

Eco-JOURNAL

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Volume 3, Number 3

May-June, 1993

Improved facilities needed to encourage cycling

City report recommends bike paths/routes and education

by Toby Maloney

Winnipeg cyclists should welcome the findings of a new study on facilities for bicycles by the City of Winnipeg Streets and Transportation Department.

The study, conducted by Marr Consulting and Communications, looked at the need for a system of commuter and/or additional recreational bicycle facilities, made recommendations as to improvements, their cost and benefit and rated the priority for implementing the recommendations.

The report, at 144 pages plus appendices and maps, is laudable in that it went beyond the consideration of physical facilities to consider other issues for cycling enhancement such as education, enforcement and environment.

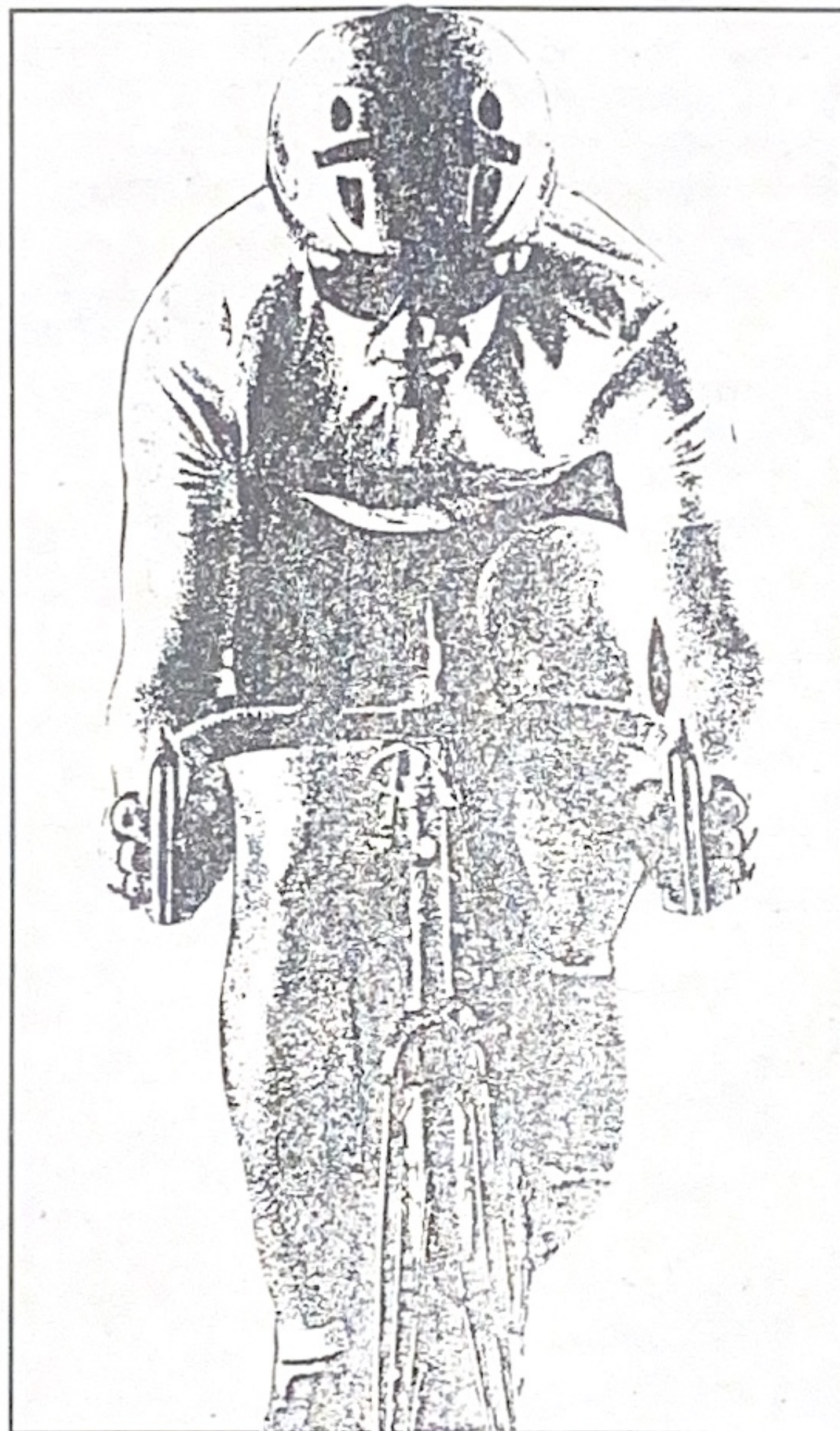
One general recommendation in the report is that these other issues be included in the planning process for any master plan of cycling.

The other noteworthy characteristic of the report is that apart from practical recommendations for joining current cycling routes and paths, it also takes bicycles serious as a mode of transportation, not just a recreational pastime.

Responses to surveys done as part of the study show that a primary concern of cyclists is safety, particularly in the downtown area and during rush hour.

The downtown core was also documented as a priority destina-

tion for cyclists. Mapping out reported cycling collisions show the concern is well founded with more than a third of all collisions from 1985 through 1990 occurring between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. and 12.5 per cent occurred in the downtown area.



Perhaps more revealing is that a substantial majority of accidents occur on arterial roads irrespective of whether the traffic moves quickly or not. In other words it appears there is a close correlation between traffic density and cycling accidents.

The report recommended that "planning for the downtown core should explicitly consider opportunities to improve existing cycling facilities" with input from either the steering committee of the study or a Bicycle Advisory Committee the report recommends be established.

The report also recommends that the city look at creating demand for cycling beginning with enhancement and improvement of facilities and then through educational programs. The experience in other cities where cycling has been more extensively promoted shows that cycling use increases with improved facilities.

Increased cycling can hardly help but prove the environment and livability of our city.

Two related papers, the *Traffic Activists Handbook* and *Transit in Canada* both from Greenpeace, may be of interest for readers interested in public policy to reduce automobile traffic/emissions. They are available in the Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre 201-128 James Avenue.

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Energy conservation report gets close reading

UPDATE

A union-sponsored report detailing the economic and job creation benefits for Manitoba through serious energy conservation programs is being well received by decision makers and others.

