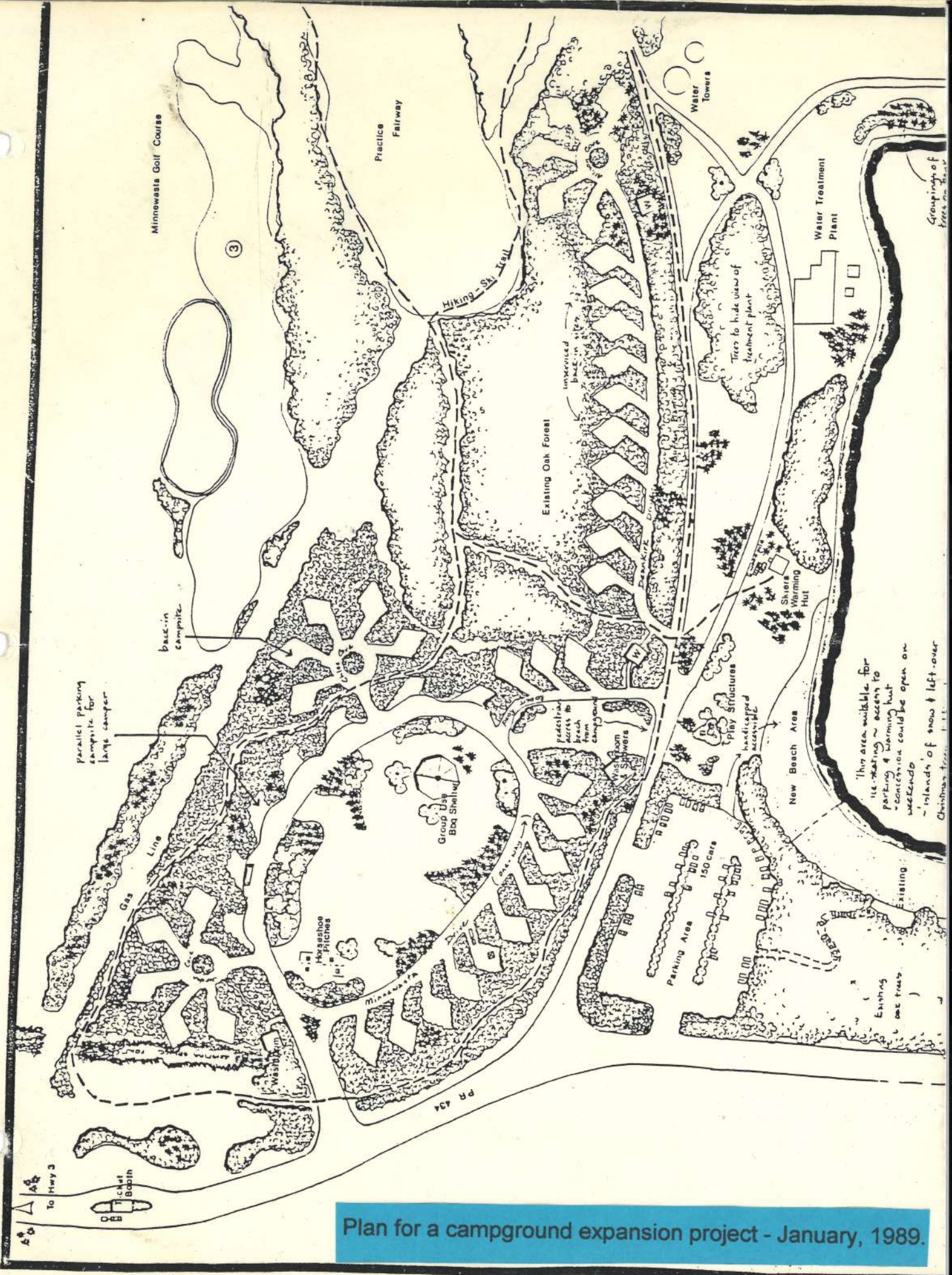


Ed Maddock's campsite
(M.B.C. Chairman)



Colert Beach - 1989
(Before scrub clearing
under the trees and
beach expansion)

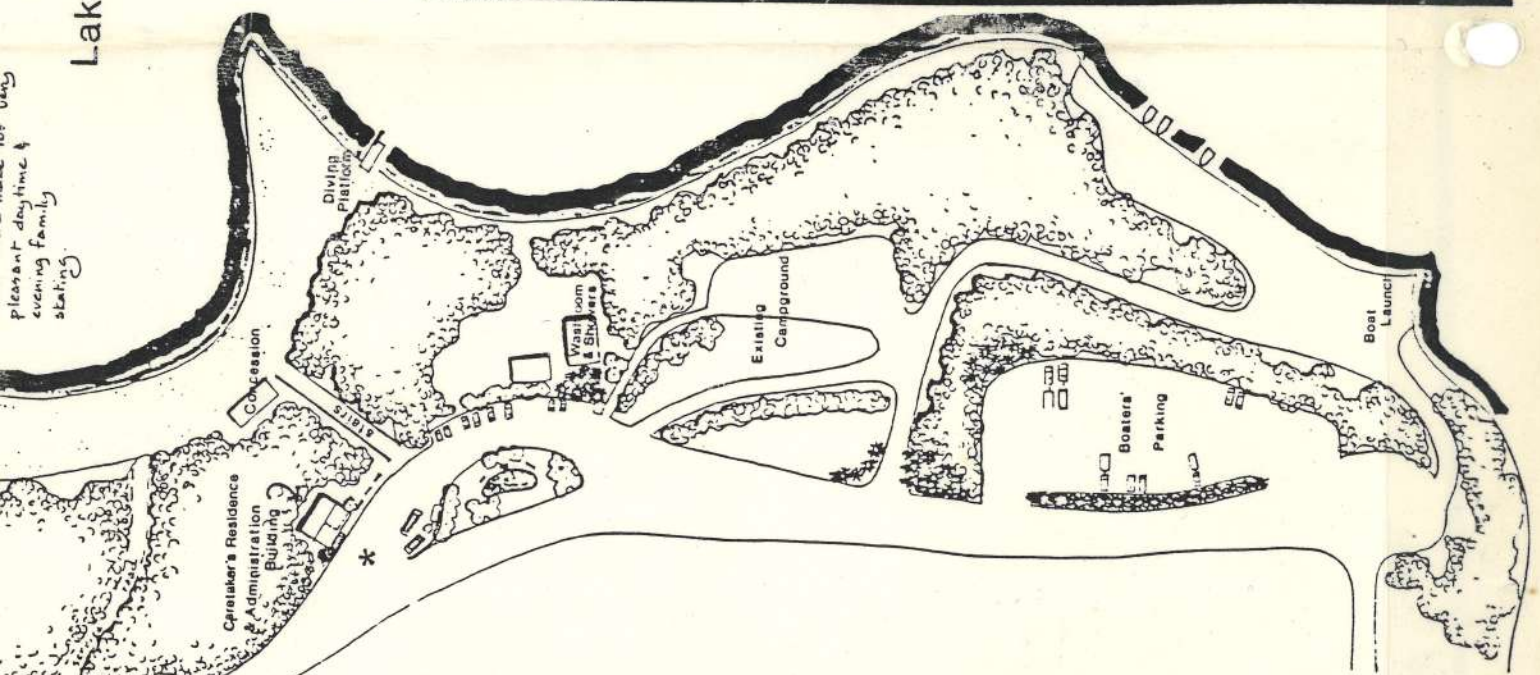




This area suitable for use making access to parking & warming hut convenient could be open on weekends
 - islands of snow & left-over Christmas trees

Plan for a campground expansion project - January, 1989.

Lake Minnewasta



pleasant daytime & evening family staking

empty view

NOTES

Campground:
 No of serviced back-in sites: 35
 No of serviced parallel sites: 10
 No of un serviced back in sites: 15
 Total: 20

Each campsite living area:
 13 m x 13 m = 144 sq. m
 (34 ft x 34 ft = 1156 sq. ft)

Distance between campsite centers:
 15m (49 ft) (minimum recommended)

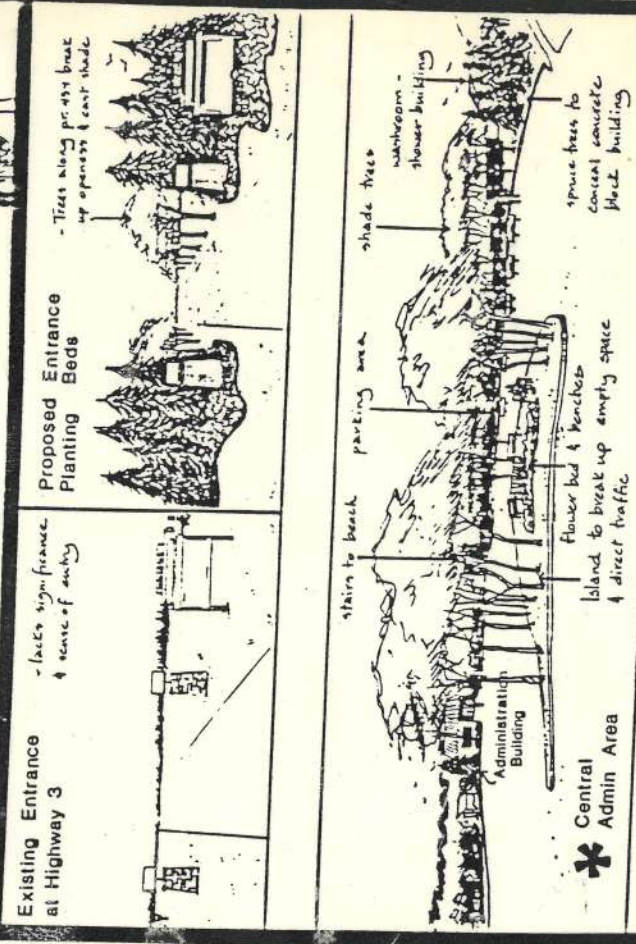
Planting: revegetate the campground area with native species of trees, shrubs & herbs that occur naturally in association with each other & in the region.

Beach: expanded to the north to accommodate anticipated increase in no of users & to provide direct access to beach front from campground & parking lot.

Children's Play Structures: moved to the north beach area so that parents can remain on the beach & still supervise their children.

SYMBOLS

- ★ - spruce or pine trees
- ☁ - deciduous shade trees
- ⊞ - wooded area: trees & shrubs
- W - washroom



LAKE MINNEWASTA CAMPGROUND

Morden Manitoba

Scale 1:1000
 Date January 30 1989
 Design Jennifer Chernetz

M. L. Arch.
 Oakbank Manitoba ROE IJO



Manitoba Culture Heritage Recreation
 Planning



Tin Man Triathlon - July, 1989.



Triathlon start

Photo by Vern Spangelo

Competitors in the 1989 Tin Man Triathlon hit the water at Lake Minnewasta as the swim event gets underway. This

was the beginning for all those taking part, whether it be the long, short or relay courses of the event.

Photos taken in the late 1980's of the Triathlons by Vern Spangelo
(one of the original MBC members).









Lake Minnewasta
Late 1980's.



