

MANITOBA ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK NEWS

JANUARY 1989

OUR COMMON FUTURE- MAKING IT HAPPEN

This was the title of an international conference held in Tabarka, Tunisia from November 29 -December 2, 1988. Organized by the Environmental Liaison Centre International - a Nairobi-based international non-governmental organization serving as a global coalition of environment and development groups - the three and a half day conference brought together nearly 150 delegates from about 60 nations.

Subtitled "Towards an NGO Agenda for Sustainable Development", the meeting built on the international interest and momentum generated by the World Commission on Environment and Development. Focussing on ways in which the NGO community can best pursue the goals of "sustainable development," discussion at the conference was rich and varied. Workshops on the NGO movement recognized both the capabilities and limitations of these organizations in such matters as networking, information access and dissemination, and research. Other workshops dealt with specific sectoral issues such as "Women and Sustainable Development," "Food Security," Debt Crisis," "Energy," and "Sustainable Development, Peace and Security."

Manitoba was represented at the conference by three participants; Jack Dubois, Pat Mooney and Barbara Eros. A presentation on the activities that have been going on in Manitoba concerning environment and development was delivered to the plenary during a session on "Regional Perspectives."

A special issue of "ECOFORUM", ELCI's journal, summarising the conference proceedings will be published in January 1989 and a full conference report will also be published early next year. For information on ELCI contact the Network.

THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

The first meeting of this group was held on 17 November, 1989 in the Cabinet Room of the Manitoba Legislative Building. As the non-government, citizen "environmentalist" appointee, I will try to keep you informed about the deliberations and concerns of the Manitoba Round Table through this newsletter. The agenda of the meeting was as follows:

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Background Presentation
 1. The Brundtland Commission.
 2. The National Task Force on Environment and Economy and the Round Table Concept.
 3. An overview of Round Table establishment across Canada.

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The Manitoba Hazardous Waste Management Corporation has provided financial assistance for the distribution of this issue of the newsletter. Their support is gratefully acknowledged.

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HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Manitoba Hazardous Waste Management Corporation has recently released a discussion document on the siting of hazardous waste management facilities in Manitoba.

The report presents proposed criteria for siting facilities and identifies those areas of the province with the greatest potential to meet the specific characteristics of an acceptable site. The report was prepared to initiate public discussion on siting criteria and provide the opportunity for interested individuals and stakeholders to comment on them. The siting criteria will be finalized in consultation with communities interested in participating in the siting process.

The discussion document is available for review in the Network office.

VIDEO AVAILABLE ON FOOD IRRADIATION

Food and Water, Inc. has produced a video which features the taped expert testimonies of three leading American scientists concerned about the irradiation of food and the dangers the technology poses to human health, the environment and to workers at irradiation facilities. The video is entitled Food Irradiation: The Facts, and costs \$15.00 in the U.S. Write Food and Water, Inc., 3 Whitman Drive, Denville, New Jersey, USA, 07834.

CARMANAH FOREVER VIDEO

The video "Carmanah Forever" is available at the Network office. Narrated by David Suzuki, this video examines the logging controversy in this outstanding B.C. wilderness area. For details on borrowing, contact the Network office.

CLIMATE CHANGE DIGEST

A new volume in the Climate Change Digest series (published by Environment Canada), entitled Socio-Economic Assessment of the Physical and Ecological Impacts of Climate Change on the Marine Environment of the Atlantic Region of Canada - Phase 1, has been released. All eleven volumes are available for review in the Network office.

RECYCLING MAKES CENTS

Recycling can make cents for the Manitoba Environmental Network. You can support Network activities by returning your aluminum soft drink cans and plastic soft drink bottles to Manitoba Soft Drink Recycling (MSDR) at 20 Bentall Street (or their recyclomobile) and asking them to designate the proceeds to the Manitoba Environmental Network.

The Manitoba Environmental Network exists to facilitate communication among environmentalists, especially in Manitoba, and between environmentalists and government decision-makers. Membership is open to any non-government, non-profit group that has as one of its objectives the enhancing or furthering of environmental quality, protecting the environment or carrying out environmental education.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARIAT..JOHN BARKER

EXECUTIVE

PROVINCIAL COORDINATOR.....JACK DUBOIS
VICE-PRESIDENT.....BRIAN PANNELL
SECRETARY-TREASURER.....LETTY LAST

STEERING COMMITTEE

Arnold Baker	- Westman Wilderness Club
Jack Dubois	- Wildlife Society, Manitoba Chapter
Randy Eros	- Solar Energy Society of Canada Inc, Manitoba Chapter
Bill Goddard	- Crossroads Resource Group
Letty Last	- Recycling Council of Manitoba
Dennis Muldrew	- Manitoba Naturalists Society
Brian Pannell	- Manitoba Environmentalists Inc.
Anne Wieser	- Concerned Citizens of Manitoba Inc.



