

Eco-JOURNAL

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RESEAU
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du Manitoba inc.

Volume 2, Number 2

March-April 1992

Is Manitoba forestry at the threshold of a new era?

by Peter Miller

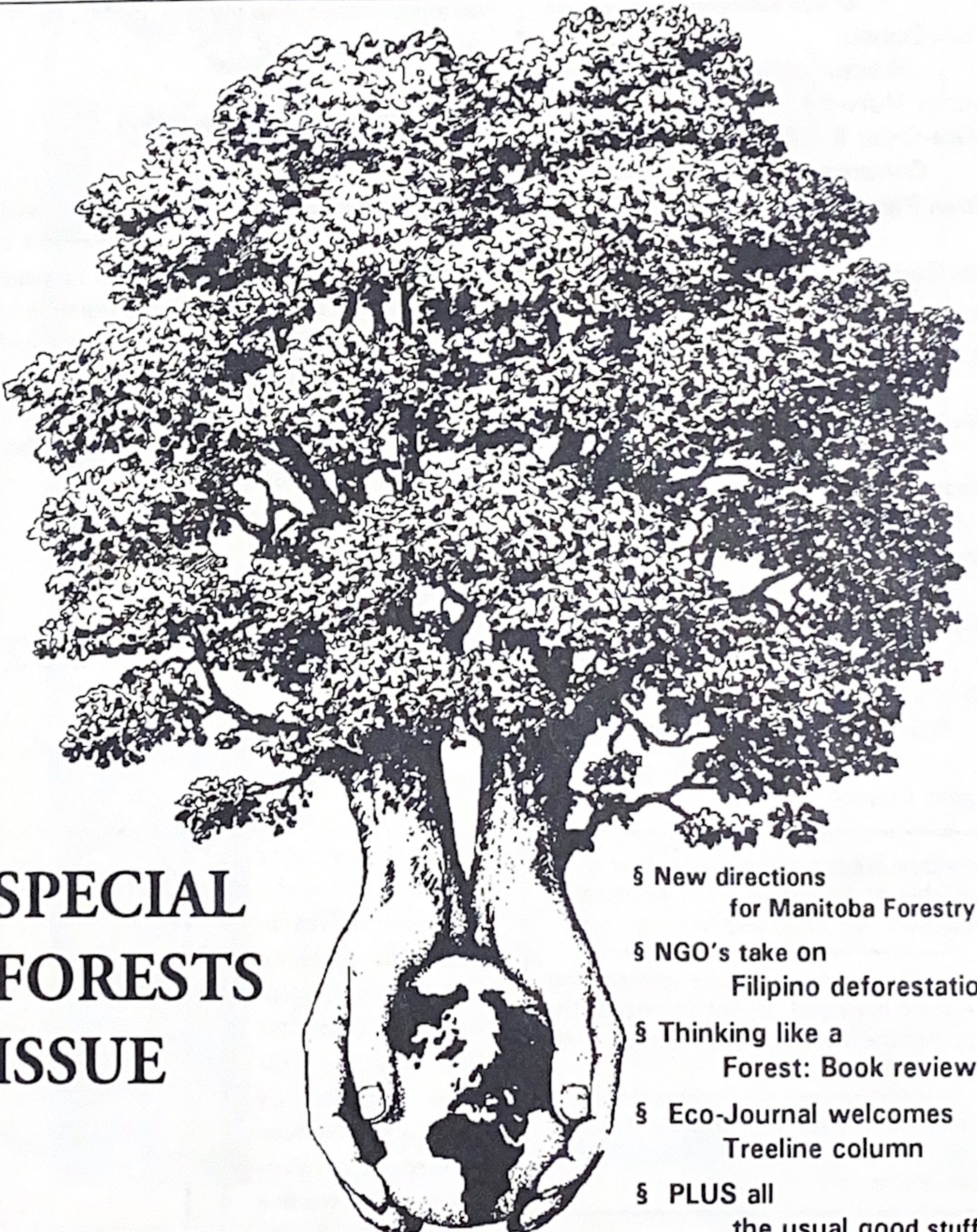
Is it just wishful thinking arising from a delirium induced by running once too often into a brick wall or are we in fact on threshold of a new era in forestry?

You be the judge. Three portents occurring within days of one another around the beginning of March make the prospect of a new departure a lively possibility. These are the province's announcement that it will renegotiate its contract with Repap, the release of the stellar Clean Environment Commission (CEC) Report on Abitibi Price's Forest Management Plan, and the submission of the Manitou Abi Model Forest proposal to Forestry Canada.

Together, these events afford Manitoba an unparalleled opportunity to rationalize its entire industry on an ecologically sustainable basis. To do so, the Province must at the same time, in full consultation with the stakeholders, put its forest, parks and wilderness, and wildlife policies in order, while accommodating aboriginal land claims.

The key question is whether the provincial government is willing to do so before the new contract is set rather than afterwards. For that to occur they must extend the announced six month deadline of renegotiation of the Repap contract and set up a multi-stakeholder policy process to do the job that wasn't done the first time.

see Repap page 4.



**SPECIAL
FORESTS
ISSUE**

- § New directions for Manitoba Forestry?
- § NGO's take on Filipino deforestation
- § Thinking like a Forest: Book review
- § Eco-Journal welcomes Treeline column
- § PLUS all the usual good stuff

Illustration: Steve Weston

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Reread:

by Toby Maloney

ELA featured

Check out the current issue of *Canadian Geographic* for an excellent feature on the Experimental Lakes Area operated by Manitoba's Freshwater Institute just over the border in Northwestern Ontario. The article by Peter Gorrie looks at the history of the ELA in definitive scientific work on the phosphate problem in detergents and the effect of Acid Precipitation on lakes (including the news that the lakes can be restored). An accompanying photograph features Network volunteer Jennifer Hiebert working as a research assistant last summer.

Long long lunch

An Edmonton High School student proved his point about reuse with a single brown paper lunch bag which he managed to make last the whole school year. David Bossmann, a Grade 11 member of Students Concerned Regarding the Environment and Mankind (SCREAM) set an example for fellow students who pressed their own paper bags into further service or began using cloth bags.

Green Teacher, February-March, 1992

Smidgen of optimism in former republics

Events may have overtaken the article, but an overview of environment problems and the small steps toward solutions in the Fall issue of *Our Planet* (published by the United Nations Environment Program) is still worth a look. In St. Petersburg

A quick flip through other periodicals

where a compromise between containing harbour pollution in Neva Bay and allowing pollution to drift into the Gulf of Finland, must be found. New powers in the hands of local authorities could mean that decisions about industrial pollution are put in the hands of those who are most affected. In other areas the situation is desperate. The Donetsk Pridneprovsky region in the Ukraine receives 15 per cent of all pollutant emissions from the entire former Soviet Union. Mutagenic and embryotropic damage is widespread among the population.

Swan song for the CEAC

The Canadian Environmental Advisory Council, defunded in the February federal budget had just released a series of studies exploring the links between economics and ecology. Three documents in the series "Indicators of Ecologically Sustainable Development" from proceedings at a conference it hosted in July '90, are available. Heavy on both economic and ecological theory, the CEAC mentions that it "expects to publish several reports on the subject of sustainable development indicators." Perhaps those expectations have now been derailed.

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NETWORK NEWS:

Environmentally Friendly Living Guide will go ahead

A matching grant from the federal government's Environmental Partners fund will enable the Manitoba Eco-Network to publish its Environmentally-Friendly Living Guide this year.

The project would list sources and provide specific action to assist Manitobans in improving making their day to day lifestyle decisions. Raising awareness about consumer purchases, reduction of household waste, energy efficiency and several other areas will be covered in the guide.

The Environmental Partners funding matches contributions and commitments totaling \$19,941 by the Eco-Network, layout/design consultant Manuela Karman, The Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation, and the Manitoba Hazardous Waste Management Corporation. It also matches money provided by the John Labatt's People in Action Fund which enabled the Network to hire Kemlin Nembhard to initiate the project last summer.

The Eco-Network is providing administration of the project, as well as promotion and distribution and consulting on resources and editing.

The Environmental Partners Fund accepts applications for major projects twice a year and now includes awareness projects like the Eco-Network's publication project. Smaller project applications can be made at any time.

