

Manitoba Conservation



Districts Association

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Presentation by:

Arnold Coutts,

Chair of the Manitoba Conservation Districts Association

Our presentation will describe a brief overview of how conservation districts use local expertise to successfully and cost effectively manage our watersheds working towards improving soil and water health for all Manitobans. We will also explain the values of the diverse infrastructure projects we do that result in multi-beneficial outcomes such as: flood mitigation, reduction of peak flow of water, less disaster assistance claims, preserved infrastructure, improved water quality, improved agricultural outcomes, reduction of nutrient flow into our lakes, just to name a few. We will explain that within our 18 conservation districts, there are 4 that manage over 80% of the provinces crossings as well as drains; at a fraction of the MIT budget that covers the rest of the province. Many more conservation districts have also voiced an interest in managing local infrastructure but the funds are not there. The safety of all Manitobans is at the forefront when it comes to the state of much of our infrastructure; we are already positioned to be your solution.

We will provide some cost effective examples of how the Province can save many dollars by utilizing the expertise and grassroots benefits of the conservation district program to aid in "restoring the fiscal integrity of Manitoba" while improving safety for all Manitobans. By utilizing the synergies of many government departments that we already work with; the opportunity to create a better sustainable Manitoba lies before us.

Thank you for asking for a presentation from the Manitoba Conservation Districts.

Shane Robins

executive director, Manitoba Conservation Districts Association

*The Manitoba Conservation Districts Association will communicate long term environmental stewardship through advocacy, leadership, education and promotion.*