According to Pat Martin, business manager for the union local that produced *A Brighter Future: Energy Efficiency and Jobs in Manitoba*, the report has opened discussions with Manitoba Hydro, and the Deputy Minister of Energy and Mines who has written to both Winnipeg Hydro and Centra Gas suggesting they arrange to meet with the union as well.

Martin said that Manitoba Hydro ``hadn't considered the labour movement as one of the partners.'' The report reviews conservation programs here and elsewhere in North America and shows that economic benefits from a province-wide program would be significant, immediate and evenly spread through every community, large and small.

Unlike mega-project construction, which Martin admits his union has relied upon for jobs for decades along with the utilities and provincial government, the benefits from energy efficiency accrue immediately, not at the end of a lengthy planning and construction program. The energy user realizes savings, the workers who perform work such as retrofitting and installing energy efficient lighting, heating and insulation systems, benefit and spend their earnings in their local communities and the centralized utilities benefit by avoiding the costs of new energy production.

Martin is heartened that the highest levels of Manitoba Hydro are embracing the report and scheduling meetings with the planning department and that the Department of Energy has ordered 28 copies after reviewing the report.

The timing of the report, coming after cancellation of the Conawapa power purchase by Ontario, probably has more than a little to do with its reception, but Martin also credits the positive approach of the report.

``The secret is we didn't come on strong ... we put forth a viable plan. That's the way this government will respond,'' he said.

See **TIMING** next page

1992-93 Eco- Network Steering Committee

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Project Peacemakers
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Marquis Project
Appointment pending,
U of W SAFE

Environmental protection = jobs

Reviewed by Anne Lindsey

A Brighter Future is exactly what is needed to make the case that dollar-for-dollar investments in energy efficiency and conservation create more jobs, direct and indirect, than energy supply mega-projects.

Frayne draws on examples from British Columbia, Maine, Missouri, Ontario, and Quebec to illustrate how this has been proven time and again, but more importantly, this may be the first comprehensive piece of research that makes that case for Manitoba, using Manitoba data and current and potential practices.

The report emphasizes that not only are more jobs created, but that they are jobs where people live, and further, that money

Timing and positive approach credited for report's reception

Continued from previous page

The report may have even wider reverberations due to a contact in Quebec. A Manitoba economist sent a copy of the report to Northwind Information Services, an alternative economic development think tank partly funded by the James Bay Cree. Northwind reviews reports of this nature by distributing them to leading academics and in the field across North America for critical comments and then re-publishes the report and critiques. Martin says the coordinator for the Montreal group has told him a Brighter Future is "the best of its kind that (Northwind has) seen."

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spent on energy efficiency tends to benefit the economy in which it is spent. (In contrast, for every dollar that Manitobans spend on natural gas supply, for instance, 75 cents leaves the province).

The Carpenters Union has a direct interest in an energy-efficient economy since its members are amongst the work force required to implement it. And according to the report, unemployment amongst its members who work in the construction trades has ranged between 31 and 54 percent since January, 1992 - a rate far above the provincial average for all occupations.

Taking advantage of technology that is currently available,

and various training programs that are either in place or in the planning stages, could have the effect of putting thou-

sands of Manitobans back to work, and stimulating the provincial economy to a significant degree. But the decision to pursue an energy-efficient future will require political (and administrative) will at the policy-making level. The report ends with a comprehensive set of recommendations to City, Provincial and Federal government, to gas and electric utilities, and to the Public Utilities Board, to move them in that direction. This is a useful and timely publication.

A copy of *A Brighter Future* is on file in the Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre.

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Calendar of events

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.

Environment Week, June 5 to 12

June 7: Green gardening talk at 12:15 p.m. 2nd Floor Auditorium Centennial Library. Meet Riding Mountain National Park's gardener and find out about "greener" gardening techniques.

June 8 - 13: Earthshop at the Winnipeg International Children's Festival. Entertainment and education with an environment theme.

June 9 to 12: Vehicle Emissions Testing Clinic. Come out to the Grant Park Shopping Centre and have your vehicle tested for tailpipe emission pollutants. Sponsored by Environment Canada, Manitoba Environment, Manitoba Energy and Mines, and the Manitoba Lung Association, as part of Canadian Environment Week, June 5 to 12. Call 983-2906 for more information.

June 19: Walk for Peace, 12 noon at the Manitoba Legislature (Riddell Hall, University of Winnipeg in case of rain). Short walk, speaker, workshops on peace and violence themes. Sponsored by Peace Alliance Winnipeg (formerly WCCD) the Women's Task Force and Project Peacemakers. For more information call Peace Alliance Winnipeg 261-9006 or Project Peacemakers (775-6579 and 775-8178).

New Resources at the Manitoba Eco-Network

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

The second instalment of Manitoba's *State of the Environment Report (for 1993)* was released recently. It's pretty much along the same lines as last year's. The overview is realistic, and the information is useful. One defect is that the report is often an assessment of the state of the government's responses and activities in regard to the environment rather than a cold hard look at the state of the environment itself. This somewhat skewed approach then allows the report to list improvements where there may have been no actual benefit or improvement to the natural environment. For instance where the province has identified sites where the soil is contaminated, that is listed as an improvement because identification is the first step. Enforcement of environmental legislation is assessed as improved because of a new enforcement policy that "is expected to reduce the chances of offenders beating the system." Well that may be so but if we are going to predict results shouldn't we be predicting negative results of government activity or inaction as well?

June 14 to 16: Clean Environment Commission public hearings in Portage la Prairie on the Pembina Valley Water Supply Proposal. Herman Prior Senior Centre, 40 Royal Road. For more information on CEC hearings call 326-2395 (Steinbach).

June 22-23: CEC hearings on PVWSP, Russell Inn, Junction of Highway 16 and 83. Phone 1-326-2395.

June 28-29: CEC hearings on PVWSP, New Horizons Senior Centre, 39 1st Street N.W. Altona. Phone 1-326-2395.

