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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I had the privilege of joining the board of the Manitoba Eco-Network as Chair in January 2021 although I had been a member of the board a number of years ago in the early 2000s.

I am amazed and impressed at the quality and volume of work that Glen, the staff and the volunteer board members do to fulfill the mandate of MbEN. The multitude of requests for information, support and guidance that come to MbEN each week from members of the public is a testament to the reputation MbEN has developed for being a much needed resource for Manitobans seeking environmental stewardship help. The public’s growing awareness of the need to dramatically alter many of our current practices to ensure a healthy, sustainable future has really cemented the need for MbEN.

I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to Glen and staff as well as the board members, volunteers and donors who contribute time, energy and financial resources to ensure we at MbEN can continue our valuable work.

Vicki Burns
MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I, like many of my colleagues, friends and family, no doubt find it difficult to be optimistic these days. Amidst a global pandemic, it became very apparent that income inequalities widened substantially and green recovery or the green new deal, became lip service for jobs at all costs, which further contributed to further loss of global biodiversity and global warming.

Early 2021 marked the first time that CO2 levels reached 420 ppm, the first time since three million years ago, and a drastic increase since the industrial revolution, that started in the late 18th Century, with levels then at 285 ppm. Over the last 800,000 years, CO2 levels averaged at 250 ppm. We are living in a climate emergency, and as many are predicting, humans, having started permanent settlements and agriculture 10 to 12 thousand years ago, are on the road to near extinction.

On the brighter side, the global response to COVID-19 demonstrated how resilient and caring we can be and for the most part, many nations collaborated in the best interests of humanity. Going forward global vaccine equity must be achieved.

Closer to home and from a Manitoba Eco-Network perspective the pandemic provided us the opportunity to move our public education and outreach projects online with the use of webinars. We were still able to connect with many of our members, supporters and friends and build new relationships with a number of organizations that are doing great work in our communities.

With a solid foundation of volunteers on the board and enthusiastic and dedicated staff, we were able to have impact within the community. Working with others and collaboration does have major impact! I would like to thank all our donors and friends for supporting us in this challenging year. Things will not get easier in the future, and we all must press on.

Glen Koroluk, Executive Director
ABOUT THE MANITOBA ECO-NETWORK

The Manitoba Eco-Network is located on the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene Peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation.

The Manitoba Eco-Network is a non-profit organization which promotes positive environmental action. Our organization’s mission is to facilitate environmental awareness and expand community connections. We educate, we facilitate, we celebrate!

We serve as an umbrella for environmental non-governmental organizations across the province. We welcome individual, environmental non-governmental organizations, and associate members, to our organization.

The objectives of the corporation are:

1. To carry on education activities to develop an awareness in the community concerning the conservation and enhancement of the environment; and
2. In furtherance of the aforesaid, to encourage other Canadian organizations which do the same.
ACTIVITIES

The 2020/2021 year has been a year of unexpected challenges. For MbEN, the Covid-19 pandemic has meant adapting to working from home and conducting all of our meetings and events virtually. Despite this, we managed to do a whole lot this year! Here is a summary of some of our activities.

1. Collaborate with MbEN members, other concerned, affected and impacted groups/organizations to develop, activate clear, consistent framework and process for engaging, organizing, bringing forward the voice of the environmental community to provincial policy/regulatory discussions

COLLABORATIVE CAMPAIGNS
We initiated and signed on to a number of letters to government, addressing concerns raised by environmental organizations, and the non-profit sector more broadly. These included concerns regarding pesticide use on highway right-of-ways in Manitoba, federal natural infrastructure spending, and provincial funding and support for the non-profit sector.