Old diving tower



Tree clearing and
planting in the
campground, 1990.



Ed Maddock
(Chairman, M.B.C.)
Harvey Bergan
(Member M.B.C.)
Jack Mutton
(Long-time camper)





Ed and Deb Maddock
planting trees between
sites in the south
campground



Building of the new
campground office
and supervisor's
house - 1989.



The office/supervisor's residence in 1994.



Sand-castle building contest at Lake Minnewasta - 1991.

Triathlon, 1993



Before scrub clearing and beach expansion.





Red Cross swimming lessons - 1993.



Boating and skiing, 1993.



Campground, July, 1993.



The east boat dock, 1993.



The beach from the north side before bush clearing and beach expansion.



Old lifeguard tower

June, 1994.

Stay at home, see what our beach can offer, directors urge

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

Where have people been going for their summer rest and relaxation?

Well, it seems some local residents are looking elsewhere, and Morden beach directors want them to see what their local lake has to offer.

"I have people who have come the last three years from Washington," noted beach caretaker Alice McKennitt. "And there are lots from B.C., from Alberta.

"We want to keep the local people here at home."

The beach opened the May long weekend, and directors are promoting the beach improvements and expansion now underway.

The beach area has been extended further to the north side, and more work will be done yet.

The Morden Kinsmen Community Footpath has been extended towards the beach from the golf course.

Work continues on the development of 17 to 20 new serviced camping sites. They will add to the 60 or more sites already available.

Security needed

Beach directors have had to add security staff for the first time this year because of problems in recent years with break-ins and thefts.

There will be a security person on duty each night starting June 1.

Howard Sager said it is unfortunate those few people

who cause problems have forced them to take such a measure.

"There was just too much stealing," he said. "Hopefully this will stop them."

Control boating

Beach staff will also be working to better control boating on the lake this summer.

The boating regulations were examined after two accidents last summer involving power boats.

McKennitt said people will be required to register their boats at the front gate when they enter the beach. Safety will be stressed to them, and handbooks will be given out.

Lifeguards on duty

Lifeguards will be on duty at the beach during July and August. McKennitt said there will now be two people working on each shift.

Red Cross swimming lessons will again be available. People can contact Morden Parks and Recreation for more information and to register their children.

McKennitt said they are encouraging people to look more to the beach as a place for the family to have picnics and days out together.

They are also promoting it to golfers. A package being offered in conjunction with the golf course will provide \$2 off a round of golf and \$2 off camping (from Monday to Thursday) this summer.

The beach is employing 11 full time and a few part time staff this summer. It is open daily until Sept. 15.

WELCOME TO MORDEN BEACH AND CAMPGROUND

SWIMMING - At new enlarged beach, accessible from south and west sides, with parking at both entrances.

BOATING

WATERSKIING

FISHING - Pickeral - Jack - Crappy

SCENIC WALKING and CYCLING PATH - Connecting the Beach and the Town of Morden.

BEAUTIFUL MINNEWASTA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB - Adjacent to park.

PLAYGROUND

SERVICED & UNSERVICED SITES - Fire rings on sites.

WOOD - Available at \$2.00 per bundle.

CAMPER SHOWERS & WASHROOMS

PICNIC AREAS

NIGHT SECURITY - 11 pm to 6 am.

GOLF AND CAMPING PACKAGE - Enquire about designated days and reduced rates.

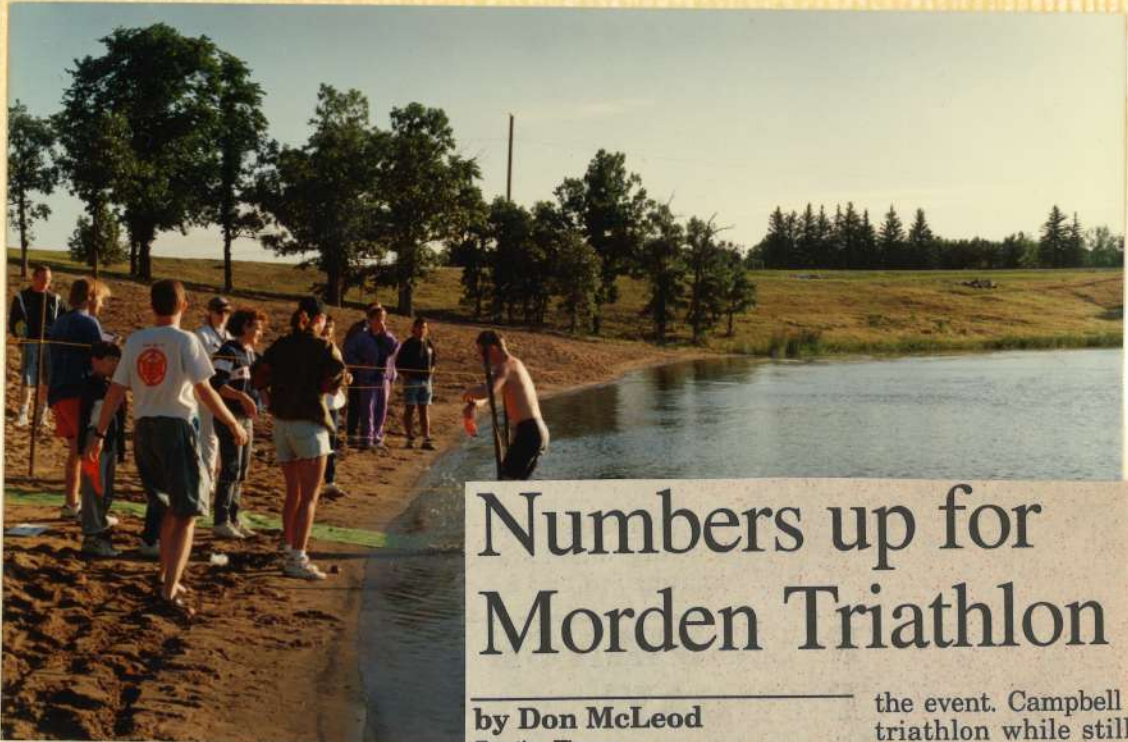
CAMPING RULES

1. Camping Fees payable in advance.
2. If sites rented for one month or longer, one month is payable in advance and becomes payable in advance again for succeeding month or portion thereof.
3. Extra tents must be on paid site. Tents not on paid site are classified as a separate site and are subject to regular rates.
4. Quiet Time is 11 pm
5. No visitors after 11 pm
6. No swimming after sundown
7. NO REFUNDS ON CAMPING FEES

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR FELLOW CAMPERS

HAVE A PLEASANT STAY

COME AGAIN



Triathlon - 1994.

Numbers up for Morden Triathlon

by Don McLeod
For the Times

The numbers of entries were up for the 1994 Morden International Triathlon. Last year the look of the event was changed somewhat. This year there were some further changes.

The start and finish lines and the transition points, were all at Lake Minnewasta at the north-west end of the lake. The clearing of that area has created an excellent spot for such an event.

Dave Harju was the overall winner with a time of 4:21:55. That was nearly 11 minutes faster than Gary Pallett, the second place finisher. Pallett was fastest in the 1.90k. swim. However Harju was quickest overall in the 90k. cycle and second overall in the 21.1k run.

Ed Weymouth was third at 4:32:24 just 11 seconds behind Pallett.

Kevin Campbell was fifth in his class and eighth overall in

the event. Campbell started in triathlon while still living in Morden and his parents still make their home here.

Another local entrant, Terry Fraser, was 16th overall and second in his category. His time was 5:11:40.

Hank Unrau, who was very busy making sure that everything was ready to go the night before, and also spent a lot of time over the past year working on the triathlon, finished 30th overall and seventh in his category at 6:00:16.

Eddy Sitompul of Morden was 37th overall and fourth in his class with a time of 6:16:29.

The relay team of Junior Hamm, Steven Douglas and Marc Scott was fourth among relay teams and 20th overall. They also finished first in their age category at 5:23:32.

Even though the numbers of local entrants is not that great there are a lot of local people who work very hard to make the triathlon the success that it is.

Renovations to camper washroom, 1994.



Community Places grants boost five Morden projects

The province is injecting over \$91,000 into five projects in Morden.

The grants were part of the first round of 1994 funding through the Community Places program.

The Lake Minnewasta Development Committee is receiving \$47,500 towards the first phase of the development of new camping areas at Colert Beach.

The Morden Beach Committee, which oversees the operation of the beach, was awarded \$1,678 for washroom renovations including the installation of a new roof, and grates and painting the building.

The Minnewasta Golf and Country Club is receiving \$20,000 to install gravel and pave pathways with asphalt.

The new Morden Friendship and Senior Services Activity

Centre was granted \$16,500 to replace the roof on its renovated building.

The Morden Corn and Apple Festival is receiving \$5,370 to purchase pre-painted and

assembled seating units for the main stage area of the festival.

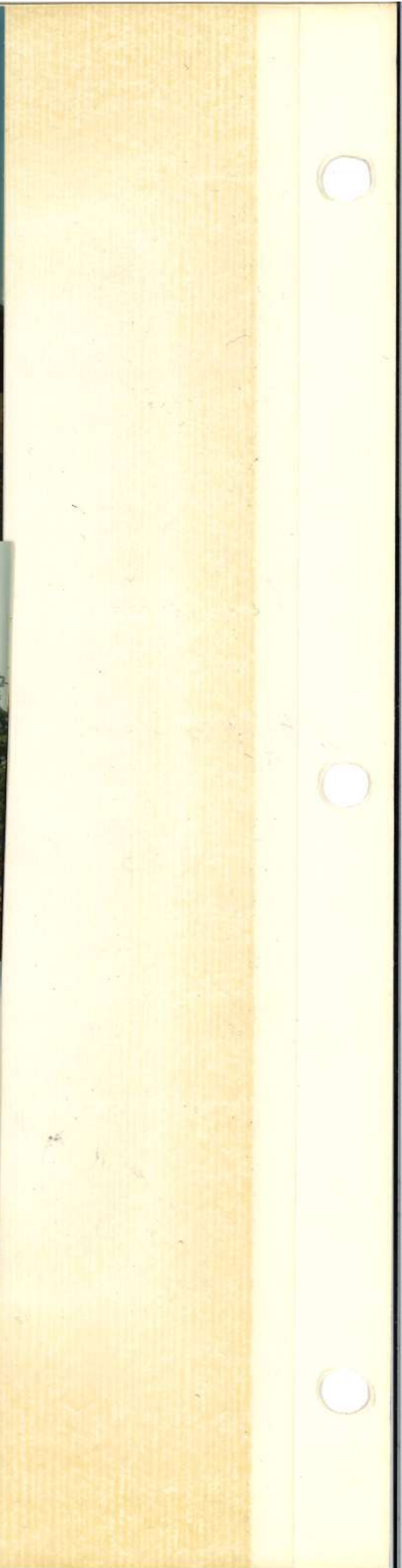
These grants were part of \$2.9 million in funding for 140 projects around the province.

Line-up for camping registration - July, 1994.



Campground, July 1994.







Beach enlarged, new sand brought in, scrub removed from bush and Community Path extended to beach.



A busy day at the beach, July 1994.