July 16 and 17: Organic Producers Association of Manitoba and the Woodlot Association of Manitoba Summer Tour at the farm of Robert and Celia Guilford (4 miles west, 2 miles north, one-quarter mile west of Clearwater). July 17 is an informational day for farmers with tours and workshops on organic farming techniques, and the value of woodlots. The conference includes food and entertainment. Camping is available and bus transportation could be arranged from Winnipeg and Brandon if numbers warrant. For more information call 873-2454.

July 30 to August 1: Annual International Peace Festival at the International Peace Gardens. Family entertainment, workshops and activities on peace issues from both sides of the border. Camping available. For more information call Glen Kruck 727-5251 (Brandon). Winnipeg residents hoping to co-ordinate rides or needing more information can call Toby or Robin 783-8094.

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.

The British Columbia State of the Environment Report, also just out, has taken a more analytical approach with statistics and graphs to show trends and measurements, along the lines of the Environment Canada version, but doesn't seem to draw any higher quality conclusions. Like Manitoba the report suffers from being too attached to the political agenda of the government. Environment Canada moved away from this to a degree by having their reporting process overseen by an advisory body that included independent academics and representatives of non-government environment groups.

The City of Winnipeg's second instalment Environmental Issues: A City of Winnipeg Status Report is also hot off the presses. Last year's report was laudable for its straightforward review of environment issues faced by the city even if the report didn't actually go looking for trouble. This year's report appears more expansive, but seems to have fallen into some of the same pitfalls of its provincial cousins in that it appears to be part of a communications strategy more than a cold hard look at city issues. It starts off boasting of grand sustainability principles enshrined in Plan Winnipeg without reviewing how well or even if these principles have been applied at all in decision-making over the past year. It also seems to have become a platform for defending the city position with regard to sewage overflows into the Red River.

Comprehensive package for understanding climate change

reviewed by Anne Lindsey

Friends of the Earth has produced a comprehensive workshop package on the subject of Climate Change, sometimes known as Global Warming. Consisting of a Leader's Manual and a Participants Guide, the workshop is geared to ages 17 to adult. It would be suitable for Grade 11 or 12 students. A video which accompanies the package is geared for ages 14 and up.

The complete workshop is designed to take three and a half hours, or a half-day session, but guidelines are provided for shorter sessions as well. At first glance, there appears to be almost too much information to absorb in one session, however the Leaders Guide gives excellent suggestions for moving through the material in a way which facilitates "active" learning about this critical topic.

In other words, it encourages discussion and synthesis by the participants as opposed to passive listening to an expert.

The methods suggested in the Leaders Guide could easily be adapted for other workshop topics as well.

The information provided about climate change is clear and concise, ranging from causes to effects to what is known (and importantly, not known) about climate change, to alternatives and options for individuals, communities, and policy-makers. A resource list including literature and groups is appended.

The video accompanying the written materials is a fast-moving look at the possible effects of climate change, along with a host of suggestions for alleviating the prob-

Climate Change Workshop Workshop kit / Global Warming: Hot Times Ahead, 30 minute video Friends of the Earth, 1993

lem. The video is hosted by Marc Price, of the television program "Family Ties."

Energy and climate experts such as Amory Lovins and Stephen Schneider are featured in brief clips -- maybe too brief. Lovins contributes his usual amazing one-liners (such as the fact that one compact fluorescent replacing a regular light bulb can keep one tonne of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere in areas using coal-generated electricity) but I found myself rewinding the tape to catch the information.

Schneider makes a statement about overpopulation being the most serious problem contributing to climate change, without any qualifying comments on the subject of overconsumption.

In addition, the film puts a lot of emphasis on the greenhouse gas contributions of autos, but doesn't suggest the use of public transit as a solution.

While the

video contains a great deal of very useful information, and promotes an optimistic tone about what can be done, it is definitely geared to a middle class suburban audience, and may not be as relevant to inner-city, lower income residents. This in itself could provide a valuable start to discussions about the subject, along with the many helpful suggestions provided with the video.

A copy of the Climate Change workshop package and video is available for perusal in the Network Resource Centre. It can be ordered from Friends of the Earth, 701-251 Laurier Ave. West, Ottawa, K1P 5J6. Phone: (613) 230-3352. The entire kit costs \$60 plus \$5 shipping and handling, while the workshop kit alone is \$23.

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- **"Green Gardening"**, a noon-hour talk in the 2nd Floor Auditorium, Winnipeg Centennial Library, June 7 at 12:15 p.m. Meet Riding Mountain National Park's gardener and find out about "greener" gardening techniques.
- **"Earthshop"** at the Winnipeg International Children's Festival, Winnipeg, June 8 - 13. Entertainment and education for kids with an environmental theme.
- **Vehicle Emissions Testing Clinic**, June 9 - 12, at Grant Park Shopping Centre, Winnipeg. Have your car's tailpipe emissions checked — no charge!

For more information on Environment Week, call Environment Canada at 983-2906.



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Convincing humanity to confront the forces of global collapse

Reviewed by Bill Goddard,
Crossroads Resource Group

The impact of the book "The Limits to Growth" in 1972 was not foreseen by its authors. It sold nine million copies in 29 languages. "Beyond the Limits," 20 years later, is the sequel.

The authors' goal is to convince humanity to confront the forces that are leading to "global collapse" and to envision a sustainable future. They believe that we cannot rely on mental models in considering alternative future scenarios. Instead we must construct much more complex models that more closely represent the whole world dynamic.

To accomplish this task, the writers relied on computer modelling, which in 1972 created a negative reaction from critics, as if the

Beyond the Limits

by Donella & Dennis Meadows &
Jorgen Randers
McClelland & Stewart, 1992, 300 pp.

use of machines somehow invalidated the results. This time the authors have taken a proactive approach to overcome these sorts of objections by anticipating them in their introduction.

The contributions by this ambitious project are many:

1) They show how the world can predict an impact and they show how to deal with the long time-lags in response to change. A case study of CFC's is used to illustrate this.

2) It's shown that technological change will be essential to achieving the goal of

"doing more with less." The authors simulate future scenarios with varying time-lags of five to 20 years to implement changes, and ultimately conclude that while these technological changes

are essential, they will never deal with the issue of population growth.