Fourth Biennial Congress on the Fate of the Earth

*Managua, Nicaragua,
June 5 - 9, 1989*

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan. 9 Network Steering Committee meeting. 7:30 p.m. at the Network's Resource Centre, 202 - 128 James Avenue.
- Jan. 9 Manitoba Naturalists Society Indoor Meeting. MNS Supported Environmental Research with Robert Ballentyne. 8:00 p.m., Basic Medical Sciences Building, Theatre A, corner of Bannatyne Avenue & Emily Street. For more information call 943-9029.
- Jan. 11 Public Lecture on Recycling with Rod McCormick, Recycling Coordinator, Province of Manitoba. Sponsored by Council of Women of Winnipeg. 12:00 noon, Eaton's Assembly Hall, 7th floor downtown.
- Jan. 16 Holmes Rolston, professor of philosophy at Colorado State University and author of several books on environmental ethics, will give a public talk entitled "Science Meets Religion: The Evolution of Life and Spirit." 12:30 p.m., room 1L10, University of Winnipeg. For further information contact Peter Miller at 786-9395. See also Jan. 17.
- Jan. 16 A working group on environment and development/sustainable development is being formed to examine these important issues. The participation of representatives of non-government organizations and interested individuals is welcomed. 7:30 p.m. at the YM/YWCA, 290 Vaughan Street. For further information contact the Network office.
- Jan. 16-18 Geological Survey of Canada Forum 1989. This year's theme is "Environment and Public Safety." Ottawa, Ontario. For further information contact Geological Survey of Canada, S. Kelly, Room 657, 601 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E8.
- Jan. 17 Holmes Rolston (see Jan. 16) will give a public talk entitled "Challenges in Environmental Ethics." 1:00 p.m., room 3C01, University of Winnipeg.
- Jan. 18 Conservation Strategy Association of Manitoba presents "Living Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow," at the West End Cultural Centre, 586 Ellice Avenue, 7:30 p.m. Speakers & Entertainment. Tickets (\$3.00) are available at the Manitoba Environmental Network Resource Centre or at the door.
- Jan. 20 Deadline for Environment Week 1989 funding requests.
- Jan. 23 Manitoba Naturalists Society Indoor Meeting. Trip to Costa Rica with Dennis Fast & George Holland. See Jan. 9.
- Jan. 27-29 Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Workshop. Regina, Saskatchewan. Chartered bus service is available - details at the Network office. For further information or registration contact Saskatchewan Natural History Society, Box 4348, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 3W6.
- Feb. 1 The Institute for Research on Public Policy public consultation meeting on ways and means in which Canada's aid policies can more effectively support sustainable development in developing countries. 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. Short written or oral presentations are encouraged. For further information contact the Network office.
- Mar. 30-April 2 Peace and Environment Festival. A cooperative endeavour of the Manitoba Environmental Network, the Winnipeg Coordinating Committee on Disarmament and the West End Cultural Centre.
- May 17-19 Environment and Economy: Partners for the Future. An International Conference on Environmentally Sustainable Development. See page 7.
- May 23-27 Fourth World Congress on the Conservation of the Built and Natural Environments. University of Toronto. See page 7.

LETTERS

RECYCLING CONCERNS

Your October newsletter printed a glowing report about Manitoba Soft Drink Recycling Inc. (MSDR). For some reason MSDR seems to be favoured with such reporting. I would like to put it in perspective.

Before aluminum cans, the return rate for pop bottles, which carried deposits exceeded 90%. In July, 1986, David Laing, president of Beverage Services (Coca Cola), said that the Manitoba Soft Drink Association hoped to set up a system similar to Minnesota's where 65% of aluminum cans are returned. Today, according to Lance Morrison of MSDR, about 50% of empty cans are returned.

It is most interesting to note however, that it took a warning from the provincial Environment Department to get the Manitoba Soft Drink Association to act. In a Winnipeg Free Press article dated July 5, 1986, Rod McCormick of that department stated "if the industry doesn't move to improve return rates, then we'll start drafting legislation." Interesting, MSDR started operation in Sept. 1986.

It's nice that 50% of pop cans are returned. It was nicer when 90% of the empty pop bottles were returned.

Soft drink producers across Canada (except in P.E.I.) have removed an environmentally friendly product from the shelves. In Manitoba they got good press for partly solving the problem that they created.

Hugh Arklie

FORT OSBORNE COMPLEX SITE

The Province of Manitoba, Department of Government Services, is requesting proposals as of December 7, 1988, for the redevelopment of the Fort Osborne Complex site. The deadline for proposals is January 13, 1989. The government intends to sell the land. One prospective for the redevelopment is the construction of luxury condominiums. If the plan is to be implemented, the ownership of the site would be private rather than public. The people of the city would no longer own the property.

Our committee proposes to redevelop the site into an environmental education centre for children. There is an increasing need to educate our children on environmental sub-

jects. The importance of clean air and clean water will be integrated into the ecological programs. Children will be able to experience hands-on activities in the gardens on the site. All forms of life on earth are dependent upon plants which are the primary producers of food.

The complex site was first used in 1904 as the Agricultural College. Once developed as an education centre, the historical aspect of the site will be preserved. Utilizing the area as it presently exists will further preserve its heritage significance. In addition, it has been proposed to erect a memorial statue of Tommy Prince, a native war hero who was a member of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

The Environmental Education Centre for Children will offer a preventative approach; greater awareness of our environment would lead to reduced clean-up costs. Many children and adults are not aware of the negative impact their daily activities have upon the environment. With this project Winnipeg has the opportunity to turn an existing piece of heritage land into an educational centre which will benefit our children and future generations.

The public, being the past and present owners of the site, has the right to maintain control over the land and its use. The short time period between the proposal call and the deadline for submissions does not allow for adequate time to develop alternative ideas. The busy holiday season limits the time period as well. The government's approach to disposing of the land is highly unfair. There is a lack of information provided to the public as to what is happening. Many legion members and veterans of the Fort Osborne Barracks are not aware that the historical site will disappear.