Scrub cleared and picnic area built on edge of beach.



New sign at entrance from Highway #3 - 1994.





Boat dock and west end
of lake, 1994.



Boating off the Point, 1994.



Minnewasta Golf and Country Club

Scenic 18 Hole Course



#8 fairway



Overview of #6 fairway and #5 green



View of #6 green (foreground) and #8



Morden Beach and Campground

offers swimming, boating, waterskiing, fishing, scenic walk and cycling path, playground. The campground is equipped with serviced and unserviced sites, showers and washrooms, picnic areas and night security.



Morden Beach and Campground

(204) 822-4991

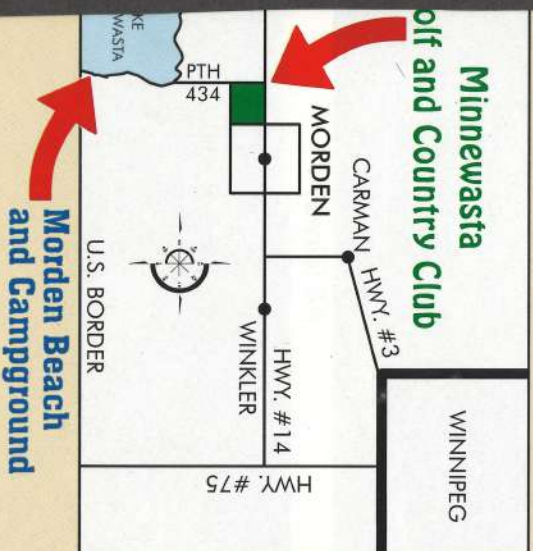
24 hour service

May 1 to September 15.

Morden Beach and Campground



Morden Beach and Concession



Minnewasta Golf and Country Club

(204) 822-4992

(Bookings 2 days in advance)

Minnewasta
Golf and Country Club
Morden, Manitoba



#18 green and Minnewasta clubhouse



Morden town council notes

Tree planting studied

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

The layout of new camping sites is being planned now as the Colert Beach development progresses.

How the sites will be set up

and the tree planting done is now being studied, parks and recreation director Chris Sobkowicz told town council at its July 26 meeting.

He estimated there will be a cost of about \$1,000 per camping site for tree planting. They have the assistance of

staff from the Agriculture Canada research station in planning the sites.

In other reports:

- Sobkowicz said a study of Morden Park is underway by the Green Plan committee.

They are looking at what is there now and what the park's future needs may be over the short term and the long term.

First campers in the new sites - August, 1994.

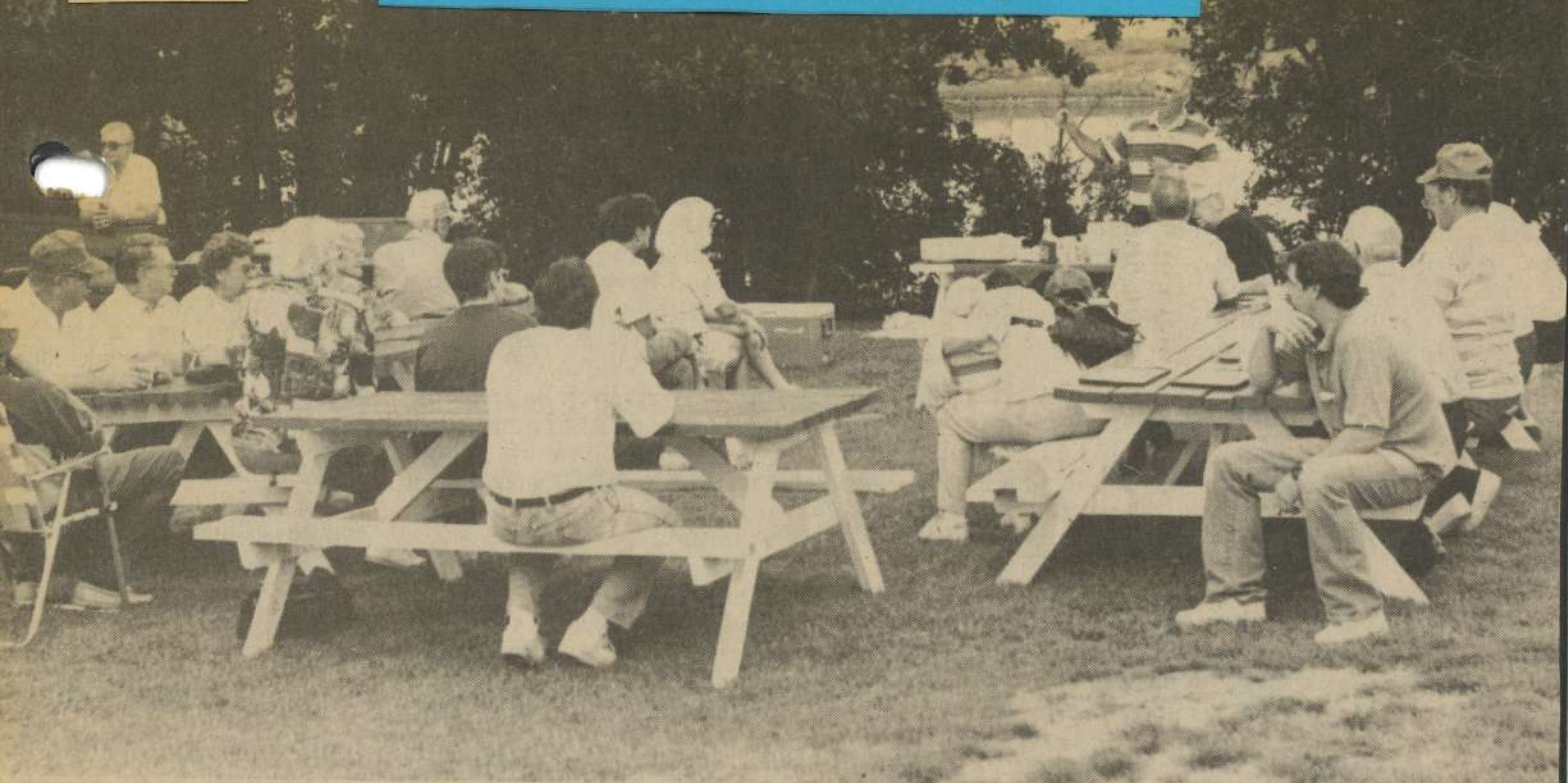


Early stage of the development of the new campground.



August 22, 1994

Volunteer Recognition barbecue - August, 1994.



Board members thanked

Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

Morden beach committee member Howard Sager addresses barbecue. He praised their dedication for making the past and present members and supporters at an Aug. 10 continued operation of the beach and its expansion possible.

Left to right-

Abe Bergman - Town Manager.

Hermann Bollenbach - Town Council rep.

Ed Maddock - former member and Chairman of MBC for many years.

Jim Baker - Town council rep.

Doreen Baker.

Lynn Bollenbach.

Leona Spangelo.

Vern Spangelo - One of the original MBC members.

Helen Bergman.

Garry Haggarty - volunteer - Beach Development committee.

Linda Duncan - Wayne's wife.

Alice McKennitt - campground supervisor since 1991 - also Sec-Treas. of MBC.

Deb Maddock - former member and supervisor of MBC,

Howard Sager - present Chairman of MBC.

Harvey Bergan - former MBC member.

Ruth Maddock - former MBC member.

Doug Maddock - former MBC member.

Joe Herner - former MBC member.

Alvin Hunt - former Groundskeeper of many years.

(Eleanor Bergan - former MBC member.)

(Ernie Krahn - Mayor of Morden.)

Beach committee honors long time board volunteers

The dedication of community volunteers has kept Colert Beach operating and in shape through the years.

It was those efforts that the Morden Beach Committee recognized at a beach barbeque Aug. 10.

Certificates for long time service were presented to past volunteers with the beach committee. They included Vern Spangelo, Joe and Jane Herner, Harv and Eleanor Bergen, Alvin Hunt, Ruth Maddock, Doug and Deb Maddock, and Irvan and Hazel White.

Current board members Ed Maddock and Howard Sager stressed the importance of the community involvement in maintaining and operating the beach.

That participation will continue to be important particularly as the beach and camping facilities expand over the next few years, Sager added.

The beach committee is continuing to plan for the future, but they are also paying tribute to the past. They are calling on community members with any old photographs, newspaper clippings etc. to contribute towards putting together historical displays on the beach.

Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue



Ed Maddock.



Left to right-
Leona Spangelo - Vern's wife.
Abe Bergman.
Hermann Bollenbach.
Ruth Maddock.
Harvey Bergan.
Ernie Krahn.
Eleanor Bergan.
Alvin Hunt.





Howard Sager
Chairman - MBC.



Ernie Krahn
Mayor of Morden.



Garry Haggarty
Beach Development
Committee.

Ed and Howie presenting certificates of appreciation to former volunteers on MBC.



Vern Spangelo.



Joe Herner.





Ruth Maddock.



Eleanor Bergan.



Doug and Deb Maddock.

Morden council planning extensive tree planting

by Lorne Stelmach
Staff Writer

Morden town council has laid out plans for extensive tree planting over the next few years.

The town is applying to the Green Tree Canada program for funding assistance for a tree planting program.

The proposal by the town envisions 5,600 trees being planted over a three year period.

The tree planting program will focus on include Colert Beach, the Minnewasta golf course, the Morden Kinsmen Community Footpath and the entrances to town.

It was estimated the total cost of the program would be

about \$230,000 over the three year period.

It would include a grant of about \$45,000 for the purchase cost of the trees. The remaining portion of about \$185,000 would come from the town or within the community in the form of cash or services in kind, said town manager Abe Bergmann.

It provides funding for some \$500,000 in work in the Morden areas such as street improvements. A \$125,000 portion will be put towards expansion of the campground at Colert Beach. Most of the work through the program will get underway next year.

- Council approved the purchase and installation of a concrete liner for the restoration of the fountain-fish pond in Confederation Park.

- Council approved the purchase of decorative street lighting and tree grates for the expansion of Main Street Manitoba improvements on Stephen Street.

In other business, Morden town council approved the following:

- authorization of the Canada / Manitoba Infrastructure Agreement.



Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

Autumn at the lake

The turning of the leaves and warm early fall weather makes Morden's Lake Minnewasta a lovely place to visit this time of year.

Fall, 1994.



Leave the beaten path for a different look at Lake Minnewasta.

Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

October, 1994.



Taking a scenic walk along a leaf-strewn trail at Lake Minnewasta.

Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

Morden town council notes

Funding diverted to campground project

February 30, 1995

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

there were some paving projects that could not proceed at this time.

Morden town council has received government approval to divert some of its infrastructure funding towards its campground development.

The town had received about \$500,000 in infrastructure funding which was to be used for paving projects.

About \$125,000 is now being put towards the expansion and improvement of the campground at Lake Minnewasta.

Council felt those funds could be put to better use at the lake right now, said town manager Abe Bergmann, and

Morden town council notes

Morden has been awarded an additional \$90,000 in funding under the federal Infrastructure Works program.

The town had previously been allocated \$500,000 through the program for infrastructure projects.

