

Manitoba Eco-Network



Trees hold fire of the sun. Trees hold
Water of rivers. Hold earth of shorelines.
Hold air of skies. Who among us is
not held by trees?

Courtesy of Artist: Bob Haverluck, Winnipeg

Annual Report 2010-2011

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Manitoba Eco-Network promotes positive environmental action by
connecting people and groups in our communities.
We educate, we facilitate, we celebrate!

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

In my second year as Chair of the Manitoba Eco-Network, I have continued to be impressed by the commitment shown by our talented staff. This, too, is recognized by new funders who have come on board to assist our long-term supporters in funding some of the worthwhile work being done by groups within the umbrella of the Eco-Network – groups such as the Children’s Health and Environment Partnership, Climate Change Connection, Organic Lawn Care Project and the Water Caucus, as well as the Province of Manitoba, through their Department of Conservation, which has continued to provide a significant part of our core activities funding.

A particularly fun event this year was the second annual *Reel Green* Film festival which once again brought together the environmental community over a two-day event that included a gala evening to celebrate the nominees and winners of this year’s annual environmental awards (renamed the *Protecting our Earth* awards – or “Earthies”). This more public event allowed a greater number of people to recognize those who have made a significant environmental contribution in our province. Congratulations again to Curt Belton, the Daniel McIntyre/St. Matthews Community Association and The Forks.

A fundraising committee was established this year to develop a more comprehensive approach to ensuring stable funding for our organization and to better promote our current Endowment Funds.

Thanks to all of the volunteers and staff who continue to put great effort into this much needed provincial organization.

Jim Chapryk
Bike to the Future



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It’s time to reflect on another year at the Manitoba Eco-Network. It was a year of rain barrels, videos (both *Reel Green* and in-house), and outreach in many parts of the province. Our office was lively with interns and volunteers, and full of innovative new ideas resulting from our focus on community based social marketing. This included rolling out the *Protect Our Water* project in Winnipeg while laying the groundwork for extending it to rural Manitoba, and developing mower-sharpening clinics with Organic Lawn Care. And our in-house videos have engaged us all – along with numerous member groups – in creating a new tool for engaging the public (take a look at our U-Tube Channel!).

A visit to Brandon for the Manitoba Conservation Districts Association meeting, and participating in the multi-media awareness-raising *Arts Of Water* project were real highlights for me.

At the Board/staff retreat, we took stock of our goals, our work and our resources. As usual, fundraising was a big focus, along with continuing to make our communication and education activities relevant to all Manitobans. We acknowledge the strong support of a wide variety of funders, while recognizing that securing adequate resources for our work is an ongoing challenge. Our Board members are a wonderful group of committed people, volunteering their time and expertise in the all-important work of governance of our organization.

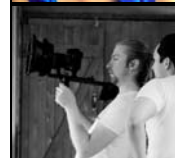
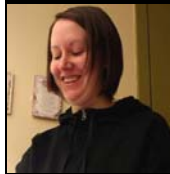
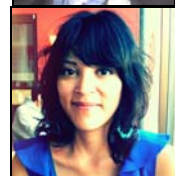
We saw many changes at the end of this year, with the departure of several key staff: Lise Smith, Erica Young and Stu Gauld all deserve a huge vote of thanks for their outstanding work as Coordinator, Youth Coordinator-Librarian and Accounts Manager, respectively.

I want to express my appreciation to the fine staff of all of our projects – they continue to work diligently and creatively to fulfill our Mission of promoting positive environmental solutions. This report would not be complete without my thanks for the excellent work of all the dedicated environmental groups in the Province – they help to make our world a better place.

Anne Lindsey
Executive Director

STAFF & CONTRACTORS

- Anne Lindsey, Executive Director
- Lise Smith/Beverley Sawchuk, Coordinator
- Amanda Kinden, Education/Outreach Intern
- Susan Lindsay/Anika Terton Climate Change Connection
- Curt Hull, Climate Change Connection
- Shawna Plischke Culleton, Climate Change Connection
- Sacha Kopelow/Laurel McDonald, Water Caucus
- Josh Brandon, Water Caucus
- Meeghan Gavin/Leanne Reiss, Water Caucus Intern
- Erica Young, Alice Chambers Memorial Library and Youth Network Coordinator
- Stu Gauld, Financial Manager
- Sasha Suarez Amaya, Organic Lawn Care
- Maya Thau-Eleff, Organic Lawn Care
- Brian Miller, GIS Centre
- Joel Trenaman, Eco-Journal Editor
- Tracey Shillington, Eco-Journal Designer
- Mikhail Kolybaba, IT Systems Manager
- Kristle Calisto-Tavares/Karina Cardona Claros, CHEP



