

Sustainable Development Innovations Fund
Fonds des innovations de développement
durable Manitoba

Annual Report
2010-2011

Rapport annuel
2010-2011



MINISTER OF CONSERVATION

Legislative Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA
R3C 0V8

The Honourable Philip S. Lee, C.M., O.M.
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba
Government House
Winnipeg MB R3C 1S4

Your Honour:

I am pleased to present you with the Annual Report for the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund for the period of April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

“Original Signed by”

Bill Blaikie
Minister of Conservation



The Honourable Bill Blaikie
Minister of Conservation
330 Legislative Building
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V8

Dear Minister:

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Mandated under *The Sustainable Development Act*, the Fund's purpose is to contribute to Manitoba's environmental sustainability, while considering the economy, human health and social well-being. The Fund achieves its purpose through targeted funding initiatives and programs, implemented through an application or proposal process.

During 2010-2011, the SDIF provided grant funding for innovative projects and supported other significant initiatives that contributed to the province's environmental sustainability.

The Fund continues to support Manitoba communities, which benefit from research and studies, educational initiatives, technology development and application, environmental improvements, and resource conservation and protection.

Respectfully submitted,

“Original Signed by”

Fred Meier
Deputy Minister



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PREFACE

Organization of Report

The format of the 2010/11 Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) Annual Report is similar to previous Annual Reports in that funded projects are presented by category and program areas.

Purpose

In 1989, the provincial government created the Environmental Innovations Fund under *The Environment Act*. The Environmental Innovations Fund was repealed from the *Environment Act* in 1992/1993 and the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) was established under Section 17(1) of *The Sustainable Development Act*, which came into force on July 1, 1998.

As stated in *The Sustainable Development Act*, the purpose of the Fund, is to “provide grants in support of innovative projects, activities, research and developments that further the sustainability of Manitoba’s economy, environment, human health and social well-being and support environmentally sustainable economic growth; and support any other sustainable development innovation purpose that the Lieutenant Governor in Council considers necessary or advisable”.

The goal of the SDIF is to contribute to Manitoba’s environmental sustainability. This approach indirectly takes into account the economy, human health and social well-being. The SDIF achieves its purpose through targeted funding initiatives and programs, implemented through an application or proposal process. These designated programs align with Manitoba Conservation priorities, as well as other government initiatives. The SDIF supports Manitoba based projects or projects that will be of benefit to Manitoba and contribute to meeting the objectives of the SDIF:

1. To support and promote innovation in the environmental and sustainable development industries.
2. To encourage environmentally sound decisions and actions.
3. To promote research and demonstration of new initiatives not addressed by existing programs.
4. To stimulate economic development and diversification that will improve the quality of life, and strengthen community identity, throughout Manitoba.
5. To demonstrate new approaches to prevent waste and pollution, and conserve resources.
6. To support activities that may benefit both the global and local environment.

The SDIF’s funding initiatives and departmental and government strategic priorities contribute towards the protection, enhancement, conservation, or rehabilitation of Manitoba’s environment. Funding support is provided for the development, implementation and promotion of innovative environmentally sustainable projects delivered by local government and provincial government departments, business and industry, community and youth groups, Aboriginal organizations, First Nation communities and educational institutions. Programs help address various environmental issues, including:

- youth participation;
- waste reduction and prevention;
- climate change;
- water quality and conservation, and
- natural resource conservation.

Source of Revenue

The amount appropriated to the SDIF through the annual Estimates process is notionally linked to the anticipated revenues derived from Environmental Protection Taxes (EPT) on alcohol beverage containers and disposable diapers, from the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) on the Environmental Handling Charges (EHC) imposed by the Lubricating Products Industry, and from the Retail Sales Tax (RST) collected on levies applied to the sale of non-deposit beverage containers and tires.

Communication

The Fund is promoted through the following activities:

- Manitoba Conservation website;
- Community events, trade shows, exhibitions, and speaking engagements;
- Ministerial news releases;
- Acknowledgement in publications, printed material, and signage of funded projects;
- Listings in various funding directories;
- Provincial government offices and staff;
- Word of mouth.

Process and Fund Management

The Pollution Prevention Branch of Manitoba Conservation is designated as the administrating branch for the Fund under *The Sustainable Development Act* and provides overall administrative support to the Fund, including responding to inquiries, preparing documentation and reports, tracking expenditures, preparing cash flows, and reporting to Treasury Board.

The Branch also manages the following targeted funding initiatives: SDIF Open Fund Category, Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund and Manitoba Climate Change and Action Fund (MCCAF). The Water Stewardship Fund (WSF), which includes the Aquatic Invasive Species Program, is managed by Manitoba Water Stewardship.

The SDIF Open Category, the Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF), Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund, and Water Stewardship Fund use a similar application or proposal process. Applications or proposals submitted for funding consideration are evaluated by provincial staff against the funding program's criteria. The evaluations are compiled and summarized and then submitted for review to an Advisory Committee, comprised of representatives from provincial government departments.

The Advisory Committee reviews the proposals and the evaluations and makes funding recommendations to the Minister of Conservation or delegated Minister. The Minister has delegated approval authority for projects receiving funding of \$25,000 or less. Projects to be awarded funding in excess of \$25,000 are subject to Treasury Board approval.

Projects requesting support are assessed against the following criteria:

- addresses one or more of the priority areas;
- demonstrates measurable progress towards achieving one or more of the Fund's objectives;
- promotes a sustainable approach, has clear environmental benefits, and takes into account benefits to the community and the economy;
- involves youth;
- has written support and has identified other financial or in-kind project support;
- has a realistic budget and uses appropriate resources to conduct the project;
- has a distinct start and finish, and will be implemented in a timely fashion;
- will be conducted in Manitoba or benefit Manitoba;
- has a clear, concrete plan for future use, sharing or replication.

Ineligible applications and funding requests include:

- projects that will result in proprietary knowledge which will be held exclusively by the grant recipient;
- applications for debt financing or cost recovery purposes;
- purchase of playground and recreational equipment;
- purchase of real property, including land, buildings or vehicles;

- ongoing administration and established operational budgets; and
- initiatives that must be undertaken as a result of a government order, such as removal of petroleum distribution systems, investigations and remediation.

Manitobans are major beneficiaries of the Fund with the intended direct impact of the funded projects being on the natural environment. By supporting environmentally sound and sustainable practices, the Fund assists with facilitating behavioral changes of individuals, households, businesses and institutions.

HIGHLIGHTS

During 2010/11, the SDIF supported projects and programs under the following categories:

1. Targeted Funding Initiatives

- SDIF Open Category
- Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF)
- Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund
- Water Stewardship Fund (WSF)

2. Departmental and Government Strategic Priorities

- Bear Smart Initiative
- Manitoba Forestry Association Woodlot Program
- Sustainability Initiatives
- Water Stewardship Initiatives
- Special Initiatives

In 2010/11, approximately \$3.38 million was expended under the SDIF. Under the Targeted Funding Initiatives, a total of 58 projects were awarded grant funding expending approximately \$1.1 million. Projects funded under the Targeted Funding Initiatives included ventures that focused on completion of multi-phased initiatives, key initiatives that continue to deliver Beyond Kyoto action items through impacts and adaptation activities and climate change education programming, waste reduction and pollution prevention activities, and initiatives that help maintain or improve the stewardship of Manitoba's water.