About \$465,000 is being used for paving projects in the community, and \$125,000 is going towards the beach and campground development at Lake Minnewasta.

At its March 28 meeting, Morden town council also approved \$8,000 in funding for the beach development committee.

The money will be used to purchase picnic tables and other furnishings for new campsites.

Council gives go-ahead for work at beach

Morden town council has given its go-ahead for some further improvements at the Lake Minnewasta beach and campground.

Council gave its approval Feb. 14 for the installation of sewer lines and a sewage service station at the beach.

It was estimated the improvements in the sewer lines will cost in the \$40,000 range.

There was also approval for the hiring of a staff supervisor.

Plans for work at the beach and campground this year also include tree planting in the new campground areas, improvements in various beach furnishings, and improvements to the beach footpaths.

The cost to the town for the approved work was about \$98,000.

Morden producing tourism guide

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

The Morden Chamber of Commerce will soon be putting out a tourist vacation guide of its own.

The guide is due to be printed in March and is expected to be about 56 pages, chamber directors were told at their Feb. 7 meeting.

As of Feb. 6, about \$2,500 in

advertising had been purchased by 12 of a possible 130 local businesses and service clubs, Christal Driedger reported.

She said most people were pleased with the initiative shown by the chamber to put out its own guide. Others also expressed concern that the town continue to be promoted regionally through the Pembina Valley guide.

The chamber decided to

produce its own guide because of mistakes and omissions of many Morden events in the regional guide the last two years.

Chamber officials see the Morden guide getting a wide distribution, while giving Morden more coverage than the regional guide can provide.

The Town of Morden granted \$2,000 towards the cost of producing the Morden guide.

Spring, 1995. Getting ready for the season.



Alice's dog-Scotty.

Campground attendant--
Sherri-Lynn Duncan.



Groundskeeper--Bud Barkley.
Assistant Groundskeeper--Lon Rach.

Sherri-Lynn and Lon.



Renovations to the public washroom and new sidewalk.

--Before.





--During.







--During.





--After.



Building the washroom for the new development--1995.





Working on the new campground.



PEMBINA VALLEY

Life Styles

Volume 2 Issue 8

July 1995



THIS MONTH ...

Lake Minnewasta & Colert Beach

Lake Minnewasta & Colert Beach (also referred to as Morden Beach & Campground)

The name Minnewasta originated from the Sioux Indians, meaning "good water." Colert Beach is named after Dr. W. Colert who donated the land and ensured the development of the beach area.

Located 1 mile west of Morden on highway #3 and 3/4 mile south on provincial road 434, this is a multi-use, family oriented facility boasting a serviced and unserviced campground, swimming, fishing, water skiing, canoeing, sailing. A scenic walking and cycling path through a nature setting, from the town of Morden, has now extended to the newly enlarged beach.

The camping area is equipped with showers, washrooms, picnic areas and playground. Night security is in place from May 15 to September 15 and lifeguards are on duty during July and August.



Sunning and swimming at Colert Beach

The public washrooms are presently being renovated with a foot wash being added for swimmers convenience. A new development consisting of 39 RV sites is in the making, with 17 ready for occupancy. A tree planting project is underway in this area and washroom and shower facilities are being built. Fishing is extremely popular at Lake Minnewasta. Stocked with crappie, pickerel and jack, the lake has produced many masters.

The facility is a non-profit organization and through the dedicated work of volunteers and staff and the support of service clubs and organizations for the past 40 years it has become a popular spot for Canadians and Americans alike to spend a few nights, weeks, or the entire summer and enjoy the great outdoors. A place we feel sure Dr. Colert would be proud of.

24 hour service between May 15- September 15. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Call 822-4991 for more information. ♣

COLERT BEACH & CAMPGROUND MORDEN, MANITOBA

Offering the best in

camping, swimming, fishing, boating, waterskiing

☀ Clean washroom facilities

☀ Walking & Cycling path

☀ Night Security ☀ 24 hr. service ☀ 822-4991

June, 1995.

Security a higher priority at beach

by Lorne Stelmach
Staff Writer

Security at Colert Beach has become a higher priority now as facilities at the lake are expanding and activity is picking up.

Facilities such as the concession booth had been a target for thieves in the past, but it improved last year when the beach committee put security in place.

The Morden police are also looking at helping ensure there is sufficient security at the beach.

Town council recently received a request for the department to apply for a grant to hire a summer student grant to help provide additional security, particularly at night.

The request envisioned a joint beach committee-town

effort, but town manager Abe Bergman said the committee was too far advanced in the process of hiring beach security personnel.

He said the police had received permission to continue to pursue a grant for a summer student on their own.

At a recent meeting, town council members agreed on the importance of providing security at the beach.

"I can see the need ... the campground is busier," said councillor Herman Bollenbach.

Local students to help in tree planting at beach

by Lorne Stelmach
Staff Writer

The town will be involving local children in its improvements at Lake Minnewasta this year.

Students from Morden Elementary School will participate in an "adopt-a-tree program" in conjunction with tree planting to be done at the beach.

Some 350 students will be involved, parks and recreation director Chris Sobkowicz noted after last week's town council meeting.

The students will be taught some basic techniques about tree planting and care, and then be taken out to the beach

area to participate in planting trees.

Sobkowicz expected the tree planting day would be about the middle of June.

Land available?

Council last week also learned there may be an opportunity to develop some land near the beach for soccer pitches and/or baseball diamonds.

Sobkowicz told council the beach committee recently learned some land could become available.

If the land can be put to use, several issues would have to be addressed such as ownership and responsibility for maintenance, Sobkowicz said.

June 15, 1995.



Photo by Karen Boyd, for the Key

Tree planting

A tree is planted jointly by Campbell Davidson, Research Scientist, Agriculture Canada, David Ip, National Community Tree Foundation, from Edmonton, and Mayor Ernie Krahn. It was part of an official ceremony for the tree planting project at Lake Minnewasta on Thursday. A cheque for \$20,000 was received from the National Community Tree Foundation for the project.

Official ceremony for tree planting project

Last Thursday, 180 children from grades 3-6 worked together at Lake Minnewasta planting trees.

The tree planting was part of the official ceremony for the project where Mayor Krahn received a cheque on behalf of the town from the National Community Tree Foundation.

The cheque was for \$20,000 and will aid in the planting of more trees in the community. It was part of a total \$1.415 million through the aid of Green Streets Canada program for the planting of more than 150,000 new trees in villages, town, and cities from coast to coast.

David Ip, from Edmonton, was in attendance to present

the cheque on behalf of the Foundation.

Despite the extremely warm temperatures, the children were eager to adopt a tree of their own, to plant and care for it for the rest of their lives.

They planted maple, poplar and willow trees around the new camp sites being developed at the lake.



Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

Learning about trees

Some 180 students converged on the Morden beach June 15 for ceremonies marking Morden's involvement in the Green Streets Canada program, which earned the town a \$20,000 grant for tree planting. There was a workshop on how to care for a tree (above), then the students including Jenna Hamm (left) spread out to plant some of the 3,000 trees to be planted in and around the lake area.





Tree planting in the new campground
by Morden Elementary School students.
June, 1995.

June, 1995.





History of Lake Minnewasta and Colert Beach

- Dec., 1941 - An earth fill dam and spillway were completed on the Pinancewaywinning Creek west of Morden by PFRA to create a water supply for the town.
- Spring, 1942 - Water flowed down the spillway into a coulee and was trapped by the dam, creating Lake Minnewasta. The name "Minnewasta" originated from the Sioux Indians and it meant "good water".
- 1952 - A decision was made to raise the dam to provide more water for Morden.
- Land was donated to the town for a beach and recreational area by Dr. Walter Colert, so the beach became known as Colert Beach.
- A beach committee was established to direct and finance the operation of this area. It was made up of volunteer citizens, and reps. from the R.M. of Stanley, the Towns, Chambers of Commerce and Game and Fish Associations of Morden and Winkler, and the Morden Legion and Kinsmen.
- 1953 - Completion of the raising of the dam and spillway.
- 1954 - Heavy rain raised the water level in the lake, resulting in a L-shaped body of water surrounded by bush, as it appears now.

In the following years, development of the beach continued, as well as the campground and picnic area. A diving tower, boat dock, ski jump ramp, public bathrooms and a concession booth (which was originally a streetcar) were added to the facilities. During these years, the lake was used for swimming, Red Cross swimming lessons, boating, skiing, picnicing and camping. A very active water skiing club was located at the lake for several years.

- 1981
 - The dam and spillway were again raised.
 - Building of the present concession booth, campground washroom, lifeguard tower and diving tower was started.
- 1982
 - Building of these facilities completed. The work was done primarily by volunteers, especially campers, MBC members and members of the Lions Club.
 - The Morden Legion donated \$10,000 towards this project.
- July, 1982
 - Grand Opening of these new facilities. Certificates were presented to all volunteers by MBC.
- 1983
 - The present boat dock and access road were built.

Improvements to the beach, and boating, camping and picnic areas continued to be made each year. Much of this work was done by volunteer labor. Additional campsites were opened and trees were cleared and replanted, in large part by members of the beach committee and other volunteers.

- 1989
 - The present office and supervisor's dwelling were built with the help of grants from Community Places and the Morden Legion.
- 1990
 - An anonymous donation of \$5000 was used to purchase better quality sand for the beach.
 - A tractor and cultivator belonging to Harvey Bergan who had donated its use for cultivating the sand for several years was purchased with help from the Town.
- 1993
 - New electrical sites were created.

1994

- The beach was expanded and the bush around it was cleared.
- The Community Footpath was extended from Morden to the beach with the help of a grant from Community Places.
- New electrical sites were added to make a total of 56 sites, in addition to the almost unlimited number of unserviced sites.

In the 1980's, the Town of Morden began plans for an expansion to the existing campground, and now, in 1995, 39 RV sites are in the making on the north side of the lake, with 17 being ready for occupancy. A tree planting project is underway, and washroom and shower facilities are being built in this area.

Since the formation of the Morden Beach Committee in 1952, the operation and financing of the facilities of Lake Minnewasta have continued to be managed by a committee of volunteers, staff members, reps. from the Town Council, and the community service groups. The make-up of the committee has been revised periodically and at present it is made up of 4 volunteers, one of which is the past chairman of many years, and another who is currently the chairman, the campground supervisor, who acts as Secretary-treasurer, the groundskeeper, and 2 reps. from the Town Council.

Morden Beach Committee is a registered charitable organization. Financing for the facility is obtained from grants, receipts from camping and boating and the gate fees, and support from the Town of Morden. Although operating and maintenance costs are increasing yearly, the MBC has attempted to keep the fee structure comparable to other facilities in the province.

The improvements and expansion of the facilities of Lake Minnewasta has resulted in a need for more staff. Currently, MBC employs a Supervisor, Groundskeeper, Campground attendant, Assistant groundskeeper, night security person, 3 gatekeepers and 4 lifeguards.

1995

- The public washroom has been upgraded.
- New sidewalks between this washroom and the office was been made.
- Sod has been laid on the beach hill, as well as in 6 sites.
- The interior of the camper washroom has been repainted.