3) The authors show that population must be stabilized and reduced. Depending on the severity of the ecological collapse that is simulated, the eroded eco-system's carrying capacity may be 6 billion people, or much lower.

4) Perhaps the most important contribution of the book is the identification of the next revolution as the Sustainability Revolution.

I suggest, in particular, careful reading of the chapter "Transitions to a Sustainable System." It deals with the concepts and practical meanings of sustainability, and the human issues.

The following chapter "Overshoot but Not Collapse" may be the most important for environmental doers and shakers. It presents the ways to get results: Visioning, Networking, Truth-Telling, Learning and Loving. The Truth-Telling section makes one last effort to reach the rejectionists (those who simply want to discredit the work).

Beyond the Limits is available at the Winnipeg Public Library. The Harvest Husk, newsletter for Harvest Natural Foods Collective, recently reprinted another review of the book you may wish to read.

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JULY 15, 1993
SEWAGE will be dumped into
OAK HAMMOCK MARSH

Will you help us stop it?

July 15 is the day Ducks Unlimited is licensed by the Manitoba Government to discharge its sewage directly into Oak Hammock Marsh. Sewage dumped into waterways kills aquatic life and threatens the base of the food chain. University of Winnipeg biologist, Dr. Eva Pip, has found that 15 of 17 clam species have disappeared downstream of sewage effluent pipes in Winnipeg.

Dr. Bill Paton, Brandon University biologist, has testified that "Manitoba's climate is simply too cold for sewage lagoon systems to function as expected."

The Government of Manitoba's Clean Environment Commission knows this.

That's why they recently called upon the Government of Manitoba to bring together scientists and the public to review sewage lagoon operation. These hearings could ensure that design requirements and operational guidelines adequately protect the quality of surface and ground water resources in Oak Hammock Marsh.

The Manitoba Government has yet to take action on this recommendation.
The Friends of Oak Hammock Marsh are taking action for them!

On June 8, 1993 FOHM will be in Federal Court trying to prevent the lagoons from destroying the marsh. Because we believe internationally significant sites should not be compromised, we are also seeking to strengthen the federal review process.

We cannot continue alone. Please support our efforts to spare the marsh this foul insult.

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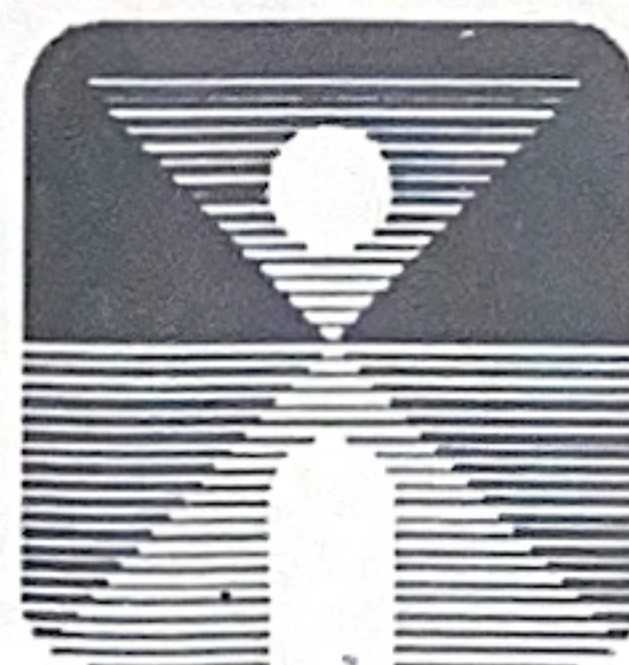
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THE MESSENGERS ANSWER: Is the environmental message getting out?

by Michael Stadnyk

Is the environmental message getting out? Must there always be a crisis?

These were some of the issues raised and discussed as part of a media panel presentation at the Manitoba Eco-Network's Annual General Meeting in May.

The three-member panel consisted of Winnipeg Free Press reporter Don Campbell, CBC Radio news editor Jennifer Dundas and Eco-Journal editor Toby Maloney. Muriel Smith, president of the United Nations Association, moderated the proceedings.

It was viewed as an opportunity to see environmental issues through the eyes of the media. Each panelist shared their individual experiences in covering environmental stories, then cited problems and suggestions before opening the discussion to questions from the floor.

Campbell noted three areas of difficulty a reporter encounters when trying to cover environmental stories: quick access to communication sources, a political process which often makes the story's significance difficult to convey and the scientific nature of many issues.

"Science is a barrier, journalists aren't

scientists," he said, "Illiteracy in science is often a reporter problem and the environmental community should keep that in mind."

Dundas pointed out the difficulties in ensuring that environmental stories received the same coverage as other media concerns.

"The priorities of the environmental movement are scattered. They're not working in concert, each has their own particular issue."

She suggested that liaisons be formed with professional groups like the Manitoba Medical Association to help gain a higher profile and earn the distinction of being an authority on environmental concerns.

Maloney cited the journalistic system as a problem and not the individual reporters.

"The big problem message gets out, but there isn't enough discussion of alternatives and solutions," he said. "Readers aren't getting enough information to make up their minds. Journalism needs to be more analytical, more opinionated and draw some conclusions."

Maloney also urged environmental groups to be less reliant on the media for getting their message out and to start seeking different forums for communication.

At the end of the discussion there were far more questions than answers, but by opening the lines of discussion between the media and the environmental community, a step in the right direction was made.

1993 Environmental Awards: Four more added to honour roll

The honour roll is growing longer. The Manitoba Eco-Network added four new names to its list of Annual Environmental Award winners. This year's awards, presented after the Network's annual general meeting May 8, included two individual environmentalists and two individuals. Former Eco-Network coordinator **John Barker**, who went on to establish and head Resource Recovery Institute and who now works as Waste Minimization Coordinator for the City of Regina and botanist **Jennifer Shay**, known for both outstanding academic work at the University of Manitoba and her strong advocacy on behalf of the environment, received the individual awards.

