

True or False

Answer Key

1. “Winnipeg” comes from the Cree word of “win” for muddy and “nippee” for water.

Answer: True. Did you know that other names suggested for the city were Assiniboia, Selkirk, and Fort Garry?

2. Winnipeg was founded where the Red and La Salle rivers meet.

Answer: False. Winnipeg was founded where the Red and Assiniboine rivers meet. The place where these rivers meet is called “The Forks.” Did you know The Forks was first used as a meeting place by Indigenous peoples over 6,000 years ago?

3. Portage Avenue was once an important trail used by Métis people in the fur trade.

Answer: True. Did you know that Main Street also began this way?

4. Winnipeg was known as the “Gateway to the West.”

Answer: True. Did you know that Winnipeg’s location on the prairies made it an important centre for agriculture?

5. Winnipeg’s first election was held on January 19, 1874.

Answer: False. Winnipeg’s first election was on January 5, 1874. The first City Council meeting was held on January 19, 1874. This is why we celebrate 1874 as Winnipeg’s anniversary year.

6. Kildonan Park was the first public park in our city.

Answer: False. The first public parks were smaller, neighbourhood parks. In 1893, the City bought property to create Winnipeg’s first public parks. These included Central Park (Downtown), Fort Rouge Park (Osborne Village), and St. John’s Park (North End). Kildonan Park wasn’t opened until 1911.

7. The flood of 1950 is known as the “Flood of the Century” in Winnipeg.

Answer: False. There was a major flood in 1950, but the “Flood of the Century” refers to the 1997 flood.

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8. Festival du Voyageur and Folklorama are two major festivals in Winnipeg. They both began in the same year.

Answer: True. Did you know that both of these festivals were first held in 1970?

9. The first woman elected as Mayor of Winnipeg was Nellie McClung.

Answer: False. The first woman elected as Mayor of Winnipeg was Susan A. Thompson. Did you know she was first elected in 1992?

10. The current motto for the City of Winnipeg is “One with the strength of many.”

Answer: True. Do you know what inspired this motto? It refers to different communities uniting to form one city. It is also about acknowledging Winnipeg as a multicultural city.