Volunteer support a key through the years in developing beach

Improvements at Lake Minnewasta are underway and progressing well this year.

The ongoing expansion of the beach and camping facilities at the lake are helping ensure it will continue to be an important attraction in Morden.

Many volunteers and a lot of hard work has made it what it is today, so it is worthwhile to pause and look back on the history of the lake and the beach.

Started with spillway

- 1941 - an earth fill dam and spillway were completed on the Pinancewaywinning Creek west of Morden by PFRA to create a water supply for the town.

- 1942 - water flowed down the spillway into a coulee and was trapped by the dam, creating Lake Minnewasta. The name originated from the Sioux Indians word meaning "good water."

- 1952 - a decision was made to raise the dam to provide more water;

- land was donated to the town for a beach area by Dr. Walter Colert;

- a beach committee was established to direct and finance the operation of the beach area; it was made up of volunteer citizens and representatives of the town, R.M. of Stanley, chamber of commerce, game and fish associations, Morden Legion and Morden Kinsmen.

- 1953 - raising of the dam and spillway completed.

- 1954 - heavy rain raised the water level in the lake, creating the L-shaped body of water surrounded by bush as it appears now.

Facilities developed

The beach facilities were developed gradually through the years with campground and picnic areas.

The additions included a diving tower, boat dock, ski jump ramp, public bathrooms and a concession booth which was originally a street car.

The lake soon was being used for swimming, Red Cross lessons, boating and skiing activities. A very active water ski club was located at the lake for several years.

Volunteers go to work

- 1981/82 - the spillway and dam were again raised; work started on the present concession booth, campground washroom, lifeguard tower and diving tower; work was completed with work done primarily by volunteers including beach committee and Lions club members;

- 1982 - Morden Legion donated \$10,000 towards the work; grand opening of new facilities in July.

- 1983 - the present boat dock and access road were built; work continued each year then on campsites and other improvements.

- 1989 - the office and supervisor's building was completed with the help of grants from Community Places and the Morden Legion.

- 1990 - An anonymous donation of \$5,000 was used to buy better sand for the beach;

- A tractor and cultivator belonging to Harvey Bergen, who had donated its use for cultivating sand at the beach, was purchased with help from the town.

- 1993 - new electrical sites for camping were created.

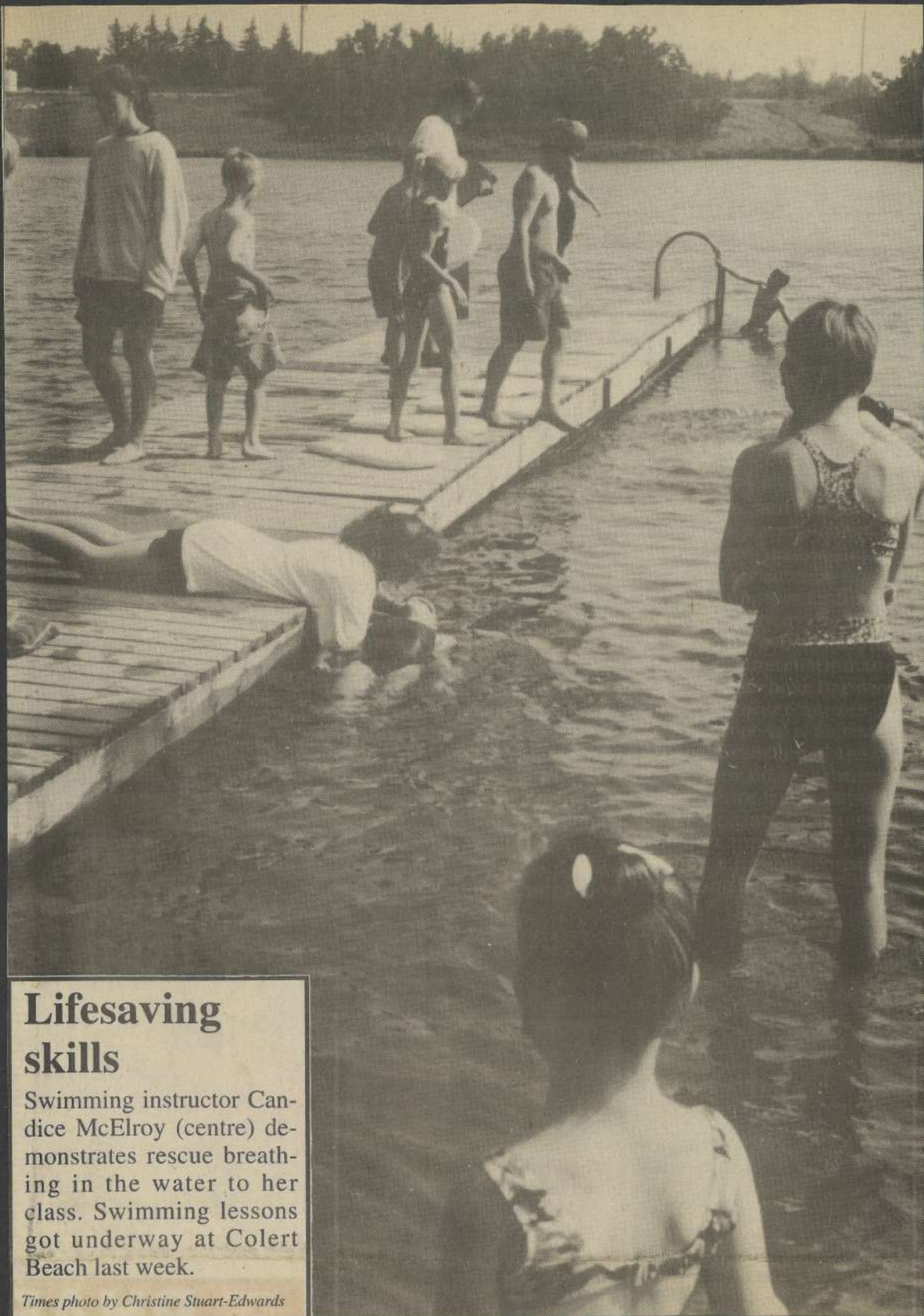
- 1994 - the beach area was expanded; Morden Kinsmen Community Footpath was extended to the beach with a grant from Community Places; new electrical sites were added to make a total of 56 sites, in addition to unserviced sites.

In 1995

The town is putting in 39 recreational vehicle sites on the north side of the lake with 17 being ready for occupancy. A tree planting project is underway, and washroom and shower facilities are being built in this area as well.

Financing for the beach facilities comes through grants, receipts from camping and boating, gate fees and an annual grant from the town.

The beach currently employs a supervisor, groundskeeper, campground attendant, assistant groundskeeper, a night security person, three gatekeepers and four lifeguards.



Lifesaving skills

Swimming instructor Candice McElroy (centre) demonstrates rescue breathing in the water to her class. Swimming lessons got underway at Colert Beach last week.

Times photo by Christine Stuart-Edwards

July, 1995.

Council asked to fund July 1 celebrations

by Lorne Stelmach
Staff Writer

The Morden Beach Committee has asked the town to provide funding for a July 1 Canada Day celebration.

There should be some activities with this year marking the 125th birthday of the province, committee member Howard Sager told a recent town council meeting.

However, he said the beach committee has no funds for such an event. There is no room in its budget for such expenses beyond the operation

of the beach.

Sager said the beach committee is hoping to have a concert featuring several local bands. While that would cost about \$2,000, adding fireworks to the event would cost at least \$2,000 more.

Fireworks and other Canada Day activities have been held at the beach in the past, but the town has not had July 1 events in recent years. Sager noted that the only Canada Day event he is aware of is a baseball tournament.

The request was referred to committee and will consider it at a future meeting.

Beach celebration set to mark Canada Day

The Canada Day weekend will be celebrated with entertainment and fireworks at Colert Beach July 2.

The proceeds from "Beach Blast 95" will go towards a new playground structure at the lake.

The events start at 7 p.m. with an admission of \$2; free for children under 12. The rain date is July 9.

While the events are celebrating Canada Day, it is also aimed at encouraging people to use the beach and camping facilities more.

The entertainment will include the bands "Ridin' High" and "Saviours of Soul" and a family fun magic show by Greg Wood at 8:15 p.m. Wood will also be doing balloon sculpting for the kids on the beach through the evening. The entertainment is being co-ordinated by Wayne Bergman.

A fireworks display sponsored by the Town of Morden and Morden Retail Merchants will cap off the evening.

No liquor will be permitted.

Beach Bash '95 set for July 2

Why not stay right here in Morden this Canada Day weekend. The Morden Beach Committee has set up entertainment on the evening of Sunday, July 2.

The Saviors of Soul start the celebration off at 7:30 p.m. Then magician Greg Wood takes over at 8:45 p.m. Ridin' High is on at 9:15 p.m.

All this will be supported by DJ Wayne Bergman. Admission is just \$2.00 with

those 12 and under admitted free.

Of course no July 1 celebration would be complete unless it included fireworks. The 125 Fireworks Celebration will start at 10:15 p.m.

The program is in support of the Beach Playground Structure and is being brought to you by the town of Morden, Morden Retail Merchants, Morden Fire Department and Recorded Professional Music.



Beach Blast '95

July 2, 1995

7pm

Colbert Beach

Admission \$2
Children under 12

FREE

Proceeds go to a new
playground structure

Celebrate Canada's Birthday

**Entertainment, Live bands, Magic Show, Fireworks
Fireworks sponsored by Morden Retail Merchants, Morden Business
Improvement Area (MBIA) and the Town of Morden**

This ad sponsored by M&A Fabric, Vern's Carpets and the Morden Key



Morden's June

**STAGE SHOW
& FIREWORKS**

AT

MORDEN BEACH SUN. JULY 2

Sponsored by the Town of Morden
& Morden Retail Merchants

KRATZY DAZZ

Morden celebrates Canada Day

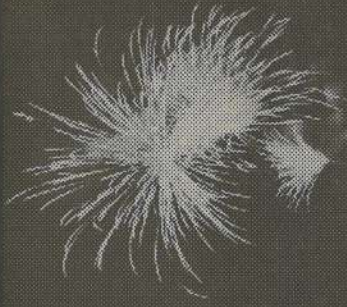
Happy Birthday Canada!

Canada Day weekend celebrations brought more than 2500 people to Colert Beach for entertainment and fireworks on July 2.

'Beach Blast '95' was organized by the Morden Beach Committee to raise money for playground structures at the lake.

"We were delighted (with the turn out)," said Alice McKennitt, beach supervisor and member of the beach committee.

Saviors of Soul, Ridin' High and local magician Greg Wood provided entertainment for the crowd. A fireworks display over Lake Minnewasta concluded the evening.

