

## **RM OF RHINELAND - SUMMARY**

The RM of Rhineland as a designated unit for research is not functional. It lies within other functional and legal boundaries and is itself torn in two directions. In reviewing the context of how to proceed, it may be that this area of southern Manitoba may be more productively viewed as an example of 'clustering' which is a phenomena taking place across Canada and should be examined as part of survival strategies for rural communities. In this instance, while agricultural is one of its driving forces, the primary driving force has been cultural – the Mennonite work ethic.

The RM of Rhineland see two-thirds of its population look to Altona as its service centre, while the remaining (the line is drawn thru the town of Plum Coulee) looks to Winkler, Manitoba. Altona's functional service region reaches all the way east to the Red River and beyond. Altona is also sits on the North-South route between Winnipeg and the United States along Highway 75. The RM sits in the Red River Valley and is blessed with productive soils subject to drainage problems due to its flatness. It is also part of the functional regions called the Pembina Valley, south central Manitoba, the Golden Triangle (Winnipeg, Altona, Grand Forks, ND) and participates in the Triple R Community Futures as well as other ventures with communities in the Pembina Valley.

The Mennonite community settled in southern Manitoba just west of the Red River. The French community lies along the Red River and east. The cultural work ethic of the Mennonite community has driven the prosperity of the region and today there are four focal points in this region, all of which look to Winnipeg as their primary service centre. Carmen, Morden, Winkler and Altona had differing roles and Mennonite populations. Winkler is the cultural centre in that it is primarily Mennonite as indicated by it being a 'dry' community. It is the most industrialized followed by Morden, then Altona. Both Morden and Altona have strong Mennonite populations but are shaped by outside influences. Carmen has the smallest Mennonite population but has become a government service centre due to decentralization by the provincial government. Altona sees itself as looking to higher technological based industries than the rest of the region. This may be a function of Friesen Corporation which operates its business using the internet and as a result, has become one of the largest textbooks suppliers in North America.

The reality is that the smaller communities surrounding Altona, Winkler, Morden and Carman are becoming, in effect, bedroom communities. Plum Coulee is essentially a bedroom community for Winkler while Rosenfeld is one for Altona. Altona competes with Winkler, Morden and Carman for government dollars and industries, but the reality has become that these four communities see themselves as an economic region and they will cooperate to ensure that industries will remain in the region. This level of cooperation, perhaps, is a legacy of the Mennonite culture as well as perhaps an acknowledgment of the 'clustering' phenomena taking place in south central Manitoba.

The RM of Rhineland is primarily agriculturally based with 36% of workforce employed in agriculture and other resource-based industries. On the other hand, 40% are employed in the

service industries. It is interesting to note that people from as far as way as Winnipeg and Emerson come to Alton to work. It is expected that this number will increase as communities such as Altona and Winkler seek to diversify their economies. The Reeve of the RM sees the prosperity of the RM tied to these communities which is a function of the innovative and hardworking nature of their populations. He perceives these communities of being adaptative and taking advantage of value-added processing.

This is a prosperous area of Manitoba and this accounts for the relative prosperity of the RM of Rhineland despite its declining farming population. It would be fruitful line of research of the NRE to determine why this region has succeeded while other rural regions in Manitoba and Canada have not. The reality is that this RM of Rhineland cannot be looked at in isolation - it needs to be examined in the context of its location.

## **FIELD SITE WORKBOOK - Profiles, Phase I - RM OF RHINELAND**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

There are three main sources of data that will become the basis of your "Profile" for the site: (1) census data (1991) describing the main economic and demographic characteristics of the CSD (census subdivision), and provided to you by the Concordia researchers; (2) daily logs, a record kept by each researcher of their time in the field; and, (3) data collected and tabulated in this workbook. It describes the process for the compilation of the Logs and the Workbook Field Data, and how these are to be combined with the census data for a "final report" that will constitute the initial reconnaissance of each research site. The reliance upon 1991 census data at this time is only a preliminary step. Analysis in Phase II will incorporate both the 1996 data as they become available, as well as historical data from earlier censuses.