Harvest Natural Foods Collective for over a decade a natural foods co-operative and informal centre of community development and the **Manitoba Environmental Council** which has persisted in providing well researched advice to the Minister of Environment whether he welcomes it or not, received the other. The Environmental Council, represented at the awards presentation by Wayne Neily pledged to maintain its network of regional representatives doing research on Manitoba issues and to continue producing the public access television show **Environmentally Speaking** despite the Manitoba government's complete withdrawal of the Council's funding.

Networkers

One more environmentalist on the way

Anne Lindsey, executive director of the Manitoba Eco-Network since 1989 has taken maternity leave while awaiting the arrival of her third child, the first with her partner **Steve Rauh** who is also a networker as treasurer of the Eco-Network Steering Committee. Co-workers and colleagues wish Anne, Steve, Ellen and Marc all the best in welcoming the new addition to their, and our, family.

New job old friend

Anne's replacement as executive director is **Sharon Segal** who has been Winnipeg's leading proponent of home environmentalism through her Greening the Home efforts. Greening the home was adopted as a Network project last Fall and then Sharon was re-hired as coordinator for the Network's One Bag a Week project this Spring. Sharon brings a great deal of academic and work experience in administration of non-profit organizations to her new position.

In and out again

Project worker **Michael Stadnyk** is on his way after completing his work on a three month feasibility study. The study, conducted jointly with the Manitoba Council for International Co-operation and the Recycling Council of Manitoba, looked at the feasibility of operating a Roving Resource Centre to provide resources to groups and individuals working on environment and development issues outside the City of Winnipeg.

Mike and his colleagues from the other two organizations made invaluable contacts in all areas of the province and generated an excellent database of groups in the process as well as identifying information needs and openness to working with the Network. More on the project results in next Eco-Journal. Mike's position was sponsored by a Canada Employment and Immigration Section 25 job training grant. Michael, who proved a capable asset to the Network on his project and in the resource centre is continuing his job search.

Women's Task Force revives Annual Walk for Peace tradition

The Winnipeg tradition of an Annual Walk for Peace in June is back after a one year hiatus, due in part, to a heavy involvement from local women's organizations. Peace Alliance Winnipeg, formerly the Winnipeg Coordinating Committee for Disarmament, the organization that has organized the Walk for Peace for over a decade is still a key organizer, but the Women's Task Force, a coalition of women's group's working against violence was the spark that lit the flame.

Fiona Muldrew, newsletter coordinator for the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status Of Women (MACSW) said that the women's task force wanted a march to create awareness of the sources of violence, particularly against women and children, in our own society and to make the links with traditional peace issues such as disarmament.

War like local problems with violent aggression are the manifestation of "power over — an issue of trying to control someone else."

"A lot of the wars in the world are about the leader of one country trying to control land or get resources from another country — leaders on a power trip," she said.

This year's Peace Walk will be shorter in deference to families with small children and will feature a speech by Anishnaabe Oway-Ishi Director Leslie Spillet on violence against women, against aboriginal people and the

environment worldwide and in our economic system.

Presentation after the walk include a play by clown troupe

Loonisee on "Speaking Out Against Injustice" and workshops focussing on ending violence in our community, violence prevention and community involvement (conducted

by the Bear Clan Patrol), empowerment for women, Wen-do (self defence for women) and Building Peace Through Play.

The Women's Task Force includes the University of Winnipeg Women's Centre the Immigrant Women's Association and MACSW.

PEACE WALK JUNE 19

For more information or to help with the last minute organizing call Fiona at 453-3879 or Len Grier, Peace Alliance Winnipeg at 261-9006.

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Good clean fun: party game ideas

The family ecology page

*There's a point where the creation of a new conserver culture crosses with the old. One of these is the North American tradition of the birthday party. Changing the focus from consumption to activity is the key according to an article called the **Great Garbageless Birthday Party** by Jill Golick, published in *Earthkeeper* in August 1991.*

**Excerpt :From the great Garbageless birthday party
by Jill Golick, Earthkeeper, July-August 1991**

After Jonathon's fourth birthday party, his mother spoke to me. "Your son started a revolution," Judy told me. "I bought drinking boxes which I don't usually do, but I thought with a dozen kids it would be more convenient."

She sounded a trifle defensive, and I found out why as she continued. "Jamie refused his. He said he doesn't use drinking boxes."

Judy had taken it in stride, gone into the kitchen and returned with juice in a glass for my son, but by then, none of the other kids wanted juice boxes either. So much for convenience.

Later Jamie and I had a little talk.

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NEW HOURS

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877 Westminister Avenue

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"Just because we don't use drinking boxes at home," I explained, doesn't mean you can't have them at other people's houses."

He looked back at me in great earnest. "I'm not drinking out of anything I don't believe in."

Party game ideas

Footsteps: Use flyers and the backs of notices to cut child-size footsteps preferable in various colours and tape to the floor starting just outside the front door. Ask the children to follow the footprints as they arrive. If they put their feet on each one consecutively you can lead them back and forth through the front hall, turning around, hopping on their right feet three times and jumping across a big masking tape X over an old trunk, backwards, wherever you want them to go.

Bowling: Before recycling, take empty two litre PET bottles, mark off an alley with chairs and use tennis balls for bowling balls.

Save the animals: Collect all the toy animals you can find—plastic, wooden stuffed—at least three animals per child. Hide the under chairs, between sofa cushions (pick some easy places for the younger children. Tell the party goers to find the animals and bring them to the forest (potted plants in a corner). Encourage them to work together.

Outdoor Co-operative group games

Zoo Game (from Brazil): In an open space, fairly flat without obstacles, divide the players into groups of four or five. Each group chooses an animal that makes a definitive sound. Every player is blindfolded and everyone scatters. The "animals" start braying, snorting etc. and try to regroup by following the sounds of their fellow species.

Catch the Dragon's Tail (from China): Eight to ten people line up, one behind the other with hands around the waist of the person in front. The last person tucks a handkerchief into his or her belt and the game begins as the dragon tries to chase its tail. While it could be said that the people at the front and the back are competing for the handkerchief, the allegiance of those in the middle is certainly divided. Once the handkerchief is grabbed the head becomes the tail and everyone shifts one position.

from Taking the World to Camp: Creative Ideas for International Education at Camp, YMCA International

Red Cross rescue: This is a variation on hide and seek. Imagine you are wounded in an earthquake or similar disaster or on a canoeing trip (this could be a war zone for kids that can handle the significance). You have to find a safe place to hide until the ambulance workers come to rescue you. As we are rescued and treated we recover and run to help find the next casualty. The key is the pretending and the discussion about the real effects of being a casualty of war or disaster.

from One World One Earth: Educating Children for Social Responsibility by Merryl Hammond and Rob Collins.