A summary of expenditures under the Fund's Targeted Funding Initiatives and Departmental and Government Strategic Priorities is presented on the following pages.

PRÉFACE

Structure du rapport

La structure du rapport annuel de 2010-2011 du Fonds des innovations de développement durable est semblable à celle des rapports précédents, en ceci que les projets financés sont présentés par domaine de programmes et par catégorie d'attribution.

Objectif

En 1989, le gouvernement provincial a créé le Fonds des innovations environnementales en vertu de la *Loi sur l'environnement*. Après la révocation des dispositions de la *Loi* s'y rapportant en 1992-1993, on a créé le nouveau Fonds des innovations de développement durable en vertu du paragraphe 17(1) de la *Loi sur le développement durable*, qui est entrée en vigueur le 1^{er} juillet 1998.

Tel qu'énoncé dans la *Loi sur le développement durable*, le Fonds a pour objectif « de verser des subventions à l'appui de projets, d'activités, de programmes de recherche et de développement innovateurs qui améliorent le caractère durable de l'économie, de l'environnement, de la santé et du bien-être social au Manitoba et encouragent une croissance économique respectueuse de l'environnement; et de favoriser tout autre objectif en matière de développement durable innovateur que le lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil juge approprié ».

Le but du Fonds est de contribuer à la viabilité de l'environnement au Manitoba. Cette approche prend indirectement en compte l'économie, la santé et le bien-être social. Le Fonds atteint son but au moyen d'initiatives et de programmes de financement ciblés, auxquels on peut accéder en présentant une demande ou en déposant une soumission. Ces programmes désignés sont conformes aux priorités de Conservation Manitoba et aux autres initiatives du gouvernement. Le Fonds soutient les projets établis au Manitoba et les projets qui sont à l'avantage du Manitoba tout en contribuant à remplir les objectifs du Fonds :

1. appuyer et promouvoir l'innovation dans les secteurs de l'environnement et du développement durable;
2. encourager des prises de décision et l'adoption de mesures respectueuses de l'environnement;
3. promouvoir la recherche et la mise à l'essai de nouvelles initiatives ne faisant pas partie des programmes existants;
4. favoriser le développement et la diversification de l'économie afin d'améliorer la qualité de vie et de renforcer notre identité collective partout au Manitoba;
5. adopter de nouveaux moyens d'éviter le gaspillage et la pollution et de conserver les ressources;
6. soutenir les activités pouvant être avantageuses pour l'environnement à l'échelle mondiale et locale.

Les initiatives de financement du Fonds et les priorités stratégiques du ministère et du gouvernement contribuent à la protection, à l'amélioration, à la conservation ou à la remise en état de l'environnement au Manitoba. Un soutien financier est accordé pour l'élaboration, la mise en œuvre et la promotion de projets novateurs écologiquement viables menés par les administrations municipales, les ministères du gouvernement, les entreprises et l'industrie, les groupes communautaires, les groupes de jeunes, les organismes autochtones, les collectivités des Premières nations et les établissements d'enseignement. Les programmes contribuent au règlement de diverses questions dans le domaine de l'environnement, y compris :

- la participation des jeunes;
- la réduction et la prévention des déchets;
- le changement climatique;
- la qualité et la conservation de l'eau;
- la conservation des ressources naturelles.

Source de revenus

Le montant alloué au Fonds dans le cadre des prévisions budgétaires annuelles est lié de manière notionnelle aux recettes prévues découlant des taxes destinées à la protection de l'environnement imposées sur les contenants de boissons alcoolisées et sur les couches jetables, de la taxe de vente provinciale (TVP) touchant les frais de manutention imposés par l'industrie des produits de lubrification, et de la taxe sur les ventes au détail s'appliquant à la vente de contenants de boisson non consignés et de pneus.

Communication

La promotion du Fonds est assurée par les activités suivantes :

- le site Web de Conservation Manitoba;
- activités communautaires, foires commerciales, expositions et conférences;
- communiqués de presse ministériels;
- remerciements dans les publications, documents imprimés, et annonce des projets financés;
- inscriptions dans les répertoires de sources de financement;
- bureaux et personnel du gouvernement provincial;
- bouche à oreille.

Processus et gestion du Fonds

La Direction de la prévention de la pollution de Conservation Manitoba gère le Fonds en vertu de la *Loi sur le développement durable* et fournit le soutien administratif général dont il a besoin. Cela consiste notamment à répondre aux demandes de renseignements, à préparer la documentation et les rapports, à contrôler les dépenses, à dresser les relevés des mouvements de trésorerie et à rendre compte au Conseil du Trésor.

La Direction assure aussi la gestion des initiatives de financement ciblées suivantes : la catégorie ouverte du Fonds, le Fonds pour la réduction du volume des déchets et la prévention de la pollution et le Fonds d'action sur le changement climatique du Manitoba. Le Fonds de gérance des eaux, qui comprend le Programme de lutte contre les espèces aquatiques envahissantes, est géré par Gestion des ressources hydriques Manitoba.

La catégorie ouverte du Fonds des innovations de développement durable, le Fonds d'action sur le changement climatique du Manitoba, le Fonds pour la réduction du volume des déchets et la prévention de la pollution et le Fonds de gérance des eaux emploient des processus semblables en ce qui a trait aux demandes et aux propositions. Le personnel de la Province évalue les propositions ou les demandes de financement de projets en fonction des critères du programme de financement. Les évaluations sont compilées et résumées avant d'être présentées au comité consultatif d'examen du Fonds, qui est composé de représentants des ministères provinciaux.

Le Comité examine les projets et les évaluations, puis il formule des recommandations au ministre de la Conservation ou au ministre délégué en ce qui concerne le financement. Le ministre a délégué le pouvoir d'approuver les projets bénéficiant d'un financement de 25 000 \$ ou moins. Les projets devant recevoir plus de 25 000 \$ doivent être approuvés par le Conseil du Trésor.

Les projets demandant un soutien dans la catégorie générale sont évalués en fonction des critères suivants :

- ils portent sur au moins un des domaines prioritaires;
- ils font état de progrès mesurables vers la réalisation d'un ou de plusieurs des objectifs du Fonds;
- ils préconisent une démarche viable, présentent des avantages manifestes pour l'environnement et tiennent compte des avantages pour la collectivité et l'économie;
- ils font appel aux jeunes;
- ils ont obtenu par écrit des appuis et ils ont trouvé d'autres sources de soutien financier et non financier;
- ils ont un budget réaliste et recourent à des ressources appropriées pour se concrétiser;
- les dates du début et de la fin de chaque projet sont bien définies, et les projets sont mis en œuvre à temps;
- ils sont menés au Manitoba ou profiteront à la province;

- ils s'assortissent d'un plan clair et concret quant à leur utilisation, à leur diffusion ou à leur répétition dans l'avenir.