While these profiles are to be the basis for subsequent research, they also will include important information that will be extracted for a report contracted by the Rural Secretariat on the Accessibility to Social Services. Section 6 on the availability of social services requests, therefore, information concerning the degree of accessibility that is possible, through both physical and electronic means. If possible, it would be helpful to include both "objective" information (such as wheelchair ramps), and the "perceived" availability of these services. Please ensure that this information is complete, as you will be asked to extract it for the preparation of a separate report.

In the initial contracts with people who live and work in the research sites, it is extremely important that you are clear with them about your purpose for being there, and that you establish a firm foundation of trust. Note names, positions, both formal and informal functions, and the desirability of contacting these individuals again. Provide information regarding each significant contact. Full interviews are not necessary, or even advisable, at this time. Rather, specific information is being collected, and the possibility for future contacts is being established.

The people who may provide the most accurate information may not be the people you expect. While you should of course establish early contact with the mayor, for example, it is possible that the retired school principal may be more helpful. Consider both formal and informal functions, and be sensitive to community rivalries and even conflict that could hinder your work. Some possible contacts: mayor, presidents of service clubs (Rotary, Lions ...), town clerk, police chief, school principal, chair of hospital board, church committees, even the gas station attendant. If a particular name keeps being mentioned, be sure to see that person; or, at the very least, ensure the name is recorded for future reference. As well, you may find useful information in a regional development planning office.

## **2. FIELD LOGS**

A field log for each research site should record the daily activities of each researcher, regarding procedures, contacts, meetings and issues or questions that were addressed. In particular, it is intended that these logs provide you or future researchers with an understanding of the characteristics of the site as they may affect the research process. Issues such as community leadership, informal structures, events that may spark hostility, or situations that may impact upon the reception researchers receive, should all be considered as important information that is to be recorded. You may use any format you choose, but it is suggested that you keep a separate ring or wire binder with waterproof features for durability and ease of photocopying. But it is also important that they be entered onto a diskette, a machine-readable form (using WordPerfect or Word) that can be easily accessed. These logs will become part of the data, compiled by the Data Curator into a computer accessible data base.

### 3. SITE BOUNDARIES

The initial boundaries of the research sites are the Census SubDivisions (CSD) that were the basis of the site selection by Bill Reimer and his research assistants. The results of the following research exercise, in which you collect data relating to the particular site and its contiguous areas, may suggest different boundaries for the detailed research phase. Therefore, in this preliminary "Profile" stage, the information you collect will be important as a basis for deciding upon the final sites to be studied within the NRE project. See pages 3 and 9, *FIELD MANUAL: Standard Operating Guidelines*, (Reimer & Apedaile) for further information.

You will have received a map of the CSD boundary for your site.

**3.1** Check the map against the ground. Produce multiple copies of the map on 8½" x 11" that can be shown to residents. Include familiar points of reference, such as landforms, railroad tracks, churches, etc. to help them in identification.

**3.2** These maps identify a specific "centroid", which will be used as a point of reference in answering some of the following questions. The latitude and longitude of the centroid is included with the map.

**3.2.1** Identify the location of the centroid with respect to a familiar point of reference in the site. Maps including latitude and longitude will help do this.

**3.3** In order to help determine whether or not this boundary reflects a "community", "place", or "space" reality, respond to the following:

**3.3.1** What boundaries are meaningful for residents? (An OPEN question ... not easily coded). Suggest questions such as: a) On a map, can you draw the boundary for your usual daily paths?, weekly area/region you visit?; b) What places do you visit regularly?

Attach maps as sketch maps, or copies of road maps if they provide sufficient detail. Collect comments/responses on a separate sheet. Summarize them here, but retain the original sheet.