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jim Chapryk, Bike to the Future (Chairperson)
- Kisti Thomas, University of Winnipeg Campus Sustainability Office (Vice-Chairperson)
- Alec Stuart, Planners Network Manitoba (Treasurer)
- Kevin Freedman, Member at Large (Secretary)
- Carol Hitchon, Nature Manitoba
- Carolyn Garlich, Green Action Committee, Unitarian Church
- Amanda Humphries, EcoPIA
- Sandra Madray, Chemical Sensitivities Manitoba
- Sylvie Hebert, Green Action Centre



ACTIVITIES

Public Education

Eco-Journal – The EJ was published 5 times during the year and, as usual, covered a wide array of environmental topics and gave voice to many conservation groups around the province.

Website – Our popular website continues to draw in new members and serve as an important community resource. We added a new *Re-Think It* page to our website, as well as a *Youtube* Channel to highlight environmental videos.

Facebook – A Facebook page, which has enabled us to reach new audiences, averages approximately 600 users on a monthly basis.

Information Services – We responded to hundreds of personal, media and organization requests for information via phone, email, Facebook, website and in person. Eco-Centre signage was added to the front of the building at 303 Portage Avenue in order to increase community awareness.



The Honourable Bill Blaikie, Provincial Minister of Conservation, presents core funding to Anne Lindsey

E-Bulletins – Monthly E-Bulletins of Manitoba environmental events, resources and news were sent to more than 600 members and interested individuals. In addition, several E-Bulletins were sent to our network of Member Groups containing capacity and organizational resources and key announcements.

Lunch & Learn – A series of *Lunch & Learn* sessions were held at the EcoCentre throughout the year for staff and Member Groups. Topics included: green knitting; Breeding Bird Atlas project; Manitoba invasive species; Peregrine Falcon recovery project; Woodland Caribou/Boreal Forest; bike maintenance; Manitoba caves; and Winnipeg streetcars.

Workshops, Meetings, Forums – A variety of events were attended and/or hosted by Manitoba Eco-Network over the past year. We participated in a United Way consultation on Charity Law, and contributed to the planning of a United Way/Imagine Canada session on challenges faced by charities.

Our office was honoured to welcome the Provincial Minister of Conservation to the Eco-Centre for a tour of our facility. In addition, we were pleased to host the Federal Commissioner for Environment and Sustainable Development and his staff from the Office of the Auditor General for a presentation regarding his 2010 report.

We hosted our annual Member Group Forum on October 18-22, and provided a series of training/network sessions for 20 member groups.

We coordinated a 1.5 day Retreat for Board and Staff members where we reviewed goals and undertook strategic planning for the next two years.

Our staff also toured Northern Sun Farm, located near Steinbach, to learn more about sustainable living practices.



Retreat for Board and Staff

MEN Displays and Presentations - We took advantage of several display opportunities throughout the year:

- Earth Day Fair, Portage Place
- Project Peacemakers' Dinner
- World Environment Day, Kildonan Place
- RBC staff event
- Wellness Fair, Air Canada Park
- The Forks Market
- Manitoba Hydro
- Seedy Saturday, FortWhyte Alive
- Growing Local Conference, U of W
- Environmental Career Fair, U of M
- Earth-a-thon, Red River College
- Career Fair, Manitoba Environmental Industry Association
- Matlock Festival
- Green Living Show
- Harvest Moon Festival, Clearwater
- Eco-Shift
- Farmers Market
- Manitoba Nature Summit
- Sustainability Fair, U of M
- Morden Sustainability Fair
- Winnipeg Foundation Great Community Festival
- Growing Local Food Conference
- Lake Winnipeg Benefit Concert

Networking and Outreach

Networking – We participated in monthly conference calls with staff from the Canadian Environmental Network across Canada, and attended the 2010 Annual Meeting of the organization.

Our annual Holiday Open House on December 10 was an excellent opportunity for informal networking amongst members and supporters.

We met with the U of W Campus Sustainability Office as well as Daniel Mac/St. Matthews Community Association to provide input on environmental initiatives

We worked with Member groups to promote Biodiversity activities during the International Year of Biodiversity.

Membership Development – A well-attended Special General Meeting of members was held to discuss membership criteria in our network.