Les demandes d'inscription et de financement non admissibles à la catégorie générale comprennent :

- les projets aboutissant à l'acquisition d'un savoir-faire privatif détenu exclusivement par le bénéficiaire de la subvention;
- les demandes formulées à des fins de remboursement d'emprunt ou de recouvrement de coûts;
- l'achat d'équipement récréatif ou destiné à des terrains de jeux;
- l'achat de biens immobiliers (terrains, bâtiments) ou de véhicules;
- les frais d'administration permanents et les budgets d'exploitation établis;
- les projets qui doivent être mis en œuvre par suite d'une ordonnance du gouvernement (p. ex., élimination de réseaux de distribution de pétrole, études et travaux de remise en état).

Les Manitobains sont les principaux bénéficiaires du Fonds, qui veille à ce que les projets financés aient un impact direct sur le milieu naturel. En appuyant des pratiques respectueuses de l'environnement ayant un effet durable, le Fonds aide à promouvoir des changements de comportement, aussi bien au niveau de l'individu, que des ménages, des entreprises et des établissements.

FAITS SAILLANTS

Au cours de l'exercice 2010-2011, le Fonds des innovations de développement durable a appuyé des projets et des programmes dans les catégories suivantes :

1. Initiatives de financement ciblées

- Catégorie ouverte du Fonds
- Fonds d'action sur le changement climatique du Manitoba
- Fonds pour la réduction du volume des déchets et la prévention de la pollution
- Fonds de gérance des eaux

2. Priorités stratégiques du ministère et du gouvernement

- Initiative Gare aux ours
- Programme des boisés de la Manitoba Forestry Association
- Initiatives de durabilité
- Initiatives de gestion des ressources hydriques
- Initiatives spéciales

Pendant l'exercice 2010-2011, environ 3,38 millions de dollars ont été dépensés au titre du Fonds des innovations de développement durable. Dans le cadre des initiatives de financement ciblées, des subventions totalisant quelque 1,1 million de dollars ont été attribuées à 58 projets parmi lesquels : des entreprises axées sur la réalisation d'initiatives à plusieurs phases; des initiatives clés (activités sur les répercussions et sur l'adaptation et programmes d'éducation sur le changement climatique) qui assurent le suivi du plan d'action « Au-delà de Kyoto »; des initiatives de réduction du volume des déchets et de prévention de la pollution; et des initiatives qui aident à maintenir ou à améliorer la gestion des ressources hydriques du Manitoba.

TARGETED FUNDING INITIATIVES

Sustainable Development Innovations Fund Open Category:

A total of \$211,059.31 was expended during the 2010/11 fiscal year for 12 projects funded through the Sustainable Development Innovations Fund Open Category. Projects supported included initiatives from prior year commitments and multi-phased initiatives addressing one or more of the Open Category priority areas: ecosystem conservation, eco-tourism, environmental technology innovation and demonstration, northern community development and environmental issues, sustainable agriculture practices, sustainable community development, and understanding our environment.

Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund:

A total of \$270,000.00 was expended during the 2010/11 fiscal year for three initiatives funded under the Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF). MCCAF priority areas include education and outreach, impacts and adaptation, technical innovation and energy efficiency.

Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention Fund:

A total of \$450,452.67 was expended during the 2010/11 fiscal year for 32 projects funded through the Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund, including WRAPP program development. WRAPP Fund priority areas include composting, construction and demolition (C&D) waste management, green procurement, institutional waste reduction, integrated waste management, market development, pollution prevention, promotion and education and regional recycling.

Water Stewardship Fund:

A total of \$214,317.31 was expended during the 2010/11 for 11 projects under the Water Stewardship Fund (WSF), including the Aquatic Invasive Species Program. WSF priority areas include watershed management planning and implementation, water-related scientific research, education and capacity building, water conservation, water quality and economic development.

DEPARTMENTAL AND GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Bear Smart Initiative:

A total of \$25,287.01 was expended during the 2010/11 fiscal year to support the Bear Smart Initiative in Manitoba, which will assist in preventing human-bear conflicts.

Woodlot Program:

A total of \$170,000.00 was expended during the 2010/11 fiscal year to support the Manitoba Forestry Association Woodlot Program which encourages private landowners in Manitoba to use Agro-forestry and woodlot management practices to diversify farm income and maintain wildlife habitat.

Sustainability Initiatives:

A total of \$1,500,000.00 was expended and recovered by Manitoba Conservation during the 2010/11 fiscal year to support commitments for the International Institute for Sustainable Development, to continue promoting the concept of sustainable development and the integration of the principles and practices of sustainable development within and between the public, private, and voluntary sectors on a national and international basis; Manitoba Eco-Network, to support operating costs of the organization; and Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, to provide operating funds for the delivery of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in Manitoba.

Water Stewardship Initiatives:

A total of \$85,000.00 was expended and recovered by Manitoba Water Stewardship during the 2010/11 fiscal year in support of commitments for water related research and consulting initiatives.

Special Initiatives:

A total of \$450,000.00 was expended during the 2010/11 fiscal year for the Newspaper Recycling Agreement which supports the newspaper industry stewardship obligations to Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM) for packaging and printed paper, in line with a 1993 government commitment.

Table 1: Summary of SDIF Supported Projects and Programs

Project Categories	Number of Projects Allocated Funding in 2010/11	Amount Expended
1. Targeted Funding Initiatives		
SDIF Open Category	12	\$211,059.31
Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF)	3	\$270,000.00
Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund	32	\$450,452.67
Water Stewardship Fund (WSF)	11	\$214,317.31
Total		\$1,145,829.29
2. Departmental and Government Strategic Priorities		
Bear Smart Initiative		\$25,287.01
Woodlot Program		\$170,000.00
Sustainability Initiatives		\$1,500,000.00
Water Stewardship Initiatives		\$85,000.00
Special Initiatives: • Newspaper Recycling Agreement		\$450,000.00
Total		\$2,230,287.01
Grand Total for SDIF	58	\$3,376,116.30

TARGETED FUNDING INITIATIVES

DETAILED LISTING OF PROJECTS ALLOCATED

FUNDING DURING THE 2010/11 FISCAL YEAR

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INNOVATIONS FUND (SDIF) OPEN CATEGORY

Administering Department: Manitoba Conservation
Date Approved: 2010/11 Estimate Minute
Total Amount Allocated: \$230,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$211,059.31

The Sustainable Development Innovations Fund (SDIF) Open Category continued to contribute to Manitoba's environmental sustainability, taking into consideration the economy, the environment, human health and social well-being. The SDIF Open Category supported the completion of previous year commitments and multi-phased projects addressing one or more of the following priority areas: ecosystem conservation, northern community development and environmental issues, sustainable community development, and understanding our environment.

Total Allocation for 2010/11	\$230,000.00
Applications Processed	12
Applications Approved	11
Applications Deferred	1
Projects Carried Forward to 2010/11	1
Total Expended	\$211,059.31

Brief descriptions of the 12 projects approved under the SDIF Open Category are as follows:

ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION

BROADWAY AVENUE ADOPT-A-TREE

Proponent: Coalition to Save the Elms, Manitoba Inc.
Date Approved: October 3, 2006
Total Amount Approved: \$160,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$32,000.00
Total Amount Projected: \$32,000.00 (FY 2011/2012)

A grant of \$32,000.00 was approved for the fourth year of a multi-year project to rescue, rejuvenate, enhance and maintain the shade trees along Broadway Avenue from Osborne to Main Street in Winnipeg. Main traffic arteries pose especially harsh conditions that are characterized by intense heat, drought and flooding, solar radiation and air pollution from traffic. The project will introduce, test and demonstrate recent technologies to improve the soil profile. An educational component to the project includes presentations, advertising, publicity events and implementation of tree rejuvenating methods to highlight the degeneration of urban infrastructure, urban forest and individual trees and provide examples of alleviation and preservation techniques. The first two years of the five-year project focused on monitoring for signs of Dutch Elm disease and other diseases while the final three years will focus on follow-up and remedial work.