The public could make the government aware of the unfairness of the situation through several means; by calling or writing to Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), Members of Parliament (MPs), radio or television broadcasters, newspapers, and legion members. We need to demand an extension of the deadline for proposal submissions. We need to demand public hearings to determine the future use of the land. Otherwise, this public property will become private property.

Gloria Lewicki

GROUNDWATER POLLUTION PRIMER - PART SEVEN

IS YOUR DRINKING WATER SAFE?

JUST THE FACTS

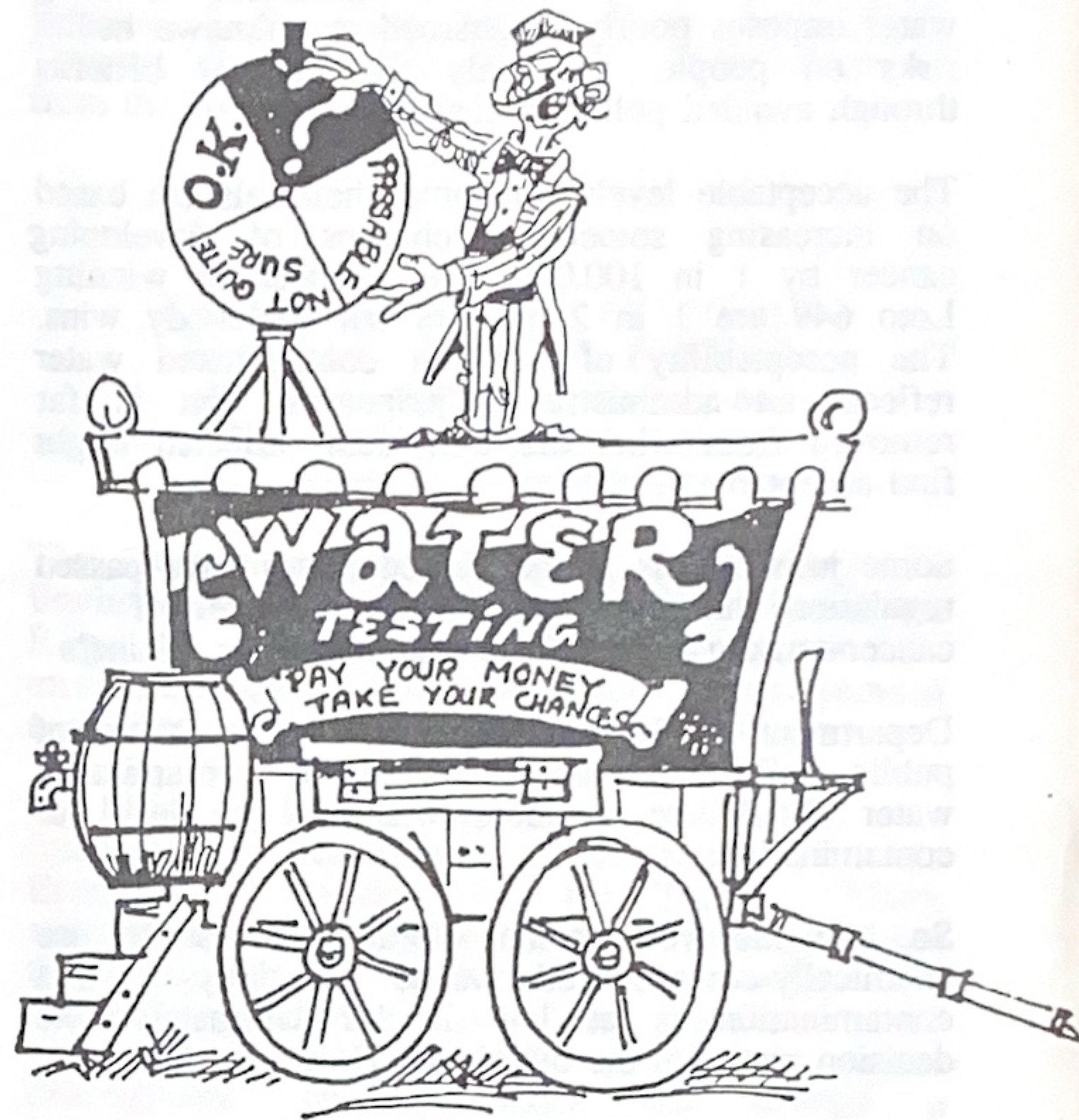
No one would ever drink water laced with strychnine unless they wanted to do themselves in, and science can tell each of us exactly how much of this poison it would take to bring about our demise, accounting for body weight and state of health. However, science cannot yet tell us with much certainty about the long-term effects of exposure to low levels of gasoline, nitrates, heavy metals or other chemical substances in our water supplies.

Acceptable (or allowable) levels of chemical contamination do not indicate that a water supply is absolutely safe. There is insufficient scientific information to judge the health hazards of 90 percent of chemicals in commercial use, according to a U.S. National Research Council report on toxicity testing. Information about the health hazards of combinations of chemicals is virtually non-existent. Our capability for predicting the likelihood of long-term health problems arising even when the hazards of a chemical are fully understood remains poor. In many cases, we simply do not know what the health effects of drinking contaminated water are likely to be.

These are the facts.