SUPPORT FOR GRASSROOTS INITIATIVES
We provided research and advocacy support to grassroots initiatives and residents groups working to protect their environments and communities, including Trees Please Winnipeg and South St. Boniface Residents Association.
GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS
Our policy committee provided expert advice to government during a number of public consultation processes, including:

- Lake St. Martin and Lake Manitoba Outlet Channels Project (Impact Assessment Agency of Canada)
- Berger Peat Moss Ltd. Horticultural Mix Plant - Environment Act Proposal (Government of Manitoba)
- CanWhite Sands Corp. Vivian Sand Facility Project – Environment Act Proposal (Government of Manitoba)
- Green Transportation Strategy for Manitoba (Expert Advisory Council to the Climate and Green Plan, Government of Manitoba)
- Manitoba Water Management Strategy (Expert Advisory Council to the Climate and Green Plan, Government of Manitoba)
- OurWinnipeg Policy and Implementation Plan (City of Winnipeg)
- Governance Review (City of Winnipeg)
- 2021 Budget Review (City of Winnipeg)

NETWORKS
This year, MbEN staff were involved in a number of advocacy initiatives and networks in partnership with other non-profit organizations including:

- Network of Networks (facilitated by CCEDNet)
- Police Accountability Coalition
- People for the Public Interest Law Centre Coalition
- Manitoba Research Alliance – Justice Stream steering committee
- Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – State of the Inner City Report steering committee
- Our Living Waters Network
- Green Infrastructure Community of Practice
- Canadian Environmental Network
Continue to develop and deliver activities that build capacity, connect and support MbEN members and Manitoba’s environmental community

**NAVIGATING THE LAW TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT PROJECT**
This project is a partnership with the University of Winnipeg and Public Interest Law Centre, with financial support from the Manitoba Law Foundation, and aims to provide information to activists, lawyers, students, and community members about a variety of environmental law topics. This year, we held six webinars on a range of environmental law topics including your rights when protesting, class action lawsuits, and environmental racism. Educational resources were developed based on the content of the webinars, and are available on our website.

**BUILDING COMMUNITY CLIMATE RESILIENCY PROJECT**
Phase 1 of this project identified gaps in community climate resiliency knowledge and work in Winnipeg. Over 90 organizations were invited to participate in a series of surveys and an informative webinar. A comprehensive analysis of the information collected is compiled in *The Will is the Way: Building Community Climate Resiliency*.

**FUNDRAISING & COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES WEBINAR**
In May 2020, we hosted a webinar on fundraising and communication strategies during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

**GREEN DRINKS**
*Green Drinks* is an informal gathering held monthly at different locations in Winnipeg. The purpose is to bring together people interested, volunteering, or working, in the environmental sector, for networking and casual discussion on environmental and sustainability topics. This year, some sessions were cancelled due to the pandemic.

**ECO-CENTRE MANAGEMENT**
As a social enterprise, we continue to act as the lease holders and managers of the Eco-Centre. This year, we adopted Covid-19 policies and procedures to keep all our workers and visitors safe during the pandemic. Unfortunately, Covid-19 had impacts on our ability to rent more desk space to like minded organizations and the Board room was closed to the public. The current Eco-Centre tenants are Green Action Centre, Wilderness Committee, Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, and Trails Manitoba.

**ANNE LINDSEY PROTECTING OUR EARTH AWARD**
At our Annual General Meeting in December 2020, the staff of Brooklands School were recognized with the *Anne Lindsey Protecting Our Earth Award* for their commitment to environmental education and outdoor learning.
Diversify revenue opportunities and improve financial sustainability

LEASE RENEWAL
In early 2021, we renewed our lease with Mountain Equipment Company for a period of one year. We also renegotiated with our tenants to distribute our liabilities to vendors proportionately between us.

RENT-A-DESK
Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition rented desks during Summer 2020. Manitoba Youth for Climate Action used the board room and rooftop garden as a meeting space during Summer 2020.

SENIORS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
A group of Manitoba seniors started this campaign to raise money for Green Action Centre, Climate Change Connection, and the Manitoba Eco-Network. In May 2020, organizers encouraged those who could do so, to donate their ‘Seniors Economic Recovery Credit’.

