Volume 3, Number 1

January-February, 1993

### WHAT IS A PARK?

# Ecologists and industry struggle for the future of Manitoba's Natural Lands and Special Places

by Toby Maloney

There is a conflict stewing over the wilderness areas of Manitoba and, as in other more industrialized provinces, it promises to be a conflict that is near irreconcilable.

Currently the argument surrounds the etermination of what is a park and what are appropriate uses. Debate has occurred over the environmental licensing of Abitibi-Price's forest management plans, and has continued over Manitoba's ostensible commitment to

setting aside 12 per cent of representative regions for ecological preserves by the year 2000. Presentations before the Natural Lands and Special Places hearings held in the Fall by the Manitoba Round Table on the Environment and Economy, showed just how far apart ecologists and industry are.

On the one end are the unregenerate frontiersman of the Manitoba Mining Association demanding unrestricted access to explore and develop mineral deposits wherever they may occur. The mining interests hint at new technology that will allow ex-

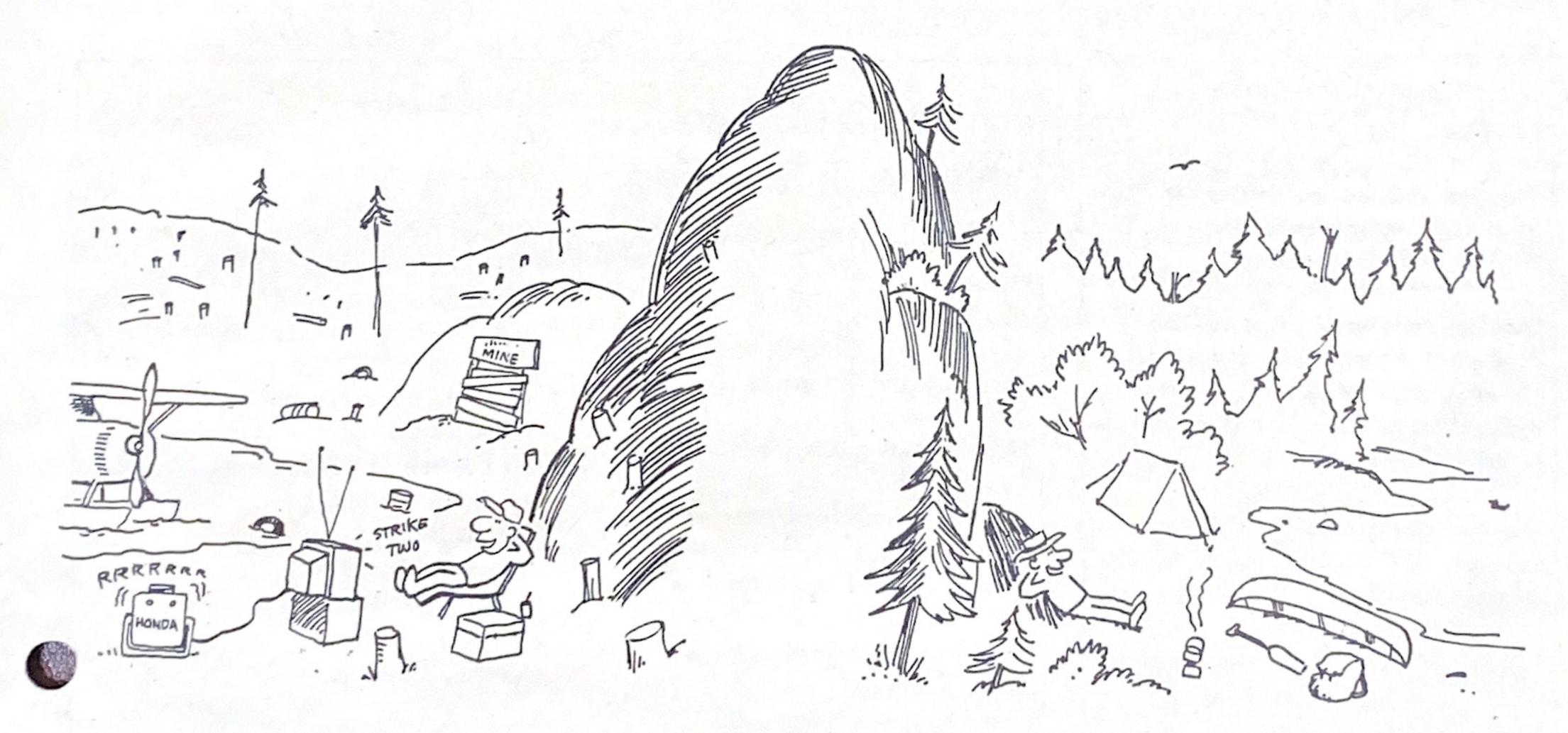
traction from geologic formations not formerly associated with profitable mining deposits, potentially just about anywhere.

