

**N R E**

**THE NEW RURAL ECONOMY**



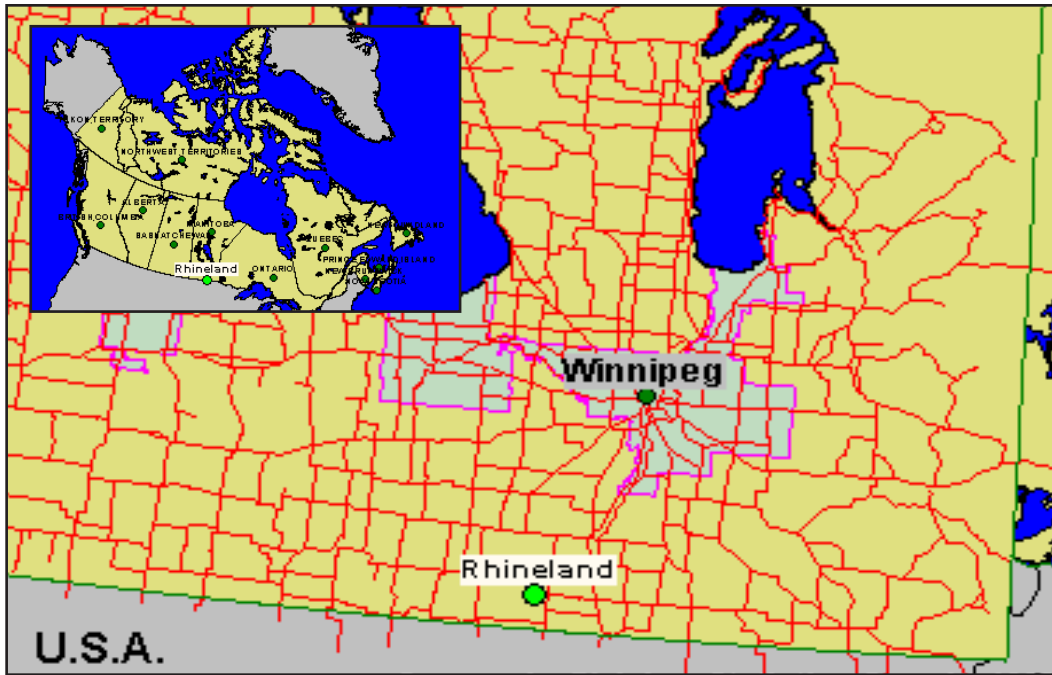
## Site 20: Rhineland, Manitoba

Rhineland is a rural municipality situated close to the American border in the Red River Valley of Southern Manitoba. With a population of about 4200 people, Rhineland is actually a clustering of several rural communities in the area. The closest urban centre, Winnipeg, is found approximately 100 km Northeast of the area. The population of Rhineland makes use of surrounding towns Altona and Winkler for its services.

Rhineland is primarily agriculturally based due to the rich, productive soils of the valley.

Although much of the population is employed in resource-based industries, a greater part of the people work in the service industry.

While many rural communities struggle to survive across the province, Rhineland remains prosperous mostly because of the cultural work ethic of a large Mennonite population in the area. The level of cooperation among residents insures that industries will survive in the region despite competition for business between the communities.



Maps courtesy of Statistics Canada, Geography Division, 2000

<i>Characteristics in 1996</i>	<i>Rhine.</i>	<i>Manitoba</i>	<i>Canada</i>
Population	4 204	1 113 898	28 846 761
1991 to 1996 population change (%)	1.4	2.0	5.7
% of population ages 15 and over	67.7	78.0	79.5
Unemployment rate	4.8	7.9	10.1
Participation rate	76.3	66.3	65.5
% Primary industry	36.1	8.5	5.6
% Secondary industry	23.8	16.2	20
% Tertiary industry	40.0	75.3	74.4
Average number of persons in married or common-law families	4.1	3.2	3.1
Average number of persons in lone-parent families	2.2	2.6	2.6

Source: Statistics Canada

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