DONOR RECOGNITION
In Summer 2020, board members called some of our highest contributors to personally thank them for their continued support. We also sent postcards to all of our recent donors.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS
Unfortunately, we had to cancel two in person fundraising events this year due to Covid-19. We were fortunate however to qualify for some Covid-19 relief programs from the Federal and Provincial governments, as well as the Winnipeg Foundation.
ANNUAL APPEAL
In late fall 2020, our annual appeal for donations was sent to 275 past and potential donors. 175 people have made donations as a result of this appeal.

GIVING TUESDAY
We held a successful campaign on Giving Tuesday in December 2020.

FUNDING DATABASE
We created a database of grant opportunities currently available to Manitoba non-profit organizations, and shared it with our members. We followed up with some of these funders to explore potential funding opportunities for MbEN.

Food & Farming
In partnership with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Manitoba Office, the National Farmers Union, Manitoba’s Climate Action Team, and the Winnipeg Food Council, we hosted two events on the future of food and farming in Manitoba.

Water
We hosted two webinars on water issues this year. Thirsty for a Canada Water Agency, held in partnership with Forum for Leadership on Water, focused on what the creation of a Canada Water Agency means to Manitoba. What Works? What Doesn’t? A Discussion on Water Quality Trading unpacked the concept of water quality trading and the pros and cons of the approach.

GIS Expertise & Technology
In the past, MbEN was home to a GIS Mapping Centre, which created resources like our Manigotagan River Canoe Route Map. This year, seeing a need for GIS resources in general, and for an updated Manigotagan River Map specifically, we added a staff person with GIS expertise and purchased the hardware and software required to restart this work.

Information Requests
We receive an average of 4-5 requests for information from the public each week, primarily from residents concerned about environmental issues in their community or seeking to connect with services, programs, or information offered by organizations in the environmental non-profit sector.

MbEN Website
We continue to add new resources and update the existing information available on the MbEN website. This year we focused on enhancing the project and policy advocacy pages to include plain language educational resources, webinar recordings, and links to further reading.
Review/update membership structure and increase efforts to promote MbEN and grow membership

Membership Appeal
An appeal went out to 80 organizations in September 2020. Approximately 40 organizations have renewed their MbEN membership.

Membership Policy
Our strategic planning committee began developing a new membership policy.

Continue to develop and strengthen governance and operational capacity of MbEN

Annual General Meeting
We held our AGM for the 2019/2020 fiscal year in December 2020. The meeting took place on Zoom.

Collective Agreement
We began participating in the bargaining process facilitated by the Canadian Union of Public Employees, and anticipate a renewal of our collective agreement soon.

Internal Policies
Our board and committees have completed updates to some of our internal policies, including our partnership project policy, social media policy and board members code of conduct.

ECO-JOURNAL
The Eco-Journal is a quarterly publication with content that features environmentally-conscious topics and perspectives from across the province. In Fall 2020, we temporarily suspended production of the Eco-Journal while we explore new ideas for a revamped format and design, and distribution strategy.

ECO-BULLETIN
The Eco-Bulletin is a monthly e-newsletter which includes environmental news, actions, resources, and events from across Manitoba. This year, we started a new Eco-Bulletin for Organizations, a specially curated newsletter featuring funding opportunities, training opportunities, and other local resources.

Social Media
We regularly post information and events on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. In 2020/2021, we increased our Twitter followers by 20% and our Instagram followers by 35%. On Facebook, we have maintained a continuous presence with over 3500 followers.
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN MANITOBA

We are keeping our ears to the ground on a number of key issues in Manitoba and when we can, supporting the excellent work done by the larger environmental community.

WATER
Manitoba’s waters are threatened by global warming, hydro development, destruction of ecosystems such as wetlands and riparian zones, pesticide use, invasive species, excessive nutrients and other contaminants.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
We joined Trees Please Winnipeg in their campaign to advocate for more spending at all levels of government to maintain and expand our important natural infrastructure in Winnipeg and Manitoba.

PEAT MINING
Peatlands are important carbon sinks, and are continuously threatened by mining for horticultural use. Thanks to the Wilderness Committee in spearheading a campaign to stop peat mining and an UWinnipeg volunteer in compiling research.