Lake Winnipeg Summit – Staff participated in this event hosted by the International Institute for Sustainable Development.

Volunteers – Volunteers continue to provide invaluable services to the Eco-Network's core services such as the Eco-Journal, library and special events, as well as to our projects and Member Groups. Over the year, we placed or referred 25 volunteers. The valuable contributions of our volunteers were recognized at an event on June 1.

Events

Bears of Kamchatka: We partnered with the Millennium Library to host two screenings of this documentary, portraying Charlie Russell's work with grizzlies in Russia, which included discussions with Charlie Russell.

Rain Barrel Fundraising Sale: Our first rain barrel fundraising sale, held in June, received good response from the community. Over 300 barrels were sold to enthusiastic purchasers at the parking lot of the Unitarian Universalist Church.

Reel Green Film Festival: Manitoba Eco-Network's second annual Reel Green Film Festival took place on February 4-5, with over 300 people attending. Attendance more than doubled over the previous year, and media coverage was extensive.

The Friday event was held at the Winnipeg Art Gallery with a screening of the film, *Force of Nature: The David Suzuki Movie*, the presentation of Eco-Network's *Protecting Our Earth* awards, and a reception. There was a broad range of attendees, from the Minister of Conservation to youth from small, rural communities, award nominees and numerous community leaders.

The Saturday event was held at the University of Winnipeg and featured 10 films, with local directors and/or organizations on hand to introduce and moderate discussion for each film. Between films, participants had the opportunity to visit with more environmental organizations in the display hall.



Reel Green displays at University of Winnipeg



A captivated audience

PROJECTS

Climate Change Connection

In this ninth year of the Climate Change Connection (CCC) program, we concentrated on developing connections with urban and rural communities and getting our message out to new audiences.

We hired Shawna Plischke Culleton at half-time to share Susan Lindsay's position. Anika Terton joined the team when Susan took maternity leave.

The Manitoba government paid to send Curt Hull, Project Manager of CCC, to Nashville for three days to receive presentation training from Al Gore and the Climate Alliance. Curt is now part of The Climate Project Canada network. This has resulted in numerous invitations to present to new audiences.

We continue to connect to youth and school audiences with our youth conferences and Idle Free campaign. We also gave outreach training to 14 people from 7 rural communities in our 1-day Climate Change Boot Camp.



Anika Terton and Shawna Plischke Culleton at a CCC display

Our efforts in the Active Transportation area continued with our collaboration on Bike to Work Day, Commuter Challenge and the Cycling Map of Winnipeg.

We have been able to expand our contact in the business community in a few ways. Working with the Manitoba Environmental Industry Association (MEIA), we planned and presented a 2-day EnerCAN West business and energy conference at the Hotel Fort Garry – including a first-ever “Green Dragon’s Lair” presentation and panel. In addition, we presented twice to the Manitoba Chamber of Commerce.

We have also been working on a new initiative - 50 by '30. The target of the initiative is to achieve 50% renewable energy in Manitoba by 2030. This effort involves a broad group of people including a number of businesses. It is gaining momentum and we intend to continue to expand our connections in these areas.

GIS/Mapping Centre

Our Manigotagan maps have continued to be a popular item – assisted by Charles Simard, the River Steward of the Manigotagan River, who recommends them highly to paddlers.

We started a new project with the Daniel McIntyre/St. Matthews Community Association to help them create a community green map of their neighbourhood. It will be released later this summer, both as an online resource and as a large paper map for locations in the area.

Alice Chambers Memorial Library

This year, we continued to promote the books, periodicals and films available at community events and to publicize new materials in the Public Registry.

Thanks to the grant provided by the Churchill High School Youth in Philanthropy Group, we are making a number of improvements to the Library to increase its effectiveness, including purchasing new materials for loan.

The library made 232 loans of material and assisted with 70 reference questions. DVDs continue to be our most popular items, and we were able to add many of the films shown at the 2011 Reel Green Film Festival to our collection.

Environmental Youth Network

Guided by a steering committee of ten volunteer youth, the Manitoba Environmental Youth Network continued to help create spaces for young environmentalists to connect with each other and build skills for taking action. Monthly networking gatherings, our website and our Facebook group brought youth in Manitoba together to have fun and share ideas and resources.