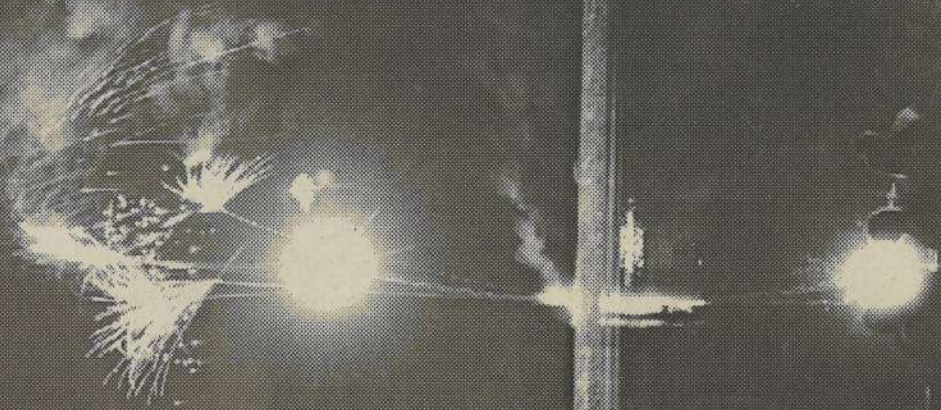


Photos by Steve Hiebert, for the Key

Beach Blast '95

First annual Beach Blast

The first annual Beach Blast at Colert Beach was held on July 2. A large crowd turned out to enjoy the beach party which included several local bands. The still evening by the water was the perfect setting for the grand display of fireworks.



BEACH BLAST '95. July 2, 1995.

Saviors of Soul.



Greg Wood.
Balloon sculpting.



Ridin' High.



BEACH BLAST '95. July 2, 1995.

Saviors of Soul.



Greg Wood.
Balloon sculpting.



Ridin' High.



Beach Blast '95.





Beach Blast '95.



Greg Wood.
Family Fun Show.





Existing play structure.
July, 1995.

July, 1995.

Concert and fireworks a success

To the Editor:

The Morden Beach Committee is very pleased that our live concert and fireworks display, Beach Blast '95, was such a great success in spite of the rain. We have had many positive comments from many different people, a lot of whom have expressed interest in making this a yearly event.

Many thanks to all of you who came out to support us in this endeavor.

Approximately 1600 people paid the \$2 admission fee, so that, although this event was not originally planned as a fund-raiser, we were able to raise about \$1500 over the cost of the entertainment towards the purchase of a new playground structure. We are very proud of the facilities at Lake Minnewasta and this will be a valuable addition, as we continue to expand and improve the beach, boating area and campground.

We owe our thanks to many people, groups and businesses who helped us to organize this event. The fireworks were sponsored by the Morden Retail Merchants, and the Morden

Business Improvement Area, each of which donated \$1000, and a Canada Day Seed Money Grant of \$400. The Morden Fire Dept. was on hand to assist with the presentation of the display, as well as working with members of the local Elks club to provide security and assist with parking and traffic control.

The 1995 Corn and Apple Festival queen contestants, last years' Queen and Princess and their chaperones did a great job of selling drinks and chips on the beach to help in raising funds for the play structure.

We would also like to thank the Beach Committee employees, who all donated their time to help, the registered campers, the wives and husbands of the committee members and the other volunteers who assisted at the admission gates and First Aid station, and with parking and running errands.

Thanks to Wayne Bergman for his help in organizing the entertainment and advertising, and for providing the sound system. Also to Canadian Lumber for lending the lumber for the stage and the aprons for the gatekeepers.

We also had a lot of help with the advertising. Thanks to Warky's for sponsoring the posters, M&A Fabrics, Vern's Carpets and The Key for sponsoring a newspaper ad, and the Times for their promotional articles.

We thank the Parks and Rec. Dept., Lakeview Auto Sales, Thornview Grocery and Video Visions and the Kinsmen for advertising on their signs, and CKMW, the Stardust Drive-In theater, the Retail Merchants and the Chamber of Commerce for their assistance with advertising. Your assistance helped to make the evening a success.

As the Beach Committee is a non-profit registered charitable organization, which is funded by grants, camping and gate receipts and support from the Town of Morden, we would not have been able to host this event without the help of so many people. Thanks to all of you.

We hope that everyone had a great time at Beach Blast '95, and that we can do it again next year!

Morden Beach Committee.

Beach Blast a great success

To the Editor:

The Morden Beach Committee is very pleased that our live concert and fireworks display, Beach Blast '95, was such a great success in spite of the rain. We have had many positive comments from many different people, a lot of whom have expressed interest in making this a yearly event.

Many thanks to all of you who came out to support us in this endeavor. Approximately 1,600 people paid the \$2 admission fee, so that, although this event was not originally planned as a fundraiser, we were able to raise about \$1,500 over the cost of the entertainment towards the purchase of a new playground structure. We are very proud of the facilities at Lake Minnewasta and this will be a valuable addition, as we continue to expand and improve the beach, boating area and campground.

We owe our thanks to many people, groups and businesses who helped us to organize this event. The fireworks were sponsored by the Morden Retail Merchants, and the Morden Business Improvement Area, each of which donated \$1,000, and a Canada Day Seed Money Grant of \$400. The Morden Fire Department was on hand to assist with the presentation of the display, as well

as working with members of the local Elks club to provide security and assist with parking and traffic control. The 1995 Corn and Apple Festival queen contestants, last year's Queen and Princess and their chaperone did a great job of selling drinks and chips on the beach to help in raising funds for the play structure.

We would also like to thank the Beach Committee employees, who all donated their time to help, the registered campers, the wives and husbands of the committee members and the other volunteers who assisted at the admission gates and First Aid station, and with parking and running errands. Thanks to Wayne Bergman for his help in organizing the entertainment and advertising, and for providing the sound system. Also to Canadian Lumber for lending the lumber for the stage and the aprons for the gatekeepers.

We also had a lot of help with the advertising. Thanks to Warky's for sponsoring the posters, M&A Fabrics, Vern's Carpets and *The Key* for sponsoring a newspaper ad, and the *Morden Times* for their promotional articles. We thank the Parks and Rec. Department, Lakeview Auto Sales, Thornview Grocery and Video Visions and the Kinsmen for advertising on their signs, and CKMW, the Stardust Drive-In theater, the Retail Merchants and the Chamber of Commerce for their assistance with advertising. Your assistance helped to make the evening a success. As the Beach Committee is a non-profit registered charitable organization, which is funded by grants, camping and gate receipts and support from the Town of Morden, we would not have been able to host this event without the help of so many people.

Canada Day



La Fête du Canada

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

CERTIFICAT DE MÉRITE

awarded to / remis à

Joanne Robbins

*in recognition of your contribution
to Canada Day 1995.*

*en reconnaissance de votre
contribution aux célébrations
de la Fête du Canada de 1995.*

MINISTRE DU PATRIMOINE CANADIEN,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. J. ...'.

MINISTER OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

PRÉSIDENT(E) DU COMITÉ DE LA FÊTE DU CANADA,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. ...'.

PRESIDENT OF THE CANADA DAY COMMITTEE



July, 1995.





1995.



Overflow camping
and parking area.



Morden ready to host 1995 edition of Triathlon

by Mike Stimpson
Staff Writer

Swim 1.9 kilometres, traverse 90 km on a bicycle and run 21 km, and you've completed a "Half Ironman" triathlon.

Dozens of athletes will put themselves through this endurance test Saturday morning in the Morden area.

Others have registered for the less grueling "Olympic" event of 1.5 km of swimming, 40 km of biking and a 10-km run.

Registrations for the Morden International Triathlon total about 100, mostly for the shorter program, according to event co-ordinator Hank Unrau.

Start time for the Half Ironman is 7 a.m., while the Olympic course is set to begin at 9:30 a.m.

The starting point and finish line are at Colert Beach. Unrau expects athletes will begin crossing the finish line at about 11 a.m.

Numbers up

Registration numbers have increased this year because last year's event was strictly long course, said Unrau.

He and Eddie Sitompul were the only two Morden residents competing in last year's triathlon. Both have opted for the Olympic course this summer.

Unrau said he just hasn't trained enough for the longer distance.

An injury sustained on Father's Day prevented Sitompul, 31, from entering the Half Ironman. He hurt his ankle in the Manitoba Marathon. The injury forced him to take three days off work at Winkler Meats and take a break in training.

If not for the injury, Sitompul said he would be signed up for the Half Ironman, though "the long course was quite tough for me last year."

Some athletes are registered for the Olympic course in relay

teams, but Sitompul will complete the event on his own.

He plans to compete in the Pinawa and Minnedosa triathlons later this summer, and the Minneapolis Marathon in the fall.

Called the Tin Man Triathlon when it debuted in 1983, the Morden triathlon has inspired similar events across the province.

Race directors may be contacted at 822-3167.

Triathlon is on July 8

The Morden International Triathlon is Saturday, July 8 at Lake Minnewasta. The Half Ironman distance start is at 7 a.m. and the Olympic distance and Relay gets underway at 9:30 a.m.

The Half Ironman is a 1.9km. swim, 90 km. bike and 21km. run. The Olympic distance and relay is a 1.5km. swim, 40km. bike and 10km. run.

There are a number of different age categories and there are many vantage points for spectators.

There are also many volunteers who make the event happen.

All in all it is a full day for everyone.

An awards banquet takes place at 4 p.m. at the Morden Friendship Centre. Race results will be posted at the banquet.

Near ideal conditions for Morden Triathlon

"have a great race," to which one competitor responded, "you too Hank"

Just wait

Just like those watching members of the relay teams could just wait as their swimmers made their way around the 1.5km course. Mark Wiebe, who would do the bike leg for his team and Romy Braun who would finish off with the run sat on the bank watching swimmer Steve Friesen start out.

"Steve called me at 11 p.m. last night and I just decided this morning to take part," said Wiebe. "I think we should place," he added.

"At least being in the relay I will be able to go full out," said Wiebe, who has taken part in the full event in the past.

Rommer Braun commented that "you have to pace yourself. It is just like a marathon. If you start out too fast you will not last " He felt he was likely the youngest participant at 16. The team ended up fifth at 2:50.20. Braun's run time of 46:53 was second best.

Former Mordenite Paul Krueger had the top run time of 38.01. His team took first overall. "He has entered the

See Triathlon page 8



Photo by Don McLeod, for the Key

Splashdown

Swimmers make a splashdown at the start of the Olympic distance event of the Morden International Triathlon held July 8.

by Don McLeod
For the Key

The conditions were near ideal for the close to 100 triathletes who took part in the Morden International Triathlon Olympic distance event.

By that time those in the long course were already well on their way. The starts of the two distances were staggered this year so that the athletes would finish close to the same time. There were also more athletes on the course at the same time making it much better from a spectators stand point.

Just before giving the go ahead for the start of the Olympic distance swim race coordinator Hank Unrau shouted,

letes on the course at the same time making it much better from a spectators stand point.

Just before giving the go ahead for the start of the Olympic distance swim race coordinator Hank Unrau shouted,

Krueger anchors relay win

continued from page 1

triathlon before and took part in the Olympic distance. He enjoys running and does it for fun. He also competes in cross country skiing," said father Arnold at the finish line. "It should not be too long before he is back," he said.

Waiting for Kevin

Another former Mordenite Kevin Campbell, had people waiting for him at the finish as well. He was in the long course event. "He sprained his ankle last night so he is not doing as well as he would like," offered mother Sheila as she and daughter Vicki waited at the finish.