"In order to keep the mining industry as sustainable development and contributing to the wealth of the province, new deposits must be constantly found to replace those which are mined out," according to a submission by S. Masson, representative for the Manitoba Mining Association.

On the other end are ecologists who are adamant that protection of biodiversity, preservation of special areas and the 12 per cent are a minimum for our survival, not only our economy.

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society representative Roger Turrenne railed at the

See TWELVE PER CENT page 11



AH! THIS IS THE LIFE!

#### Volume 3, Number 1 January-February, 1993

(date of issue: February, 1993)

#### **Eco-Journal**

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Anne Lindsey, Toby Maloney, Sharon Segal, Harvey Williams Illustration page one by Jim Kirby

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Caribou don't care what seems democratic

RE: "Environmentalists defend model forest," (letter, Nov.-Dec.):

I have personally attended two of the September workshops of the Manitou Abi Model forest. Here is goal # 4: Advanced Forest Management Practices, in summary:

- 1) new machines and chemicals we can use to log the boreal forest;
- 2) the elimination of human workers through mechanization;
- 3) making clear cuts look nice from roads; and
- 4) forcing nature to produce wood we can sell.

This is "forest management." Abitibi-Price has no respect for ecological communities.

A model forest that "neither condemns nor condones" logging in Provincial Parks and Manigotagan River corridor destruction is not worth pursuing.

The Endangered Spaces preservation objectives seek to set aside areas for no industrial activity. Environmentalists should not be in the business of "addressing the resource requirements of industry."

This model forest is far from democratic, you are voting on how to maintain the status quo. Wake up! Abitibi-Price sees the Boreal forest as an un-managed tree farm.

We shouldn't be applauding Abitibi-Price because we're not cheerleaders. We are environmentalists. We are concerned with the boreal forest and all the beings therein. Woodland caribou don't care what seems democratic to professor Miller or Ms. Elliot. What they do care about is that their habitat is going to be destroyed.

Places need to be set aside so that no one can use them, and for their own sake. This model forest fails to preserve anything but the status quo.

David Niekarz, Defenders of Nopiming

### 1992-93 Eco-Network Steering Committee

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for the Environment

Rhoda Rempel,

**Project Peacemakers** 

Celia Sarbit/Debbie Jennings

Marquis Project

Glen Koroluk,

CHO!CES Coalition for Social Justice

### **News Briefs**

Corporation in Ontario's decision to cancel the purchase of power from Manitoba. In a letter to Epp, Martin refers to AECL's use of lawyers in the Ontario Hydro Demand and Supply Plan Hearings process arguing that 'this multi-billion purchase was far too expensive for Ontario when compared to other demand and supply options'. The lawyers billed for \$337,594.39 plus applicable GST for their 1991 work.

### Transit thrown for loop

# The cause of public transit is taking a serious knocking at City Hall these days. Transportation critic and transit activist Jeff Lowe reports that the Works and Operations Committee, which oversees transit, actually voted against a transit increase in December, but was overruled by its chairman Terry Duguid at Executive Policy Committee. The new cash fare will be up a nickel to \$1.25 and the monthly bus pass will go from \$42 to \$44 at the start of February.

Lowe is incensed because the transit system lost an average of 10 million rides per year between 1975 and 1985, which he attributes to price increases and poor service. Now the Works and Operations Department is even contemplating cutting some bus routes in order to "save" money in its 1993 budget.

Lowe is planning to publicly propose service increases and a decrease in bus fares to 75 cents or a dollar as a way of wooing back the lost ridership. He contends that increased ridership on underutilized buses would provide the same amount of revenue and keep price down for lower income riders who don't have the choice of driving. An electronic fare box, made in Manitoba, which counts the coins would also help replace revenue. Anyone interested in getting involved in action on transit issues should call Lowe at 775-6106.

### Mystery grant

Concerned Citizens of Manitoba member Dave Taylor has been told he must file an access to information request to find out the purpose of a Government of Manitoba grant of \$25,000 to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) from the Environmental Innovations Fund in 1992. The Environmental Innovations Fund was set up with a tax on liquor bottles and also includes revenue from a disposable diaper tax instituted this year.