GreenSpace, our annual environmental youth forum, took place in October. The steering committee took more of a leadership role in arranging the logistics and the content in order to build their skills in event planning. Supported by the Youth Coordinator, they chose workshops, booked facilitators, planned activities, coordinated the venue and food, and promoted the event to their peers. New this year, we expanded to a two-day format that included field trips to volunteer with local organizations and gain first-hand experience. Participants had the opportunity to assemble a rain barrel for Vincent Massey Collegiate; build a compost bin for the Daniel McIntyre/St. Matthew's Community Association; learn to identify birds in Assiniboine Park with Christian Artuso of Bird Studies Canada; tour one of the greenest labs in North America at the University of Winnipeg; share their questions and concerns on Lake Winnipeg with the Province of Manitoba's Department of Water Stewardship; or volunteer at Oak Hammock Marsh.

Our Youth Coordinator collaborated with Climate Change Connection staff to support schools in organizing youth climate change conferences. We also took part in organizing the *Growing Local* youth gathering in February, along with member organizations Food Matters Manitoba, FortWhyte Alive! and others. This day of hands-on workshops plus a panel presentation of youth groups who are taking action on food security issues was kicked off by joining the main *Growing Local, Getting Vocal* conference for a keynote address by well-known farmer, Joel Salatin.



"Growing Local" Youth Gathering

In February, we created a contest to encourage participation on our website and generate excitement about the Sierra Youth Coalition's Sustainable Campuses conference in Vancouver. We had seven youth post to our site in the "Blog your Way to BC" contest. Three winners attended the conference, including two from Red River College who are part of the new Eco-Committee (Notre Dame Campus) and greatly appreciated the boost of enthusiasm and the tools the conference provided them with.

Water Caucus

Outreach and Networking: The Water Caucus continues to conduct its outreach and communication through a variety of activities. Our bi-monthly e-bulletin featuring upcoming

water-related events, news, and resources receives excellent feedback from subscribers, the list of which has grown to almost 500. This year, the Water Caucus also compiled a summary of water-related resources to be shared with the public, distributed educational materials at over 20 events, stocked the Manitoba Eco-Network library with key water resources, and overhauled its website, creating a more user-friendly and informative space. In addition, our quarterly Water Caucus meetings provide networking opportunities amongst NGOs, students and citizens interested in water issues in Manitoba.

Workshops: Two workshops were hosted during the past year. Our multi-stakeholder workshop, *“Water Governance: Local and Regional Issues”*, was held at Delta Marsh Field Station. Speakers included researchers from the University of Montreal and the University of Manitoba, as well as representatives from the International Institute for Sustainable Development and Manitoba Conservation.

Our capacity-building workshop, *“Lake Winnipeg Water Level Regulation: 711 to 715 what does it mean to you?”*, was held in Winnipeg. Speakers included representatives from Ducks Unlimited Canada, The Interfaith Task Force on Northern Hydro Development, Manitoba Water Stewardship, Manitoba Hydro, the University of Manitoba, and the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources.



Participants at the Water Governance workshop tour the Delta Marsh Field Station

Both of the workshops were well-attended by students, citizens and representatives from municipalities, conservation districts, First Nations communities and NGOs. Many individuals at our capacity-building workshop indicated that they were planning to participate in the upcoming public hearings regarding the licensing of the Lake Winnipeg Regulation Project. By providing informational resources and updates in our bulletin and on our website, we continue to help the public prepare for this process.

Protect Our Water: Following the successful piloting of our new “Protect Our Water” household water conservation and stewardship program in Winnipeg last summer, we are currently expanding it to Morden and Winkler. Social marketing techniques will be used to audit water habits and implement conservation solutions in the homes of participants. We launched this program with an event in Morden titled “More than Water in Dead Horse Creek.” The event featured presentations from University of Winnipeg researchers on sewage effluent and resulting excess nutrients and pollutants in Dead Horse Creek, and then from Its Lake Friendly and the Water Caucus on water conservation and stewardship solutions.

Organic Lawn Care

New initiatives and a Y-Eco Intern position enabled the Organic Lawn Care Project to expand its activities this year. A total of 17 Organic Lawn Care workshops were hosted in Public Libraries

across Winnipeg. In addition, 12 presentations were provided to businesses and community organizations, including several in rural Manitoba. Organic Lawn Care displays were also held at a variety of community events, including the Native Prairie Plant Sale at Living Prairie Museum in Winnipeg as well as the Harvest Moon Festival in Clearwater.

This year marked the launch of our Reel Mower Sharpening Clinics, known as "Mow Better" workshops, which teach participants how to sharpen their push mowers. Three workshops were held, and we also established a Lawn Lending Library, in partnership with Lee Valley Tools. Winnipeggers are now able to borrow lawn care tools such as mower sharpening kits, sprinkler timers and aerators.