Diane Wiebe, a volunteer at the triathlon who had finished her tour of duty at 10:30 a.m. was also waiting for Campbell.

It was now 12:30 p.m. "I used to babysit Kevin. Then he taught my children swimming lessons," she said.

As Campbell crossed the finish line she said, "way to go Kevin," then headed home.

Campbell's time of 5:10.26 earned him first in the 25-29 men's group. Brian Schroeder of Winnipeg was the overall winner at 4:53.37.

Lynne Clark of Winnipeg was the top finishing women at 5:44.40.

In the Olympic distance Philippe Chabot of Winnipeg was first at 2:10.08.

He also topped the 30-34 age group in which Sitompul of Morden finished sixth at 2:38.31. Former Winnipeg Blue Bomber Bob Molle was eighth in the same group at 2:47.59.

Doug Kelso of Morden was third in the 35-39 age group at 2:43.43.

John Brewis of Morden fin-

ished second in the men's 25-29 age group at 3:57.11.

Eddie Fisher of Winnipeg was the top woman in the Olympic course at 2:17.48.

In asking some of the triathletes why they took part the most common response was, "just to finish it."

Each part of the triathlon is physically demanding in it's own right. To do all three one after the other is something which has to be admired.

Most are not thinking of having the top time. They just want to do better than they did the last time out.

The number of volunteers who are needed to make an event such as this possible probably are more than the number of those participating. Not only do they all do a tremendous job, but they also offer encouragement to each and every participant when they pass their stations.



Getting ready

Photo by Don McLeod, for the Key

Steve Friesen (foreground) of Morden gets ready for the Olympic distance start during the Morden International Triathlon. Friesen, Mark Wiebe and Ramy Braun made up an all Morden relay team.



The finish

Photo by Don McLeod, for the Key

Paul Krueger approaches the finish of the Morden International Triathlon relay event. Krueger is a former resident of Morden and his good performance in the run gave his team first place.



Ready to ride

Photo by Don McLeod, for the Key

Eddie Sitompul of Morden is ready to start the ride in the bike portion of the Olympic distance in the Morden International Triathlon.

Heat, wind challenge Morden triathletes

by Mike Stimpson
Staff Writer

For someone who had just swam, bicycled and run 61.5 kilometres, Eddy Sitompul sure didn't seem very tired.

Smiling and talkative after completing the Olympic course in the Morden International Triathlon, the 31-year-old Morden resident was happy with his performance.

His time was two hours, 38 minutes and 31 seconds - the best among local athletes.

"This is a good race for me," said Sitompul, no stranger to triathlons.

But he wasn't entirely pleased with his performance July 8 at Minnewasta Beach: "The run course is a bit hot today. My time was a bit slower than I'd like."

He hoped to do better in triathlons at Pinawa on July 16 and next month at Riding Mountain.

Phillippe Chabot of Winnipeg finished first overall in the Olympic course's field of 37 men, at 2:10:08.

Eddie Fisher of Winnipeg timed 2:17:48 to finish tops among 15 women in the Olympic course.

In the longer Half Ironman competition, Brian Schroeder of Winnipeg crossed the finish line first at 4:52:37.

That's how long it took for him to swim 1.9 km, bike 90 km and run 21.1 km.

Schroeder answered an emphatic "No" when asked if he was happy with his time.

"It was my slowest ever, but under these conditions, it's not bad," he said.

Strong wind and high humidity made the race a little tougher than usual, he explained.

Scott Taylor of Headingley was second with a time of 4:54:53.

Winnipegger Lynne Clark was the first female participant to finish the long course, at 5:44:40.

Three women and 22 men attempted the Half Ironman. Two did not finish.

No local athletes entered the long course, but Sitompul was not the only local athlete in the Olympic competition.

Morden residents Doug Kelso and John Brewis finished in 2:43:43 and 3:57:11, respectively.

Joel Toews of Manitou finished the Olympic course in 2:40:41.



Times photo by Mike Stimpson

Times photo by Mike Stimpson

A day at the beach

Above: Eddy Sitompul dons his helmet for the bicycle portion of the Morden Triathlon. Left: Triathletes await the starter's call.



Summer heat bringing more campers, swimmers to beach

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

A warm summer has been good for business at Colert Beach this year.

The Morden beach and campground has had the best attendance Alice McKennitt has seen in the five years she has been working at the lake.

And with the ongoing improvements to the facilities at the lake, the beach supervisor sees this revival of interest in the beach continuing in the

years ahead.

"The word has been spread," she commented recently.

"We've been full pretty well every weekend. The campers are coming out - whether it's wet or dry."

Campground praised

McKennitt and the beach staff have been receiving many positive comments from people making use of the campground.

Award announced/6A

One couple from Winnipeg wrote: "This is one of the best kept campgrounds we've seen. It's good to see rules that are enforced. It makes it pleasant for everyone. We've been camping for 45 years all over Western Canada and the U.S., so we know what we are talking about."

McKennitt said the "home town support for the camping area has been great."

She has met some people there "who have never camped before," she noted. It has been very gratifying.

"The part I like is when they say 'we'll be back'."

Work paying off

McKennitt said all the work being put into improving the beach and campground is paying off.

"Once we got the beach area enlarged, it made a lot of difference," she said. "Before, it always got crowded."

This summer, workers have also redone the interior of the public washrooms, repaired the sidewalk, worked on other fixtures and resodded some spots on the grounds. They also replaced an aging hot water tank.

"Everyday we see more things we want to do," she noted. "Now, there's a list this long," McKennitt added, as she stretched out her arms.

In the future, she would like to see more tenting area cleared out, and she also hopes the pathway can eventually be further extended alongside and past the beach area.

Great response

McKennitt said the beach committee was very pleased with the great response to the Beach Blast Canada Day weekend activities.

She said there has been discussion about making it an annual event. McKennitt would also like to see children's programs at the beach on a regular basis.

July, 1995.



Photo by Don McLeod, for the Key

Getting wet

This Pre-Level 2 group gets wet under the guidance of instructor Rana Billing. The group went through a number of maneuvers that got them more used to moving in deeper water. This is just one group of many taking swimming lessons this summer at Lake Minnewasta.

At Lake Minnewasta

Swimming instructors are kept very busy

by Don McLeod
For the Key

Since swimming instructions began the first week in July the four full time swimming instructors at Lake Minnewasta have been kept very busy.

"We have classes five days a week. We put in from eight to 12 hours a day. We have about

300 involved in the program this summer," said Wilt Billing. Rana Billing, Megan Land and Candace McElroy are the other instructors.

The instructors are all well qualified. They teach from Pre-level up to the white level in the Red Cross Water Safety program and also to the Royal Lifesaving bronze cross and medallion level.

"With this group I was getting them more confident and more used to deeper water," said Rana Billing just after finishing her lesson with a Pre-Level 2 group.

The group included Byron Harder, Tricia Harder, Brittany Klassen, Amy Giesbrecht and Chelsea Vandenberg.

Lessons continue until about the middle of August.

August, 1995.

THE ELAINE BURKE AWARD HONOURS COMMUNITY ACTION FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA!

As Active Living – *Go for Green!* enters its second year recognizing community achievement in Active Living and Environmental Citizenship, we salute those scores of communities who have made a difference through community action in 1995.

ELAINE BURKE AWARD APPLICATION INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY

Any municipality, group, agency, school-based group, organization or individual in Canada is eligible for nomination. Projects must be in progress or complete at time of nomination. Please contact your provincial/territorial Active Living — *Go for Green!* representative for more information on the Award.

CORE CRITERIA

The Elaine Burke Award recognizes activities that encourage outdoor active living in a way that protects, enhances or restores our natural environment.

SUPPORTING CRITERIA

Past projects have also demonstrated:

- ◆ They were part of other community priorities and longer term plans.
- ◆ They involved a broad-based co-operative effort with a variety of groups, ages and sectors in the planning, implementation, promotion, and funding of the initiative.
- ◆ New or non-traditional partnerships.
- ◆ The activity valued and involved the participation of volunteer and other community services.

- ◆ Awareness raising of environmentally-based health risks, such as ultra violet rays, pesticides and air pollution, and how to deal with them.
- ◆ Those that benefited by the project were involved in its planning and implementation.

For Example:

A group of students decided that their playing field needed to be more user-friendly for both visitors and participants of the schools outdoor games. They created a tree-corner, with benches and a mixture of trees, shrubs and a hardy grass seed. The students rounded up the help and materials from school volunteers and local businesses.

- ◆ The project 'helped communities help themselves' through creative or innovative approaches to obtain needed resources.
- ◆ It resulted in a new or sustained impact, and contributed in a lasting way to local action.

NOMINATION DEADLINE

The nomination must be received by respective provincial or territorial Active Living — *Go for Green!* representatives by **March 31st each year.**

LET'S CELEBRATE!

This fall, award winning ceremonies have been taking place across Canada to salute the simple, yet profound, efforts of community-based groups, and to honour the memory of Elaine Burke. These groups recognize the mutual importance of active living and environmental awareness, and have used this relationship to prioritize issues of tourism, health, community spirit and business revitalization.



ELAINE BURKE...

- ◆ Spearheaded the Active Living and Environment Program;
- ◆ Was a well respected member of the Fitness Directorate, Health Canada, working on the Vitality program and other initiatives;
- ◆ Was a Fitweek Director from 1984 to 1988;
- ◆ Worked as a recreation supervisor for the City of Ottawa;
- ◆ Loved being in the great outdoors;
- ◆ Was a loving mother to two sons and;
- ◆ Understood the benefits of an active, healthy lifestyle and the link with our natural environment.

Active Living — *Go for Green!* would like to thank the Tree Canada Foundation and McKenzie Seeds for their contribution to the living gift, and The Canadian Intramural Recreation Association, The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association, and The Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance for their support of the 1995 Elaine Burke Awards.

1995 ELAINE BURKE AWARD RECIPIENTS

MANITOBA

- Lord's Bounty Foodbank, Community Garden Project, Flin Flon
- Scratching River Game & Fish Park Committee, Morris City of Portage La Prairie
- Morden Beach Committee, (1985) Inc., Morden
- Pierson Environmental Group & Partners, Pierson
- Carman Community Pathway to Active Living, Carman
- The St. James Horticultural Society, Winnipeg
- Cranberry Portage Community Club, Cranberry Portage
- Downtown Brandon Business Improvement Area, Brandon
- Killarney & District Cross Country Ski Association
- Killarney Community Tree Project
- Rockwall Estates Residents Association — Archie Gray Park

Did you know...

- ◆ That before Elaine died, she requested that three trees be planted as a testimonial of her love for life? One of the trees was planted at the home she made with her husband and children, another at her parents' home, and the third one at her in-laws' home.
- ◆ That seventy-two recipients (72) were selected across the country representing every province and territory, and of these, fifty-two (52) participated (72%) in the gift of seedlings from the Tree Canada Foundation?
- ◆ A grand total of 140,110 seedlings and trees will have been planted by the end of spring, 1996 in 52 communities?
- ◆ That 52 communities leveraged approximately 12,000 more seedlings and trees of mixed sizes, in addition to their original gift?
- ◆ A total of 12,000 Tree growing kits were distributed by the Tree Canada Foundation to the 72 communities?
- ◆ That you can apply to receive the Elaine Burke Award? Contact your provincial or territorial representative. They have all the information you need! Don't miss out the deadline for application on March 31, every year.