### AECL vs. Conawapa

Correspondence from Ontario reveals that environmentalists received some support from an unlikely source, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), in the campaign to prevent the construction of the Conawapa hydro project. Nuclear Awareness Project member, Dave Martin recently congratulated (former) Federal Energy Minister, Jake Epp, for the role played by the Crown

# Anti-Spray Victory in Yellowknife!

Chris O'Brien, an activist with the group Ecology North, reports that the Yellowknife City Council recently defeated a motion that would have seen a malathion and Bt anti-mosquito spray program initiated in that northern city in the summer of '93. O'Brien's group campaigned against the motion, using materials from a variety of locations, including the Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre.

There's another Manitoba connection to the story -- former City of Winnipeg Entomologist Roy Ellis has been working as a consultant for the City of Yellowknife on the issue. The City has now decided to carry out a 5-year study on the issue with the purpose of collecting base-line data, before any decisions on pesticide spraying are made.

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### Calendar of events

January 29 to February 4. Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the media at Cinematheque (100 Arthur Street) 7:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. Sponsored by NFB, the Winnipeg Film group and Necessary Allusions. Call 942-2776.

February 1-7: International Development Week. Various activities coordinated by the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation.. For more information call 786-2106.

February 4-6: Every Drop Counts. Canada's First National Conference and Trade Show on Water Conservation, Winnipeg. Sponsored by Environment Canada. Keynote speakers are Sandra Postel, Worldwatch Institute; Shaul Arlosoroff, The World Bank; and Angus Reid, Angus Reid Group. Call 949-1653.

February 10: Stop the Whitewash Campaign of the Women and Environments Education and Development (WEED) Foundation presentation at the Women's Health Clinic, 2nd Floor Meeting Room, 419 Graham Avenue from 2 to 3 p.m. The WEED campaign is working to have chlorine bleaching agents removed from women's sanitary products. For other presentation times call Anne or Sharon at the Eco-Network office 956-1468.

February 15: Heritage Day. Opening of Environment Canada Park Service's new regional service centre in the old Customs Examining Warehouse, 145 McDermot (at Rorie) at 10:30 am. Tour the restored heritage building or enjoy the entertainment and displays.

February 21 to 26: Church and Community Inquiry into Unemployment at St. Andrew's Place, 425 Elgin Avenue (corner of Ellen Street). Sponsored by the Community Coalition on Unemployment the Association of Christian Churches of Manitoba, the Manitoba Federation of Labour and others. Presenters include unemployed people, advocates, economists and theologians. Call 783-5703.

March 5-6: People and the Land: Sharing the Vision, a workshop on community shared agriculture for farmers and city people. Westwood Community Church, 401 Westwood Drive, St. James. (wheelchair accessible). Workshops on Biodynamic Farming, Organics, Economics of Community Assisted Agriculture, Fruit Trees on the Prairies, Animals: Their place on the Farm, Land Stewardship, Putting Food By, and Community in CSA. For registration information call 474-9178.

March 13: Mathew Fox, founder of "Creation Spirituality" speaks at St.. Stephens Broadway United Church, (396 Broadway) 9 to 4:30. Creation Spirituality inspires concern for all forms of life, for social justice and for the future of the planet. Phone Interfaith Pastoral Institute 786-9251 to register.

April 21: Earth Day. Stay tuned for details about activities and events. Phone 957-1660 to get involved.

May 1: Manitoba Environmental Council Annual Meeting.

May 31 to June 2: First Canadian Urban Forests Conference organized by the Canadian Forestry Association and the National Community Tree foundation in partnership with Manitoba Forestry Association and the City of Winnipeg. For registration information call Dianne Beaven, Manitoba Forestry Association 453-3183.

#### Ongoing

Environmentally Speaking airs on VPW Channel 11 every second Wednesday at 9:30 p.m on both sides of the Red River and the following Saturday on the west side of the river only.

Environmentally Speaking is a program about environment issues of concern to Manitobans sponsored by the Manitoba Environmental Council. Call 945-7031 for more information.

# New Resources at the Manitoba Eco-Network

(201-128 James Avenue, 9:30 to 4:30 weekdays)

Greenpeace has produced the second edition of its Transit in Canada report. The second edition has added case studies of five additional cities, including Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, Montreal and Halifax. The first part of the report looked at Toronto, Ottawa-Carleton, Vancouver, Regina and Saskatoon. Greenpeace has also produced an accompanying pamphlet "Traffic Activist's Handbook" with ideas, information, and contacts for a local campaign against air pollution by private automobiles. For an update on Winnipeg Transit see News Brief page 3.

For anyone who is interested in northern development -- A Benchmark Report from the Northern Manitoba Economic Development Commission could be a useful resource. The document was produced as part of a process to develop an economic plan for northern Manitoba. It includes statistics and historical background on demographics and economic activity, but don't strain your eyes looking for a mention of eco-systems. Several copies are available for free distribution at the Eco-Network Resource Centre.