NORTHERN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

THE GREEN PROJECT: BUILDING SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY, YEAR 2

Proponent: Flin Flon School Division
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to undertake the second year of a community based initiative to accelerate the reforestation and soil improvement in Flin Flon, Manitoba and to incorporate a youth enviro-mentor component to further engage youth and community participation. The enviro-mentorship component assists in developing youth leadership skills by promoting and facilitating greening activities and other local environmental stewardship initiatives. In undertaking the "Green Project," the community and students participated in field operations through the application of local crushed limestone and vegetation plantings.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABILITY, YEAR 2

Proponent: Rivers West Red River Corridor Inc.
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to conduct the second year of the Pathway to Sustainability project to enable Winnipeg communities to prominently position pathways, walking and cycling routes as an important component of sustainable community development. Through a series of initiatives and working with neighbourhoods, citizen groups, outside agencies, volunteer groups and governments, a connected network of pathways will be developed by communities as a foundation in their efforts to achieving environmental, social and economic sustainability. Opportunities to incorporate non-existent pathways into development will be explored with various stakeholders, while existing pathways requiring key infrastructure and amenity requirements will be approached in a phased manner. Events, forums and conferences will be organized to help build awareness of environmental benefits of increased pathway usage and encourage lifestyle change and expansion of transportation options.

SPENCE GREENHOUSE DEVELOPMENT, PHASE 2

Proponent: Spence Neighbourhood Association
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to undertake the second phase of a community greenhouse pilot project and programming as a next step in its Five Year Green Plan to support and facilitate sustainability improvements in the neighbourhood. A distressed area of the community has been selected for the location of the greenhouse. As part of the second phase, the growing space at the site will be expanded, intended to increase composting capacity, implement a water collection system, and increase resident participation in environmentally sustainable practices.

UNDERSTANDING OUR ENVIRONMENT

BIRD RESPONSES TO PRAIRIE SIZE, YEAR 2

Proponent: University of Manitoba, Natural Resources Institute
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$16,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$16,000.00

A grant of \$16,000.00 was approved to conduct the second year of a study on Manitoba tall-grass prairies to determine the extent to which habitat degradation causes decline in prairie bird populations. Results from previous research indicate that several prairie bird species, including Le Conte's sparrows and Savannah sparrows avoid small prairie patches and have higher densities in larger patches. As the majority of remaining prairie patches in Manitoba is small, avoidance of small prairies reduces the availability of suitable habitat for these species, thus the need to identify the reasons why small patches are avoided. It is proposed that behavioural ecology, rather than responses to biophysical characteristics of the prairies, may explain the observed effects of patch size on prairie birds. The study will determine whether conspecific attraction explains sensitivity of Le Conte's sparrows and Savannah sparrows to prairie patch size by playing song recordings of conspecifics towards the end of each breeding season, when juveniles are dispersing and seeking territories for the following year. If proven to be effective in attracting birds to settle in small prairies, the method may be an efficient way to provide additional viable habitat to grassland birds, while concurrently contributing to the ecosystem restoration of small prairie patches.

DEVELOPING PREDICTIVE MODELS FOR TALLGRASS PRAIRIE PLANT SPECIES AT RISK IN MANITOBA, PHASE 2

Proponent: Prairie Habitat Inc.
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to conduct the second year of an initiative to develop criteria to identify areas of tall-grass prairie in Manitoba that may contain endangered and threatened plant species. Practical, landscape-based predictive models of critical habitat for three plant species at risk in Manitoba, the Western Prairie Fringed-orchid (endangered), Small White Lady's Slipper (endangered) and Western Silvery Aster (threatened) will be developed. Predictive models will focus on identifying terrestrial characteristics that support the growth of plant species at risk. In addition, techniques and protocols to apply in the preparation of other predicative models for other plant Species at Risk will be created.

HABITAT SELECTION OF BARRED OWLS, YEAR 2

Proponent: University of Manitoba, Natural Resources Institute
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$21,535.00
Total Amount Expended: \$21,535.00

A grant of \$21,535.00 was approved to conduct the second year of a study on barred owl nesting sites. Habitat types where this species occurs will be recorded and undisturbed habitat to that of managed areas will be compared. Extensive field studies on barred owl breeding habitat have been completed in other parts of North America, but there has been no systematic research describing nest-site specific habitat for Manitoba. Data on nesting habitat, longevity, dispersal, diet, nest fidelity, and basic population status is unavailable for Manitoba. The large cavity nesting habit of these owls has caused it to be utilized as an indicator species of healthy forest ecosystems. Study findings will allow for the protection of specific nesting sites, as well as provide information to assist forest companies and government agencies to manage forests in a sustainable manner for this and other large diameter tree cavity dependant species.

IMPLEMENTING MARSH MONITORING IN MANITOBA, YEAR 2

Proponent: Bird Studies Canada
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to conduct phase three of the multi-year Prairie and Parkland Marsh Monitoring Program (PPMMP). The program will focus on habitat-based water bird sampling to provide current information in support of habitat conservation programs. Currently no comprehensive program exists to assess the population status and habitat requirements for many species of water birds within prairie Canada. The overall goal is to develop spatially-explicit Decision Support System (DSS) models that will serve to direct efforts to conserve and manage habitats that are used by wetland-associated birds.

MANITOBA BREEDING BIRD ATLAS, YEAR 2

Proponent: Bird Studies Canada
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to undertake the second year of a multi-year initiative to create a Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas. Essential baseline data on the distribution and abundance of all bird species breeding in Manitoba will be gathered within a single time frame and its coverage will form a baseline for the examination of trends across eco-regions, in higher taxonomic groupings, and in avian guilds (groups of birds related by similarities in ecological niche rather than taxonomy). This initiative is portrayed as a citizen-science project as hundreds of volunteers throughout Manitoba will participate in collecting and submitting data. The project will culminate in an accessible web-based interactive mapping tool and bilingual atlas publication documenting all data and findings, and is expected to generate the most comprehensive wealth of information on the current status of Manitoba's birds, which can then be utilized in the development of conservation action plans.