Toward Mobilization

A Member Submission from the
Environmental Education Caucus

Environmentalism is like fire fighting. All around, large and small fires burn, and lovers of the Earth haul water as though life depends on it. The role of environmental education is to get more people on the bucket brigades and to teach fire prevention.

Guideposts for a Sustainable Future is an educational strategy which, in a couple of years, could add 100,000 volunteers to the work at hand.

The word sustainability is the key. Controversy around the term foretells the intrinsic advantage of asserting its meaning. People know intuitively that keeping it together into the future is the purpose of society. Since we have grown to touch the limits of ecosystems, this underlying purpose has revealed a broader meaning. Sustainability now clearly requires environmental balance. It also requires justice, peace, and international cooperation. These fundamental concerns multiply the communities with an interest in this campaign.

By broadly distributing an outline of what is and what is not sustainable, we can establish a standard against which activities can be measured. Should anyone disagree, let them identify the point they disagree with and explain. Those of us who support and promote the various components can also express our views in what can become a public proposal and debate on social direction. In addition to outlining the goal, these eight points introduce a pattern for people to look for in the news and events around them. The pattern helps them organize their observations and as it becomes familiar, start to see the problems or solutions in development plans, policy decisions and in their own choices and goals. Environmentalists are born of such insight.

A number of means have been developed to communicate this frame of reference. The simplest is the business card. The example here is one of many possibilities. Any group, individual or business that is willing to carry the Guideposts on the back of their cards can have the other side printed to their specifications (including logo), or you can choose from our generic designs. Thanks to volunteers and funds donated to promote the goal of sustainability, **we can offer you cards at well below market price.** \$25 for 500, or \$30 per 1000, for customized cards and \$10 and \$15 for 500 and 1000 of the generic versions. If you can have cards printed any cheaper, do so with our blessing, or for \$5 we can provide camera ready copy for your printer. (All funds are managed not-for-profit.)

Sustainability

**Can we live with it?
Can we live without it?**

What do the people who seek to represent you think?

Give this card to a candidate or a voter.

For more cards or information about the campaign
to make sustainability an issue, write:

ELECT SUSTAINABILITY

c/o Sierra Club of Canada, Suite 420, 1 Nicholas St.
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7B7

Guideposts for a Sustainable Future

Activities are sustainable when they:

- 
- 1) - use materials in continuous cycles,
 - 2) - use continuously reliable sources of energy,
 - 3) - come mainly from the potential of being human
(i.e. creativity, communication, coordination,
appreciation, and spiritual and intellectual development.)

Activities are not sustainable when they:

- 4) - require continual inputs of non-renewable resources,
- 5) - use renewable resources faster than their rate of renewal,
- 6) - cause cumulative degradation of the environment,
- 7) - require resources in quantities that could never be
available for people everywhere,
- 8) - lead to the extinction of other life forms.

For more details or to order cards, write:

Guideposts for a Sustainable Future, P.O. Box 374, Merrickville, Ontario, Canada, K0G 1N0.

One Bag a Week reaches out to a new constituency

Taking the holistic approach to waste reduction

The Manitoba Eco-Network is wrapping up its highly successful One Bag a Week outreach program this month, although some follow through activities will continue in the fall.

Sharon Segal, hired in January to coordinate the One Bag a Week program, found there is an incredible amount of goodwill towards basic education on environmentalism. The basic premise of One Bag a Week is that a residence shouldn't have to use more than one garbage bag a week. Publicity about the program produced protest calls both from people who were alarmed that they would be forced to limit themselves to one bag which they considered impossible, but the Eco-Network also found others who were disgusted at the lax standard given that they already use much less than one bag a week. (See sidebar, **Garbage Tax Trashed**). Most of the latter

were able to understand that the methods are the same whether it's reducing from two bags or from half a bag.

In most cases the Eco-Network was able to demonstrate, even over the phone, many ways to cut back on garbage. Segal, now executive director of the Eco-Network, conducted a dozen neighbourhood workshops throughout the city of Winnipeg to convey the message that there are more ways to reach the one bag goal and more to environmentalism than just recycling. Public library branches, community organizations and agencies, and even businesses sponsored presentations.

Individuals at the workshops showed an interest in doing more. Segal, who has been conducting similar workshops on home environmentalism since 1989 has watched the level of interest evolve.

"When I was doing these talks in 1989 people weren't doing anything. Now people are doing composting and recycling. Recycling and composting is where they are at now," Segal said.

After hearing her message that even more waste can be avoided by 'pre-cycling' or taking care to avoid packaging or products that will create waste upon use, Segal says a typical response was, "I thought I was already doing a lot, but now I realize there is a lot more I could be doing."

Part of the purpose of the workshops was to test what resources are needed to spur this further individual action. Materials about waste reduction as well as information about energy and water conservation, alternatives to toxic cleaning products and other aspects of home environmentalism were included.

Although One Bag a Week was funded by the City of Winnipeg's Consider the Source program, which is aimed at solid waste reduction, a holistic approach was taken in order to produce the kind attitudinal changes that will

make conservation and waste reduction part of our routine, part of our culture.

The talks also deal with How to Have a Zero Discharge Home, and why this is important. Recipes for natural do-it-yourself household cleaning products were made available along with material on products and services in the city, organizations and further reading. A hand-out is distributed to all participants with the information necessary in terms of getting started with the "Back to Basics" approach.

A key component to the talks is that of sharing ideas and resources amongst the participants. This often produces much discussion and enthusiasm. That the participants attend on a voluntary basis as opposed to being

Garbage Tax Trashed

The City of Winnipeg might want to think twice about the political reaction to a tax on garbage judging by the response to a Winnipeg Free Press article in March.