A copy of the fund's application form is available by calling Louis Chagnon (983-8574 or 1-800-665-7135).



"When they said the rain forest was shrinking, they weren't kidding!"



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Canada's Environmental Magazine

Are we doing it? You tell us.

Here are a few issues Earthkeeper has dealt with in the last two years:

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Repap renegotiations chance to do it better

Continued from Page 1.

The CEC Report makes clear the path we must tread:

(A) The commission reiterated its recommendation of over two years ago that a sustainable development policy for our forests should be in place before another forest management plan is vetoed;

(B) The commissioners also considered the Brundtland Report, the Endangered Spaces commitment, and the failure of current parks policies in Manitoba to protect natural ecosystems and concluded that logging should be phased out of our natural parks;

(C) They urged an examination of possible overcommitment of forest lands in the light of the requirements of both forestry and preservation;

(D) They strongly endorsed the principle that public stakeholders should have a say in managing crown forests.

The recently developed Manitou Abi Model Forest proposal (*see sidebar*) demonstrates that when proper encouragement, co-operation and information are provided, Manitobans representing the aboriginal community, large and small scale forest industry, universities, environmental groups, and government officials can work together amicably and creatively to integrate a complex variety of factors and values at both a theoretical and a practical level.

Finally, consider two obligations which add to the urgency to get on with the process. First the Province is obliged, under paragraph 11.11 of the Canada-Manitoba Partnership Agreement in Forestry signed on March 25, 1991, to "submit a long term plan, outlining forestry strategies over a full rotation." The Province will fail, however, to meet the March 31, 1992 due date, since it cancelled the tendering process set up by Forestry Branch to get the job done. Second, Repap's current Five-year Forest Management License expires at the end of this year, so that it lacks authorization to cut any more trees after January 1, 1993.

Time to Respect Earth's Eco-Systems (TREE) maintains that the Province has obligations to the Government of Canada, to the citizens of Manitoba, and to our posterity to

complete a sustainable forest policy that fully integrates parks, protected areas, and wildlife policies that reflect the full range of forest values. These issues will not go away and we shall continue to pursue them vigorously.

We also maintain that, in keeping with the Brundtland philosophy, this integrated policy should be achieved through a multi-stakeholder process, and that the recent experience of developing the Manitou Abi Model Forest proposal demonstrates that this can be done in a manner that enhances environmental values, economic opportunities, and good will. Moreover, we believe that present circumstances provide the Province with a golden opportunity to create, in an efficient but fully consultative manner, just such a policy. To that end we have made the following recommendations to the provincial government:

A. Renegotiation of the Repap contract should follow, not precede, the development of the long term forest plan required by the Canada-Manitoba Partnership Agreement in Forestry. Otherwise the designation of an appropriate license area and the volumes of fibre available for harvesting cannot be determined.

B. The development of a new, long term provincial forest plan should include the development of new parks, wilderness, and wildlife policies as integral parts, in keeping with the Sustainable Development philosophy of integrated planning and the Canada-Manitoba Agreement's requirement for Integrated Resource Management.

C. The forest plan and integrated policy development process should include the close participation of a Stakeholders Advisory Committee having a composition similar to the one proposed by the CEC for the Abitibi Price Forest Management License or to the Manitou Abi Model Forest Partnership.

D. The forest plan and integrated policy development process should take account of recent documents such as "A Wildlife Policy for Canada" and "Sustainable Forests: A Canadian Commitment," both of which Manitoba has endorsed, and "A Protected Areas Vision for Canada" produced by the Canadian Environmental Advisory Council. Furthermore, the process should make provision for recognizing aboriginal land claims; it should have access to independent consultants who

are expert in conservation biology to develop and vet proposals for ecological and wildlife protection; it should co-ordinate with the Northern Manitoba Economic Development Commission; and it should initiate studies of wood and fibre product and technology alternatives, fibre sourcing alternatives (including lesser used species, recycling, and farmed fibres), and Eco-tourism and other forest-based economic initiatives compatible with ecological protection. [New federal Green Plan programs and the recent Canada-Manitoba Tourism agreement are potential sources of funding for some of these initiatives.]

E. Until the forest plan and integrated policy development process is completed, Repap should be licensed on an annual basis, with annual plans developed in consultation with the multi-stakeholder planning process. Repap's interim annual plans should avoid logging in parks and permanent road construction.

F. Since Repap would presumably participate in the multi-stakeholder planning process, their own longer range Forest Management Plans could be developed in conjunction with it. This would parallel the multi-stakeholder management of Abitibi Price's area in the Manitou Abi Model Forest.

Well, are we on the threshold of a new era in forestry? We are if the forest industry, provincial government, aboriginal first nations, and environmental groups can jointly commit to sustainable forest principles. We are if we can plan together on that basis to do for the Province what's been done for Eastern Manitoba.

What do you think?, and how can you help make it happen?

Peter Miller is TREE board member. The group can be contacted by writing to Box 29047 234 Donald Street. Winnipeg, MB R3C 4L1 or by calling 786-9832.

continued on Page 5.



Forging a partnership: The Manitou Abi Model Forest proposal

by Peter Miller

Suppose a major pulp and paper company were to say, 'The ball is in your court now. We invite you and others who have an interest in our neck of the woods to manage it jointly with us. We'll strive for a vision and a concrete plan we all can live with.'

That, in effect, is what Abitibi-Price of Pine Falls said to Time to Respect Earth's Ecosystems (TREE), to the Manitoba Naturalists Society, to local aboriginal First Nations, to the Woodlot Owners Association, and to other interested parties and provincial officials.

And we took them up on it. As a consequence, TREE's goals have now also become goals of the Manitou Abi Model Forest Partnership, which is founded upon the principles of respect and care for the community of life and for the human community in all their diversity. The Partnership is also pledged to an open problem-solving approach to negative impacts and conflicts and to working creatively with nature's inventions and productivity to improve efficiency, benefits and environmental protection.

The First Nations named the model forest "Manitou Abi" or Seat of God, which is the traditional Ojibway name for the region.

The Manitou Abi Partnership, which builds on the open and respectful relations established during the recent environmental assessment of Abitibi's Forest Management Plan, is a response to a Forestry Canada Green Plan initiative to establish six to nine model forests across Canada. The program is designed to reconcile the diverse interests and values that different parties identify in their forests and to discover and demonstrate the best possible forest practices and management including preservation of endangered spaces, biodiversity, and wildlife.

Federal funding will average \$1 to \$1.5 million a year for six years per model forest. Our proposal is one of 50 across Canada, but the only one from Manitoba. We should know by June whether we have Federal support, but in any case joint management is an idea whose time has come and the Manitou Abi Partnership will be worth continuing on its own merits.

TREELINE

by Harvey Williams, TREE president

New Surroundings

This marks the first appearance of TREELINE as a column along with the other Time to Respect Earth's Eco-Systems TREE submissions to Eco-Journal as a way of keeping us informed about forestry issues. This issue of the Eco-Journal is being distributed to supporters of TREE and the group is considering an agreement with the Eco-Network to continue to provide our publication to its supporters on an ongoing basis.

Special Meeting to Renew TREE

The renegotiation of the Repap agreement has presented TREE with new challenges and new opportunities. To meet these challenges we need to make sure that our organizational structure is on a sound footing. Accordingly, TREE will hold a special general meeting of its members and friends on Tuesday evening, May 5 at 7:30 P.M. to review its by-laws. The meeting will be held at the Eco-Network office, 2nd floor, 128 James Street.

Some affiliates of TREE have expressed concern about the organizational structure of TREE. Potential affiliates have been reluctant to join TREE because of the nature of TREE's organizational structure. Accordingly, amendments (as yet undrafted) to TREE's by-laws will be proposed at the meeting. The effect of the proposed amendments will be to:

§ 1st policy making power for TREE in a board of directors comprised of representatives of the affiliated organizations. The specific nature of the representation will be addressed at the meeting;

§ create an associate membership category for TREE which will be entitled to one representative on the board of directors. TREE has been an effective and responsible voice for forest ecosystems. We can become more effective if we can broaden the range of support for our efforts. On the other hand, TREE's accomplishments to date, and they are significant, have been achieved within TREE's present organizational structure as a result of the efforts of TREE's founders. We look forward to a good turnout and a lively discussion.