**Functional boundaries are more meaningful for residents than the CSD boundary.**

**In terms of the Enns Family - the people located closest to the centroid point in RM of Rhineland – the CSD boundary has no meaning except during election. Their hierarchy of services goes to Altona or Winkler then to Winnipeg. They see Altona as the hub for their immediate area but have difficulties with being charged extra fees for services there just because they are residents of R.M. and not Altona. Winkler pulls them as there is additional services such as dentist and optical. As well concern with label of South Central – that is seen more for Winkler, Morden, Carmen and not for Altona.**

**In terms of the RM of Rhineland itself, based on comments from people, it is seen as having a split running by the town of Plum Coulee – with the west one-third of the RM moving to Winkler in terms of allegiance and the West two-thirds, looking to Altona except for additional services.**

**As well Altona's location along the Hwy 75 is seen as a North-South corridor running from Winnipeg into the States. Altona sees this as a plus in term of obtaining new jobs.**

**The Friesen Publishing Company besides taking advantage of this North-South corridor also takes advantage of technology - internet and is one of the largest sellers of books in North American on the internet. This supports the CEO of Altona's claim that Altona is more technically advanced than Winkler and Morden when selecting industries. This indicates that the RM boundaries are not important.**

**There are too many boundaries to be aware of in this area. It is a prosperous region and we have the Pembina Valley Association, South Central Economic Development, Triple E Community Development. Altona sees its trade are not extending west (Winkler, Morden) but moving east - crossing the ethnic lines of German/French which is reflected in their population mix in the Town.**

- 3.3.2** Describe the distribution of population within the CSD boundary as:
- a. dispersed
  - b. concentrated**
  - c. linear
  - d. multi-centre
  - e. unable to determine
  - f. other \_\_\_\_\_

Sketch the population centre(s) on the map.

***See Attached Maps in Table of Contents – major concentration is Altona followed by Plum Coulee, Gretna, Rosenfeld – then sharp fall off***

Comments:

***Population following the usual rural - concentration pattern – into more urbanized centres.***

***Altona is a service hub with the rest of the communities becoming bedroom communities of sorts (Rosenfeld for example for Altona with Plum Coulee for Winkler). Gretna has a private Mennonite College.***

- 3.3.3** (A) Do your contacts in this site suggest that the CSD boundary has meaning for them? YES or NO — A DEFINITE NO
- (B) How do they express the relevance of the CSD boundary:
- a. for the community?
  - b. daily activities?
  - c. where people live?
  - d. where people work?
  - e. other? **Express relevance in terms of just for voting -- the RM of Rhineland has different points of reference depending on needs of residents and ethnicity as well as what economic partnerships are being formed. For example Altona is working with Morris and Emerson to bring development in. People look to Winnipeg for specialized medical services. People live in**

**Emerson and work in Altona. People in Altona work in Winnipeg. People from Winnipeg work in Altona.**

**The big 4 in this region are seen as Carman (government services), Morden (agricultural services and industries) , Winkler the designated economic hub by the Province and Altona – some cooperation between them to retrain industries in area but do compete for dollars to be spent in the region itself.**

**Bottom line CSD boundary has little meaning - people want fewer boundaries and some that make sense – for example in terms of conservation management – need increased cooperation to deal with erosion and drainage problems in the region.**

**This region is ripe for a study regarding ‘clustering’ – this region appears to understand value-added concept and each is looking for their niche both locally and globally. One of the more successful areas in Manitoba attributed to its Mennonite background**

#### 4. SITE HISTORY - MAJOR EVENTS & STORIES

Communities may define themselves in terms of particular events or episodes in their history. Try to establish whether there are key defining moments in their history that may be part of the mythology and identity of the community. While it is impossible to imagine what they might be, some ideas that may help you in identifying these important events include:

- closing of a textile mill
- forest fire
- building of a hospital/college/senior's home
- burning of a church - its rebuilding
- birth of quintuplets
- changing the town name

##### 4.1 Record your information (and comments) here:

***Fundamentally the Mennonite background is seen as the key defining element of this region. They brought the principles of hard work, agriculture, entrepreneurship with them into this region. The fertility of the Red River Valley, the ease of transportation thru rivers and the closeness to major urban centres, along with the Mennonite work ethic has created a prosperous region in Manitoba.***

***Because of its fundamental agricultural nature, RM and its agricultural lifestyle is a struggle - especially for the smaller farmers such as the Enns. Farmers like the Enns are not happy with the fluctuating prices and the impacts of globalization and industrialization of agriculture. The town people are not as worried. They see increasing diversity and specialization and value-added processing as a way to maintain their way of life. Different perspectives between Residents in RM and those residing in Altona.***

