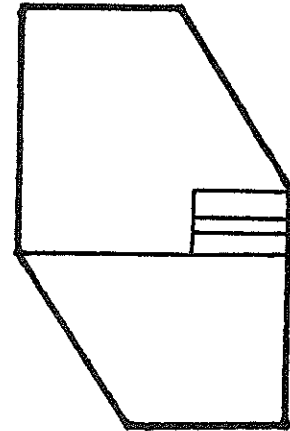


VOGAR
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT
PROJECT



TWENTY-ONE MONTHS REPORT

VOGAR BOBCATS HOCKEY TEAM FORMED

Several men and many enthusiastic boys were determined to form a hockey team this season. Some initial equipment was contributed by the Manitoba Metis Federation through Reg Fredburg, the recreation officer for the Interlake Region. Each family helped pay for the socks and sweaters. A "Vogar Bobcats" crest on the front of the blue and white sweaters generated team spirit among the boys, ranging from age 10 to 16. Two men from the village coached and managed the team, and they could all be seen at the rink, even in the coldest weather, practising their passes. The Bobcats played several games with their neighbors at Lake Manitoba Reserve, and were in two tournaments. Although they didn't win many games, they are a much improved team and look forward to next year's season.

POOL HALL AND COFFEE BAR OPENS

The original Vogar Community Store is now owned and managed by local residents, Ralph and Lillian Pelletier. In January, major renovation of the back room transformed the space into a pool hall and coffee bar. New linoleum, wall panelling and paint, along with the installation of a pool table and juke box and construction of a 4-stool snack bar created the liveliest place in town. The coffee bar serves soft drinks, coffee and snacks, and the coin operated pool table is always busy. It is open evenings and weekends, and since it is the only facility of its kind in town, everyone appreciates having a place to go for informal recreation. Long hours and hard work on the part of the Pelletier family have made R&L Grocery/Pool Hall a sign of growth and success in Vogar.

VOGAR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: PROGRAM REPORT
January-March 1979

I. SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION UNIT

Canada Works continued regular tutoring in the Dog Creek School with two full time workers. They also provided after school activities.

II. VOCATIONAL SKILLS INSTITUTE

The new manager of Vogar Products, as well as some of the employees, participated in a series of short training modules in management skills. One employee of Vogar Construction Company completed the Manpower training program.

III. ADULT TRAINING ACADEMY

One person from Vogar attended the Human Development Training School in Chicago for a week. Weekly visits to discuss project issues were begun with six key families.

IV. CIVIC INFORMATION NETWORK

A movie night was held, and films were scheduled through June. A contest at Dog Creek School resulted in a new masthead for the Vogar Voice.

V. COMMUNITY PROMOTION AGENCY

As part of its marketing program, Vogar Products secured three agents and participated in the Winnipeg Interior Design Show. Visits were made to key agencies, including Manpower and the Manitoba Metis Federation; two substantial grants were recieved to support general program and for the Vogar Store loan; a report was made to the annual meeting of PLURA; and a proposal for a Young Canada Works project was submitted.

VI. VOGAR IDENTITY PROJECT

The funeral of the oldest resident in Vogar, Sarah Desjarlais, age 91, was attended by the whole community.

VII. YOUTH ACTION CORPS

Hockey uniforms were obtained for the boy's team. The rink was iced and supervised by Canada Works. A group of youth helped write the Young Canada Works proposal for summer jobs.

VIII. GENERAL CONSTRUCTION TEAM

Work on the village plan was initiated with visits to one-half the families to identify environmental issues. Individual lot surveys, as well as the complete village survey, were obtained. A preliminary base map was published and a scale model of the village begun. New tile was laid and benches painted at the community hall. Another house, a pre-fab log house, was completed by a village family.

IX. CIVIL WORKS FORCE

Canada Works continued to cut firewood for the elders and shoveled snow at public buildings and driveways. Fence posts were cut in preparation for environment work this spring. Visits were begun with families to talk about lot landscaping plans.

X. PUBLIC SERVICES COMPLEX

Vision screening and dental work were conducted at Dog Creek School through the Department of Community Services.

XI. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Vogar Products hosted more than 70 guests at an Open House in their new facility. The renovated school house provides attractive, adequate working space and has enabled the women to increase their production to 40 quilts per month. Wall hangings are being developed as a secondary product. The first evening meeting of Vogar Products Board of Directors was attended by most of the employees. Vogar Construction Company finished one house north of Vogar, continued work on another, and signed contracts for two more to be built this spring. An Economic Intensification week accomplished major research on several potential industries for Vogar. Three men are also working on some possible service industries: a dump truck, a portable sawmill, a discing operation, and a laundromat.

XII. REGIONAL SHOPPING CENTRE

R&L Grocery continued to show an increase in sales, with March at the highest level yet. In addition, the coffee bar/pool hall was opened. Contacts were made with local credit unions about providing financial services in Vogar.

XIII. DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE

Homeowners were contacted about family gardens this spring.