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Friday, April 24, 1992 7:30 P.M.
Basic Medical Science Bldg. Theatre A
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For more information call 956-1468

Calendar of Events

April

April 7: **TREE (Time To Respect Earth's Eco-System)** Annual General Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Eco-Network office (201-128 James Avenue).

April 9: Plan Winnipeg Open House, Conference Room 1, City Hall, 510 Main Street. For more information call City of Winnipeg Planning Department, 986-5707.

April 9 and 10: Open House at the Freshwater Institute for Community Organizations and school tours, 8:30 - 4 p.m., call for appointments 983-5000. Displays and interactive exhibits showing how fisheries research contributes to our understanding of the environment.

April 11: **University of Manitoba Recycling and Environment Group** hosts a fund-raiser with live music and skits for Friends of Oak Hammock Marsh at B-52's (University of Manitoba campus) from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. For tickets (\$8) and info call 474-9118.

April 11 and 12: Open House at Freshwater Institute continues for the general public, no appointments necessary. 10-4 p.m. Saturday and 12-4 p.m. Sunday.

April 12: **Manitoba Animal Rights Coalition** Annual General Meeting. Room 1L04 (Lockhart Hall) University of Winnipeg. 5 p.m. Call 477-6203.

April 22: **Earth Day Clean Air Challenge.** A city-wide challenge to companies, businesses, organizations and schools to find alternate means of getting to work or school. Call 475-9200.

April 24: **Manitoba Eco-Network** hosts Herb Hammond, professional forester and author of *Seeing the Forest Among the Trees: The Case for Wholistic Forest Use* Basic Medical Sciences Building,

Theatre A, (Back entrance Emily and Bannatyne) 7:30 p.m. as part of its observation of Earth Day. Herb will offer a talk and slide presentation on the topic of his new book. (See review elsewhere in *Eco-Journal*). Tickets are \$7 and available at the Network office (956-1468).

April 25: **Earth Day** activities all day sponsored by the Canadian Coalition for Ecology, Ethics and Religion presents: "Faith and Action: an interfaith response to the environmental crisis" at Riddell hall, U of W from 9 to 4 p.m. Speakers, panel discussions, workshops and entertainment.

April 26: **Earth Day** all day at the Forks. Starts at sunrise (6 a.m.) with an ecumenical prayer service. Displays and activities run all day. Earth Day main stage concert starting with children's performers from 1 to 8 p.m. SEE article in this issue of *Eco-Journal* or call Connie at 475-9200.

May

May 2 and 3: **National Forest Awareness Week** displays in various malls across the province. Scavenger hunt and tree identification walk at the Forks National Historic Site on the weekend. Call Dan Bullock at 453-3182.

May 2: **Solar Energy Society** holds a Solar Electric (Photovoltaic) Seminar. Registration is limited. Call 256-3894.

1992 Environmental Awards

Nominations sought

The Manitoba Eco-Network
is currently seeking nominations for the

1992 Environmental Awards

(to be presented at our Dinner/Dance on May 23).

Awards are given in two categories:
outstanding contribution by an individual,
and outstanding contribution by a group.

Please submit your nominations,
with a brief outline of why your nominee
should be recognized, to the
Eco-Network office by April 25.

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May 5: **United Nations Association Dinner and Annual Meeting** with keynote speaker John Bell, Special Adviser on the Environment to the Minister of External Affairs and Trade. Dinner (\$25) starts at approximately 6 p.m. at the Westin Hotel. Speaker starts at approximately 7 p.m. (\$5). Phone 475-0531.

May 7 to May 10: **Brandon United Nations Youth Seminar** sponsored by **Marquis Project**. Theme: Indigenous Peoples and the Global Environment. Open to youth, 15 to 20 years old. BUNYS is a four-day live-in conference for Manitoba youth, which includes keynote speakers, workshops, simulations, drama and music. Registration fee, which includes room and board and all programs and materials, is \$150. Call Celia Sarbit at Marquis 727-5675.

May 16: **Season Opening of Prairie Habitats Greenhouse and Nursery** near Argyle, Manitoba. Prairie Habitats offers a wide variety of native prairie grasses and wildflowers. Call 467-9371 for directions etc.

May 17-18: **Racing for a Better Environment**, sponsored by the Market Square Merchant's Association. Bicycle and footracing for amateurs (Saturday) and professionals (Sunday). Info-booths (environment focus) and entertainment. Phone Dave Richardson at 269-0850 (h) or 957-6012 (w).

May 23: **Manitoba Eco-Network Annual General Meeting** at St. Pauls Anglican Church, Ft. Garry, 1:00 - 5:00pm. Business meeting and speakers on the theme of "Restoration of the Land". Followed by a **Dinner and Dancing to Live Music**, and our annual environmental awards. For info. and tickets call 956-1468.

May 28-29: **Third Annual Marquis Global Environment Inservice and Conference**. Thursday evening and all day Friday. Open to teachers and the general public. A parallel conference for students will happen in Brandon simultaneously, using many of the same speakers and activities. Contact Debbie Jennings at Marquis 727-5675.

May 29-31: **CPAWS (Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society) Manitoba** hosts the organization's national Annual General Meeting, **Parks in the 21st Century**, in Wasagaming (Clear Lake). Call Roger Turenne 237-5947.

June

June 1: **Manitoba Eco-Network Public Forum on the Ozone Situation**, Great West Life Conference Centre, 100 Osborne St. 6:30 pm, free admission. Call 956-1468 for details. See article this issue of **Eco-Journal**.



NETWORK PEOPLE

President elect

Kemlin Nembhard, who worked for the Eco-Network last summer to lay the groundwork for a project to develop an environmentally friendly living guide for Winnipeg has been elected as the president of the University of Winnipeg Students Association.

Along with her work at the Network, Kemlin has been active with the University of Winnipeg Students Acting for a Safe Environment, Concerned Citizens of Manitoba and TREE. She was part of a full slate of candidates fielded by the Coalition for Reform at University of Winnipeg (CRUW) for the 13 member board. A total of eight CRUW candidates, including Kemlin, were elected.

Part of CRUW's platform, along with reforming the UWSA structure along feminist lines, is to try and improve the policies of the University administration environmentally. Kemlin is just finishing up a triple major in Environmental Studies, Geography and Social and Economic Studies.

Congratulations!!!!

To our Communications Director, Toby Maloney, his partner Robin Faye and their "big kids" Coral and Eryn, on the birth of their baby girl. Willow was born at home on March 12 with the assistance of traditional midwife Darlene Birch. Everyone is happy and well.

Welcome...

To Liz Roulston, who will be taking on the co-ordinating tasks for the Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Canadian Environmental Network to be held this year in Manitoba. Manitoba Eco-Network is the host for this event from Sept. 17 to 20 at Hecla Island. Liz has a long history of working with community groups and agencies in an organizational capacity. Liz will be working closely with our Steering Committee and a National AGM planning committee to ensure a successful meeting and a great experience of Manitoba for environmentalists from across the country.

Thinking like the forest

Review by Steve Rauh

I have written a lot of book reviews in my life, but rarely have I been so intimidated by the task as I am by this one. How does one write about what is probably one of the most important books published in Canada in this century? Important because it gives us the opportunity to understand our forests in a way that can offer so much hope and opportunity, because it spells out how our nation is currently headed toward creating a nightmare out of that hope and beauty, and, mostly, because it helps us understand how each of us can do our part in overcoming the nightmare and restoring hope and opportunity.

Why, though, such glowing words about the book's essential role at this pivotal period in Canadian history? We in Canada are still blessed with large intact forests. Not as large as they should be, but large enough for the earth to benefit from their millions of years of irreplaceable wisdom and irreplaceable provisions to the web of life.

Without that wisdom, without that connection to the past, we will lose the foundation upon which the human edifice has survived, and our species will crumble as it takes many more with it. But the wisdom is more than a life support system. It offers us a location which gives meaning and shape to our lives.

Gordon Robinson, a colleague and mentor of Herb Hammond said it well when he wrote that forests and the wilderness experience verify the knowledge that all is well where people have not contrived.

Herb Hammond understands that experience in terms of Canada's forest, and he guides us to a deepening appreciation of it in his book.