The Free Press article noted that the city administration is studying the idea of imposing a fee for garbage pickup and called the Eco-Network's One Bag a Week program for comment on the idea. Unfortunately the front page article implied that the Eco-Network favours the imposition of a tax on garbage when the entire philosophy of the One Bag A Week program is actually that the voluntary participation of concerned individuals can make a difference.

The Eco-Network received a great deal of angry calls along the lines of a letter to the editor published later in the Free Press in which individuals protested that One Bag a Week isn't possible especially considering the level of recycling services available currently. Eco-Network policy, because it is a group of groups with varying political views and perspectives, doesn't take public positions on issues. This is something that One Bag coordinator Sharon Segal explained to the Free Press later, along with the reminder that experience in other jurisdictions shows that to work properly any waste reduction program would have to include education and recycling programs or other services as well as any disincentives to produce garbage.

The callers perceived the Eco-Network as the instigators of a proposed garbage tax but some received useful information about waste reduction as a result. The other net effect of the article was also beneficial because subsequent One Bag A Week workshops averaged about 50 people in attendance. The Network clarified the intent of its program and all was calm again.

ONE BAG A WEEK is possible

Join the Manitoba Eco-Network in neighbourhood workshops to reduce your garbage to One Bag A Week. Learn why it is important to integrate waste reduction in your daily life.

The Manitoba Eco-Network operates an **Environmental Resource Centre and Answers Line** for the public as a charitable organization. If we don't have the answer, chances are we know someone who does! The One Bag a Week program is funded by a City of Winnipeg Consider the Source grant.

To register for the One Bag a Week program or for ANY environmental question call:



956-1468

continued from previous page

pushed to do something they didn't choose, makes the atmosphere more open for honest discussion.

A case in point would be the issue of recycling services, which always accounts for a heated discussion. At each talk, the participants are given a quiz in which they can gauge where they are and where they would like to be in terms of environmental action. The very first thing that people start to do is recycling, and often don't do much more than this. (Hence the phrase there's more to the environment than recycling).

The reason this is such a heated topic is that many Winnipeggers are upset with the lack of resources for recycling. Many people are either philosophically opposed to or cannot afford to pay for this service. Many people find that depots are either at inconvenient locations, or non-existent in their neighbourhoods. Some note with irony they are denied recycling services because they don't have a car.

One Bag A Week acknowledges this frustration, and encourages people to look at the other ways of reducing waste and suggestions for teaming up with others to create recycling options.

The response to these talks were overwhelmingly positive because of the emphasis on practical solutions.

Publicity for One Bag a Week was very

good. Winnipeg Hydro agreed to include information on this program as an insert in their March hydro billing to most of the older neighbourhoods in Winnipeg. The insert reached 90,000 businesses and residents and generated more than a few hundred calls to the Network. Most of the phone calls were from people who never heard of the Eco-Network before, and who were not currently doing a great deal about their own waste.

Most of the calls involved referrals to appropriate recycling depots or to member organizations of the Network such as the Recycling Council of Manitoba. The good news for people who haven't put a great deal of thought into their own practices is that very simple measures have yet to be taken. For instance, one caller complained that she couldn't reduce to one bag a week because advertising flyers alone were producing half a bag. She appreciated the simple suggestion to put a 'no flyers, please' sticker on her mail box to eliminate flyers. For those that can't access recycling services, steps like sharing the newspaper subscription with a neighbour or re-using grocery bags are a revelation.

The hope is that these people will move to the

next level of involvement and eventually we will build a larger constituency receptive to the message of environmental groups. A key to this is relating the remedial actions we take to the large problems - deforestation, global climate disruption from inefficient energy use etc. — and not simply acting in isolation from the rest of the world.

The One Bag A Week program was very successful in reaching into the mainstream and motivating people to get involved with the environmental movement.

With a broad scale of resources available the Eco-Network can service interested individuals as they progress in their degree of involvement.

This is clearly a strategy that should be continued, as there is a demand for information if presented in an atmosphere that is conducive to discussion.

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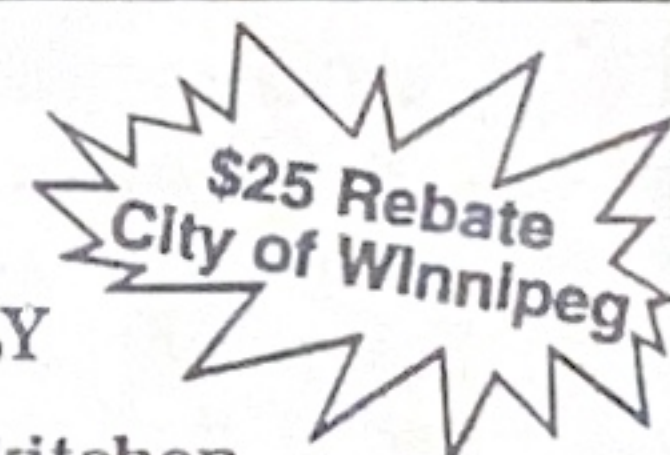
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TURNING BACK THE CLOCK: What's behind Environment Canada's competitiveness review?

by Clifford Maynes

reprinted with permission from Canadian Environmental Network Bulletin, March 1993

For more than two decades in Canada, citizen activists have laboured brick-by-brick to build improved protection for the environment at the national level. Now, Environment Canada has launched a ``regulatory review exercise'' that threatens with one swing of the sledgehammer to

knock down what we have struggled so long to achieve.

Everything is up for grabs, including regulations affecting mining, pulp and paper, PCBs, the petroleum industry, hazardous wastes, the ozone layer, rivers and oceans, agricultural processing, wildlife, and parks.

The Environment Canada review is part of a government-wide examination of existing federal regulations ``to identify those that affect Canadian competitiveness or impose needless cost on consumers.'' This mandate has been widely interpreted as an invitation to scrap or gut any regs that clash with business interests - a long list.

Environmentalists working on trade issues have linked the review with the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). According to Michelle Swenarchuk of the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA), the review reflects the move to step up ``harmonization'' of Canadian and U.S. standards. Although NAFTA contains language permitting Canadian standards higher than the harmonized ones, in practice this will be very difficult and is unlikely to happen, Swenarchuk said.