It is therefore misleading to declare drinking water safe if it has been contaminated by hazardous chemicals. For those chemicals that are thought to cause cancer or genetic damage, it is generally held that there is no safe level of exposure. For those chemicals which are suspected of causing birth defects, reproductive problems, immune system damage, and other long-term health effects, often so little is known about the exposure levels that would produce these health effects that it is difficult to establish absolute safety limits. In these cases safe levels of exposure can only be established if we agree that what we don't know won't hurt us.

The health risks of using water contaminated with low levels of chemicals over an extended period of time are poorly understood. The prudent course is to minimize our exposure to chemical contamination as much as possible. However, the absence of knowledge in this area is often interpreted as the absence of any health problems.



CONTAMINATION: HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

When low levels of chemical contaminants are discovered in wells or municipal water supplies, government officials often declare that the contamination is within acceptable levels, leading people to believe the water is safe to use. However, an acceptable level of contamination does not mean that the tainted water poses no danger, only that the risks are acceptable.

This statement begs the questions: acceptable to whom and under what conditions? How much is known about the health hazards of the contaminants in question? Are the risks fully understood? Do those affected have any control over the risks being taken? Are the consequences irreversible? Is the risk greater for future generations, as in the case of genetic damage? Are the risks, and the benefits of taking the risk shared equally among the risk-makers and risk-takers?

The risks of smoking a cigarette or driving a car are often compared with the risk associated with drinking chemically contaminated water. However, smoking or driving are voluntary activities and the hazards are relatively well understood. Contaminated drinking water imposes poorly understood or unknown health risks on people, and only the polluter benefits through avoided pollution control costs.

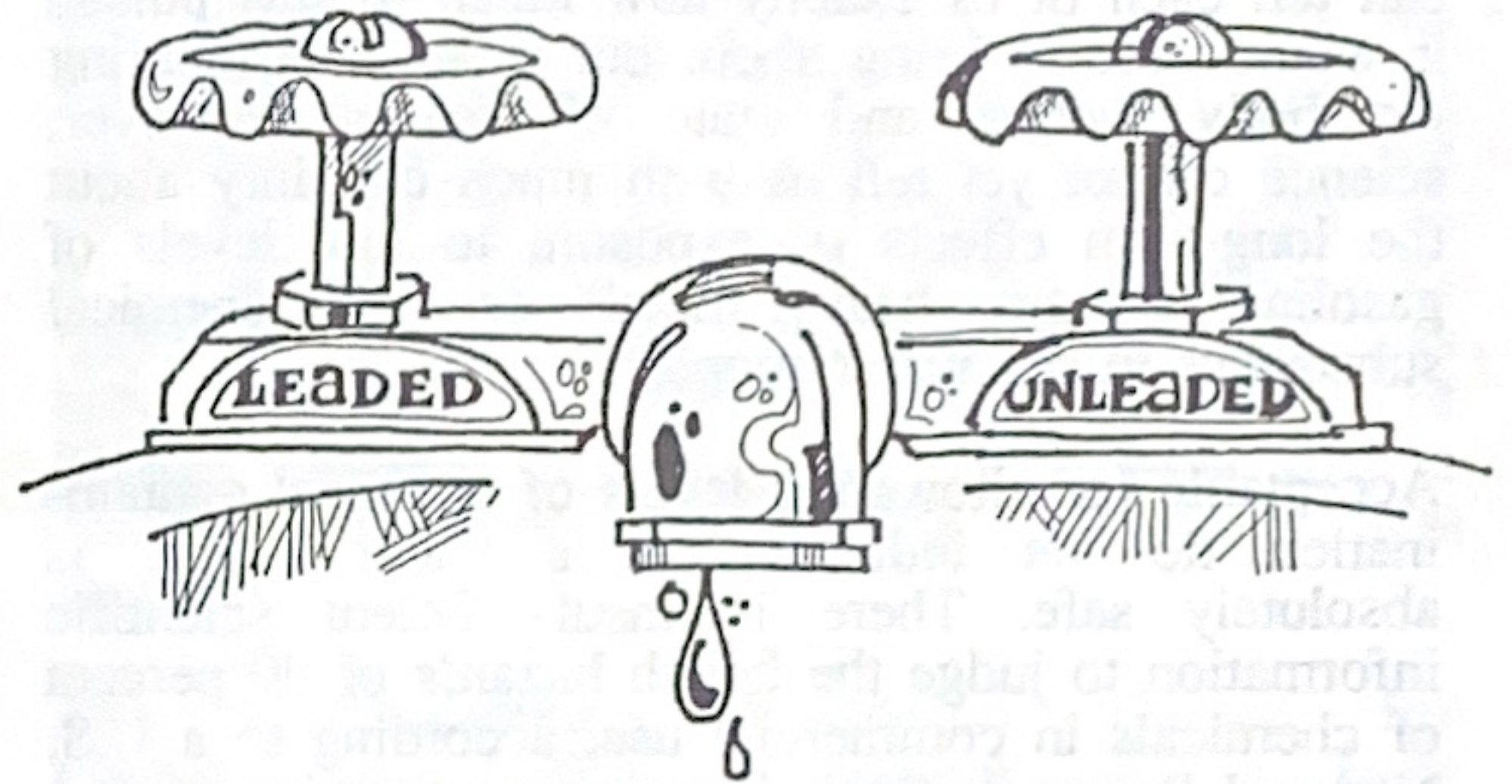
The acceptable levels for some chemicals are based on increasing someone's chances of developing cancer by 1 in 100,000. The chances of winning Loto 649 are 1 in 2,330,636, but somebody wins. The acceptability of drinking contaminated water reflects an administrative judgement that is far removed from what the individual affected might find acceptable.