The book is a comprehensive volume that looks at the case for wholistic forestry in five major ways: 1) What are the forests? 2) How do we use the forest? 3) What are the impacts of our use of the forest? 4) The politics of forest use, and 5) the solution — wholistic forest use. The book concludes with a summary photo essay titled "Seeing the Forest Among the Trees." It is illustrated with hundreds of photographs and charts that help to clarify the story of the forest that Hammond tells.

Hammond is a scientist. That is clear from the way he writes about the forest — about

Seeing the Forest Among the Trees: The case For Wholistic Forestry

by Herb Hammond

Polestar Press, 309 pages, 1991

its micro-organisms, its terrain, its animal communities, its plant community, its effect on climate, the importance of old growth. Hammond extends his scientific insights to his discussion of the impact of current forestry practices — the loss of soil, the loss of genetic diversity, the destruction of the water table, the impact of pesticides, the problems with clearcutting and the longterm loss of resources.

But Hammond is also a keen observer of economics and politics, because the story of the forest is a political and economic story. Who has the power? Where do they get the power?

Who makes the profit? What are the prospects for sustainability given current practices? Who speaks for the forest?

And finally, Hammond is a storyteller, a visionary and a believer. He tells the story of the forest in prose that gives the reader a feel for the thirty years of work in forests and with communities that led to his writing the book.

He is a visionary because he does not only state the problem, but because he presents the most comprehensive and clear solution to our current dilemma that I have seen. Hammond describes the principles of wholistic forestry as ecological responsibility in all forest uses and balanced use across the forest landscape. But the idea does not stop with principles, it includes decision-making processes which put the responsibility in the hands of people who do not have special interests, but whose concerns are for the ecological and sustainable health of their community.

And he is a believer because he believes in the beauty, the richness and the healing power of the forest and in comparable qualities in the human community. Hammond couldn't have written this book if he didn't believe in people, and he says as much in his many stories of the wonderful people he has met. Hammond tells us:

* You have as much power as you believe you have.

* Act, don't react.

* Think like the forest.

This is not a critical review of a new forestry book. The message of Hammond's book is too important to the opportunities to refashion an enriching relationship to our forests and to the potential to rebuild caring human communities. It provides us with an important tool by which we can restore hope and understanding in our lives and in the life of the forests.

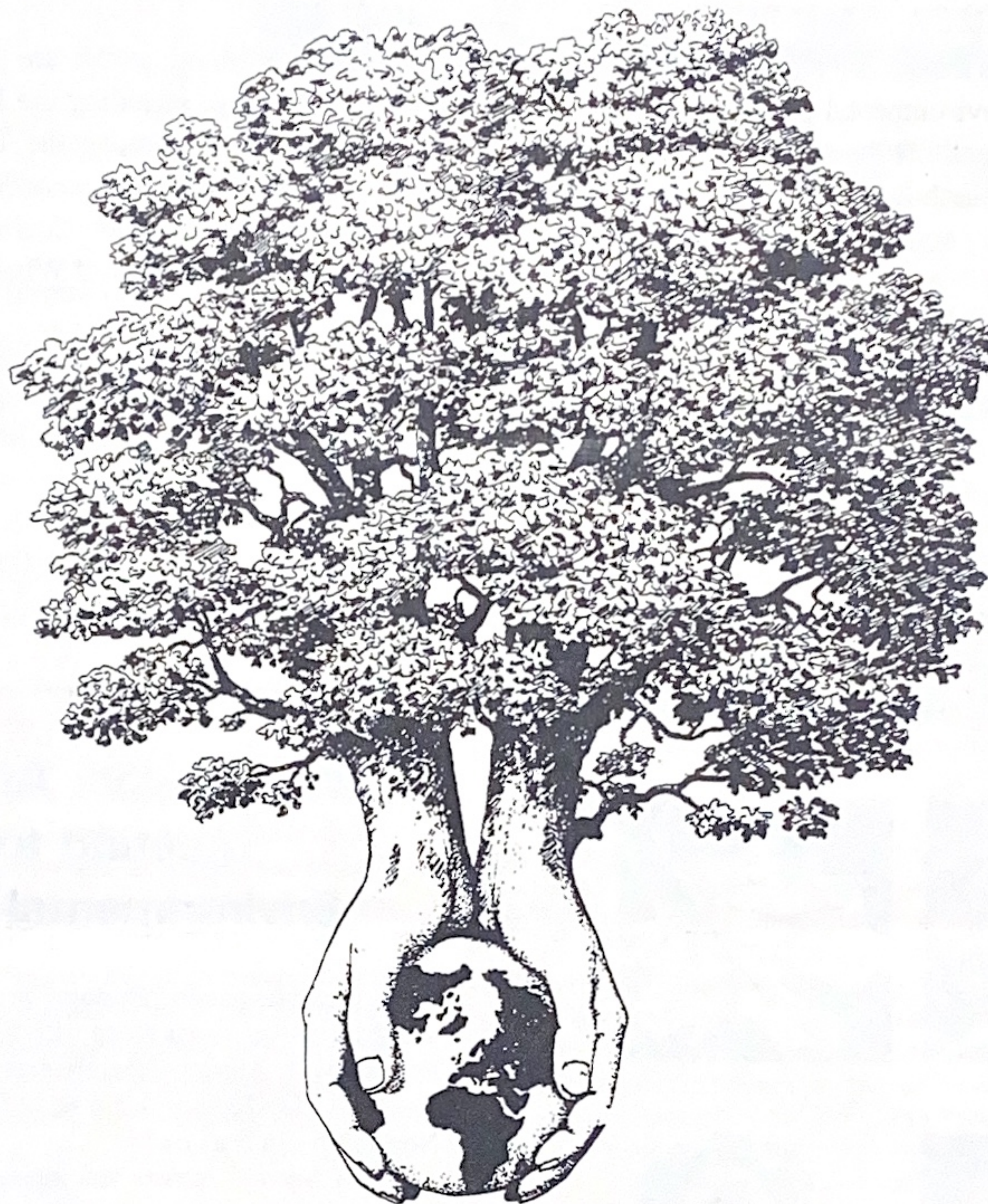
Steve Rauh has been a grassroots forestry activist in the U.S. and Canada for twenty years. He has worked on the development of the Community Forest Forum proposal for Canada, the protection of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, and the expansion of Redwood National Park in California.

Forester Gordon Robinson speaks about the importance of wilderness:

I think that we are searching for a philosophy that will reconcile our emotions and our reasoning. We want emotions and our reasoning to take us to the same conclusions. ...I agree with Paul Tillich, who said in *The Courage to Be*, that if you believe in the source of your being, you realize it knew what it was about when it created humanity, so it is alright to just go ahead and be. But I think this needs verification and I think we get that verification from wilderness experience. The direct first hand knowledge that all is well where human beings have not contrived. I think there are other sources of this verification, I think we get it from great art, great music, great love, but I think the ultimate source of confidence or faith (if you prefer the term) is direct first hand knowledge from wilderness experience that all is well.

MANITOBA ECO-NETWORK

presents



SEEING THE FOREST AMONG THE TREES

THE CASE FOR WHOLISTIC FOREST USE

Herb Hammond

Forester, Forest Ecologist, Author

WHERE: Basic Medical Science Building, Theatre A

WHEN: Friday April 24, 1992, 7:30 pm

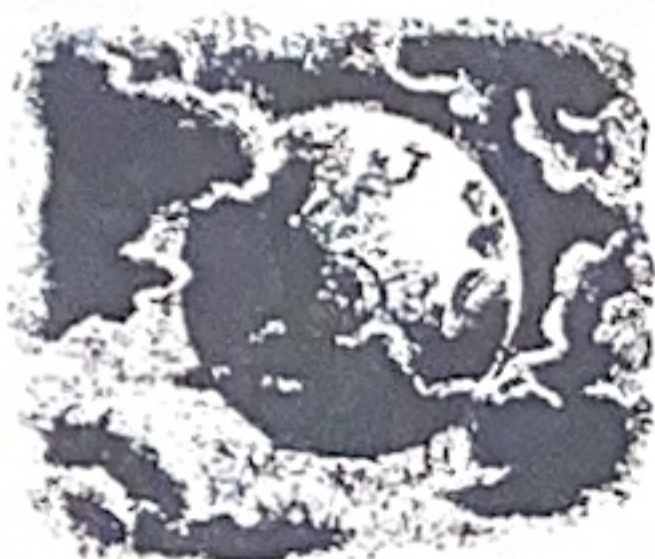
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All proceeds go to support the Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre



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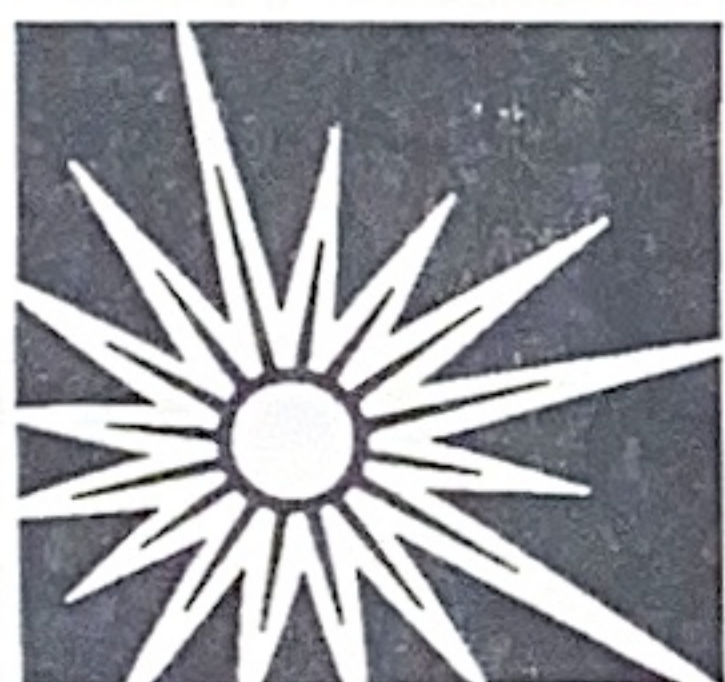


Earth Day needs volunteers!

Earth Day Manitoba has announced a third year of activities to raise awareness about environmental problems, but the group still needs volunteers to pull off the whole show.

The main events on Earth Day, April 26, will take place at the Forks again this year, starting with a non-denominational sunrise prayer service at 6 a.m. A full day of games, sports, interactive displays, speeches, workshops and booths representing Manitoba groups and organizations, proceeds through to 6 p.m. A children's concert starts at 1 p.m. on the Earth Day Main Stage which gives way to a family concert in the evening and then a finale with mainstream recording artists (all Manitoba-based musicians).

The event requires a great deal of volunteers on the actual day of the event, but others are required for set-up, and planning work that is underway now. Earth Day co-ordinator Connie Menzies (475-9200 or fax 453-8285) can match interested volunteers with a job that will suit their interests.



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877 Westminister Avenue ph.772-4359

Other Earth Day events are proceeding through the week before Earth Day, including the Herb Hammond presentation "Seeing the Forest Among the Trees" on Friday evening, a Clean Air Challenge on Wednesday and a full day of activities sponsored by the Canadian Coalition for Ecology, Ethics and Religion at the University of Winnipeg (Riddell Hall) on Saturday.

The theme of Earth Day 1992 is "Our future starts with you." Organizers are hoping to avoid creating any garbage with the event. Objectives include trying to involve as many groups and individuals as possible to organize the event, with an emphasis on getting participation from rural Manitoba and to provide as many people as possible with "easy and implementable solutions that they can understand, appreciate and put into action today."

Eco-Network Annual General Meeting to feature Environmental Restoration

Two presentations on "Restoration of the Land" and a dinner/dance/social are on the agenda along with the regular business for this year's Eco-Network Annual General Meeting. The event will be held on Saturday, May 23 from 1-5 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 830 North Drive in Fort Garry.

Eco-Journal readers and interested members of the public are welcome to attend all or part of the meeting. (The Eco-Network has a general meeting every year at which we try to combine topical presentations with items of Network business. Some member group representatives are voting delegates to the meeting, but the emphasis is on information sharing and education by and for Network subscribers.)

The business portion will include elections to the Eco-Network Steering Committee, selection of voting delegates to the Canadian Environmental Network AGM and conference (to be held at Hecla Island in September), and voting on a number of by-law changes.

Following the business meeting, we will feature our two guest speakers on the topic of "Restoration of the Land": Celia Guilford, of the Organic Producers Association will address the agricultural side of this issue, while Doug Collicutt will speak about trends in restoration in North America, with examples of his work with John Morgan on the restoration of Tall Grass Prairie ecosystems in Manitoba.

In the evening, the Network is hosting a dinner and dance (to live music!), also at St. Paul's and we'll be presenting our Annual Environmental Awards. Inspired by our successful social evening in the Fall we know that members of the "environmental community" (and friends) are just itching to dance and have fun ... tickets are \$30 per couple, or \$15 for one. We may even have another one of those yummy dessert auctions ... Call the Network office at 956-1468 for more information and tickets.

The Sky is Falling!... Or Is It?

Recent NASA reports about the thinning of the ozone layer over North America, particularly over Canada, have produced fear, anxiety and anger in our province. Alterations to the atmosphere, the characteristic of Earth which permits life, and which distinguishes our planet from the others in our solar system, are certainly cause for concern. Concern, but not despair.

The best antidote for despair is a combination of information and action – independent, factual information and relevant, co-ordinated action.

That's why the Manitoba Eco-Network is organizing a Public Forum and Discussion on the Ozone Situation. YOU are INVITED!

The event is designed to provide up-to-date information on a wide range of issues relating to recent news reports about potential large-scale destruction of the ozone layer. Issues to be discussed include: health impacts and how to minimize risks, environmental impacts, international initiatives to protect the ozone, the role of industry, government and environmental groups, and how to address the concerns of children about this very difficult and frightening problem.

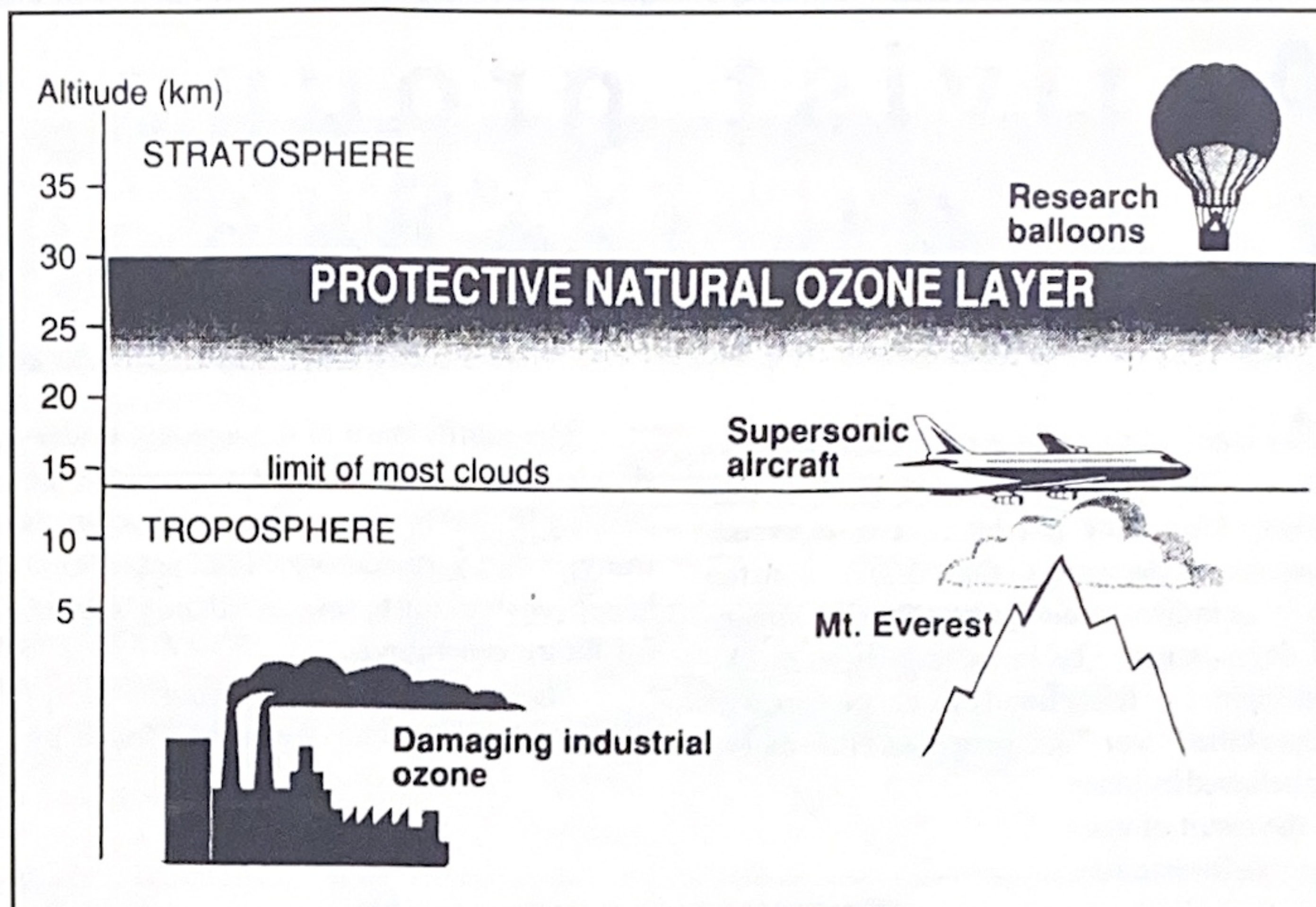
A panel of speakers including Friends of the Earth Ozone Campaigner, Robin Round, and representatives from the health and mental health communities, and industry, will provide basic information and answer questions. Afterwards the audience will be invited to form into groups to continue discussion, raise concerns, and to plan ongoing activities or involvement with the issue.