***In terms of Altona, it is seen that Friesen Industries (employing around 600 people) is the major impact for the town's success. See attached community profiles for information concerning this town and all its industries. It is moving to increased diversification and with the Friesen book and printing plants, moving away from total dependence on agriculture. Altona is seen as seeking high technology while Winker low technology***

***The major crisis event in this area is the flooding of the Red River and as the Reeve pointed out – what to do with all this standing water. The area has switched some of its acreage to other crops such as canola and beans but these crops do not like standing water – drainage is the major challenge for this region.***

## 5. SPATIAL ARRANGEMENTS & INFRASTRUCTURE

**5.1** On a sheet 8½" x 11", produce a map to scale of: **SEE ATTACHED MAPS IN TABLE OF CONTENTS (R)**

- a. the CSD boundaries
- b. the centroid
- c. major roads, highways, streets
- d. railway lines
- e. any airports
- f. schools
- g. hospitals
- h. churches & other religious institutions (name them)
- i. municipal (town) hall or office, or band council
- j. garbage dump(s)

**5.2** Are the following available, yes or no? **THIS WAS A DIFFICULT QUESTION TO ANSWER – GIVEN IT WAS FOR THE RM – SO I HAVE JUST TAKEN IT FOR THE CENTROID POINT IN OTHER WORDS FROM THE ENNS HOUSEHOLD PERSPECTIVE BEING THE CLOSET HOME TO THAT POINT**

SERVICES	Availability		
	Yes	No	Other
Municipal Water - <b>5.2.1</b> to everyone	yes		
- <b>5.2.2</b> to some			
<b>5.2.3</b> Sewage collection and disposal	no		
<b>5.2.4</b> Garbage collection	no		
Garbage dump - <b>5.2.5</b> open	no		
- <b>5.2.6</b> sanitary landfill	yes	-	Municipal Dump 3 miles away
Sidewalks - <b>5.2.7</b> throughout the village/town	n/a		
- <b>5.2.8</b> centre of community only			
<b>5.2.9</b> Cable TV	no		
Internet access - <b>5.2.10</b> to everyone willing to pay	yes		

- <b>5.2.11</b> free through community centre	n/a
- <b>5.2.12</b> specific institutions/individuals	n/a
Local newspaper - <b>5.2.13</b> daily	no
- <b>5.2.14</b> weekly	yes
- <b>5.2.15</b> monthly	no
- <b>5.2.16</b> "newsletter" - no regional or area news	no
<b>5.2.17</b> National newspaper (e.g. can Globe & Mail be delivered?)	No
Fire department - <b>5.2.18</b> paid, full-time professionals	Yes
- <b>5.2.19</b> volunteers	Yes A MIX
<b>5.2.20</b> Approximate estimated response time to centroid?	15 minutes
Police - <b>5.2.21</b> RCMP	Yes
- <b>5.2.22</b> Provincial	n/a
- <b>5.2.23</b> Municipal	n/a
<b>5.2.24</b> Number of personnel?	9
<b>5.2.25</b> Approximate estimated response time to centroid?	15 min
<b>5.2.26</b> 911 emergency service	yes
<b>5.2.27</b> Road ambulance service	Yes
<b>5.2.28</b> Approximate estimated response time to centroid?	15 min
<b>5.2.29</b> Air ambulance service	Yes
<b>5.2.30</b> Approximate estimated response time to centroid?	15 min

**5.3** Roads: consider central, highest traffic roads only; as a generalization for the community, provide a ranking based on physical condition. Rank from low to high (1 to 5):

Highest traffic roads – gravel roads – 2

1. dirt, ungraded
2. graded gravel/dirt; snow clearance; no salting/sanding
3. paved, potholes, no shoulders; snow clearance; salting/sanding
4. paved, few potholes, shoulders; snow clearance; salting/sanding
5. paved; no potholes; shoulders; painted lines; snow clearance; salting/sanding

## 6. Social Services - Availability and Accessibility

The following questions are to determine the availability and accessibility of various social services in the site. The information will be used to write the report for the Rural Secretariat on availability of government services, to determine changes in the extent of isolation and integration for the marginalization theme.