Two background files on contentious forest industry issues are available in the Public Registry at the Network. Guidelines for the Preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment for the Abitibi-Price Inc. -- Pine Falls pulp and paper mill, is file number 173.30, a 13 page document. Repap's Annual Harvest and Renewal Plans for 1993 are contained in a thick binder complete with maps and tables. Ask for file number 3094.10.

### Treeline

by Harvey Williams TREE president

# Repap cutting in Parks without Environmental Licence

Repap has been cutting in parks and elsewhere without an environmental licence since January 1. The company has finally applied for the necessary licence and wants it issued in three stages; stage 1 to cover 1993, stage 2 for 1994 and stage three for 1995 to 2001. It is important that Repap be held to the letter of the law just as Abitibi-Price was.

It appears that Repap is about to embark on the construction of an

all weather road south of Grass River and that the Department of Environment intends to call for a public review of a five year plan for Repap (without intervenor funding) with scoping to take place this Fall.

We shouldn't be lulled into complacency just because the recession has caused Repap to place a hold on its expansion plans. The company is still cutting trees without an environmental impact assessment of its forest management licence, its third party suppliers are cutting in Duck Mountain and Grass River provincial parks, and the provincial government is searching for a new partner.

TREE has requested answers from the Minister of Environment to the following

questions: 1. Is Repap now cutting without an Environmental Licence? If so, how is this within the law? 2. Can a public environmental impact assessment for Stage 2 be triggered by a widespread expression of public interest?

3. Is a public environmental impact as

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sessment planned for stage 3 or will it also require an expression of public interest? What plans are being made for scoping of an EIA?

#### TREE meeting February 11

The board of Directors of TREE will meet Thursday, February 11 at 7:30 pm at the Eco-Network Resource Centre, 2nd Floor 128 James Avenue (behind the concert hall).

This will be the first board meeting under the new by-laws. Board members should bring their organization's membership form. If your organization cannot send a representative, please mail the form to: 25 St. Pierre Street, Winnipeg, MB, R3V 1J5.

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# The Manitoba Eco-Network Green Pages: Member groups in 1992-93

If there is a number or a contact not listed call the Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre 956-1468