As well, the first annual Rain Barrel Sale (an MEN fundraiser) provided an excellent venue for distributing Organic Lawn Care information and encouraging water conservation in the yard.



Maya Thau-Eleff and Amanda Kinden provide a push mower sharpening demonstration

Children’s Health and Environment Partnership (Collaborative Project)

This Partnership between Klinik, Social Planning Council, Campaign for Pesticide Reduction, Chemical Sensitivities Manitoba and the Eco-Network was happy to have the participation this year of Nursing practicum students, Kira Friesen and Emily Dool, who helped develop and present our “ABC Tool Kit” at a number of locations around Winnipeg.

Long-time Secretariat Coordinator, Kristle Calisto-Tavares passed the torch to Karina Cardona who has been actively engaging the voices of youth in the project. Two exciting new newsletters were produced, chock full of resources and information.

FUNDERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Manitoba Eco-Network wishes to thank the generous individual donors and supporters in our community, and acknowledge the following organizations which have made grants, donations or gifts-in-kind over the past year.

Core funding:

- Environment Canada/Canadian Environmental Network
- Manitoba Conservation
- Mountain Equipment Coop
- Province of Manitoba All-Charities Campaign
- United Way Donor-Designated Gifts Program
- Winnipeg Foundation: Youth in Philanthropy group at Balmoral Hall

Children’s Health and Environment Partnership:

- Health Canada
- Winnipeg Foundation

Climate Change Connection:

Manitoba Hydro

Manitoba Conservation, Climate Change Action Fund

Organic Lawn Care:

City of Winnipeg

Mountain Equipment Co-op

MB Education, Citizenship & Youth Urban Green Team

Lee Valley Tools

Alice Chambers Memorial Library:

Winnipeg Foundation: Youth in Philanthropy group at Churchill High School

Water Caucus:

Manitoba Water Stewardship

RBC Blue Water Project

Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation

Thomas Sill Foundation

Environmental Youth Network:

Assiniboine Credit Union

Winnipeg Foundation

Reel Green Film Festival Sponsors:

Assiniboine Credit Union

Kendrick Quality Printing

UW Campus Sustainability Office

Canadian Cancer Society/MB Division

Churchill Northern Studies Centre

Green Action Centre

MB Alternative Food Research Alliance

Anonymous donor on behalf of Winnipeg Harvest

International Institute for Sustainable Development

CUPE Local 500

Sustainable Solutions

Vita Health

Community Foundations of MB

FortWhyte Alive

MB Nature Summit

BeeMaid

Prairie Architects

M.E.N. /TREE Legacy Endowment Fund:

Winnipeg Foundation

M.E.N. Endowment Fund:

Hugh and Valerie Arklie

Kathleen Taylor

Eco-Journal Advertisers:

Greenplease

Blue Stem Wildlife

Red Wriggler Haven

Eco-Tea

Room to Grow

Bird Studies Canada

Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival

Roseisle Grocery

Almost Urban Vegetables

Assiniboine Credit Union

LUNA

VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you to the volunteers who assisted Manitoba Eco-Network this past year:

Weixing Qu

Holly Ervick-Knote

Josh Lees

Sue Maranda

Katherine Smithson

Anika Terton

Barbara Barnett

Dustin Dufour

Francine Pym

Rhianne Favelle

Judith Santos

Kristin Savoie

Jonathan Ventura

Kristina Hunter

Filomena Macina

Xiaoxun Song

Lucie Paquet

Apurba Krishna Deb

Tricia Enns

Hannah Darrach-Cottick

Ezra Bridgeman

Thanks also to the many volunteers who contributed articles to the Eco-Journal.