Service 6.1 EDUCATION	Current Distance from Centroid (km)	Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)	Special transportation needs? e.g. boat? disabled students?	Wheelchair Access	Comments
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
6.1.1 Elementary School	3.5 miles	3.5 miles	n/a	yes	
6.1.2 High School	3.5 miles	3.5 miles	n/a	yes	
6.1.3 Technical School	90 kms	90 kms	n/a	yes	
6.1.4 University	90 kms	90kms	n/a	yes	
6.1.5 Extension courses	unknown	unknown	unknown	n/a	n/a — Comments – there are extension course available thru University of Winnipeg, Brandon and Manitoba and Red River College – with no cable TV it may be difficult to access – respondents had no knowledge of any internet access to courses
6.1.6 Other Educational	15 kms - Gretna M e n n o n i t e	15 kms	n/a	yes	

Institutions      College

<b>Service 6.2</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs?</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>HEALTH</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>	<b>(e)</b>
<b>6.2.1</b> Hospital	3.5 miles - Altona	3.5 miles	none	yes	
<b>6.2.2</b> Blood/urine testing facility	3.5 miles	3.5 miles	none	yes	
<b>6.2.3</b> X-Ray facility	3.5 miles	3.5 miles	none	yes	
<b>6.2.4</b> Baby delivery facility	“ ”	“ ”	“ ”	yes	
<b>6.2.5</b> CT scan facility	90 k m s Winnipeg	-90 kms	none	yes	
<b>6.2.6</b> Nursing home	3.5 miles - Altona	3.5 miles	none	yes	
<b>6.2.7</b> Doctor(s)	Family - 3.5 miles - Altona Speciality - 90 kms - Winnipeg	same as (a)	none	yes	
<b>6.2.8</b> Nurse(s)	3.5 miles - Altona	same as (a)	none	yes	
<b>6.2.9</b> Dentist(s)	3.5 miles - Altona	same as (a)	none	yes	

<b>6.2.10</b>	90 k m s	-90 Kms	none	yes
Dental Surgeon(s)	Winnipeg			
<b>6 . 2 . 1</b>	144 kms - Morden	90 kms	none	yes
Optometrist(s)				

<b>Service 6.2</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km) (a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km) (b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs? (c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access (d)</b>	<b>Comments (e)</b>
<b>HEALTH</b>					
<b>6.2.12</b>	unknown	unknown	n/a	n/a	
Home care/visits					
<b>6.2.13</b> VON	unknown	unknown	n/a	n/a	
<b>6.2.14</b>	3.5 miles Altona	unknown	n/a	n/a	
Social worker					
<b>6.2.15</b> Other:					

<b>Service 6.3</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs?</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>LEGAL</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>	<b>(e)</b>
<b>6.3.1</b> Lawyer	3.5 miles - Altona	3.5 miles	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.3.2</b> Notary	3.5 miles - Altona	3.5 miles	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.3.3</b> Citizenship Court	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	

<b>Service 6.4</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs?</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>	<b>(e)</b>
<b>6.4.1</b> Bank or <b>6.4.2</b> Credit Union	3.5 miles Altona	3.5 miles	n/a	n/a	
<b>6.4.3</b> ATM					
<b>6.4.4</b> Micro-Financing Group	3.5 miles - Altona	3.5 miles	n/a	n/a	
<b>6.4.5</b> Insurance Office	3.5 miles - Altona	3.5 miles	n/a	n/a	

<b>Service 6.5</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km) (a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km) (b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs? (c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access (d)</b>	<b>Comments (e)</b>
<b>6.5.1</b> Daycare	3.5 miles - Altonasame		n/a	yes	
<b>6.5.2</b> Senior Citizens' Retirement Home	3.5 miles	same	n/a	yes	

<b>Service 6.6</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs?</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>(a)</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>(d)</b>	<b>(e)</b>
<b>6.6.1</b> Employment Insurance Office	44 kms - Morden	Morden	n/a	yes	
<b>6.6.2</b> Revenue Canada Office	90 kms Winnipeg	-90 kms	n/a	yes	
<b>6.6.3</b> Provincial Automobile Licence Office	3.5 miles - Altona	same	n/a	yes	
<b>6.6.4</b> Welfare Office	3.5 miles - Altona	same	n/a	yes	
<b>6.6.5</b> Town Hall	3.5 miles - Altona	same	n/a	yes	
<b>6.6.6</b> Band Council	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	