Some jurisdictions in the United States have passed regulations that prohibit any detectable levels of cancer-causing chemicals in drinking water. Maine's

Department of Health states that, as a matter of public policy, the use of chemically contaminated water should be avoided, whatever the level of contamination.

So how do you decide whether or not to use chemically-contaminated water, especially if that contamination is at low levels? Ultimately, the decision rest with the individual. However, that

decision must be made with the benefits of full information. The individual's "right to know" the health hazards and risks, the basis on which government guidelines were established, and gaps in or absence of information must be essential ingredients in any decision about "how much is too much."



Source: The Groundwater Pollution Primer.
Conservation Council.

The Groundwater Pollution Primer

Groundwater is the graveyard for much of our pollution. Industrial chemicals, pesticides, fertilizer residues, household chemicals, petroleum and other contaminants are turning up in well water with increasing regularity.

Over six million Canadians, a million in the Maritimes alone, rely on groundwater for their water supply. Yet the underlying threat to the environment and public health posed by toxic chemicals silently seeping into our groundwater continues unnoticed and unabated.

The Groundwater Pollution Primer is the first popular overview of the groundwater pollution problem in Canada. The product of over two years of research by Conservation Council of New Brunswick, this illustrated booklet examines the issues surrounding the poisoning of our groundwater and proposes concrete solutions to prevent further pollution.

\$5.00 plus postage, 44 pages.

44 pages, 8 1/2 x 7
\$5.00, plus \$1.00 postage
10% discount to members

Please send me:

____ copy(ies) of *The Groundwater Pollution Primer* at \$5.00/copy

Add \$1.00 for postage and handling per copy

Enclosed is \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Mail to:
Conservation Council
180 St. John Street
Fredericton, N.B.
E3B 4A9

The Groundwater Pollution Primer



Conservation Council

EVENTS

FATE OF THE EARTH

The Fourth Biennial Congress on the Fate of the Earth is to be held in Managua, Nicaragua, June 5 - 9, 1989.

This congress will be the first Fate of the Earth Conference to be held in the Third World, and will focus on the themes of environment, sustainable development, and peace and social justice, from a Third World perspective. Congress organizers are placing a priority on having as many Third World participants as possible present. This Congress continues on from the experiences of the Third Fate of the Earth Conference held in Ottawa during June 1986 and is placing greater emphasis on developing action-oriented strategies to achieve global sustainability and on building and strengthening networks between northern and southern NGOs.

A Canadian Support Committee is working on facilitating the Nicaraguan organizing effort through fundraising, promoting the Congress and gathering endorsements/sponsorships.

For information on the Congress, or on the fundraising efforts, contact the Network Office.

WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS

The Fourth World Congress on the conservation of the Built and Natural Environments will be held at the University of Toronto, May 23-27.

The theme of this conference, Industry and Conservation, addresses the undesirable consequences of industrialization on the natural, physical, social, and cultural environments, and the necessary preventative and mitigatory measures that must be implemented to avoid these undesirable consequences.

The programme includes lecture sections and discussion workshops on: The Siting of Industry and its Effect on the Environment; The conservation of the Built Environment in Industrial Areas, and; Water Pollution and the Protection of the Natural Environment.

Basic registration costs \$180.00. Further information from the organiser's Canadian booking agents, Dimensional Travel Incentives Limited, 2 St. Clair Avenue West, Suite 1108, Toronto, Ontario M4V 1L5, ph. 416-963-8900, or from the Network Office.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY
PARTNERS FOR THE FUTUREAn International Conference on
Environmentally Sustainable
Economic Development

The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Report) called for an integration of environmental and resource management considerations into economic decision making.

In May 1989, Winnipeg will host an international conference "Environment and Economy - Partners for the Future." Major stakeholders from government, business, and the academic and environment communities will share information on the impacts and opportunities related to sustainable development. The conference will provide a forum to discuss the implementation of the "round table" approach of involving key decision makers in adopting sustainable development. In addition, it will showcase practical examples of environment-economy integration and environment industry opportunities. There will also be discussion of the impact of sustainable development on institution building, public policy development and business planning.

The conference will feature national and international speakers, panel discussions, sectoral sessions and networking opportunities.

For further information and registration contact: Frank Cosway, Conference Coordinator, Manitoba Industry, Trade and Tourism, 500 - 155 Carlton Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 3H8 - Telephone (204) 945-8747 or Fax (204) 957-1793.

LINKS

The winter 1989 issue of Links Newsletter is scheduled for publication in the week of January 11-15, 1989.

Links is a cooperative, multi-NGO newsletter designed to improve communication, cooperation and coordination between NGOs, and to improve the exposure of groups contributing to the newsletter. In each issue, four sections will be devoted to: Peace; Social & Economic Justice and Development; Environment, and Networking. Other sections or sub-sections may be included issue by issue. Groups are encouraged to submit articles or profiles, or Calendars of Events. The newsletter is currently being distributed free of charge, but subscriptions are being solicited and are required to ensure the success of this publication. Subscription prices are \$10.00 per year (published quarterly), or \$5.00 for low income earners. For more information contact Bryan Hammond, 42 Lipton St., Winnipeg, MB., R3G 2G5, ph. 772-1511.