Fact sheets will be available for participants to take home and the event will be recorded by VPW for broadcast at a later date. Video cassettes will be made available for community and/or school use.

The forum will be held on Monday, June 1 starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Great West Life Conference Centre, 100 Osborne St. It is sponsored and organized by the Manitoba Eco-Network with the co-operation of Manitoba Department of the Environment, Environment Canada, Friends of the Earth, the Canadian Dermatology Association, the Ozone Depleting Substances Regulation Working Group, the Manitoba Child Care Association, and the Canadian Cancer Society, Manitoba Branch.

And, of course, as a participant the discussion will be organized with your co-operation, too!

For more information or to volunteer for the event contact the Manitoba Eco-Network (956-1468).



For the Record...

Excerpt from the Introduction to the 1991 update of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Report on the Environmental Effects of Ozone Depletion:

"The occasion calls for an evaluation of how research on effects of increased UV-B radiation has proceeded during the past years. We cannot conceal that progress is disappointing. Many of the 'Research Needs' formulated in previous reports have to be listed again. The scientific community has followed some of the recommendations, but by no means all. Urgent problems are still waiting to be addressed.

The underlying cause has been signalled over many years by the UNEP Coordinating Committee on the Ozone Layer. Funding for research on the consequences of increased UV-B radiation is disproportionately low, typically less than 1 percent of what is made available for atmospheric research in relation to ozone depletion. This comment is still valid. There is improvement of funding in some countries, but this is counterbalanced by a decrease in other countries. Several research groups, having contributed important information for previous assessments, have even ceased to exist. Effects research is necessary to provide policy makers with relevant information, so that they may evaluate response strategies to future challenges. The possibility to do this in a timely fashion may well depend on the funding situation.

Increased UV-B radiation will have many effects on man, animals, plants, and materials. For several potentially important effects, our Panel could do no more than express its concern; more knowledge is needed to come to firm conclusions. The deleterious effects that we recognize are serious enough to plea for action by the nations of the world to protect the ozone layer.

- J.C. van der Leun and M. Tevini. November, 1991.
A copy of this report is available in our Resource Centre.

I g n o r a n c e i s B l i s s ?

all not any more. Fear about ozone depletion can and should be channelled into action and not wasted on useless anxiety. But those are exactly the feelings we get from lack of information and misinformation. We need to deal with our fears and we need to act. GET the FACTS about our atmosphere:
6:30 p.m. JUNE 1, Great West Life Conference Centre, 100 Osborne St.

Activist groups stand up for Philippine forests

by Aris A. Ilagan

As testified recently by the Canadian media, the Philippines is a country prone to disasters. What may not have been reported, however, is that many of these disasters are the direct or indirect consequence of environmental degradation. The latest tragedy to hit the Philippines -- flash floods in the province of Leyte killed over 7000 people in November -- is believed by many to the result of massive deforestation, mostly brought about by illegal logging.

Illegal logging has been linked to military personnel and police and to powerful government officials and politicians. In the late 1970's, many influential people within these circles began to tap into the country's forest resources as a lucrative source of personal income. Using sophisticated timber-cutting equipment and well-established connections in the government bureaucracy, illegal logging ventures have increased at an alarming rate in the past ten years. Vast mountain ranges in the northern, central and southern Philippines are now completely denuded of trees. Currently, only about 25 per cent of the Philippines' once rich forest cover is still left standing.

Despite repeated public outcry at the destruction of forests, government reforestation projects have proceeded very slowly. An estimated 67 million hectares of forest lands in the Philippines require immediate reforestation but, in 1987, only 4,000 hectares were replanted.

The indifference of the national leadership to forest conservation has prompted the civilian sector to take action. Unknown to many, non-government organizations (NGO's) have been working to save the country's forest for future generations.

The Philippines' many minority indigenous groups are often the most affected by

a campaign for the development of a long-term land stewardship agreement between tribal communities and the Philippine government. Land stewardship hands over to indigenous groups the right to manage communal resources for a specified number of years.

With the assistance of NGO's such as PAFID, the Mangyan tribal communities on

Mindoro Island succeeded in obtaining a forest stewardship agreement from the government. The Negrito tribes in the central province of Aklan also won long-term tenure over ancestral lands, allowing them to safeguard their resource-rich forests which has long been the target of illegal loggers.

Maximo T. Kalaw Jr., Executive Director of the Haribon Foundation -- an NGO at the forefront of the environmental preservation in the Philippines -- says, "there is a wealth of possibilities NGO's can explore as they network beyond the confines

of government and narrow development paths."

In a country where the poor majority have long been drowned out by the powerful, NGO's are helping them to make their voices heard.

Aris A. Ilagan is a Filipino writer who has written frequently about government corruption and illegal economic activities in his country. His article was made available by Philippine Development Assistance Programme.



Illustration: Kinaiyahan Bulletin

deforestation because they live in predominantly mountainous areas where soils are most susceptible to erosion once the forest is logged. Many NGO's have been active in assisting indigenous inhabitants of upland forests to undertake sustainable and community-based management of local resources.

One of these NGO's is the Philippine Association for Intercultural Development (PAFID). PAFID believes that the granting of land tenure to local communities is a fundamental requirement for conservation and proper utilization of the forest. It has been involved in

Junk Mail Self-Defense Action Sheet

Junk mail is a problem for us in Canada. It promotes deforestation through the needless waste of paper - many people just throw away most or all of the junk mail they receive. In 1989 Canadians received 3.7 billion pieces of junk mail, and this number is rising. One hundred million trees are destroyed in North America for junk mail every year. What about recycling? Only one-third of all junk mail is recyclable, even if you have access to a strong recycling program. The rest goes into our already-overflowing landfills. It is far better to reduce the amount of waste paper at its source. Here are a few ways you can do this:



Stop Flyers

To reduce the number of advertising flyers you get stuffed in your mailbox every day, try putting up a sign saying "No Flyers", "No Advertising", or a similar phrase. Although Canada Post letter carriers have a legal obligation to deliver whatever they are carrying (they are not permitted to choose what to deliver and what to keep), it is illegal under the City of Winnipeg Handbill and Poster By-Law, No. 1076/75, for anyone else to leave anything at your door if you have such a sign posted. To make a complaint under the by-law, call your local police. (In Fort Garry, call District 6 at 986-6042.)

Return to Sender

If you get a first-class letter, or one which has "return requested" on it, you can write "Refused, Return to Sender" on the envelope, and drop it in any mailbox. It will be returned to the company that sent it, at the company's expense.

Business Reply Mail

If you get a 3rd class "bulk mail" item, it will not be returnable, but you might want to open it and check for a postage-paid "Business Reply Mail" envelope. Use it to send a request to be taken off the company's mailing list. If they don't stop sending you junk, next time pack everything they sent you into the envelope - if it is heavy or oversized, the company will have to pay extra postage.