ENERGY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES
Meetings have been held with groups such as Consumers Association of Canada, Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition and Wa Ni Ska Tan to develop a response to the legislative changes to the PUB Act.

SILICA SAND MINING
We are supportive of grassroots efforts lead by What The Frack Manitoba, Camp Morningstar and Our Line in the Sand, who are opposing frack sand mining developments, and joined them in issuing a joint press release.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND ZERO WASTE
Along with Green Action Centre and Dr. John Sinclair of the NRI, we collaborated on our participation efforts regarding Manitoba’s first steps to review their waste diversion and recycling framework.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Proper environmental assessment (EA) of new developments is an important aspect of the decision-making and licensing process. Manitoba has steered away from conducting comprehensive EAs. We are participating on a university-led qualitative study for the next generation of impact assessment.

ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
Environmental impacts are not experienced equally by Manitobans. Indigenous and low-income communities experience the impacts of harmful industries and developments more directly, and often have less recourse to address these concerns. We are increasingly applying an environmental racism and environmental justice lens in our work.
## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020/2021</th>
<th>2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>48,553</td>
<td>35,930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>2,850</td>
<td>2,541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenant recoveries</td>
<td>52,220</td>
<td>56,514</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GRANTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants Description</th>
<th>2020/2021</th>
<th>2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Province of Manitoba</td>
<td>42,912</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg Foundation</td>
<td>62,200</td>
<td>9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada¹</td>
<td>50,850</td>
<td>6,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other grants</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>18,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>2,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wpg Foundation Endowment Fund</td>
<td>4,086</td>
<td>3,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>736</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Revenue:** 273,695
**Total Revenue:** 181,687

### EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses Description</th>
<th>2020/2021</th>
<th>2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wages &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>118,143</td>
<td>64,863</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eco-Journal</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>3,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project &amp; General Expenses</td>
<td>80,295</td>
<td>98,144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Expenditures:** 198,909
**Total Expenditures:** 195,663

### SURPLUS (DEFICIT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2020/2021</th>
<th>2019/2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus (Deficit)</td>
<td>74,786</td>
<td>(13,976)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ includes CEBA Loan forgiveness
GLEN KOROLUK  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Glen started as ED of MbEN in February 2019. Before that, he worked in the private sector with a local environmental software company, was the community housing and grants coordinator for an inner city neighbourhood renewal corporation and worked for various national and provincial environmental non-governmental organizations in Manitoba for almost 20 years as a campaigner and community organizer. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Winnipeg specializing in geography and statistics.

EMILY HALLDORSON  
RESOURCE MANAGER  
Emily began working at MbEN in January 2020. She has a Master’s in City Planning from the University of Manitoba and a Bachelor’s in Political Science from the University of Winnipeg. She has a diverse background in community development and community-based research, and has worked on a range of issues including housing, literacy, prisoner re-entry, and refugee resettlement. She spends a lot of her free time on the Western shores of Lake Winnipeg.

EMMA SMITH  
OUTREACH COORDINATOR  
Emma has been involved with MbEN since June 2019. She has an undergrad degree in Environmental Studies from Lakehead University. Emma grew up spending lots of time around Lake Simcoe, Georgian Bay, and the Great Lakes in Ontario and is a passionate environmentalist focusing on water issues, ecology, conservation, and creative communications.

CALVIN SO  
DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR  
Calvin began working at MbEN in October 2020. He has a Masters degree in City Planning from the University of Manitoba and a Bachelors in Environmental Economics from the University of Waterloo. He has an interest in transportation and land use planning, as well as planning for sustainability and resiliency in cities. In his spare time, Calvin likes travelling and exploring new neighbourhoods and cities, especially learning about an area’s history and character through the game of Pokémon GO.