MONITORING THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF FOREST HARVESTING ON THE OWL LAKE WOODLAND CARIBOU RANGE THROUGH AN EXPERIMENTAL CARIBOU SCENARIO

Proponent: Manitoba Model Forest
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to continue a study on caribou response to an experimental forest harvest via the placement of GPS collars and subsequent analyses of animal location data. Research results will be integrated into the development of a range management plan for the Owl Lake caribou population that will guide how resource extraction will be carried out across the landscape in the future. The landscapes occupied by woodland caribou in eastern Manitoba are in increasing demand for industrial and recreational uses that pose threats to caribou habitat and survival through their potential effects on forest structure, composition and access. As part of the study, two forest harvest designs have been developed, with a multi-year monitoring protocol established to assess the effectiveness of the harvest prescriptions. Results will be reviewed in conjunction with pre-harvest GPS data on the Owl Lake caribou, as well as with other vegetation and species monitoring results to assess if harvest objectives are being achieved and if not, to identify causes and adapt harvest and renewal prescriptions as required. Research results will assist in developing mitigation plans for the Atiko and Bloodvein caribou herds affected by the increasing demand for timber resources on the east side of Lake Winnipeg

WESTERN GREBES AT DELTA MARSH, YEAR 2

Proponent: University of Manitoba, Natural Resources Institute
Date Approved: June 29, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to conduct the second year of a study to reevaluate the status of Western Grebes at Delta Marsh. The study intends to determine if environmental changes, such as water level stabilization and vegetation composition have influenced the nesting ecology, distribution and population status of the Western Grebes. Other than brief surveys, there has been no extensive research completed since 1976, and the species appears to be declining.

PROJECTS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

Projects listed below are those that were allocated funding from the SDIF Open Category in previous fiscal years, and have received carryover authority for the 2010/11 fiscal year.

Project descriptions have been provided in previous Annual Reports.

FLIN FLON SOIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT—PHASE ONE

Proponent: Manitoba Conservation, Air Quality Section
Date Approved: August 12, 2008
Total Amount Expended in 2010/11: \$1,524.31

MANITOBA CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION FUND

Administering Department: Manitoba Conservation
Date Approved: 2010/11 Estimate Minute
Total Amount Allocated: \$270,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$270,000.00

The Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF) continued to provide cost-effective opportunities for the Province to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in targeted sectors in keeping with the Government's climate change commitments and consistent with the goals outlined in both *Green and Growing*, Manitoba's strategic environmental framework, and *Beyond Kyoto*, Manitoba's climate change action plan.

MCCAF provided support for three key initiatives addressing the following priority areas: education and outreach, and impacts and adaptation.

Total Allocation for 2010/11	\$270,000.00
Applications Processed	3
Applications Approved	3
Total Expended	\$270,000.00

Brief descriptions of the three projects approved under the MCCAF are as follows:

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

CLIMATE CHANGE CONNECTION

Proponent: Manitoba Eco-Network Inc.
Date Approved: July 13, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$100,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$100,000.00

A grant of \$100,000.00 was approved to continue with Manitoba's climate change public education and outreach hub, the Climate Change Connection. The Climate Change Connection's vision is to ensure Manitobans are aware of climate change facts related to Manitoba and will reduce their greenhouse (GHG) emissions, both individually and as a community. Climate Change Connection acts as a clearinghouse of climate change information, coordinates climate change outreach, builds awareness and promotes individual and community actions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promotes changes necessary to live more sustainable and climate-friendly lifestyles. Areas most likely to be impacted by climate change and sectors with significant contributions to GHG emissions in Manitoba will continue to be targeted.

Climate Change Connection will continue to build a partner network and develop their capacity; build public awareness through the collection and dissemination of publications and facts about causes and effects of climate, GHG sources, and effective actions to reduce GHG in Manitoba; make personal contact through workshops, display opportunities and speaking engagements; and encourage active involvement through the creation or support of organized activities that get Manitobans working together to reduce GHG emission. The Climate Change Connection was established as part of a national network of hubs responsible for climate change education and outreach coordination.

IMPACTS AND ADAPTATION

GHG Reductions through Sustainable Transportation Initiatives

Proponent:	Green Action Centre
Date Approved:	July 13, 2010
Total Amount Approved:	\$100,000.00
Total Amount Expended:	\$100,000.00

A grant of \$100,000.00 was approved for the coordination and delivery of climate friendly active transportation initiatives contributing to achieving Beyond Kyoto commitments related to active transportation and green driving public education and outreach. In light of the critical importance of the transportation sector as a source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Manitoba, the Green Action Centre will continue to undertake and implement strategic GHG reduction initiatives, including:

Year-Round Commuter Challenge (YRCC) – To develop and launch a Year-Round Commuter Challenge website including a trip tracking tool with automated feedback reporting.

Workplace Transportation Demand Management (WTDM) – To increase transportation efficiencies and reduce GHG emissions by encouraging alternatives to the use of single-occupant vehicles for commuting to and from work.

Active and Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) – To implement key strategies that will provide a safe alternative for children walking to and from school, reducing GHG emissions associated with motor vehicle use by promoting safe, supervised and non-motorized travel for children.

Manitoba Student Transportation Network (MSTN) – To promote sustainable transportation to high school, college and university students through student education and action. The Campus Commuter Challenge and Car Free Days events are flagship events. The goal is to institutionalize sustainable transportation programs and infrastructure on campus, in support of shifts in travel behaviour.

PRAIRIE REGIONAL ADAPTATION COLLABORATIVE (PRAC)

Proponent:	Green Manitoba and Manitoba Conservation, Climate Change and Environmental Protection Branch
Date Approved:	July 13, 2010
Total Amount Approved:	\$70,000.00
Total Amount Expended:	\$70,000.00

A grant of \$70,000.00 was approved to support Manitoba's participation in a multi-year prairie-wide initiative supporting agri-environmental initiatives consistent with and related to current agricultural programs in Manitoba. PRAC is a collective partnership, between Natural Resources Canada, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, to enhance climate change adaptation decision making capabilities to better respond to water resource management, drought and excessive moisture, and terrestrial ecosystems planning at the regional and local level. PRAC will provide opportunities for Manitoba to enhance climate change adaptation decision making by building upon ongoing initiatives, existing lessons learned, best practices, and new partnerships within Manitoba and Prairie Provinces. Manitoba will be engaged in PRAC task areas including participation on the Steering Committee and Coordination Team; forum planning and delivery as part of integration and management task activities; and planning, implementation and reporting activities for PRAC task areas (water, drought and excessive moisture, and terrestrial ecosystems). Manitoba will work in partnership with key collaborators and other stakeholders within Manitoba, across Alberta and Saskatchewan to collectively improve the resiliency of the Prairies to the impacts of climate change by furthering adaptation decision making across the three main task areas.

WASTE REDUCTION AND POLLUTION PREVENTION (WRAPP) FUND

Administering Department: Manitoba Conservation
Date Approved: 2010/11 Estimate Minute
Total Amount Allocated: \$460,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$450,452.67

The WRAPP Fund continues to be an integral program for supporting waste reduction and pollution prevention activities in Manitoba, as municipalities, businesses, communities and other organizations continue to seek alternative ways to manage waste materials and protect the environment.

The WRAPP Fund supports projects in the following priority areas construction and demolition waste management, composting, institutional waste reduction, market development, pollution prevention, integrated waste management system development and planning, promotion and education, regional recycling, and green procurement. Financial partnerships are encouraged.

An annual budget within the WRAPP Fund allocation supports Fund administration, as well as activities related to the development and implementation of the branch's priority areas.