2010-2011 MEMBER GROUPS

| | |
|--|--|
| A Rocha | Mixedwood Forest Society |
| Bike to the Future | Native Orchid Conservation Inc. |
| Bird Studies Canada | Nature Manitoba |
| Campaign for Pesticide Reduction! Wpg | Oak Hammock Marsh |
| Canadian Federation of Students - MB | Organic Food Council of Manitoba |
| Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – MB | Paddle Manitoba |
| Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society | Planners Network Manitoba |
| Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources | Prairie Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre |
| Chemical Sensitivities Manitoba | Project Peacemakers |
| Churchill Northern Studies Centre | Red River Basin Commission |
| Coalition to Save the Elms/TREES Winnipeg | Red River Valley Clean Cities Coalition |
| Consumers Association of Canada - MB | Rockwood Environmental Action Community |
| Consumers for Responsible Energy | Taskforce (REACT) |
| Debwendon Inc. | Save Our Lake |
| EcoPIA (Ecological People in Action) | Save Our Seine River Environment Inc. |
| ElectroSmog Manitoba | Social Planning Council of Winnipeg - |
| Food Matters Manitoba | Environment Committee |
| FortWhyte Alive | Speleological Society of Manitoba |
| Friends of Assiniboine Park Conservatory | Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems |
| Green Action Centre | University of Manitoba Clayton H Riddell Faculty |
| Green Action Committee, Unitarian Church | of Earth, Environment, & Resources |
| Green Kids Inc. | University of Winnipeg Campus Sustainability |
| Health in Common | Office |
| Henteleff Park Foundation | University of Winnipeg Environmental Studies |
| International Institute for Sustainable | UniVERT (College universitaire de Saint- |
| Development | Boniface) |
| Lake Winnipeg Foundation | West Broadway Development Corporation |
| Living Prairie Museum | Western Canada Wilderness Committee - MB |
| Manitoba Fly Fishers Association | Wildlife Haven |
| Manitoba Forestry Association | Winnipeg Water Watch |
| Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association | |
| Manitoba Wildlands | |

2010-2011 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aagard Farms | Overton Environmental Enterprises |
| Incredible Ecogear | Greenplease |
| One6 Yoga | Tall Grass Prairie Bread Company |
| City of Brandon | |

2011 ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

In February, The Manitoba Eco-Network announced the winners of the 2011 *Protecting Our Earth Awards* (the “Earthies”). These awards, originally called *Manitoba Eco-Network Environmental Awards*, have been presented to worthy Manitobans since 1990. This year, three winners were recognized in a ceremony on the opening night of the Reel Green Film Festival:

Curt Belton (Individual Award)

Curt Belton is the Principal of Rockwood Elementary School. His activism began at age 9 when he and a friend drafted a petition to get phosphates out of detergents. As an adult, he has gone on to be a moving force in education for Sustainable Development in the Winnipeg School Division and beyond. He’s an active participant in the Manitoba Education for Sustainable Development Working Group. Curt has put his beliefs into practice at his school, spearheading projects like educating staff and students about fair trade, developing organic gardens and outdoor classrooms and raising trout as a way to learn about water issues. Curt also strives to model sustainability in his own life including being an active bike commuter and community gardener. Carolyn Lindner nominated Curt.



Daniel McIntyre/St. Matthews Community Association (Group Award)

DMSMCA is a neighborhood community development organization in west Winnipeg. In less than three years of activity, they have contributed to a real improvement in sense of agency, sustainability and self-sufficiency in the neighborhood. DMSMCA is engaged in a wide range of environmental programming, including the community bike shop, community garden, composting, and developing a green plan. They also facilitate or support other green programs such as organic lawn care, building energy efficiency and tree banding. They provide a model of community engagement and empowerment. Ian Hall nominated DMSMCA.



The Forks Target Zero Project (Special Award)

The Forks’ project goal is to obtain zero waste, zero water consumption and zero carbon emissions at The Forks Market. So far, they have installed a geothermal heat pump system, installed low flush toilets and waterless urinals, and started converting used oil from the restaurants to biofuel which powers equipment. So far, The Forks Market has saved over a kilotonne of CO2 and their utility bills are significantly reduced. With four million visitors annually, this ongoing environmental improvement project provides a fabulous showcase, along with tangible benefits. France Pym nominated The Forks Target Zero Project.



Award winners are chosen by a committee of the Eco-Network Board of Directors from amongst nominations provided by the general public. Recognizing that nomination by one's peers is high praise for work and a commitment to a better environment, Manitoba Eco-Network wishes to recognize the accomplishments of the other nominees this year:

Ken Corley (Winnipeg)
Lloyd Jensen (Stonewall)
Canuck Nanooks (RM of Springfield)
Dave Weiss (Morden)

Kevin Freedman (Winnipeg)
Tracy Maconachie (Winnipeg)
Keepers of the Water (Thompson)
Northern Sun Farm Coop (near Steinbach)



THE LAST WORD



*Manitoba Eco-Network Board Members and Staff enjoy themselves on a break at the Plug-in Gallery, during the staff retreat.
Who ever said that environmentalists were boring?!*