

Manitoba RESEAU
ECO-NETWORK ECOLOGIQUE
INC. *du Manitoba inc.*

SEPTEMBER 1989

**PROTECT WINNIPEG'S DRINKING WATER
JOIN THE WATER PROTECTION GROUP**

Consolidated Professor Mines Ltd. has been conducting extensive exploration for gold on Stevens Island, Shoal Lake, Ontario for a number of years. In common with other mines on the lake, Consolidated Professor Mines has received funding from the Ontario government for this exploration.

Extensive underground tunnels have been blasted under the lake and Stevens Island is now covered with acres of excavated rock. These tailings are high in arsenic and heavy metals and are now exposed to rainfall which runs directly into the lake.

Water from the mine shaft is contained in two settling ponds on the island. The arsenic content of these is some six times greater than the maximum allowed levels for drinking water. The concentrations of metals, such as iron, copper, lead, zinc etc., are also raised. Soluble compounds in these ponds will eventually enter the lake through the groundwater.

The company's application for a

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**RESOURCE RECOVERY INSTITUTE
LAUNCHES WOLSELEY RECYCLING PROJECT**

The official launch of Winnipeg's first curbside recycling program is slated to take place at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 1989 at the corner of Palmerston Avenue and Arlington Street.

The Wolseley recycling project is an initiative of the Resource Recovery Institute (RRI), a newly formed non-profit, non-government, community-based organization working to bring recycling to Winnipeg.

Beginning with Phase I, the program will collect recyclables from approximately 400 homes in the area bounded by Palmerston Avenue, Westminster Avenue, the west side of Arlington Street, and the east side of Dominion Street.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Manitoba Eco-Network is accepting applications from individuals interested in a 3 month part-time, term position as Coordinator of the Network. The present Coordinator, John Barker, will be on a three month leave-of-absence. Duties will involve such activities as the day-to-day operation of the Network office, and Resource Centre and Bookstore, along with the planning and implementation of special events sponsored by the Network.

Term: October 2 - December 31, 1989. Apply in writing to the Manitoba Eco-Network.

CANADIAN PARKS SERVICE HERITAGE AWARDS

Nomination forms for these awards are now available. Individuals, groups, corporations, other levels of government, and educational institutions involved in the conservation of natural or cultural heritage may be nominated for a Heritage Award. The Heritage Awards certificates are presented on Heritage Day, celebrated annually on the third Monday in February. Deadline for submissions is September 15, 1989. For more information please contact Charlotte Peach of Environment Canada at 983-2906.

RECYCLING COUNCIL OF MANITOBA TO HOLD DEPOT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1989 is the date of the next recycling depot sponsored by the Recycling council of Manitoba.

Collection will take place at the following locations: Fort Osborne Complex, 139 Tuxedo Ave.; Versatech Industries Inc., 436 William Ave.; River East Collegiate, 295 Sutton

Ave.; Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School, 2665 Ness Ave.; as well as locations in Selkirk and Brandon.

Items that can be recycled include: newsprint (no glossy inserts), corrugated cardboard (no boxboard or egg cartons), aluminum cans, plastic soft drink bottles, clear and coloured glass jars and bottles, plastic containers, and phone books. For more info call 257-3891.

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

COORDINATOR.....JOHN BARKER

EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN.....JACK DUBOIS
VICE-CHAIR.....BRIAN PANNELL
SECRETARY-TREASURER.....LETTY LAST

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE
REPRESENTATIVE.....BRIAN PANNELL

STEERING COMMITTEE

Arnold Baker - Westman Wilderness Club
Jack Dubois - Wildlife Society, Manitoba Chapter
Bill Goddard - Crossroads Resource Group
Bryan Johnson - Sustainable Agriculture Movement
Letty Last - Recycling Council of Manitoba
Anne Lindsey - Concerned Citizens of Manitoba
Al Maki - Manitoba Naturalists Society
Brian Pannell - Manitoba Environmentalists Inc.
Eldon Schmitz - Sierra Club of Manitoba