#### Association of Mental Health Workers for the Environment

335 Rosedale Ave. Winnipeg R3L 1L9 Steve Rauh 452-2352

#### Boni-Co-op

443 Turenne Street Winnipeg R2J 0S5

## Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society Manitoba Chapter

414 Cabana Place Winnipeg R2H 0K4 Roger Turrenne 237-5947

### Choices: A Coalition for Social Justice

P.O. Box 3852, Stn. B Winnipeg, R2W 5H9 957-7010

#### Christ Lutheran Church Committee for Church in Society

815 Inkster Boulevard Winnipeg R2X IN3 Howard Engel 253-2681

#### Christian Development Council

206 - 490 Hargrave Street Winnipeg, R3A 0X7 Irene Sale, 943-1522

### Citizens Against Neurotoxins

154 Walnut Street

Winnipeg, R3G IPI Contact: 775-2785

# Citizens for the Protection of Water in Manitoba Box 40,

Roseisle, ROG IVO Dorothy Hudson, I-828-3462

#### Coalition to Save the Elms

230 Elm Street
Winnipeg, MB
R3M 3P2
Christine Singh 775-1144

#### **EnvirAction**

200, Av. de la Cathedrale Winnipeg, R2H0H7 Marjolaine Pelletier253-1649

#### Environmental Concerns Organization

c/o Vera Froese Box 2163 Morden, ROG IJO I-325-4591

#### Federation of Junior Leagues of Canada

I5 Beechwood Place Winnipeg, R2H IL2 Betty Nordrum 237-0076

#### Harvest Collective Inc.

877 Westminster Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G IB3 Paul Chorney 772-4359

#### Institute of Urban Studies University of Winnipeg

515 Portage Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9 Nancy Ito 786-9409

### Manitoba Animal Rights Coalition

P.O. Box 2203 Winnipeg, R3C 3R5 Ans. Mach.: 477-6203

#### Manitoba Environmentalists Inc.

c/o Brian Pannell 49 Brisbane Avenue Winnipeg,R3T 0TI 452-5695

# environmental group that is not listed, call the Eco-Network at 956-1468 and ask how to join.

If you are a member of an

#### Concerned Citizens of Manitoba

674 Riverwood Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T IK4 Dave Taylor284-4400

#### Crossroads Resource Group

P.O. Box 1061 Winnipeg, R3C 2X4 Bill Goddard 947-9160

#### **Defenders of Nopiming**

Box 644 Winnipeg, R3C 2K3 :Hendrik Herfst 261-3764

#### Friends of Oak Hammock Marsh

Box 1466 Stonewall, ROC 2Z0 Hilary Versavel 467-2083

#### Green & Growing

507-63 Street Winnipeg, R3B 1G4 Bryan Johnson 452-9748

#### **Green Kids**

c/o Tammy Robinson 1535 Seel Ave. Winnipeg, R3T 1C6 Telephone: 452-9777

#### Manitoba Federation of Labour

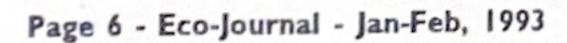
101 - 275 Broadway Winnipeg, R3C 4M6 Harry Mesman: 947-1400

### MFL Occupational Health Centre

102 - 275 Broadway Winnipeg,R3C 4M6. Judy Cook 949-0811

### Manitoba Naturalists Society

302 - 128 James Avenue Winnipeg, R3B 0N8 Telephone: 943-9029



### Manitoba Soft Drink Recycling Inc.

135 Paramount Road Winnipeg, R2X 2W6 Telephone: 694-5349

Manitoba Wildlife Rehabilitation Organization P.O. Box 242

905 Corydon Avenue Winnipeg, R3M 3S7 Telephone: 896-6976

The Marquis Project

#200 - 107 - 7th Street Brandon, R7A 3S5 Telephone: 1-727-5675

#### MennoniteCentral Committee

I34 Plaza Drive Winnipeg, R3T 5K9 Contact: Peter H. Peters, Director 261-6381

#### National Energy Conservation Association

P.O. Box 3214 Winnipeg, R3C 4E7 Phone: 783-1273

### Organic Producers Association of Manitoba Co-op Ltd.

P.O. Box 929 Virden, Manitoba ROM 2C0 Celia Guilford 873-2454



#### Pesticide Watch Interlake Group

Box 8 Silver, MB R0C 2X0 Ellen Francis I-376-5133

Project Peacemakers

745 Westminster Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G IA5

Telephone: 775-8178

#### Rainforest Action Information Network

Box 75 University Centre University of Manitoba Winnipeg, R3T 2N2 474-9118 (messages)

### The Recycling Council of Manitoba

1812-330 Portage Ave. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0C4

Telephone: 942-7781

#### Regents Park United Church

613 St. Mary's Road Winnipeg, Manitoba R2M 3L8

Telephone: 257-0678

#### Sierra Club of Western CanadaManitoba Group

Box 63 I Brandon, R7A 5Z7 (Winnipeg Contact): Lindy Clubb, 475-9608

# Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems (TREE) P.O. Box 29047,

P.O. Box 29047, 234 Donald Street Winnipeg R3C 4LI Harvey Williams 474-8263

Treaty and Aboriginal

### The 1993 Green Pages

#### Rights Research Centre

303-153 Lombard Avenue Winnipeg, R3B 0T4 943-6456

#### United Nations Association in Canada, Winnipeg Branch

2-340 Cockburn St. Winnipeg, R3M 2P5 Telephone: 475-0513

#### University of Manitoba Recycling and Environmental Group

Box 42, University Centre University of Manitoba Winnipeg, R3T 2N2 Telephone: 474-9118

#### Winnipeg Water Protection Group

14 Mount Royal Crescent Winnipeg, R3J 2M9 Contact: Helen McCullough 889-8241

#### YM-YWCAInternational Development Branch

100 - 290 Vaughan Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2P2

Mary Stuart 942-8157



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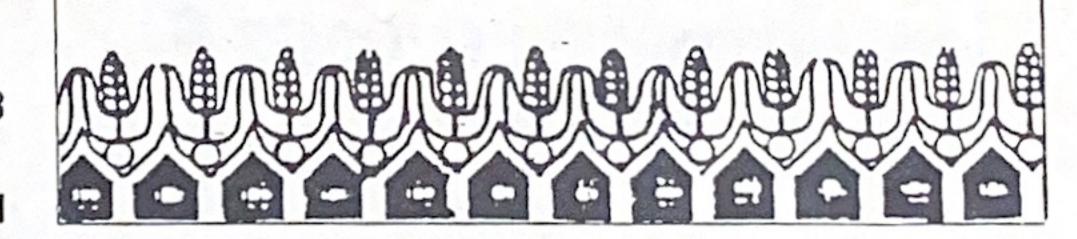
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# Manitobans are Making a Difference Around the World

The Manitoba Council for International Co-operation is sponsoring a series of entertainment, speakers, displays and door prizes at the Winnipeg Centennial Public Library auditorium at lunch hour each day of International Development Week, February 1 to 5. The programs start at 11:45 and run until 1 pm.