Total Allocation for 2010/11	\$460,000.00
Applications Processed	41
Applications Approved	32
Applications Deferred	2
Applications Declined	7
Applications Withdrawn	1
Projects Carried Forward to 2010/11	1
Total Amount for Grants Expended	\$377,064.00
Program Development	\$73,388.67
Total Expended	\$450,452.67

Brief descriptions of the 32 projects approved under the WRAPP Fund are as follows:

ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT AND COMPOSTING

BACKYARD COMPOSTING PROGRAM

Proponent: City of Thompson
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to address the amount of organic materials from being disposed at the landfill. The City of Thompson will collaborate with the Thompson Zoo to implement a backyard composter subsidy program. Residents may purchase subsidized composters from the Zoo and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Zoo to assist with the promotion and education aspects of backyard composting.

COMMUNITY COMPOST DEPOT

Proponent: City of Steinbach
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to create two depot sites which will allow residents to bring their compostable waste within Steinbach city limits, thereby reducing the amount of curbside organic material. The depots will be located in the Hanover School Division school grounds: the Junior High jogging track and the Woodlawn School parking lot. These sites will be open on Saturdays for 20 weeks, beginning in May and ending in October. The City will promote composting by providing presentations and related educational materials to increase participation in this endeavor.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT AT EARL OXFORD SCHOOL

Proponent: Earl Oxford School
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$1,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$1,500.00

A grant of \$1,500.00 was approved to take part in blue box recycling and vermi-composting in the classroom using fruit and vegetable waste from lunch hours. Volunteers will maintain the blue bins and student classroom volunteers will assist with maintaining the compost and managing the waste. The compost created will be used in the school's butterfly garden.

FROM EARTH TO EARTH

Proponents: Victor Mager School
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$2,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$2,000.00

A grant of \$2,000.00 was approved to give students a hands-on opportunity to reduce school waste through composting using organic waste generated from lunch and snack times. A team of students from grades K-8 will be responsible for collecting food scraps, processing them in the composter, and delivering finished compost to the school's outdoor gardens and the monarch butterfly station. Students will learn how their finished compost will contribute to the growth of plants in their outdoor gardens.

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE, PHASE 1

Proponent: University of Winnipeg
Date Approved: September 02, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$3,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$3,000.00

A grant of \$3,000.00 was approved to establish waste stream education for food service staff and students at McFeetors Hall at the University of Winnipeg. The residents' hall has had consistent problems with contamination in the recycling receptacles and does not have a compost collection program in place. Education will focus around compostable products in the cafeteria and on engaging new Canadians to participate and champion environmental practices that may be unfamiliar to them.

ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Proponent: Winnipeg Folk Festival
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$5,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to extend composting activities into the two festival campgrounds during the 2010 festival. Eight onsite compost bins will be established at Birds Hill Provincial Park for the collection of pre-consumer food waste that is meat and dairy free. Volunteers will maintain the compost collection sites, help collect waste, and communicate the practices with the campers. Finished compost produced will be distributed the following year to community gardens that are managed by the Spence Neighbourhood Association.

PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC FERTILIZER FROM FISHERY WASTE

Proponent: University of Winnipeg
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$15,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$15,000.00

A grant of \$15,000.00 was approved to divert up to 2,500-4,000 kg of fishery waste from fish-packing stations of Lakes Manitoba and Winnipeg in the production of marketable organic fish fertilizers using acid hydrolysis. Different 'recipes' of fish waste (differing ratios of fish frames/viscera/species) will be tested to assess the nutrient properties of the resultant liquid fish fertilizers. Fertilizers will be sent to labs for nutrient testing for total nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content. Future testing will include contaminant and micronutrient analysis. As well, the University will test organic crops using the liquid fertilizer produced in the initial phase of the project.

WASTE REDUCTION AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

COMMUNITY YOUTH CYCLING EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Proponent: River East Neighbourhood Network
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$8,640.00
Total Amount Expended: \$8,640.00

A grant of \$8,640.00 was approved to promote youth development and environmental awareness through the repair and recycling of used bicycles. The project will provide each participant a step-by-step guide to repairing/rebuilding a complete bicycle that they will be able to keep for personal use. A helmet and lock will also be provided.

FIELD IMPROVEMENT SIDELINE TURF DRAINAGE UPGRADES

Proponent: Fort Garry Lions Football Club Inc.
Date Approved: September 02, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$1,350.00
Total Amount Expended: \$324.00

A grant of \$1,350.00 was approved to replace the damaged turf and soil in the players' bench area of the football field with a crumb rubber mix manufactured by Reliable Tire Recycling from recycled tires. The replacement is intended to improve drainage from heavy rains and to prevent rain water from pooling on the sidelines and creating muddy areas in front of the benches causing slippery conditions. The excavated topsoil would be reused on the field.

MARYMOUND WASTE DIVERSION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Proponent: Marymound Inc.
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$5,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to conduct a waste audit and create a waste strategy of the on-site commercial kitchen that provides over 100 lunches per day to the school program and the secure living units. Composting and recycling program recommendations of the audit will be implemented and carried out by staff and students.

TEAM UP TO CLEAN UP

Proponent: Take Pride Winnipeg
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$5,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to create a five-part waste minimization program in which schools, community groups, businesses, and individuals will participate in picking up litter in public areas in the spring to kick start the project and again in the fall before the first snowfall. In April, the city will be divided into 12 areas where volunteers will drive down designated streets to assess the amount of litter on each street for the Litter Index. An average will be taken and will be reassessed in June to determine if cleanup activities have improved conditions. Students will be engaged in the Plastic Bag Roundup Challenge where they will collect plastic bags which will be recycled into Frisbees or benches. The final component, Cigarette Litter Prevention, will involve the installation of receptacles for discarded cigarette butts in various high traffic locations in downtown Winnipeg.

ENVIRONMENTAL S.O.S.

Proponent: RM of Sifton
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$2,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$2,500.00

A grant of \$2,500.00 was approved to design a composting and recycling promotional campaign. The project members will prepare a booth for the Oak Lake Agricultural Fair with information on composting methods, the importance of recycling, and tips for growing food in backyard gardens. Youth will also participate in using reclaimed wood and other materials to build backyard composting units which will be distributed to residents throughout the community, and will also help maintain two community gardens in the area.

WASTE REDUCTION AT STONEWALL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

Proponent: Stonewall Collegiate Institute
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$1,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$1,500.00

A grant of \$1,500.00 was approved to implement various waste management initiatives in the school. Students will perform a waste audit to gain an understanding on the amount of waste generated. The school will then be outfitted with recycling bins, a water bottle filling station, cigarette bins, and the canteen will cease the use of Styrofoam in order to move towards the use of recyclable products.

VIRDEN MULTI-PURPOSE RECREATIONAL FACILITY SKATE FLOORING

Proponent: Town of Virden
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$5,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to upgrade the town's recreational facility with environmentally friendly construction. The town will use 100% recycled rubber flooring throughout the facility, including the hallways, changing rooms, bench area, and penalty box. This type of flooring is suitable due to the arena being subject to high temperature and humidity variations. Use of the flooring in the arena is intended to demonstrate the town's efforts to reduce waste in the community.

