

= Manitoba Provincial Road 280 =

Provincial Road 280 (PR 280) is a road in the Canadian province of Manitoba . It runs from PR 391 northwest of Thompson to local streets in Gillam . The route is 291 kilometres (181 mi) long , which during its length , passes several large lakes and intersects with one provincial road , PR 290 , just north of Gillam . The route is very scenic , passing through dense forests and rural lands . The route supplies three municipalities , Thompson , Split Lake , and Gillam . From its terminus north of Thompson , Manitoba to the town Gillam , PR 280 is classified as a Class A1 Provincial Route .

PR 280 was designated in 1987 as a connector from Thompson to Gillam with a spur to Sundance .

= = Route description = =

PR 280 begins at an intersection north of Thompson on the shores of Birch Tree Lake with PR 391 . PR 280 runs northeast from PR 391 as a two @-@ lane gravel road through the dense woods north of Thompson Airport . As the road bends to the northeast , it runs west of Mystery Lake , which is connected by a gravel road that runs to the shoreline . Continuing northeast , PR 280 leaves the Mystery Lake area and soon reaches a dirt road that connects to nearby Moak Lake .

After Moak Lake , PR 280 continues northeast past Wasakamew Lake and Orr Lake while paralleling the Burntwood River . After Putkawakan Lake , PR 280 turns eastward along the Burntwood River , which soon drains into Split Lake . The road turns northeast away from the river and runs into a junction with a winter road that connects to the settlement of Split Lake . Paralleling the north shore of eponymous lake , PR 280 runs to the northeast from Split Lake and starts wandering through the dense woods of northern Manitoba .

Approaching the western end of Stephens Lake , PR 280 turns east and soon to the southeast as it reaches the northern shore of the lake . Passing a local connector to the shore , the route reaches a junction with the southern terminus of PR 290 , which connects to the abandoned settlement of Sundance . At this junction , PR 280 turns west , reaching the shores of the Nelson River . The route crosses over the Nelson River and reaches the settlement of Long Spruce .

After Long Spruce , PR 280 runs west along the southern shore of the Nelson River then turns south and southwest away from the river . The route winds west , then turns to the northwest , approaching the river and Stephens Lake . Paralleling railroad tracks , PR 280 passes an electrical substation as it enters the city of Gillam . Through the northeastern section of Gillam , the route crosses over the railroad tracks and turn north and west in short order . Running southwest , PR 280 reaches the access point to Gillam Airport and soon enters downtown Gillam .

Through downtown Gillam , PR 280 reaches a junction with Batnau Road , which marks the eastern terminus of the highway . Batnau Road connects to downtown Gillam .

= = History = =

Before PR 280 existed , the only ways to the northern terminus town of Gillam was via a nearby airport to the southeast of town and the railroad line that stretched from Thompson to northern parts of Manitoba . The railroad opened in 1929 . PR 280 was designated by the Manitoba Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation in 1987 as a designated gravel road from PR 391 northwest of Thompson to Gillam with an unnumbered spur to Sundance . PR 290 was designated on the spur in 1989 .

On March 28 , 2002 , the government of Manitoba order out an CAD \$ 84 @. @ 8 million plan to work on its province 's roads . \$ 940 @, @ 000 was spent for gravel stabilization beginning at PR 391 and ending in Gillam . This work was also under the Community Main Access Gravel Road Stabilization Program . \$ 700 @, @ 000 of this \$ 84 million went for additional gravel between 391 and PR 290 . \$ 600 @, @ 000 went to road development near Wasakamew Lake , 52 kilometres (32 mi) north of PR 391 .

= = Junction list = =