

Mr. H. Sanford Riley
Chair, Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board

Dear Mr. Riley:

Manitobans have elected a government that is committed to improving the province of Manitoba. Our priorities include restoring prudent fiscal management, creating jobs, improving health care and education, improving our partnerships and relationships with business and communities, and increasing openness and transparency of our government. We are focused on achieving results on behalf of Manitobans.

The Manitoba Hydro board of directors is responsible for carrying out the duties, powers and functions of the corporation including those outlined in The Manitoba Hydro Act. These responsibilities include ensuring a safe, reliable, economical and environmentally responsible supply of energy for Manitoba, while keeping rates low for Manitobans.

Manitobans expect a high quality of service delivered by their public crown corporations. *The Crown Corporations Public Review and Accountability Act* was enacted to ensure public confidence and accountability in Manitoba's Crown Corporations, and to strengthen their accountability mechanisms.

In the coming months, our government will review this legislation with our partners and stakeholders, including Manitoba Hydro. Together, we will assess the current governance framework with a view to improving transparency and more clearly defining the respective roles of government and the Boards of Directors of Manitoba's major Crown Corporations. We want to find the right balance between our responsibility to ensure performance and results with the need for operational independence for our Crown Corporations.

Our government is committed to reducing red tape, providing quality service, strengthening accountability and delivering value for the money that Manitobans invest in all government services. I know that these principles of value, quality, efficiency, and effectiveness are important to Manitoba Hydro.

Once we have developed the right governance model, I look forward to working with you to improve procurement/ tendering practices, advertising and sponsorship models with the goal of ensuring competitiveness, transparency, efficiency and cost-effectiveness across government.

I know you and your colleagues on the Board understand that it is an important responsibility to guide and oversee Manitoba's publicly owned corporations. And I know I can count on your hard work and dedication to fulfill your Board's duties and responsibilities. I look forward to hearing your advice and recommendations and to working together on achieving results that will make Manitoba the Most Improved Province.

Yours sincerely,

Honourable Ron Schuler
Minister of Crown Services

c: Steve Kroft
David Brown
Earl Edmondson
Cliff Graydon
Jennefer Nepinak
Michael Pyle
Allen Snyder
Dayna Spiring
Dr. Annette Trimbee