Get off Mailing Lists

Write a letter to the Canadian and U.S. Direct Marketing Associations and ask them to take you off their members' mailing lists. Be sure to include all variations of spellings and mis-spellings of your name and address.

Canadian Direct Marketing Association, Mail Preference Service, 607-1 Concorde Gate, Don Mills ON, M3C 3N6

U.S. Direct Marketing Association, Mail Preference Service, 6 East 43rd Street, New York NY, 10017

You might also consider asking magazines you subscribe to not to include your name in mailing lists that they sell - unless you are sure they will only sell your name to companies that market products you are interested in.

Take it to the Top

If you want to take your case to the top, you can send your message (or junk!) postage-free, to your local Member of Parliament, Prime Minister Mulroney, Environment Minister Jean Charest, or the minister responsible for Canada Post, Harvie Andre. Address your mail to your favourite politician at: House of Commons, Ottawa ON, K1A 0A6. Be sure to explain to your target exactly what you are sending, why you are sending it, and what you want done about junk mail.

You may also want to complain to the Post Office: write to Canada Post Corporation, Customer Service, Seventh Floor, 266 Graham Avenue, Winnipeg MB, R3C 0K0.

Junk mail reduction campaign sponsored by the University of Manitoba Recycling & Environmental Group. For more information, or to get your complete Junk Mail Self-Defense Kit, visit our office at 102-S University Centre, call 474-9118, or write: Box 42 University Centre, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg MB, R3T 2N2.

Developing sustainability for the Network

by Sandy Hurwitz, Director of Development

As a subscriber to *Eco-Journal* you have been able to witness first hand the growth of the Manitoba Eco-Network.

The Manitoba Eco-Network originated in 1980, was incorporated in 1988, and was granted charitable status in 1990. In January of 1991, we moved to a larger office, which provides us with more space for our resource centre and bookstore. We also have a separate meeting area which is used extensively by member groups for press conferences and for their regular meetings.

The wider community is becoming more aware of our resource centre, too. Students, teachers, activists, homeowners, and even business owners have all been using reference materials in our centre. As well our inquiry line is constantly ringing with calls for information, contacts and referrals.

Charitable status has allowed us to request funds from private foundations. We have had some success, having received grants from the Thomas Sill Foundation, the Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation and a foundation which has chosen to remain anonymous.

Because of these grants we are developing some interesting projects. In order to carry out these projects we must have funds to maintain our office. These core operating funds are not easily secured. We are, therefore, reaching out to individuals and asking them to help sustain our operation.

Yes the Eco-Network has grown, but not too fast, and not without laying the groundwork for the future. The only truly independent source of funding is a wide base of individuals who believe in what we are doing.

To make it easier on the donor and to achieve a steady source of funds we have set up a pre-authorized chequing plan. By simply completing the Authorization Form and enclosing a sample cheque marked "void" you can help sustain our Organization.

On an annual basis:

\$8.00 per month - admission price for a movie will cover the cost of two outreach visits to schools.

\$10.00 per month - the cost of a lunch out will pay for two periodicals in our resource centre for a year.

\$20.00 per month - the cost of one tank of gas for your fuel efficient car will pay the printing bill for one issue of *Eco-Journal*.

If you would like more information about the Manitoba Eco-Network pre-authorized chequing plan please do not hesitate to call Sandy Hurwitz at the Network office 956-1468.

GET YOUR ECO-NETWORK RAFFLE TICKET TODAY.

FOR ONLY \$1.00
YOU HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN:

§ An autographed copy of Herb Hammond's new book

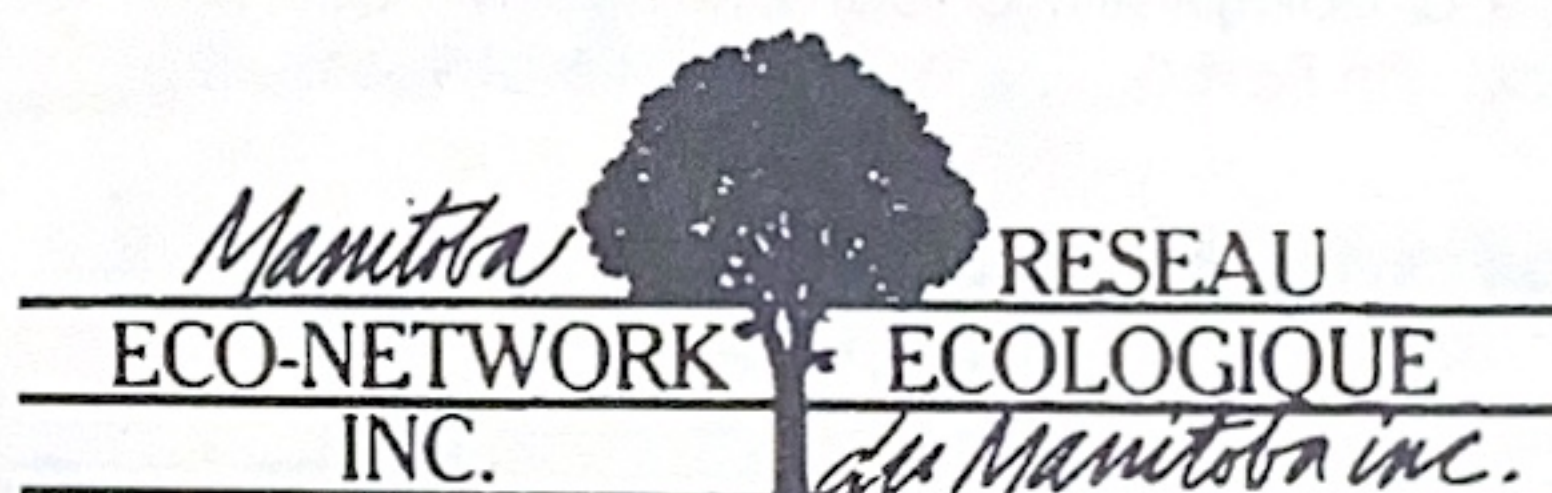
"Seeing the Forest Among the Trees"

§ Sunday Brunch for Two at the International Inn
Compliments of the International Inn.

§ Future Flush - Dual Flush Water Saver System for the Toilet. Compliments of Sutherland Plumbing Heating Electrical.

§ T-Shirt - "Brushcuts Aren't for Forests"

Draw April 24 at Herb Hammond presentation.
For tickets call 956-1468.



I wish to join the Manitoba Eco-Network pre-authorized chequing plan. By my signature I authorize my bank to deduct \$_____ on the first day of each month and send it to the Manitoba Eco-Network. Attached is a voided sample of my cheque.

NAME _____

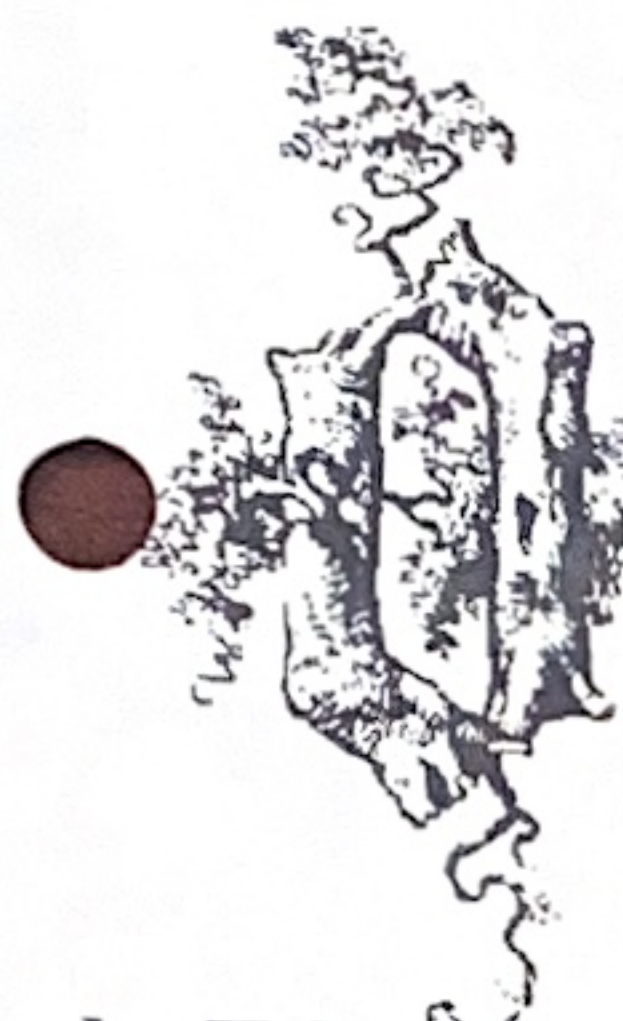
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

The authorization may be revoked on written notice to the Manitoba Eco-Network. Charitable registration number 0874305-21.