The Manitoba Eco-Network Resource Centre is located in room 202 - 128 James Ave., Winnipeg (behind the Concert Hall). Phone (204)956-1468.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- September 10 - 17 Our World, The Summit on the Environment. In the Don Valley, Toronto. An international conference and exposition for environmentalists, government, industry and concerned citizens of the world. For information call (416) 462-3250 or fax (416) 462-1675.
- September 12 Official launch of the Wolseley Recycling Project. Corner of Palmerston Avenue and Arlington Street, 9:00 a.m. (see page 1).
- September 13 A public meeting concerning low level flight traininging Goose Bay, Labrador. Freighthouse Community Centre, Isabel and Ross, 7:30 p.m. For information call 786-8938 (see page 6).
- September 14 - 17 The Green Energy Conference. An international symposium on energy and sustainable development with an exhibition of strategies and technologies to harmonize energy and the environment. The Botanical Garden, Montreal. Contact The Green Energy Conference, 445 St. Francois Xavier, Suite 12, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2T1.
- September 27 - 29 11th Canadian Waste Management Conference. Le Meridian Montreal, Montreal. Call (819) 953-5363.
- October 2 Manitoba Naturalists Society Indoor Program "Canoeing the Hood River" with Dr. Bruce Daly. 8:00 p.m. Basic Medical Science Building, Theatre A, corner of Bannatyne and Emily. Call 943-9029 for more info.
- October 9 - 12 Hazardous Waste Management in the '90s: Moving from Remediation to Practical Preventive Strategies. International Specialty Conference. Banff, Alberta. To register contact: Air & Waste Management Association, P.O. Box 2861, Pittsburgh, PA, 15230.
- October 14 Date for the next Recycling Day. Please contact the Recycling Council of Manitoba at 257-3891 (see page 2).
- October 16 Manitoba Naturalists Society Indoor Program "Environmental Responsibility and Food Production in Canada: The Sustainable Agricultural Initiative" with G. Leblond. See October 2 for further information.
- October 25 - 29 Ethical Choices in the Age of Pervasive Technology. A World Conference. University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario. Contact University of Guelph, University School of Continuing Education, Guelph, Ontario, N1G 2W1. (519) 824-4120 ext. 3956.

WATER PROTECTION GROUP

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certificate of approval to begin operational mining will be reviewed under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Although this is an improvement over the original intention to review the proposal under the Ontario Water Resources Act, many questions remain. For example, it is unclear as to the number of issues that will be addressed in the review. Details as to public hearings and the availability of intervenor funding have yet to be resolved.

If this certificate is granted discharges of arsenic and heavy metals will be permitted into Shoal Lake and Crow Duck Lake, the site of the mainland refinery, where cyanide will be used.

The **Winnipeg Water Protection Group (WPG)** maintains that there is no place for mining developments in the water supply of any Canadian city. Canada is one of the few developed countries which does not have a Safe Drinking Water Act. We will continue to lobby the federal government for such an Act.

The threat to Winnipeg's drinking water from mining operations in the Ontario portion of Shoal Lake is very real. The front page story in the Free Press on Monday, July 17, 1989, gives excellent background information. Unless the citizens of Winnipeg, and major Winnipeg organizations are prepared to voice their concerns, the interests of Ontario are liable to prevail.

The WPG's objective is to protect Winnipeg's water supply from pollution. The WPG intends to ensure that the public is fully informed on all future developments related

to our water supply. The City and the Province of Manitoba have limited jurisdiction in Shoal Lake. Unless the residents of Winnipeg are prepared to protect their water supply the mining operations will prevail.

There is no charge for membership—the Winnipeg Water Protection Group does not consider that residents of Winnipeg should be required to pay to protect their drinking water. Please call **Helen McCullough** at **889-8241** to register your support.



CITIZENS AGAINST NEUROTOXINS (C.A.N.)

C.A.N. is a broad based environmental group advocating safe pest control. We will be making a major push to raise pesticide and other environmental issues during the civic elections this fall.

We will be asking pointed questions of candidates, as well as researching and publishing voting records. We will also be engaged in various other high profile demonstrations of public opposition to the use of toxic materials in pest control.