<b>Service 6.7</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km) (a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km) (b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs? (c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access (d)</b>	<b>Comments (e)</b>
<b>6.7.1</b> Food Bank	30 kms - Morris	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.7.2</b> Clothing Exchange or Depot	3.5 miles - Altona	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.7.3</b> Second-hand Stores (include both for profit & charitable)	3.5 miles - Altona	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.7.4</b> Drop-in Centre	3.5 miles - Altona	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.7.5</b> Half-way Home	3.5 miles - Altona	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.7.6</b> Counselling Services	Altona 3.5 miles	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.7.7</b> Family Distress	Altona 3.5 miles				
<b>6.7.8</b> Women's Shelter	Winkler – 35 kms				

Winkler - 35 kms

**6.7.9** Alcohol/Drug Abuse

<b>Service 6.8</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km)</b> <b>(a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)</b> <b>(b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs?</b> <b>(c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access</b> <b>(d)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Public Transport</b>					
<b>(e)</b>					
<b>6.8.1</b> Bus	Altona	Altona	n/a	yes	
Train		same as (a)	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.8.2</b> freight	Altona 3.5 miles				
<b>6.8.3</b> passenger	Winnipeg - 90 kms				
Air	all to Winnipeg	unknown	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.8.4</b> Scheduled Service	90 kms except for small plane – 4.5 miles - just outside of Altona				
<b>6.8.5</b> Small plane					
<b>6.8.6</b> Connecting flights					
<b>6.8.7</b> Helicopter					
<b>6.8.8</b> Boat	n/a to all	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>6.8.9</b> Regular ferry/taxi					

**6.8.10** On demand

**6.8.11** Car Taxi 9 0 k m s -unknown unknown unknown  
Winnipeg

**6.8.12** Other

## RECREATION

<b>Service 6.9</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km) (a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km) (b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs? (c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access (d)</b>	<b>Comments (e)</b>
Facilities					
<b>6.9.1</b> Curling	3.5 miles Altona	same	n/a	unknown	
Municipal Swimmingonly Pool	3.5 miles Altona	same as (a)	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.2</b> Indoor					
<b>6.9.3</b> Outdoor Municipal Skating Rink	Altona	Altona	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.4</b> Indoor					
<b>6.9.5</b> Outdoor					
<b>6.9.6</b> Community Playing Field	Altona	Altona	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.7</b>	Altona	Altona	n/a	yes	

Community Gym <b>6.9.8</b> Community Centre	Altona	Altona	n/a	yes
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<b>Service 6.9</b> Facilities	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km) (a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km) (b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs? (c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access (d)</b>	<b>Comments (e)</b>
<b>6.9.9</b> YM/YWCA	90 kms - Wpg	same	n/a	unknown	
Athletic Club	90 kms - Wpg	same	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.10</b> Municipal					
<b>6.9.11</b> Private					
<b>6.9.12</b> Commercial					
<b>6.9.13</b> Theatre	Winnipeg 90 kms	same	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.14</b> Cinema	Winkler 35 kms	90 kms Winnipeg	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.15</b> Museum	Winkler 35 kms	90 kms Wpg	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.16</b> Library	3.5 miles Altona	same	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.17</b> Parks	3.5 miles Altona	unknown	n/a	unknown	

**6.9.18 Other**

<b>Service 6.9 Programmes</b>	<b>Current Distance from Centroid (km) (a)</b>	<b>Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km) (b)</b>	<b>Special transportation needs? (c)</b>	<b>Wheelchair Access (d)</b>	<b>Comments (e)</b>
Community Organized Teams	3.5 miles - Altona to all	3.5 miles Altona	n/a	yes	
<b>6.9.19</b> Juniors/children					
<b>6.9.20</b> Adults					
Art Programmes (art classes)	3.5 miles - Altona	same as (a)	n/a	unknown	
<b>6.9.21</b> Municipal					
<b>6.9.22</b> Private	unknown				