OPINION

by Toby Maloney

I am a firm believer that the political context of words and their use has a large impact on both the scope of debate and the results of certain issues. Apart from the obvious in environmental terms like the misappropriation of the term "sustainable development" to mean unsustainable destruction, there are a few phrases that I'm on the peace path about.

The first one on my list and I've both used and abused it, is the stretching to the point of snapping of the word "community" as in the "environmental community," the "business community" or the "European Economic Community."

In these contexts, for the EEC more than the others, in reality there is more of an absence of community, because many of the characteristics of true community -- close co-operation on common goals, a high degree of democratic involvement, equality among participants, a shared cultural understanding, etc. have been stripped away.

I suggest that environmentalists and grassroots organizers reclaim the word to mean "local community," person to person community, rather than organization to organization or (shudder) country to country "community" and refrain from the other use. I suggest this for the reason that often the intended meaning has implications for the replacement of or impairment of local community development.

Next on my list is "Global Warming" because of the horrendously positive images that arise from the use of the word warm. Since many people confuse seasonal weather with climate, warming for them implies warmer temperatures. What most models are forecasting, however, are wild swings in extremes. For that reason I suggest environmentalists start using the term "global climate disruption."

Another one, that has really started to bother me is "special interest group" which is usually what project proponents, government departments and environmental consultants call environment groups. I usually correct that one to "citizens group" or "public interest group" because I think it denies the reality of environment groups which is that they are formed by individual citizens in the public interest, not some

Greening the Language

special interest like the Business Council on National Issues. By the way it's not controversial to say that the corporate managers in BCNI are governed by their profit motive. They have said and continue to say that their shareholders' return on investment (self interest) is what governs their behaviour.

Watch out for the term's cousin "stakeholder" which again is employed to shoehorn us into neat little competing interests to be played off against one another. We ought not to accept the modern corporate view that public policy is a competition between everyone's bottom line. Volunteers work long and hard, not for self enrichment, but because they are sincerely trying to affect public policy in the public interest.

It serves the purposes of the entrenched elite to have us neatly divided into separate "interests" and sets it up for our issues to be balanced against the self interest of groups that are representative of only minuscule proportions of society.

I think the difference in the two approaches also points to our major work as environmentalists which is to organize citizens around sustainable and democratic models for survival. Sincere representation of the public interest is not a counterweight for anyone's economic self interest and ought not to be treated that way.

ARE YOU DISTURBED BY THE MASS SLAUGHTER OF WILDLIFE CALLED "SPORT HUNTING?"

Are you concerned about the threat hunters pose to personal safety? Upset by the obvious environmental damage caused by hunting?

THEN CALL HUNT ENDERS!

We are a public education and lobby group working to curtail and eventually abolish killing for 'sport.'

YOU can help! Subscribe to *Setting New Sights*, our quarterly newsletter, or call us if you have any hunting-related concerns.

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Fax: (204) 452-5339

Marianne Cerilli
NDP Environment Critic



*I welcome any suggestions,
information, or questions*

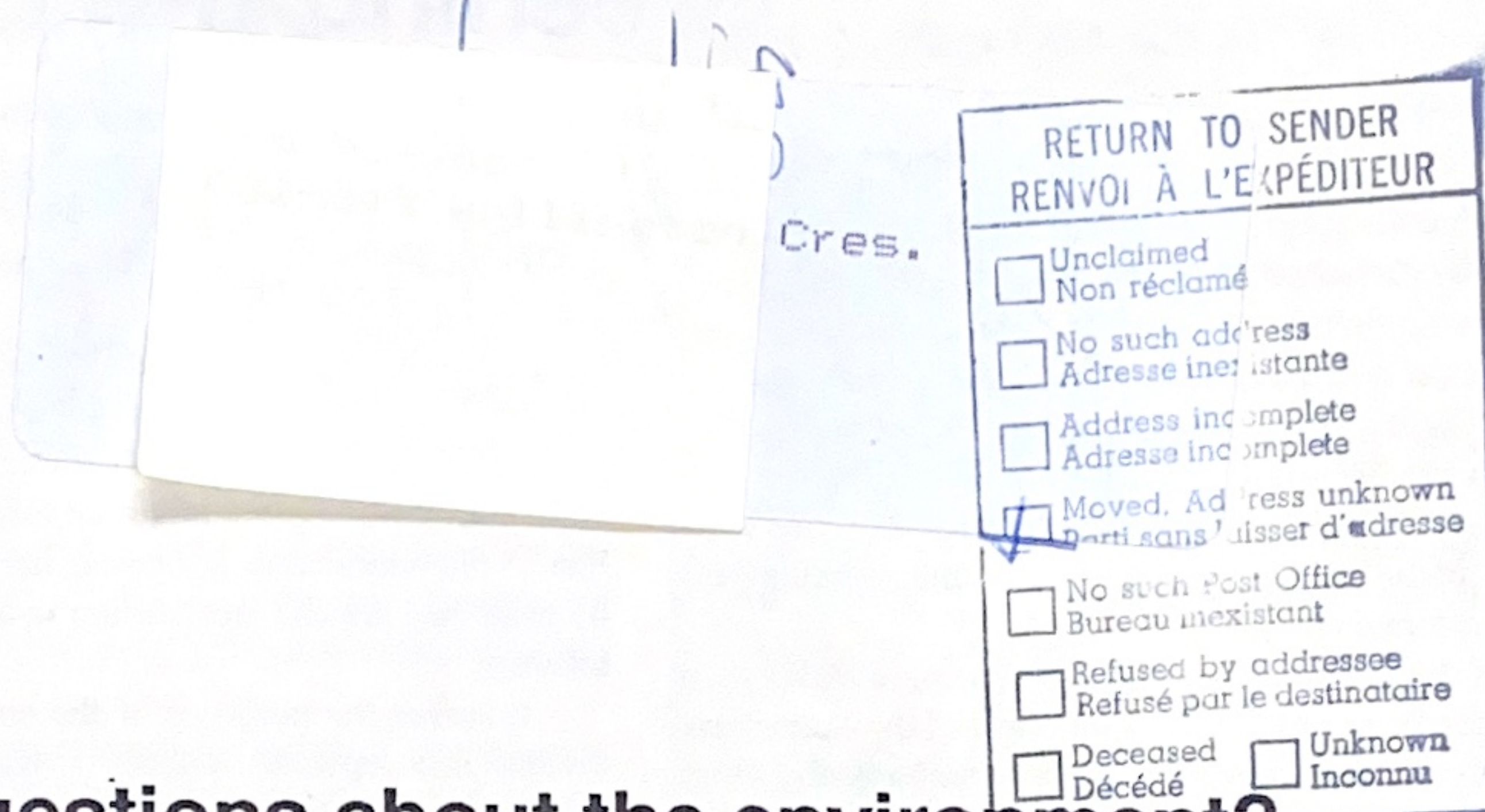
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Questions about the environment?
Call the Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre 956-1468

FOLD

FOLD

Detach and mail to:

The Manitoba Eco-Network, P.O. Box 3125, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4E6

Please sign us up as a member group of the Eco-Network ☐

Our cheque is enclosed for group membership and subscription: \$30/year.

I/We support Network activities and wish to receive Eco-Journal

☐ \$15 (Individual Subscription)

☐ \$5 (Limited Income)

☐ \$50 Organizations, agencies, government departments and corporations that do not otherwise qualify for membership*.

* 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 environmental education.

Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____

Charitable tax receipts available for donations over the cost of subscription & membership.

I would like to do volunteer work for the Eco-Network. Please call me! ☐

Name or contact person _____

Group _____ Telephone # () _____

Mailing Address _____ Postal Code _____

Area(s) of interest _____