Award recognizes efforts at beach

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

Morden's Colert Beach and its directors, staff and volunteers are being recognized for their efforts to improve the lake area.

They are among the first recipients of the Elaine Burke Award - a new program of the Active Living - Go for Green initiative.

The award recognizes community achievement in active living and environmental citizenship. In addition to receiving a citation, the award includes the presentation of tree seedlings.

The award is named after the woman who spearheaded the development of the Active Living - Go for Green initiative across Canada. The late Elaine Burke was praised for her commitment to bringing about lasting change in the areas of environment and health.

To be eligible for the award, projects must demonstrate a commitment to encouraging outdoor physical activity that is safe, healthy, responsible and respectful of the environment, involve co-operative efforts, and provide a lasting benefit. Up to 10 recipients will be selected from each province or territory in Canada.

The award will be presented at an Aug. 21 ceremony at 1 p.m. at the beach. There will be also be a tree planting ceremony and the public is invited.

Award recognizes commitment to active living, environment

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

The development of the Morden community pathway and the beach area is only the beginning.

There is an ongoing commitment to the principles of active living and the environment in Morden, officials commented at an August 21 ceremony presenting Morden with the Elaine Burke Award.

Morden is one of the first recipients of this award - a new initiative of the federal Active Living program.

The award recognizes community achievement in active living and environmental citizenship. The development of the pathway and the Morden beach area were among the factors cited for Morden receiving the award.

Edna Lumgair, who nominated Morden, presented a citation to Alice McKennitt, caretaker at Colert Beach.

In addition, the award includes a grant to purchase 2,000 tree seedlings and the presentation of wildflower seeds.

Gary Haggerty, a member of the Lake Minnewasta development committee, noted they are looking to expand on the pathway in the future.

Morden Mayor Ernie Krahn said he has taken a great deal of satisfaction in the town's efforts to enhance the beach area including extensive tree planting.

The Elaine Burke Award is

named after the woman who spearheaded the development of the Active Living - Go for Green initiative across Canada. The late Elaine Burke was praised for her commitment to bringing about lasting change in the areas of environment and health.

To be eligible for the award, projects must demonstrate a commitment to encouraging outdoor physical activity that is safe, healthy, responsible and respectful of the environment, involve co-operative efforts, and provide a lasting benefit. Up to 10 recipients will be selected from each province or territory in Canada.

Elaine Burke Award.



Times photo by Lorne Stelmach



Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

Award presented

Colert Beach caretaker Alice McKennitt looks on as Morden Mayor Ernie Krahn and Pembina MLA Peter Dyck plant a spruce tree for an Aug. 21 ceremony marking the presentation of the Elaine Burke Award. Edna Lumgair, who nominated Morden for the award, presents the citation (left) to McKennitt. The award recognizes the town's commitment to active living.



Garry Haggarty. M.C.
(Lake Development
Committee.)



Ernie Krahn.
(Mayor of Morden.)





Presenter of the Elaine Burke Award.



Peter George Dyck.
(MLA.)



Edna Lumgair.
(Nominator.)



Alice McKennitt
(Accepting the award
for MBC.)





Alice McKennitt.
Ernie Krahn.
Peter George Dyck.







Howard and Oddney.



Ed, Ruth, Oddney, Howard and Linda Duncan.



Wayne and Larry.



Ed, Ruth, Howard,
Donna Barkley,
Bud Barkley (Groundskeeper.)



Sheri-Lynn Duncan
(Camp Attendant.)
Alice McKennitt
(Supervisor.)
Jo-Anne Robbins.
(MBC.)



Alice.



Andrea Lawson.
Erin Coates.
(Lifeguards.)



Angie VanWyck.
Carla Hemminger.
(Lifeguards.)



Jo-Anne, Carla and Angie.

Kevin Robbins.
(Gatekeeper.)



Sheri-Lynn Duncan
(Camp Attendant.)
and friend Chad.



Corn and Apple
Festival Parade.
1995.



Bud Barkley.
Staff and campers.



Parade winners

There were 140 entries in the parade this year, and besides a few slow-ups, it was as great as every. The following 2 trophies and 5 plaques were awarded:

Special theme	CIBC
Agriculture	Morden Research Station
Commercial local	Reimer Alco
Commercial visitor	City of Brandon
Horses	Jolene & Betty Kehler, Morden
Best Band	Lord Selkirk Boy Scout
Marching Unit	Morden Legion Auxiliary
Most Original	Morden Beach Committee

Thank You!

Our hats are off to you
for helping us make the
**1995 Corn & Apple
Festival Parade** the best
ever!



Jo-Anne Robbins
accepting award for
"Most Original Float".



Beach after big rain in August, 1995.





Beach to be repaired

The town is helping ensure Colert Beach is repaired after heavy rains this past summer washed much of it away.

Council agreed to cover the cost of bringing in sand to replace what was lost. Most of that cost will be recovered, however, with funding expected to cover about 80 per cent of the cost.

Beach losses a concern

by **Lorne Stelmach**

Staff Writer

A \$16,000 deficit on a \$15,000 budget raised a few eyebrows at Morden town council last week.

The Colert Beach financial fiasco is a major concern to councillors but at least one council member believes its more an issue of the beach deserving more support than having to cut spending any further.

In looking over the beach expenditures for the year, councillor Herman Bollenbach said he didn't see any wasteful spending.

Bollenbach suggested the beach committee has hoped for higher revenue from campground rental fees.

The beach loses money on the Corn and Apple Festival weekend because campers are allowed to park their campers and RVs at no charge on the Maple Leaf Elementary School grounds.

"I think that's extremely unfair," he commented. "What if we were taking revenue from a business in town?"

Council noted the issue of the free parking on the school grounds would have to be taken up with the festival committee and Western School Division.

Bollenbach also suggested the

beach should get greater support from the business community and the town because they all benefit from the tourists the beach helps draw to Morden.

"I don't know of any business that really supports it," he said.

Council did vote to cover the \$16,000 deficit from the 1995 operation of the beach, but Mayor Ernie Krahn called the deficit a major concern.

"Over the long term, we can't continue to function like that," Krahn commented.

Krahn noted another community turned over operation of its campground to private interests, and he wondered if the town should consider such an option here in the future.

Unexpected costs swamp beach budget

by **Lorne Stelmach**

Staff Writer

Unforeseen expenses such as damage repairs following a rain storm contributed to a \$16,000 deficit at the Morden beach this year.

The deficit raised some concern at Morden town council recently. But a review of the beach expenditures shows the deficit was due largely to factors that were beyond the control of the beach committee.

The beach had about \$97,000 in expenditures budgetted for this year, said town manager Abe Bergmann. It included a \$15,000 subsidy from the town.

There were a number of unforeseen expenses that arose through the summer including:

- heavy rains washed away sections of the beach.

- Various pieces of equipment such as a freezer and deep fryer broke down.

As well, the beach committee had expected additional revenue from having the new trailer park facility, but it was not ready for use.

At a Sept. 12 meeting, town councillor Herman Bollenbach also raised a concern about campers and RVs having free use of the Maple Leaf School grounds for the Corn and Apple Festival weekend. That free camping is draining revenue from the beach, suggested Bollenbach.

He also called for businesses and the community to support the beach more because they all benefit from the tourists the beach helps attract to Morden.

Fall, 1995.



Times photo by Lorne Selznick

The setting sun reflects off the water on a mild fall day at Lake Minnewasta.



Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

A picturesque trail leads down to the water at Lake Minnewasta. The warm weather last week brought a few people out to enjoy the lake maybe for the last time this year.

Sewer line approved

The Town of Morden will be spending \$10,000 to install a new sewer line to the washrooms at Lake Minnewasta.

It is part of the improvements being made to facilities at the beach and campground. The line will be installed in 1996.



Times photo by Lorne Stelmach

A cool, calm day on the shoreline of Lake Minnewasta.

Committee tells council

Beach well worth the cost

by **Lorne Stelmach**
Staff Writer

The growth of the Lake Minnewasta beach and campground is well worth the money being put into the facilities, say beach committee members.

Their message to Morden town council last week was that the funds going into the beach development will pay off in the long run.

"Once we get the new campground going, it will carry itself," Howard Sager said in a year-end report to council at its Dec. 12 meeting.

Sager described the lake as one of the best beaches in Southern Manitoba and said its continued development is dependent on the ongoing support of the town.

He said the beach has grown significantly in the last two years. Revenues increased from about \$37,000 in 1993 to over \$99,000 in 1995, while expenses increased from \$38,000 to around \$102,000. The grant from the town for beach operations has grown from \$6,500 in 1993 to \$25,235 for 1995, Sager noted.

As the facilities have expanded, so has the need for staff, said Sager. In the last two years, staffing has grown to 10-13 people.

The new camping area to the north of the beach will be a significant source of additional revenue once it is ready for use, he stressed.

The beach encountered some unforeseen expenses in the last year, noted Alice McKennitt.

Unusually heavy rainfalls washed away much of the beach. The committee repaired

as much as they could, but more sand will be needed. A grant will cover at least 80 per cent of the cost for the sand, noted McKennitt.

Other unexpected costs included replacing the freezer and hot water tank and repairing a deep fryer, washroom facilities and shower controls.

"We never spent one cent out there that wasn't needed," said Sager.

He stressed the beach committee has been doing the best job possible with the resources they have. But there will be more unavoidable expenses, such as replacing wiring to campsites that could be more than 40 years old.

Mayor Brent Stewart said council is excited by the beach development and praised the

efforts of the committee members and volunteers.

"The amount of hours you put in is commendable," said Stewart.

December, 1995.

Colert Road: Gift horse or Trojan horse?

by **Marc Piché**
Staff Writer

Driving to the beach was the hottest topic of debate at a town council meeting last week.

The province wants to give Colert Beach Road to Morden, but some councillors are worried that this gift horse could become expensive in the long run.

"The cost to maintain the road will be an unnecessary expense," said councillor Greg Wood. "The road is there, and the Department of Highways has to continue its maintenance."

However, Coun. Herman Bollenbach said that the road is in good condition, and would require little maintenance beyond some snow clearing and line painting.

Owning the road would give the town more control to boat access and would help the town "keep the idiots out of the water," Bollenbach said.

Bollenbach noted that high-speed motorboats came close to causing fatal accidents on Lake Minnewasta last summer. Owning the road would give the town police more jurisdiction in the area, he contended. "If it's worth a life, it's worth a road," said Bollenbach.

But town police already have jurisdiction on the Colert Beach road, noted Coun. Bruce Salmonson.

If police have that authority, they haven't used it to patrol the lake for boating offenses, said Bollenbach. "It hasn't been done in the last 30 years," he added.

Coun. Frank Ptosnick offered to ask the Beach Committee whether it would be willing to pay for road maintenance out of its budget, and the motion was tabled for further debate.

"Once we get the new campground going, it will carry itself."

- Howard Sager.