CONTRACTS  
BOOK-KEEPING  
Gudrun Antosh

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (CANADA SUMMER JOBS)  
Daniel Tompkins

ECO-JOURNAL  
Tracey O’Neill, Simple Life Designs

BUILDING COMMUNITY CLIMATE RESILIENCY PROJECT  
Allie Caporale
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 11th, 2020 - December 10th, 2020

Kathryn Dompierre, Chair
Laura Tyler, Vice Chair
Phil Lancaster, Treasurer
Geoff Gunn, Secretary
Josh Brandon
Marie Lachiver
Natasha Szach
Heather Fast
Dr. Kirit Patel
Chantel Henderson
Richard Farthing-Nichol
Carola Vergara
Lindsay Robinson
Glen Koroluk, Executive Director

Since December 10th, 2020
On December 10th, 2020, MbEN held an AGM and elected a new board.

Vicki Burns, Chair
Laura Tyler, Vice Chair
Phil Lancaster, Treasurer
Geoff Gunn, Secretary
Kathryn Dompierre
Josh Brandon
Heather Fast
Dr. Kirit Patel
Chantel Henderson
Richard Farthing-Nichol
Lindsay Robinson
Stacey Chaboyer
Glen Koroluk, Executive Director

Thank you to our board members who retired this year for their years of dedicated service to MbEN!

Marie Lachiver
Natasha Szach
Carola Vergara
COMMITTEES

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Geoff Gunn, Chair  
Kathryn Dompierre  
Laura Tyler  
Lindsay Robinson  
Dr. Kirit Patel  
Glen Koroluk

FINANCE

Phil Lancaster  
Glen Koroluk  
Gudrun Antosh

POLICY

Heather Fast, Chair  
Geoff Gunn  
Kathryn Dompierre  
Laura Tyler  
Lindsay Robinson  
Josh Brandon  
Vicki Burns  
Chantel Henderson  
Richard Farthing-Nichol  
Glen Koroluk  
Emily Halldorson  
Amanda Gelfant  
Dr. Patricia Fitzpatrick

FUNDRAISING

Richard Farthing-Nichol, Chair  
Vicki Burns  
Kathryn Dompierre  
Glen Koroluk  
Anne Lindsey
VOLUNTEERS & IN-KIND SUPPORT

VOLUNTEERS

Makenna Short
Lizzie Tough
Nicole Sward
Nicole Salchert

IN-KIND & PROJECT SUPPORT

NAVIGATING THE LAW TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT PROJECT
Glen Koroluk
Heather Fast
Emma Smith
Dr. Patricia Fitzpatrick, University of Winnipeg
Max Griffin-Rill, Public Interest Law Centre
Byron Williams, Public Interest Law Centre

FOOD AND FARMING EVENTS
Emily Halldorson
Glen Koroluk
Laura Tyler, Climate Action Team
Jeanette Sivilay, Winnipeg Food Council
Darrin Qualman, National Farmers Union
Anastasia Fyk, National Farmers Union
Molly McCracken, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

SENIORS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
Rob Altemeyer
Glen Koroluk
Tracy Hucul, Green Action Centre
Curt Hull, Climate Change Connection
FUNDERS & MAJOR DONORS (over $500)

Government of Canada
Province of Manitoba
Eco-Canada
The Winnipeg Foundation
Assiniboine Credit Union
Manitoba Law Foundation / Public Interest Law Centre
Youth in Philanthropy Committee, University of Winnipeg
City of Winnipeg (in-kind)
Green Action Centre (in-kind)
ESRI Canada Ltd. (in-kind)
Mountain Equipment Coop (in-kind)
Seniors for Sustainability Campaign
All Charities Campaign – Manitoba
Manitoba Eco-Network TREE Legacy Endowment Fund
Roland R. and Doris M. Engel and Family Fund
The Gail Asper Family Foundation Inc.
Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions Inc.

Dan Blankstein
Carolyn Garlich & Peter Miller
Vicki Burns & John Gosselin
Kennedy & Wendy MacLean
Nichole Riese
David Plummer
InfoTechnika
Kenneth Klassen
Merit Motion Pictures
Emerge Knowledge Design Inc.
John and Anke Sinclair
Robert and Sylvia Fenton
James Currie
Sandy, Orie, Meredith & Barrette Plett
Carl von Baeyer & Deborah Lake
Don Sullivan (in-kind)
D’arcy & Deacon LLP (in-kind)