

Landscape Description

Kinwow Bay is located in the central Interlake region along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg about 225 km north of Winnipeg and was designated as a park reserve in 2001 in order to provide interim protection to lands representing the Manitoba Lowlands Natural Region as well as important wildlife habitat. To continue protecting important natural and cultural values of the region while discussions took place, the park reserve was renewed in 2006 and 2011. Kinwow Bay is now designated as a wilderness provincial park and all lands are classified under the Wilderness Land Use Category.

Outstanding Features

Kinwow Bay Provincial Park is 8,400 ha in size and includes lands adjacent to Kinwow Bay on Lake Winnipeg. The park features stands of birch and willow and marshlands adjacent to the shore of Lake Winnipeg. Inland areas include black spruce bogs, stands of tamarack and isolated areas of treeless muskeg. The area is home to wildlife such as bear, moose, beaver, muskrat, various ducks and geese, and numerous songbirds.

The bay itself is a long narrow inlet, opening to the lake with greater width. At the upper end of the bay the country is fairly well wooded. Behind the beach on the eastern point of the bay is a series of sand dunes ranging from ten to fifteen feet in height. At Stony Point the sand and gravel is piled into a high heavy bar, projecting into the lake towards the east. The eastern end of Kinwow Bay is protected by an accumulation of boulders at the water line.

The Provincial Parks Act specifies that provincial parks are dedicated to the people of Manitoba. Provincial parks are recognized as special places that play an important role in the protection of natural lands and the quality of life for Manitobans.

The rights of Indigenous people to access this area for hunting, trapping, fishing and other traditional pursuits will continue to be respected. Existing commercial fishing activities will also continue. There are no intentions to develop park infrastructure such as campgrounds or roads, but the development of outfitting lodges may be permitted.

Lands classified with a Wilderness Land Use Category are categorized as an International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) protected area management category II - protected area managed for ecosystem protection and recreation. These protected lands are free from logging, mining, hydroelectric development, oil and gas development, exploring for or harvesting peat, and any other activities that may significantly or adversely affect habitat.

Map 1: Kinwow Bay Provincial Park