MANITOBA CYCLING ASSOCIATION

The Safe Cycling Sub-Committee of the Manitoba Traffic Safety Committee published a report in February, 1988 including 28 recommendations aimed at preventing cycling fatalities in the province. The Manitoba Cycling Association is asking that concerned citizens write to the appropriate provincial Ministers asking them to give priority attention to these recommendations.

For further information on how you can help, contact Diana Bailey, Provincial Representative, Advocacy and Safety Committee, Canadian Cycling Association at 985-4055.



THE MANITOBA ROUND TABLE ON ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY

cont. from page 1

III. Manitoba Round Table

1. Members' expectations of the Manitoba Round Table (exchange of views).
2. Draft terms of reference.
3. Preliminary Workplan and Timetable (including frequency of meetings).
4. Support for the Round Table (Secretariat, resources).

IV. Update on Other Manitoba Initiatives

1. Conference (May 17-19, 1989).
2. Centre for Sustainable Development.

V. Next Meeting

Representatives on the Round Table include businessmen, cabinet ministers, and those from other non-government organizations such as the Manitoba Federation of Labour, the Norway House Indian Band, Manitoba Women's Institute, and the Rural Municipality of Cartier. For the complete list of names and addresses, and for any of the other information mentioned above such as Terms of Reference, etc., contact the Manitoba Environmental Network office or Mark Stefanson, Director, Communications Branch, Department of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health (945-4742).

The Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy is the only one in the country to be chaired by a premier. I was impressed by Mr. Filmon's grasp of the issues of sustainable development, and by his obvious commitment to making the Round Table a meaningful forum. As they say, the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and thus I look forward to action rather than words to demonstrate true commitment by the Manitoba government to the integration of environment into development in this province.

The next meeting of the Round Table will be 25 January, 1989.

Jack Dubois

LEARNING TO DEAL WITH OUR OWN GARBAGE

There was a time in the history of humankind when, after people found they had lived in a place long enough to produce more garbage than they found tolerable, they could pack up and move elsewhere. Modern men and women have nowhere left to go. This was the message we received at a Creative Retirement lecture on November 3rd, as Professor Tim Ball of the University of Winnipeg's Geography Department addressed a group of Winnipeg seniors. He had digressed from his main topic, "The Greenhouse Effect," to point out another environmental dilemma; garbage accumulation. With tongue only very slightly in cheek, he concluded by saying that he pictured future cities to be situated in valleys, as mountains of their garbage built up on either side.

Many items thrown in the garbage are not really waste - they are commodities of real value. Soft drink cans, glass containers, plastic bottles, and newspapers can be sold for recycling and returned to the market place as usable products. Many of us are aware that recycling relieves the drain on natural resources, produces less pollutants than the processing of raw materials, and of course, takes pressure off landfill sites which often encroach on arable land. For reasons of profit, or conscience, some of us are already involved in this method of conservation.

The province of Ontario has recently implemented a "blue box" program. This will enable their citizens to participate in the recycling process by separating recyclable material from the other garbage and putting it into designated blue boxes for pick-up. Within the context of our total environmental dilemma, this program seems like a drop in the remedial-preventative bucket, yet it is a logical measure which places no hardship on its participants.

Some Manitobans have begun to wonder if it is possible to have a similar program in our province. It is, but it would require provincial legislation and the budgeting of funds to get the program started.

In conversations with friends and acquaintances, I have discovered there is support for a reliable, consistent method of removing recyclable commodities from our homes. A rough estimate of this support would