Service 6.10 Volunteer Service Organizations	Current Distance from & Centroid (km)	Distance from Centroid in 1981 (km)	Special transportation needs?	Wheelchair Access	Comments Approx. number of people involved.  Locally/regionally/nationally networked
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
6.10.1 Religious Groups	3.5 miles Altona	to3.5 miles Altona	n/a	unknown	
6.10.2 Rotary Club	none	none	n/a	unknown	
6.10.3 Historical Society	3.5 miles	unknown	unknown	unknown	
Others: 6.10.4					
6.10.5					
6.10.6					
6.10.7					
6.10.8					

#### 6.2.4

Specific services named by citizens as being unavailable:

**The reality is that is can all be obtained by the Enns but the reality is distance. Altona is the logical place but it does not have eye care available nor advanced medical treatment such as dental surgeons and specialized physicians. The Enns are concerned that they don't have access to the library in Altona and take second place to enrollment in swimming programs and the like.**

**In terms of the people I spoke to in the field - concerns raised concerning specialized medical attention but also adult education is difficult to obtain easily. Agricultural parts and supplies are more difficult to obtain with all the concentration taking place and loss of dealership.**

#### 6.2.5

Are there publicly funded programmes that are specific to this community? For example:  
 HRDC training programme for 18-24 year olds.  
 Matching grants for community recreation centre.  
 CAPS (Community Access Program)

**CAPS program exists**

**School Board Grant from Federal government to look at alternative education**

**Matching grants for development of community recreation centre**

#### 6.3

Accessibility: For each public service/facility that exists in the community (e.g. hospital, school), place beside the categories above a letter designating the objective degree of accessibility. Use codes as follows:

Wheelchair access, yes: A1

Wheelchair access, no: A0  
Electronic/Internet access, yes: B1  
Electronic/Internet access, no: B0

N.B. In your interviews, ask whether the people perceive any problems with accessibility, regardless of the apparent reality. Note the perception of accessibility, including by public transport, taxi, or private car, including reference to time, distance and cost. Write your conclusions below

**In terms of accessibility – both the Enns and others that I spoke to do not see themselves as not have accessibility to anything they want – it is just a matter of time and distance.**

**The only major fuss was over the lack of an eye doctor in Altona – otherwise is it accepted way of life that to get specialized treatment or any other consumer service, travel is necessary. It appears that it is accepted and the short distance to Winnipeg or Winkler or even the States is not a barrier.**

## 7. ECONOMIC FORTUNES

See page 12 in *FIELD MANUAL: Standard Operating Guidelines*

- 7.1 List the businesses with number of employees in brackets, as follows:  
 e.g. Brown's - retail store (8)  
 Madison Paper - paper mill (60)

**See Community Profile put out by Town of Altona for information plus my Information sheet in Table of Contents R.**

- 7.2 In a separate list, name all home-based businesses, and their main activity. Include all those that would have a telephone listing, but exclude individual farmers or fishers.

**This was in impossible task to do – given the time limit – see attached telephone listings.**

- 7.3 In a third list, name those businesses that ship goods out of the area. List NAME, PRODUCT, TYPE OF TRANSPORT, and DESTINATIONS; e.g. Madison Paper: newsprint; truck; Boston, Montreal

**Friesen - Books, Printing Materials, Paper, - truck and rail - around the world**

**See once again the Community Profit put out by the Town of Altona plus information sheet**

**Most of their product is not for local consumption and train and trucks are used to ship within Manitoba, into the States and part of Canada**

- 7.4 For each of these businesses, list the MAJOR SUPPLIERS, and their LOCATIONS.

Unknown – not enough time in field trip to obtain this type of information

- 7.5 If there is a Chamber of Commerce, or an organization representing business interests, try to get data that provides background information about:

- history of business growth
- sales figures
- expectations for the future

Attach any relevant reports to this document. Record your data here, including relevant comments that may help future researchers.

**– attached is list of its members. The Community Profile produced by Altona was with the help of the Chamber of Commerce.**

**The chamber is an active group and works with the CEO of Altona to guide and develop its economic plan. They are actively seeking to diversify their economy and are very proud of the job they have done to date.**

**7.6** In your conversations with various town officials and community activists, try to get a general sense of their degree of optimism with respect to the prospects for the community, and for the area. Although formal and more intensive interviews will be required in the future, try to record any relevant comments verbatim, keeping in mind the ethical guidelines for use of quotations with attribution.