PARKS RECYCLING

COMPREHENSIVE RECYCLING IN GRAND BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK

Proponent: Grand Beach Provincial Park
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to enhance waste management practices at Grand Beach Provincial Park with the construction a transfer station with a loading and dumping bin wall ramp. A wood chipper will be purchased and composting and recycling area created. Woodchips will be used on trails throughout the park and finished compost will be used in the park gardens and offered to cottage owners.

REGIONAL RECYCLING

LET'S RECYCLE

Proponent: Crystal Springs School
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$3,600.00
Total Amount Expended: \$3,600.00

A grant of \$3,600.00 was approved to enhance the school's recycling capabilities through the purchase of a community recycling trailer. The recycling trailer will be fitted with an enclosed top to keep recyclables dry until transport to Eastman Recycling in Steinbach. Students at Crystal Springs School will help prepare the recycling trailer, educational posters, presentations, and perform skits to educate community members about the recycling project.

LYNN LAKE RECYCLING PROGRAM

Proponent: Town of Lynn Lake
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$16,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$16,000.00

A grant of \$16,000.00 was approved to create a sustainable recycling program for the area to allow for the recycling of materials such as plastics, glass, and paper products. Recycling bins will be distributed throughout the town.

RECYCLING BALER

Proponent: Eastman Recycling Services
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to provide residential curbside and commercial recycling services in and around southeastern Manitoba including Steinbach, La Broquerie, Kleefeld, New Bothwell, Grunthal, Niverville and Blumenort, and provide depot pick up services to the Buffalo Point First Nation and throughout the RMs of Piney and Stuartburn. A new baler will be installed to improve bailing efficiency intended to save 35-50% off the current power usage.

WEST SIDE RECYCLING ADDITION

Proponent: Mariapolis and Area Recycling
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$2,900.00
Total Amount Expended: \$2,900.00

A grant of \$2,900.00 was approved to expand the existing building that stores baled and bagged recyclables awaiting transport to the collection site. The new area will have a concrete floor, wooden frame and metal siding and roof. The project is intended to reduce money spent on shipping costs and improve the cost effectiveness and efficiency of the recycling program.

RESOURCE RECOVERY FOR RURAL MANITOBA

Proponent: Municipal Waste Management Ltd.
Date Approved: September 2, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$12,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$12,500.00

A grant of \$12,500.00 was approved to increase rural recycling by establishing eight recycling containers in southwestern Manitoba: Oak Lake Town Dump Site, Oak Lake Beach, Town of Deleau and the RM of Sifton. These areas were selected due to the possibility of capturing high levels of recyclable resources. Recyclable materials will be transported to the recycling depot in either Brandon or Virden for processing. Contents recovered from the recycling containers will be tracked to give an indication of the quantity of materials diverted from the landfill.

RM OF HANOVER RECYCLING BIN PROJECT

Proponent: RM of Hanover
Date Approved: September 2, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$5,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to provide a recycling drop off bin for the residents of Friedensfeld who have made requests to have a recycling bin placed in their community. The bin will be placed in a high traffic location that will be easily accessible in the community. By providing a recycling drop off bin, the RM of Hanover hopes to see an increase in the amount of materials being recycled.

WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Proponent: St. Theresa Point First Nation
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$20,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$20,000.00

A grant of \$20,000.00 was approved to build a recycling depot that will accept a minimum of five materials required for eligibility for Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba: aluminum, plastic, newspaper and flyers, steel and glass. All other recycling materials will be transported to buyers in southern Manitoba during the winter road period, usually January to March every year, on return trips of trucks that have made deliveries in the community and would otherwise be leaving empty. Organic waste diversion will be addressed by educating members in community meetings and providing hands-on learning for 20 households and the schools to establish backyard composters. Project staff will assist households and schools with establishing their composters and with operational questions.

MODEL INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

SOLID WASTE DIVERSION PROJECT

Proponent: RM of Piney
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to research, develop, and implement a plan to promote, educate and divert solid waste in an environmentally sound manner. Key areas of the project will focus on reducing the amount of solid waste currently entering the Municipalities' waste disposal grounds. The project will focus on five major areas reducing waste through public education, facilitating and simplifying recycling, improving the convenience of recycling, improve the efficiency of waste sorting, and preventing solid waste pollution.

EXPLORING AGRICULTURAL WASTE GENERATION

Proponent: CleanFarms Inc.
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to conduct a study to estimate the type and amount of waste materials generated in the daily operations of farms across Manitoba, which will assist in facilitating the development of effective stewardship options for operating a collection and recycling system for all on-farm materials generated. The study will be conducted in two-phases, with the first phase focusing on interviews with manufacturers, distributors, retailers and industry and recycling experts; establishing contact with a representative sample of Manitoba farm owners; and reviewing relevant existing literature, industry data and statistics. The second phase involves developing a comprehensive list of stewardship options for managing the collection and recycling of on-farm materials that are currently being generated.

DELORAINE WINCHESTER NUISANCE GROUND IMPROVEMENT

Proponent: Town of Deloraine
Date Approved: September 2, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$11,600.00
Total Amount Expended: \$11,600.00

A grant of \$11,600.00 was approved to construct three bins at the waste disposal ground to store non-burnable materials for temporary holding to help prevent groundwater and soil contamination. Non-burnable materials will be transported to the Souris Regional Landfill. Citizens will be asked to sort their waste into recyclable, burnable and non-burnable to reduce the amount of garbage going into the landfill.

CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE MANAGEMENT

HIDDEN TREASURERS: CONVERTING A POLICE STATION INTO A CHURCH BUILDING

Proponent: Grace Canadian Reformed Church
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$1,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$1,500.00

A grant of \$1,500.00 was approved to complete 100% of non-structural deconstruction using volunteers from the community, maximizing reuse and recycling, and significantly reducing the amount of waste sent for disposal. Existing materials including bricks, doors, toilets, and sinks, fluorescent lighting, and copper from plumbing will be evaluated for reuse in the final church building. The Church estimates five tonnes of waste being diverted from the landfill as a result of this project. Once the new church is completed, the old church building at 211 Rougeau Avenue will be used by Immanuel Christian School.

POLLUTION PREVENTION THROUGH MATERIAL RECLAMATION: MOBILE DESIGN WORKSHOP

Proponent: University of Manitoba, Department of Architecture
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$8,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$8,000.00

A grant of \$8,000.00 was approved to transform an existing trailer into a mobile workshop which will allow access to the tools, space, materials, power, and resources needed to engage in all phases of the project. Once completed, students will participate in a deconstruction and reconstruction project in collaboration with the community of Clearwater and the Harvest Moon Society. The project will use an abandoned century-old settlement house that was donated and will offer students a chance to test out their redesigned trailer. The mobile workshop will be used as a tool to demonstrate the benefits of collaborative community projects, pollution prevention, and material reclamation.

