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November 12, 2020

Dear Supporter

Thank you for everything that you do to advance environmental leadership by supporting the Manitoba Eco-Network. We entered 2020 in a period of transition, focused on renewing and rebuilding after losing our long-term core funding support in 2019. Of course, we had no idea what new challenges 2020 had in store for us. But throughout this time, we have been continually inspired and humbled by the continued backing of our community.

Your support is needed now more than ever to sustain and grow the Manitoba Eco-Network in a critical moment for our environment.

We began this year by wrapping up our strategic planning process. During this process, we heard loud and clear from Manitoba's environmental community that the work we do is invaluable to educate, raise awareness, and advocate for important issues. We also heard that there are things we can do better. Moving forward, we now have a roadmap that provides unified direction and clear priorities for our next three years of operation.

But if 2020 has made one thing clear, it is that we need to be nimble and adaptable. All the planning in the world couldn't prepare us for the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, anti-racism protests have reinforced the need to support and stand beside racialized communities, particularly Black and Indigenous peoples, to contribute to the fight against systemic and violent racism. We are continually looking at how we can do better – how we can achieve our core mission while engaging with and responding to the needs of our community.

With challenges comes opportunity. 2020 has forced us, as a society, to re-examine the way that "business as usual" systematically exacerbates inequality and degrades our environment. The momentum that is building behind a green economic recovery is encouraging (and long overdue). COVID-imposed distancing and isolation has highlighted the tremendous value of our natural spaces. Extreme weather events continue to demonstrate the urgency of meaningfully

combatting global warming. Now is the time to build a new future that will ensure the health of our ecosystems and our communities.

The Manitoba Eco-Network is determined to not let this opportunity slip away. Throughout 2020, we focused on [holding our provincial government to account](#) by bringing forward the voice of the environmental community to provincial policy and regulatory discussions. We helped build capacity, connect, and support Manitoba's environmental community by managing the Eco-Centre, hosting events, and publishing our [Eco-Journal](#) and [Eco-Bulletin](#). We partnered with the Public Interest Law Centre to [develop resources](#) to assist the environmental sector in navigating legal processes. We launched our [Building Community Climate Resilience](#) program to address knowledge gaps around climate resiliency in Winnipeg and to build relationships for future collaborative action. This is just a snapshot; for a full overview of our work over the past year, check out our [2019-20 annual report](#).

We need your help to continue building on this work in 2021 and beyond, and to help ensure that the hopeful ideas of 2020 can be turned into action in our province. I appreciate that these are difficult times for many folks in our community; if you are able, please support the Manitoba Eco-Network by making a donation or, even better, by becoming a monthly donor. You can make donations on our website (<https://mbeconetwork.org/get-involved/donate/>) or by sending a cheque to:

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We are incredibly grateful for the support we have received over our 35 years of operation, and we look forward to the next 35 years. Thank you to all of our donors, volunteers, and supporters. With your help, we are ready to do our part to create the change that is needed to move towards a greener, more just society.

Yours truly,

Glen Koroluk
Executive Director