(Ethical guidelines will be discussed in a Protocol for the long term field research. If you have any questions, refer to the published guidelines of SSHRC or your own university, or call the Research Manager.)

**IN terms of the Town of Altona – officials are very optimistic. They see a need to work cooperatively within the region with Winkler, Morden and Carmen to strengthen the economic diversity of the region. They also see the need to expand and move into the higher technology end of the spectrum and see themselves as being the leader in the region. They see themselves as a growth centre.**

**The Reeve of the RM is also optimistic. However very much aware that RM is tied to the agricultural boom and busts and is not as resilient as perhaps Altona.**

**The Enns see overall a good future for the RM – however they find it difficult to be optimistic from a farmer's point of view.**

**There is no doubt a difference between Altona versus rest of the RM in terms of optimism for the future.**

## 8. RESOURCE BASE & AMENITIES

**8.1** Are there special environmental and/or resources features that would describe and define this area? A problem with this question is obviously that "beauty is in the eyes of the beholder". But try to enumerate features such as "healthy, mixed forest"; "lakes described by locals as for good fishing or boating"; "good agricultural soils".

**By far the most important is — GOOD AGRICULTURAL SOILS — most of the land is in production.**

**8.2** Are there particular features that might detract from the desirability of the area? e.g. noise pollution because of being near a freight railway line; (that would become a "positive" for transportation); or saline or poorly drained soils; or downwind of a smelter.

**Once again – by far is the DRAINAGE PROBLEM – flooding from the Red River Valley while increases the productivity of the soil, creates a massive drainage problem for this flat land.**

**8.3** Are there local strategies or projects that are being a) engaged, or b) being planned, that will affect any of these resources, amenities, or unattractive attributes?

**Reeve indicates that the RM to date has not been actively engaged in local economic development. Sees a need to increase that and work with Altona to develop the economy. However does not want to see any heavy industry come in – retain quality of life – small manufacturing, diversification and specialization in crops, value-added processing.**

**The CEO, Jim Spencer in Altona, expressed the need to focus on community development more now – people want quality of life and increased services i.e. safer community, more services for elderly etc. Created a new park within the Town and a public walk. He is actively looking to promote and attract all sorts of industrial and commercial development – create an industrial park. Looking for matching grants.**

## 9. DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL CHANGES

You will have received the census information for 1991. It is hoped that within six months the 1996 data will be available. But in the meantime, please update the key demographic variables as much as possible by referring to the data available in the community through the town hall, municipal, or band records.

**See attached Table of Contents information and data provided by Town of Altona.**

**9.1** Verify current:

- population
- net migration: in/out/net
- number of households
- average size family
- age structure (?) possibly from the electoral list?
- language; mother tongue, spoken at home
- religion
- literacy categories: grade 9; high school; some post secondary; university degree(s)

Note: It is possible the town hall will have some of these data, although unless there has been a specific need it is unlikely that all will be available. If you can obtain the 1996 census data prior to submitting your report, so much the better!

**9.2** During your conversations with local people, ask whether or not there have been particular social changes: in the NUMBERS of people, in the CHARACTERISTICS of the population, in the kinds of PROBLEMS that are being met in the community. Without using leading questions, try to establish whether or not there is any consensus about particular issues that may be explored in subsequent research.

**Population is increasing but only in population centres such as Altona and Plum Coulee. There is some increase in younger population in the area with increased jobs.**

**This area is culturally homogeneous (Mennonite) but Altona has more impact from French culture along the Red River. As well, Mexican Mennonites are now being brought up to work in the region especially around Winkler. Given the nature of the Mennonite people this influx of immigrants should not be as much as a problem as in other areas.**

**Issues would be how to continue this growth, how to work with other areas and share the funding that is available. Enns household expressed concern regarding equity of income and tax dollars. This was expressed by the CEO of Altona in terms of competing for government dollars.**

**This is a prosperous area of the Province – so standard rural issues but optimism abounds.**