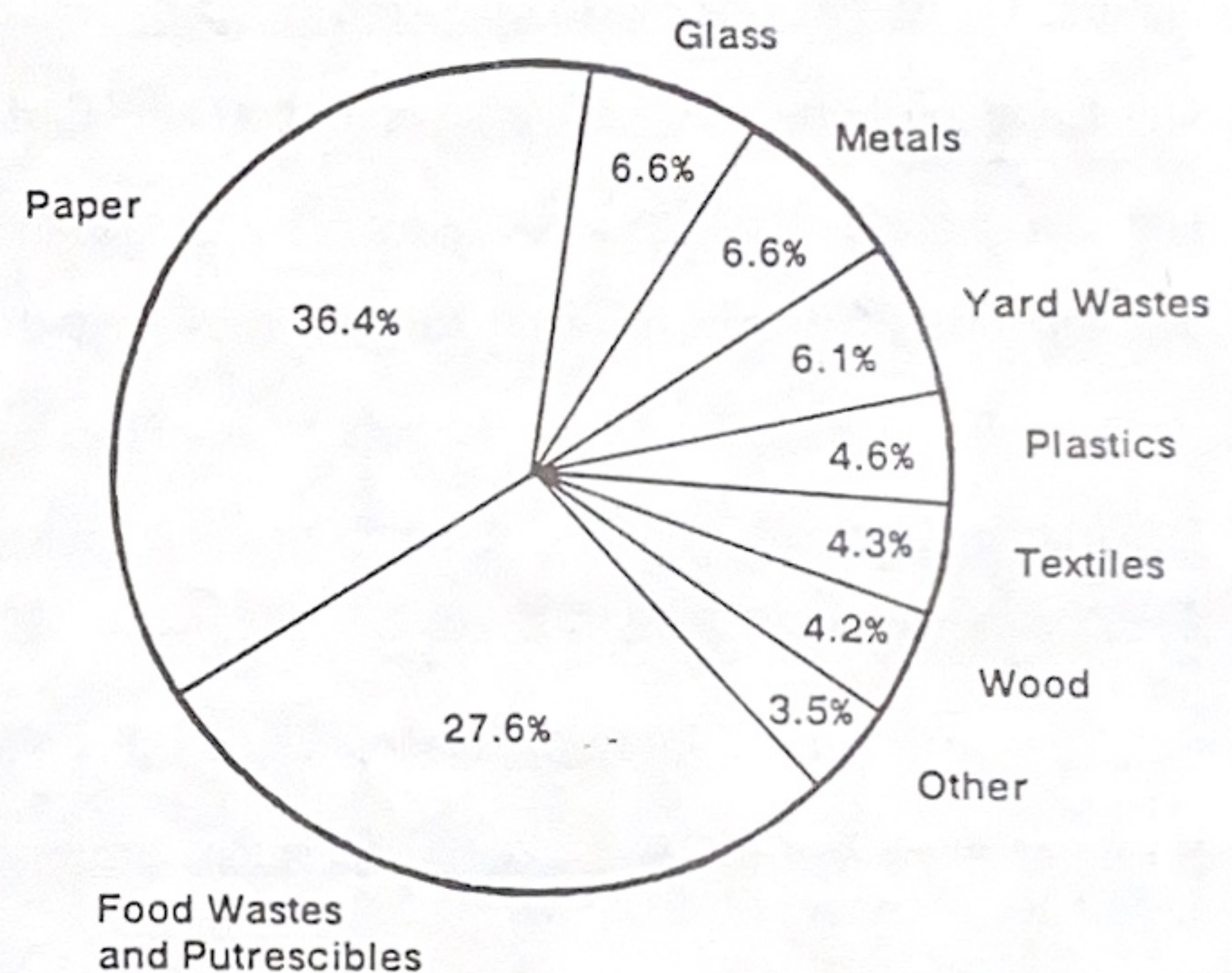
be 95% in favour. And I have word from one person in Ontario that they find their method very satisfactory.

Those who feel the time is right for Manitobans to implement their own version of the blue box program can facilitate the process by contacting their MLA and letting them know that it is what you would like to see done. Your phone calls and letters now could start them thinking about it, and your further reminders along the way might even be what it takes to bring about the legislation.

Dealing constructively with our own garbage is an initial step toward preserving an ecosystem essential for the survival of own species on this planet - a step we cannot afford to overlook.

Mary Green

Composition of Municipal Solid Waste in Canada



BOOKSTORE

The Manitoba Environmental Network operates a small bookstore in the Network's Resource Centre at 202 - 128 James Avenue (behind the Concert Hall). The selection of over 60 environmental titles includes many hard to find books on a broad range of environmental and environment and development topics. Proceeds from the sale of books support Network activities.

Agricide: The Hidden Crisis That Affects Us All by Michael W. Fox. \$10.95.

Agroecology: The Scientific Basis of Alternative Agriculture by Miguel A. Altieri. \$36.50.

Circle of Poison: Pesticides and People in a Hungry World by David Weir and Mark Shapiro. \$4.95.

Conservation: A Thoughtful Way of Explaining Conservation to Children by Robert Ingpen and Margaret Dunkle. \$9.95.

False Start in Africa by Rene Dumont. \$13.95.

Genes From the Wild: Using Wild Genetic Resources for Food and Raw Materials by Robert and Christine Prescott-Allen. \$13.95.

Genesis or Nemesis: Belief, Meaning and Ecology by Martin Palmer. \$19.95.

The Greenpeace Book of Antarctica: A New View of the Seventh Continent by John May. \$29.95.

Heritage Conservation: The Natural Environment by E. Neville Ward with Beth Killham. \$16.00.

In the Rainforest by Catherine Caufield. \$8.95.

The Master of the Game: Paul Nitze and the Nuclear Peace by Strobe Talbot. \$27.95.

Natural Disasters: Acts of God or Acts of Man? by Anders Wijkman and Lloyd Timberlake. \$12.50.

Our Common Future: A Reader's Guide by Don Hinrichsen. \$7.50.

Our Common Future: World Commission on Environment and Development. \$14.95.

The Paradise of Bombs by Scott Russell Sanders. \$9.95

Progress for a Small Planet by Barbara Ward. \$14.95

Respect for Nature: A Theory of Environmental Ethics by Paul W. Taylor. \$18.00.

Sierra Club Wilderness 1989 Engagement Calendar. \$16.50.

Small is Beautiful: A Study of Economics as if People Mattered by E.F. Schumacher. \$9.95.

State of the World 1988: A Worldwatch Institute Report on Progress Toward a Sustainable Society by Lester R. Brown et al. \$12.95.

Sustainable Development of the Biosphere edited by W.C. Clark and R.E. Munn. \$35.00.

The Vanishing Forest: The Human Consequences of Deforestation. A Report for the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues. \$8.95.

Women and Environment in the Third World: Alliance for the Future by Irene Dankleman and Joan Davidson. \$14.95.

Work From Waste: Recycling Wastes to Create Employment by Jon Vogler. \$24.95.

