

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks for the concern and advice that has made the Project possible:

Gaythorne Burns, Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corp.
Harry Geisbrecht, Central Canadian Structures
John Nesbitt, University of Manitoba
Robert Smith, Department of Agriculture
Angus Spence, Eddystone.

and the offices of:

Special ARDA, Dept. of Regional Economic Expansion
LEAP, Local Economic Assistance Program
Department of Health and Social Development
Department of Industry and Commerce
Hilderman, Feir, Whitty and Associates
Lakeshore School Division
Manitoba Metis Federation
PLURA

and for financial contributions to the ICA:

Imperial Oil Limited
Royal Bank of Canada
The Grey Nuns
The Brandon Sun
MBS Construction Co., Ltd.
BACM Construction Co., Ltd.

and grateful appreciation to all the others who have visited Vogar and given support to the Project.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs is a private, not-for-profit corporation concerned with the human element in world development. Offices are located in 29 countries. In Canada, Human Development Projects are located in Lorne de l'Acadie, N.B. and Vogar. The ICA also sponsors the Community Forum Canada program.

The Institute of Cultural Affairs
Vogar, Manitoba
R0C 3C0
Telephone: (204) 768-2839



TOWARD COMMUNITY SERVICES

THE VOGAR COMMUNITY STORE, open six days a week, is a full line grocery. In November the ribbon was cut for the grand opening. The week before, new shelves were built, new linoleum laid, and twelve villagers were up until midnight stocking the shelves. Rented from the previous owner, and initiated with a private loan, the store has doubled the monthly receipts in six months and is paying back the loans. One full time and one part time person are employed.

OTHER COMMUNITY SERVICES provided by village leadership and Canada Works staff:

- Wednesday night Craft Night taught creative skills to children and youth. Several finished 4-H craft projects.
- Weekly afternoon Bingo for senior citizens was organized.
- Gym night was held Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout the spring involving children and adults in volleyball and gymnastics.
- Ice hockey at the outdoor rink was supervised nightly throughout the winter.
- The tutoring and teacher's aides programs at Dog Creek School involved 2 to 4 women during the winter and spring. One university student spent two months in group tutoring.
- The Vogar Development Corporation was formed as a formal representation of the community, initially focussed on economic development.

"I'm extremely pleased with the positive changes I've seen in Vogar over the past year."

Jack Nesbitt
University
of Manitoba

TOWARD COMMUNITY IDENTITY

A SENSE OF COMMUNITY PRIDE resulted from:

- Families moved into fifteen homes which RHANCOM completed this year.
- Dog Creek School moved into the new building in January. The new school has a gymnasium, three classrooms, resource room, and office.
- Living environment projects done by Canada Works included insulating and painting St. Francis Church and Vogar Community Hall, and building a concrete slab sidewalk along the village road. Seven acres of land were cleared for the community park, and picnic tables, benches and outhouses constructed.
- Young Canada Works cleared and marked the cemeteries, built playground equipment, and supervised a children's recreation program, including swimming.

THE FUTURE

The community is thinking through a commercial centre that could include a store, a cafe, and a pool room. The beginning of the wood products industry will require funding and expertise. The Vogar Development Corporation Board and Manitoba Metis Federation local will be strengthened. Management training and development of leadership skills will be a priority. Establishing recreation programs, completing the park, and enabling effective parent-teacher communication are community concerns. Young Canada Works will again be active. Environmental tasks include implementation of the drainage plan and creation of a land use plan. As the people of Vogar move to build the future of their village, they are showing other communities new possibilities for rural development.

VOGAR

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT begins with local people in local communities. It happens in the midst of making a village economically self supporting and socially self reliant. It happens when a person says, "I'm proud of where I live, and I will make it better."

TOWARD FULL EMPLOYMENT



VOGAR PRODUCTS is the result of the decision of the women of Vogar to create permanent employment in a profitable business using skills and resources easily available locally. WABB-A-WON Quilts are handcrafted comforters, using contemporary adaptations of native designs. They are being marketed across Western Canada. After three months of operation, a \$22,945 LEAP grant was received. The business employs ten women, including a local manager-in-training. Projected sales through June will be over \$6,000.

VOGAR CONSTRUCTION CO., LTD., is a partnership of two Vogar carpenters. In April, a grant of \$14,300 from Special ARDA and a loan of \$12,700 from the Communities Economic Development Fund provided financial support for equipment purchase and start-up expenses. Bids for new house construction in the area have been submitted.

CANADA WORKS: Vogar Civil Works and Cultural Program, sponsored by the Manitoba Metis Federation local, employed ten people from November through May on the construction of a sidewalk and park, renovation of community buildings, and tutoring and recreation programs for children and senior citizens.

VOGAR FURNITURE, a new industry is in the research and development phase. It would employ 6 to 12 men, and a committee of local men are working on the initiation of this project. Marketing feasibility, training, and production requirements are being discussed with prospective buyers, Manpower, and the Department of Industry and Commerce. This would engage the woodworking skills already in the community toward a profitable venture.

"It's great to work here, and employment for women in Vogar Products will be bigger and better in the future."

Elsie Desjarlais
Vogar Products employee

VOGAR, MANITOBA, 200 km north of Winnipeg, is a Metis village in the midst of a farming community with a total population of about 250 people. After discussions with the community, an invitation was extended to the ICA to work with the community in a two-year project of comprehensive economic and social development. The first step, a week-long Consult, was held in June, 1977 in Vogar. Ninety people came to share their ideas and expertise with the local people in planning the future. The week after the Consult, the document was written and the first activities initiated. This brochure describes where Vogar stands at the one year milestone.

Vogar Human Development Project		THE THIRTEEN ACTUATING PROGRAMMES			June 1977 Consult
ICA Consultants		Comprehensive Community Reformulation in Vogar			Plate 5
ONE TOWARD THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF VOGAR		TWO TOWARD THE COHESIVE STYLE OF VOGAR	THREE TOWARD THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF VOGAR		
EFFECTIVE EDUCATION A	EXTENDED RELATIONS B	C	COMMUNITY WELL-BEING D	BUSINESS EXPANSION E	
SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION UNIT I	CIVIC INFORMATION NETWORK IV	VOGAR IDENTITY PROJECT VI	CIVIL WORKS FORCE IX	INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION XI	
VOCATIONAL SKILLS INSTITUTE II		YOUTH ACTION CORPS VII		REGIONAL SHOPPING CENTRE XII	
ADULT TRAINING ACADEMY III	COMMUNITY PROMOTION AGENCY V	GENERAL CONSTRUCTION TEAM VIII	PUBLIC SERVICES COMPLEX X	DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE XIII	