We need your help! If you are interested in participating in this initiative, please contact:

Ms. Wendy Waters,
231 Lipton St.
Wpg. Man.
Phone: 774 - 3152

WOLSELEY RECYCLING PROJECT

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Householders participating in the program save any of the following items: glass jars and bottles (green, brown and clear), tin and aluminum cans, newspaper, plastic soft drink bottles and plastic grocery bags.

Recyclables are placed in blue plastic bags (which are also recycled) and put outside along with other solid waste on the regular garbage collection day in the area. The bags are collected by the RRI and taken to their facility for sorting and marketing.

Phase II of the curbside recycling program, scheduled to begin later this fall, will see the program

expand to include 1,000 homes in the Wolseley area and 1,000 households in another (as yet to be determined) area of the city. Eventually, the RRI would like to see the program functioning on a city-wide scale.

Funding for the program has been granted to the RRI by the City of Winnipeg, the Province of Manitoba, and Employment and Immigration Canada.

Project manager, Barbara Golden, is coordinating the project from the recently established recycling facility of the RRI, located at 51 Aikins Street in Winnipeg. Anyone interested in further information about the program can contact the Recycling Hotline at 589-4008.

Currently the Network Newsletter is being circulated to over 500 individuals and organizations. Due to budgetary restraints, as of October 1989, the newsletter will be sent only to member organizations and to individuals who have paid the subscription price. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter and supporting the Network, please complete the attached form.

Detach and mail to:

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

Yes! I/We want to become a supporter of the Manitoba Eco-Network and to receive the newsletter.

Enclosed is a cheque for a yearly newsletter subscription

_____ \$5 (Limited Income)
 _____ \$10 (Individual)
 _____ \$20 (Group Membership and Subscription)

I/We want to support Eco-Network activities. Enclosed is a donation of \$_____

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 _____

THE MILITARIZATION OF NITASSINAN (LABRADOR)

Nitassinan is an area of Labrador which is home to 10,000 Innu people. The Innu have never ceded their territory through treaty or land agreement to Canada.

Goose Bay, Labrador is the site of low level flight training by the West German, British, and Dutch military, at the invitation of the Canadian government. Canadian government brochures describe the surrounding area as "wilderness interior devoid of human habitation."

Over 7,500 low-level flights occurred over Nitassinan in 1988. Fighter-bombers fly only 100 feet above the ground at speeds of up to 800 mph, breaking the sound barrier.

The Canadian government has invited NATO to build a new \$800 million Tactical Weapons and Training Centre in Goose Bay. If this happens, flights will increase to 40,000 a year (up to 200 a day!).

Migratory bird patterns are changing because of the flights. Innu hunters claim that the birth rates of caribou herds are dropping; caribou have abandoned their traditional calving grounds.

Research on the effects of low-level flights on children in Germany has confirmed severe health effects, including damage to the immune system, loss of hearing, high blood pressure, and behavioral disturbances.

FEARO (Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office) hearings are scheduled to begin this fall. However, the FEARO panel's mandate

doesn't allow it to recommend halting low-level flying or to disallow the proposed base. It can merely recommend ways to minimize the negative impact of the flights.

The Innu of Nitassinan have actively opposed military use of their territory since 1980. In 1989, protests escalated to include non-violent civil disobedience - i.e. camping on the runway at CFB Goose Bay. In a landmark court decision April 18, 1989, Judge James Igloliorte found four Innu protestors not guilty of charges of public mischief. "Through their knowledge of ancestry and kinship, they have shown that none of their people ever gave away rights to the land to Canada."

Elizabeth Penashue and **Rose Gregoire** were two of these protestors. They have been invited to Manitoba in September. They will be guests at a **public meeting** at the **Freighthouse Community Centre, Isabel Street and Ross Avenue, on September 13th at 7:30 p.m.** This meeting is being cosponsored by the Canadian Alliance in Solidarity with the Native Peoples, the Mennonite Central Committee, and the Winnipeg Coordinating Committee for Disarmament. **(Call 786-8938 for more info.)**

Plan to attend this informative evening to find out more about what the Canadian government, in our name, is doing in Nitassinan, and what we can do about it.

- Val Klassen -