MANITOBA HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

FACILITY SITE SELECTION CRITERIA



Waste Management Facilities

The Manitoba Hazardous Waste Management Corporation began operation in 1986 to establish, design and operate a hazardous waste management system for the province. A central facility for treatment and disposal activities, supported by regional transfer stations, will be developed.

The central facility site may ultimately involve laboratory, storage, physical/chemical treatment, incineration, residue stabilization and landfill facilities on 5 to 20 hectares (12 to 50 acres) of land. Total land, including a buffer zone, could approximate 130 hectares (320 acres).

Each of the regional transfer stations will be small, consisting primarily of a warehouse/office building.

The Role of The Public

Direct public participation in the development of the detailed siting criteria is a key feature in the process. Public participation and consultation programs will first be conducted province-wide, but will eventually be directed at communities within candidate regions.

Community Advisory Committees will be formed in candidate areas to participate in finalizing the site selection criteria and incorporate local interests directly in the process. These criteria will then be applied to the detailed site investigations.

Site Selection Process

The site selection process concentrates on the identification and selection of a central facility site. Transfer station locations will depend on regional needs and the location of the central facility.

The first task in the process is to assess the whole province to eliminate generally unsuitable areas. After this has been done, the remaining areas will be given more detailed technical and economic assessments. At the same time, communities interested in potentially hosting a facility will be sought. The final stage will involve detailed site selection work conducted in partnership with interested communities in those areas where both local acceptance and a high standard of environmental protection can be achieved.

The proposed process incorporates experience gained from hazardous waste facilities developed in other jurisdictions. It also uses the recommendations of the Clean Environment Commission developed through its public hearings on the issue in Manitoba.

These criteria are described in detail in a report entitled "Proposed Site Selection Criteria for the Development of a Hazardous Waste Management System". They include the provincial scale "exclusionary" criteria and the regional site selection criteria.

The Screening Process

Many considerations make it unwise or impractical to build a facility in certain places. Criteria were selected and mapped, on a provincial scale, to show areas considered unsuitable for facility development and identify those areas in which further work will concentrate. The criteria used in the provincial screening include:

Natural Hazards

- 100-year flood plain
- Seismic risk areas
- Limestone terrain

Technical

- Bedrock outcrop areas
- Permafrost areas

Environmental Protection

- Groundwater pollution hazard areas
- Provincial parks
- Wetlands
- Class 1 agricultural land
- Ecological reserves and wildlife lands

Land Use

- Federal lands

The results of this mapping are shown on the other side of this pamphlet. The excluded areas are unlikely to contain a suitable site for the facility. Further efforts will focus outside of these areas.

Regional Site Selection Criteria

The Corporation has prepared a discussion document which presents a set of detailed regional site selection criteria. These criteria will be applied within those areas that meet the following conditions:

■ Areas must be relatively free of natural hazard, environmental, technical and land use constraints as determined through the provincial screening process.

■ Communities must express an interest in being included in the site selection process. This expression of interest can be a formal invitation to examine the potential of the area initiated by a municipality or it can be a general indication of local public support. Communities can withdraw from the process at any time at their discretion.

The intent of this pamphlet and the detailed document is to define key considerations that will assist in the identification of potential sites. The information is presented to stimulate discussion on site selection issues and provide background material for the justification of the proposed criteria. The Table in this pamphlet contains a summary of the main regional criteria. The criteria will be finalized in consultation with local communities for application in their particular areas.

PROPOSED CENTRAL FACILITY SITING CRITERIA

CRITERIA	JUSTIFICATION			
	Technical	Environmental	Social	Land Use
Unacceptable Characteristics				
limestone bedrock (karst terrain)	x	x		
seismic risk areas	x	x		
unstable terrain	x	x		
100-year flood plain	x	x		
water supply reservoir watersheds		x		
groundwater pollution hazard areas		x		
WMA's and game refuges		x		x
ecological reserves		x		x
wetlands	x	x		
parks		x	x	x
heritage sites			x	x
class 1 agricultural capability		x		x
seed orchards		x		x
mines (active or inactive)	x			x
reservoir and power reserves				x
within 1 km of a City, Town or Village			x	x
within 200 m of a private residence			x	x
within 1 km of a public facility			x	x
Undesirable Characteristics				
steep hills (greater than 15% slope)	x	x		
within 500 m of a water body		x		
designated high quality watersheds		x		
intensive agricultural use				x
Class 2 and 3 agricultural capability		x		x
Class 2 and 3 forestry capability		x		x
Class 1 wildlife capability		x		x
development reserves				x
areas considered for other development				x
land claims				x
Essential Characteristics				
within 25 km of a PT Highway	✓			
access to essential services	✓			
65 ha (160 acres) of land	✓			✓
till/clay, greater than 5m thick	✓	✓		
Desirable Characteristics				
rail access	✓			
clay/till greater than 10 m thick	✓	✓		
TOT ₁₀₀ greater than 100 years		✓		
crown land			✓	✓
minimum population density			✓	✓
within 50 km of a town			✓	
within 100 km of a city			✓	

How Can You Participate?

Obtain a copy of the discussion document. If your organization or community is interested in learning more about the site selection process or hazardous waste management, in general, contact us and we will be pleased to meet with you.

If you require more information or would like us to meet with you, contact:

- **THE MANITOBA HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION**
 226 – 530 Century Street,
 Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0Y4
 Telephone (204) 945-1844 or toll free 1-800-782-2474