``Since the entire scheme of free trade agreements is to enshrine deregulation in the broadest sense of the word in immutable international agreements, it is not at all surprising that Environment Canada is doing this [review] at this time,'' she said.

Review Criteria

Draft criteria to guide the review of environmental regulations address a number of potentially loaded issues, including:

- the cost to business of regulation,
- the potential for off-loading regulation to other levels of government
- the potential for industry self-regulation, market instruments, or performance standards as alternatives to regulation,
- conformity of regulations to the Free Trade Agreement and NAFTA,
- comparisons with regulations adopted by major trading partners.

One of eight review criteria addresses ``environmental sustainability'', including conformity to Green Plan goals and objectives, the adequacy of enforcement, conformity with international environmental agreements, and promotion of pollution prevention as opposed to after-the-fact clean-up.

Further, Environment Canada cites a promise by Treasury Board President Gilles Loiselle that the review will not ``compromise the government's commitment to safety, health, and the environment.''

However, many ENGOs are sceptical. Economic priorities, not the environment, spurred the review, they say.

To register against pesticide spraying:

The City of Winnipeg's summer pesticide applications have already started with cankerworm and Elm Bark Beetle spraying in some areas of the city and mosquito larvaciding in ditches and standing water. For details about what is being sprayed and where, citizens can call the Operations Base at 986-3222.

If you oppose any or all of the pest control efforts you can register to have your residence exempted. City policy is to allow buffer zones of 100 metres for mosquito fogging and 30 metres for other programs. To register clip the following form and mail or deliver to the Insect Control Branch:

The City of Winnipeg
Insect Control Branch
3 Grey Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2L 1V2

return address

Please be advised that, as the principle owner/tenant at _____, I would like to register my opposition to the following City of Winnipeg Pesticide programs:

- ☐ mosquito larvaciding using chemical insecticides
- ☐ mosquito larvaciding using biological insecticides
- ☐ cankerworm spraying (chemical)
- ☐ cankerworm (biological)
- ☐ adult mosquito fogging (chemical)
- ☐ adult mosquito fogging (biological)
- ☐ adult mosquito residual spraying (chemical)
- ☐ miscellaneous insect spraying (chemical)
- ☐ elm bark beetle (chemical)
- ☐ elm bark beetle (biological)
- ☐ all of the above

Signed _____

See CONSULTATION next page

Rushed consultation process rejected

CEN refuses to name delegates

Even if the criteria were excellent, the process would still be entirely unacceptable for such an important and extensive undertaking. The review was not formally announced until late

On 27 January 1993, the CEN office received an outrageous request: find an environmental delegate by 29 January - just two days later - to serve on an External Advisory Panel (EAP) for a massive review of Canada's environmental regulations.

Since a democratic selection process was clearly impossible in the available time, the CEN refused to find a delegate.

However, Environment Canada still wanted CEN to participate in the process, and agreed to pay for a conference call of interested groups.

The call took place on 16 February. For half an hour George Cornwall of Environment Canada described the review and answered questions. Then Cornwall hung up and CEN members discussed participation on the EAP and related issues for another hour.

By the end of the call, the groups unanimously agreed not to name a delegate to the

External Advisory Panel. By this date, the first EAP meeting had already taken place. Groups felt they would be disadvantaged in a severely flawed process.

CEN chairperson David Daughton wrote to Environment Canada regarding the process: "By the time we were contacted about the Regulatory Review," he said, "environmental NGO delegates had already been named to the external advisory panel; tight deadlines were established; and criteria had been drafted and widely distributed by the department without, we presume, any public consultation or scoping...[C]onditions such as those surrounding the Regulatory Review make meaningful and representative input impossible."

Meanwhile, Environment Canada is pushing ahead. Seven review teams, each chaired by a civil servant, are examining groups of regulations and developing recommendations. Some teams (known as "clusters") are not doing any outreach, while at least one, for parks regulations, has mailed to hundreds of ENGOS. ENGOS were originally told to submit input by 23 February, a deadline that was later extended by about a

month.

The External Advisory Panel is supposed to be overseeing and evaluating recommendations issuing from the clusters.

The EAP includes about a dozen representatives from industry, labour, and institutions. There are also ENGO reps on the Panel, but they were appointed independently, and do not sit as CEN delegates.

Reprinted courtesy of the Canadian Environmental Network Bulletin. Subscriptions to the Bulletin are included with the price of group membership in the Manitoba Eco-Network, or \$40 per year for other organizations and \$25 per year for individuals (four issues per year).

Environment groups left out of the decision-making loop

continued from previous page

January. Yet a preliminary report and recommendations are expected by early April; and a final report is expected in June that outlines which regulations should be sacked, which should be left alone, and which should be changed - accompanied by recommendations for change.

Implementation is expected to begin by mid-summer 1993 - just before the federal election anticipated this fall.

Environment Canada was among 19 departments and agencies asked to initiate regulatory reviews last October. Curiously, environment groups were not informed until three months later.

Clifford Maynes is editor of the *Canadian Environmental Network Bulletin*. Opinions in the article are his own and do not represent the position of the CEN. For further information, contact Craig Boljkovac, CEN office, 613-563-2078.

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Sign me up as a member of the Manitoba Eco-Network ☐
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☐ \$30 Group membership
☐ \$50 Other organizations (businesses, government departments
and corporations that do not otherwise qualify for group membership

A supporting membership
includes a subscription to Eco-
Journal (value \$15 per year) as
well as notice of events and
regular updates on issues and is
open to any individual.

I'm also enclosing a donation of _____ to help with your resource centre and other public education activities.
[Charitable tax receipts available for amounts over the cost of membership]

Total Amount enclosed _____

I'm interested in volunteering for the Eco-Network. Please call me! ☐

Name(s) _____
Group (if applicable) _____ Telephone # () _____
Mailing address _____ Postal Code _____
Area(s) of interest _____ Volunteer skills _____

Group members are entitled to nominate representatives for a position on the Eco-Network Steering Committee. Group membership is open to any non-governmental, non-profit group which has as one of its objectives the enhancing or furthering of environmental quality, protecting the environment or environmental education.