The line-up includes:

What is International Development? with Muriel Smith from the united Nations Association and IMAGINE, a musical drama by students at Vincent Massey Collegiate and Balmoral Hall on Monday February 1;

Community Development with Reverend Mawejje from Uganda and music by Caribbean Connection on Tuesday February 1. Also don't miss GREMINICA, a unique and thought provoking simulation game about tourism in developing countries from 5 to 8 Tuesday evening;

Shattering the Myths with

John Longhurst, Mennonite Central Committee and music by Hugo Torres on Wednesday February 3;

Disabilities and Empowerment with Susan Gray and entertainment by the dance group Nkululenko and the Nellie McClung Theatre Group on Thursday, February 4;

AND The Environment and Development with Vangile Titi from the International Institute for Sustainable Development and music by Eddie Mpwonda.

ALSO, Arpilleras from Chile, will be on exhibit at the Manitoba Archives Building Foyer, 200 Vaughan Street from February 2 to 26. Call The Manitoba Council for International Cooperation for more information 786-2106.

Westminster Housing Co-op, 145 Maryland is sponsoring a Family Benefit for Salvaide and CUSO as its contribution to International Development Week on Sunday February 7 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Clown troupe Loonisee, storytellers Jamie Oliviero and Shawn Kettner and the Rainbow Bridge Band will perform. Admission is \$2 (children under 3 admitted free).

### Network News

Congratulations to long-serving steering committee membe0r Brian Pannell, his partner Shirley and their two children Tayva and Keira on the recent birth of their daughter Mitzu Bryce. Friends of the Eco-Network are looking forward to meeting the new member of our extended family.

A grant from the City of Winnipeg Consider the Source Competition will allow the Eco-Network to rehire Sharon Segal for another six months. Sharon was organizing meetings of small groups for our project with Greening the Home in the Fall. The new project, One Baga Week, will be based in neighbourhood meetings where individuals learn how they can reduce their waste to a maximum of one garbage bag per week. More on the project in the next issue.

Winnipeg book stores managed to sell out of the Green Guide to Winnipeg over the holidays and the book is again selling well in many locations. If your group is interested in selling the book as a co-operative fund raiser with the Network call Sandy 956-1468.

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#### Celebrate HERITAGE DAY!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1993, 10:30 am CUSTOMS EXAMINING WAREHOUSE

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(A restored federal heritage building and new home of the Environment Canada Parks Service regional service centre)

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Parks maintenance workers
Educators

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Conference registration is \$195, with a subsidized rate of \$100 for community volunteers and students (both prices include GST).

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Canadian Forestry Association
Phone: (613) 232-1815, Fax: (613) 232-4210
or write
185 Somerset St. West
Suite 203
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0J2

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Canadian Forestry Association



Tree Canada Tree Plan Canada There's more to ecology than environmental assessments or debates on the true meaning of sustainable development. Cultural change, so that we all begin to live in a fashion that is mindful and respectful of the earth, ourselves and the other species which

### The family ecology page

share our fate, is also important. The simplest of activities, like playing outside with our children can lead to this kind of change from the inside out if we keep these goals in mind. Hopefully the Eco-Journal Family ecology page will help more families to appreciate our environment and have some fun. This first instalment by Sharon Segal asks some questions and gives some suggestions, but the key is your own interest and initiative. If anyone is inspired to write or suggest an article or activity for publication feel free to call the Eco-Network at 956-1468.

### Appreciating your own little bit of parkland

by Sharon Segal

How well do you know your natural environment around your own yard?

When is the last time you really looked at the trees, or at the birds that are in your yard and around your neighbourhood?

This month's family ecology page will help you and your family to get in touch with your own natural space, by giving you some fun activities to do in wintertime and help you turn your back-yard into your very own natural parkland.

Apartment dwellers can do the same activities in a neighbourhood park or along the river banks with adult supervision (remember that the Red River is a flyway for many of the birds that frequent Manitoba).

Get to know the names of the trees in your yard. Do they change during the seasons? If

you were to plant more trees or shrubs, what type would you plant, and where would you locate them?

If you have elm trees in your yard or in a median in front of your yard find out from the City of Winnipeg Tree Line 986-3456 how to spot Dutch Elm disease and how to protect the elms from developing an infestation. Elm watch programs exist in most of the older neighbourhoods in Winnipeg. The Coalition to Save the Elms (775-1144) can help you to get started.

If you live outside of Winnipeg, call the Forestry Branch of the Department of Natural Resources to find out how to preserve the trees that are keeping your yard cool and producing the life giving oxygen we all breathe.

What type of birds come to your yard? Do they have a favourite place? Do you have a bird-feeder? What happens to all the squirrels and chipmunks during the winter?

Here's a recipe that's good for the birds:

#### For the birds

Take an acorn and roll it in peanut butter, and then roll this in bird seed. Make a few of these, and hang them on tree branches where it is easy for the birds to see. If you don't have acorns, roll the peanut butter in bird seed and place several of these balls on a window sill or a fence post, along with bread crumbs.

Have several places in your yard to feed the birds. Once they know food is there, continue to feed them and they will come back to the same spot.

And here's a recipe for you to eat while you are bird-watching.

#### **Seed Slices:**

1/2 cup carob chips

1/4 cup honey

1/2 cup peanut butter

1/4 cup-wheat germ

1/4 cup walnuts

1/2 cup sunflower seeds

1/2 cup sesame seeds or coconut

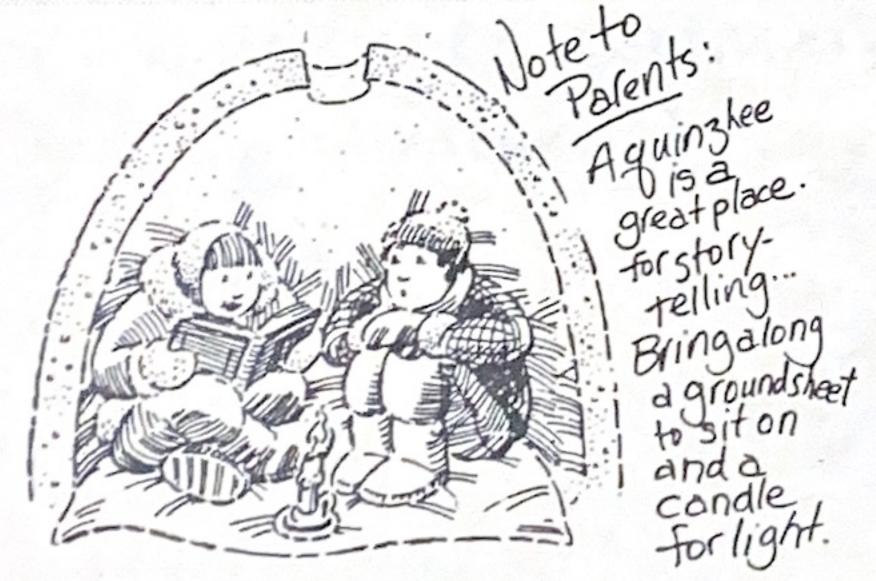
Mix all ingredients except sesame seeds/coconut. Form mixture into a roll (log shape). Chill in fridge for 1 hour. Slice roll into 1/4 inch thick slices. Press slices in seed or coconut. Store in fridge when not eating.

Here's a way to enjoy your yard, even when it's cold outside, courtesy of the Fort Whyte Centre publication **Branta**. Build a Quinzhee!

Don't forget to take along some nature books and your seed slices!

#### Let's Build a Quinzhee

- 1. Choose a shady spot on the north side of your house to build the quinzhee (so the sun won't melt the walls).
- 2. Make a snow pile at least 2 metres tall and 3 metres wide. Then let your snow pile harden overnight.
- 3. Once the snow pile is set, you can begin the tunnel. Start at ground level. Use a small gardening trowel or a short handled spade and dig a hole in the pile just big enough to crawl through.
- 4. When it's about I metre long, begin scooping snow overhead and on the sides, leaving the bottom layer until last. It's very important to remove just the right amount of snow: if the walls are too thin, your quinzhee might collapse! Do not play on top while it's occupied.
- 5. Once light from the outside begins to show through the area you are digging, it's time to move on to another spot. Make sure you keep the discarded snow away from the tunnel entrance.
- 6. When the inside is hollowed out, poke a small hole in the ceiling to let in fresh air. Close the entrance with an old blanket or piece of cardboard to block the wind.



Page 10 - Eco-Journal - Jan-Feb, 1993



# "Multiple Use" a barrier to reaching 12 per cent goal

Continued from page one

current government approach:

"In establishing a conservation strategy, the first priority should be the identification of the areas deserving of protection, in order to ensure that industrial development takes place away from these areas. What is proposed instead is to have inventories of all the areas suitable for logging, mining and hydro development! Only what is left over after the loggers and miners have had their pick will be considered for protection!"

Forest products company Abitibi-Price Pine Falls, perhaps more sensitive because of its experiences with the struggle over logging in Nopiming Park, was more accommodating about the concept of setting aside ecological preserves, although the company position seems to be that this shouldn't occur anywhere in its traditional cutting areas.

"The 12 per cent Brundtland Commission recommendation should be applied to the zones and in areas that have not been developed. In particular, further north, where all sorts of pristine undisturbed ecological areas exist. If further reductions in wood supply occur, the eventual recurring bad dream of populace fleeing Pine Falls and Manitoba will occur," said Abitibi mill manager Fern Pitre.

Abitibi is adamant that losing its access to cutting in Nopiming Park would make its operation unviable, but logging or mining in parks is anathema to ecologists, partly because the parks system is seen, and by government not just activists, as the tool for reaching the 12 per cent goal.

#### Parks not necessarily wilderness

Unfortunately, Manitoba Parks are historically open to resource extraction. Many of the parks, starting in the 60's, were created out of provincial forests or forest reserves set aside for logging. Mining and other commerical usespre-date the establishment of a provincial park system. Some would say that the concept of a wilderness park, free of development, is a relatively recent, and urban, construct. But the current state of Manitoba's parks hardly points to evidence wilderness uses are triumphing over resource extraction.

In fact a Manitoba Eco-Network report 'Re-evaluating Park Policy In Manitoba' by Bill Krawchuk discovered that resource extraction and commercial uses are widespread in at least four provincial parks. Krawchuk concluded that for those that believe parks are a vehicle for protecting natural areas, 'the degree to which protection is afforded is questionable.'

Krawchuk's report documented and mapped resource extraction and other activities in Grass River, Duck Mountain, Hecla-Grindstone and Nopiming, for presentation to the Natural Lands and Special Places hearings held by the Round Table. One of the most important revelations is that resource development is "taking place in areas where the eco-system dynamics are either poorly understood or where base-line data for park management purposes are inadequate for proper decision-making."

#### Urgent need to protect natural areas

Krawchuk found that because of proposed new developments and the degree of ongoing resource extraction there is "an urgent need to identify natural areas which are protected by legislation, regulation or land use policy. If need be, efforts should be made to change provincial land use policy to clearly reflect this goal of a protected areas vision."

Most of this points directly to the provincial government, which even imbued with the wisdom of Solomon, may not have the political fortitude to apply substance to its sustainable development policies. No government would be eager to upset the major taxpayers of the province by limiting resource extraction in the current parks system, least of all one that is predisposed to let market forces prevail. That was evident when Environment Minister Glen Cummings overruled a Clean Environment Commissions' recommendation that logging be banned in Nopiming Provincial Park. But on the other hand Natural Resources Minister Harry Enns is said to be wounded by the World Wildlife Fund's last report card for Manitoba. The province was handed a D minus, the lowest of any province, and reminded that only two per cent of Manitoba's lands and waters are legally protected

from logging, mining and hydro developments.

Some like Roger Turrenne and Time to Respect Earth's Eco-System president Harvey Williams are critical of the Round Table's role in the government's land and water strategy process as well.

"As we talk and talk and talk, the real candidate sites, the natural lands and special places, are being mined, clear-cut, built upon, and otherwise despoiled for generations to come," Turrenne said.

Round Table member Jack Dubois made it to all but three of the 12 separate days of hearings on the Natural Lands and Special Places policies. The Round Table is an advisory body of government ministers, business leaders and a sprinkling of academics and others. Its job is to report to the premier and recommend policy alternatives as well as to take their experiences back to their respective businesses and agencies.

Dubois sees the struggle not so much as to define what a park should be, but as a "dichotomy" of perspectives. One side sees sees economics as the basis for survival while the other sees the environment as the source of all survival including economics.

Dubois, who is also Chair of the Manitoba Eco-Network (although he doesn't represent the Network on the Round Table) thinks the forestry concerns can be accommodated if the companies accept that resources are finite and commit to operate within clearly defined limits. Expansion of their areas is where conflict will arise.

He also says he has heard the province has made some progress in convincing mining interests to outline areas of low mineral potential even if the industry's public position is less generous.

The challenge for ecologists, Dubois, says, is to convince communities that rely on resource extraction that "we're going to have to set aside some areas for ecological security, not just economic security" and that these areas are "not being set aside for some abstract esoteric purpose, but for some real ecological purpose -- the air we breathe, the water we drink."

He's hopeful for improvements, even though he cautions that is 'naive to assume that (government policy) would be some sort of distillation of what the public said' in their presentations.

He does say that the Parks Land Act review is an indication that the government members "know they have to make some moves."

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