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

WASTE REDUCTION SERVICES, YEAR FIVE

Proponent: Green Action Centre
Date Approved: May 26, 2009
Total Amount Approved: \$450,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$150,000.00

A grant of \$150,000.00 was approved annually over three fiscal years beginning in 2009 to support Waste Reduction Services, including Environmental Information Services (EIS), the Compost Action Project, Environmental Speakers Bureau (ESB), and the coordination and promotion of Waste Reduction Week (WRW). Support to the Green Action Centre will assist in the maintenance of core services, conducting research, developing resource materials and coordination of volunteers for various projects and services. The Compost Action Project focuses on education, consultation, referral, training and the provision of resources that target residential, as well as institutional and commercial organic wastes, and those who either produce or manage these streams of organics. The ESB provides environmental education support for schools on sustainability issues which include educational materials and classroom presentations on waste minimization and pollution prevention, water conservation, climate change, energy, and other related topics. WRW promotes waste reduction activities throughout Manitoban communities, businesses and schools. As the organizing agency in Manitoba, the Green Action Centre coordinates the flow of information and materials between the national Waste Reduction program and Manitoba participants and distributes waste reduction and energy conservation information to schools, municipalities, and businesses in Manitoba.

TRASH INTO CASH

Proponent: Manitoba Environmental Industries Association Inc.
Date Approved: January 17, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$3,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$3,000.00

A grant of \$3,000.00 was approved to organize a half-day forum in Winnipeg consisting of speakers on the topic of end-use products derived from recycled materials and possible related business opportunities. The intent is to review existing approaches to manufacturing end-use products from discarded material, learn about innovative techniques for dealing with recyclables, and allow a venue for discussion on this subject from various stakeholders.

NATURE SUMMIT

Proponent: Manitoba Nature Action Collaborative for Children
Date Approved: June 24, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$2,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$2,500.00

A grant of \$2,500.00 was approved to organize a two-day Nature Summit Conference at Camp Manitou themed to explore the question, "How do we reconnect children—who spend an average of 1.5 to 6.5 hours a day with electronic media back to the outdoors?" The Nature Summit will bring together delegates comprised of early childhood educators, nature enthusiasts, health professionals, landscape architects and others for a weekend of skill development and developing strategic relationships. Delegates will be offered opportunities to discover and explore nature with the goal of gaining and sharing knowledge and role modeling skills to plan back-to-nature experiences for children.

ORIOLES COMMUNITY GARDEN BULLETIN BOARD

Proponent: City of Winnipeg
Date Approved: September 2, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$1,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$1,000.00

A grant of \$1,000.00 was approved to establish a bulletin board for the Daniel McIntyre St. Matthews Community Association's Orioles Community Garden. The garden provides growing space for over 40 residents, as well as a composting area and greenhouse structure. The bulletin board will offer opportunities for participation in neighborhood greening efforts and allow for an exchange of horticultural knowledge.

RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT FORUMS

Proponent: Manitoba Environmental Industries Association Inc.
Date Approved: September 02, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to host two half day waste management forums in Winnipeg and Brandon. Each forum will consist of two panel sessions discussing issues around waste diversion and recycling. The forums will allow stakeholders to review existing approaches to recycling and waste management across Manitoba, discuss innovative techniques for dealing with waste, and facilitate discussions on improving the approaches to recycling and waste management.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

An allocation was approved for WRAPP Program Development in fiscal year 2010/11.

In 2010/11, the WRAPP Fund expended \$73,388.67 supporting the following activities:

- Product Stewardship Program and Regulation Development
- Administration of the SDIF and WRAPP Funds
- Professional development and training
- Memberships and conferences

WATER STEWARDSHIP FUND

Administering Department: Manitoba Water Stewardship
Date Approved: 2010/11 Treasury Board Estimates
Total Amount Allocated: \$215,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$214,317.31

The Water Stewardship Fund (WSF) continues to be an integral program for supporting initiatives that maintain or improve the stewardship of Manitoba's water. The WSF supports research, projects and activities that further the goals of *The Water Protection Act*, and encourages the development and implementation of watershed management plans, water conservation programs and water quality initiatives to stimulate economic development and diversification that will improve the quality of life and the environment in Manitoba. Water plays a critical role in Manitoba as it supports a healthy environment and affects the economic and social well-being of all Manitobans. Manitoba is committed to preserving Manitoba's rivers, lakes and wetlands and works to promote the importance of having quality water for people, the environment and the economy.

The WSF supports projects that contribute to maintaining the quality and quantity of water, wetlands, riparian areas and aquatic habitats in Manitoba and supports projects addressing the following priority program areas watershed management planning and implementation, water-related scientific research, education and capacity building, water conservation, water quality, and economic development. In addition, the WSF continued to support a sub-allocation for the Aquatic Invasive Species Program, as Manitoba remains vulnerable to invasion by aquatic invasive species.

Total Allocation for 2010/11	\$215,000.00
Applications Processed	48
Applications Approved	11
Total Amount for Grants Expended	\$181,153.00
Aquatic Invasive Species Program	\$33,164.31
Total Expended	\$214,317.31

Brief descriptions of the 11 projects approved under the WSF are as follows:

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT THROUGH LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

Proponent: Assiniboine Hills Conservation District
Date Approved: August 18, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$10,950.00
Total Amount Expended: \$10,950.00

A grant of \$10,950.00 was approved to restrict the access of approximately 300 head of cattle from creeks and rivers in the Central Assiniboine Watershed. Approximately two kilometers of fencing, three alternate watering systems, and two winter site management areas are to be installed. Cattle activity on these sites is in close proximity to the water and is to be controlled in order to reduce nutrients entering the waterways, which will ultimately positively impact water quality in the Lake Winnipeg Basin.

EXPANDING THE URBAN SEINE RIVER WATER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Proponent: Save Our Seine River Environment Inc.
Date Approved: August 18, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$19,800.00
Total Amount Expended: \$19,800.00

A grant of \$19,800.00 was approved to conduct a feasibility study and undertake a planning assessment to implement “adopt a river program” for the urban Seine River – an initiative of the organization’s Water Stewardship Program. Meetings will be held with key stakeholders to work towards the development of a Seine River Water Management Plan. A brochure and newsletter will be prepared on the sources and characteristics of urban Seine River water flows and levels.

WATER-RELATED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

FISHERIES AND WATER QUALITY STUDIES LEADING TO THE RESTORATION OF DELTA MARSH BY THE EXCLUSION OF COMMON CARP

Proponent: University of Manitoba
Date Approved: August 18, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to gather fundamental data on the water quality and fish community of Delta Marsh, particularly the larger native fish species that could potentially be prevented from entering the marsh by screens placed on the connecting channels. Bar-type screens will be placed on the channels connecting Delta Marsh and Lake Manitoba, preventing large adult Common Carp from accessing the marsh. This work is necessary in order to determine whether the original objectives and the management strategy for Delta Marsh were appropriate and produced the desired results.

ESTABLISHING A PROCESS FOR A WETLAND VEGETATION REHABILITATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOCUSED ON REED CANARY GRASS

Proponent: University of Manitoba
Date Approved: August 18, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$12,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$12,000.00

A grant of \$12,000.00 was approved to determine the most effective approach, both economically and biologically, to control and manage Reed Canary Grass, a persistent, aggressive and difficult to manage invasive wetland species, in a constructed wetland. Methods to be tested include the use of herbicide and mowing, both singly and together, combined with seeding techniques.

INVESTIGATING PHOSPHORUS RELEASE FROM WATERLOGGED SOILS IN MANITOBA TO FACILITATE DESIGN STANDARDS AND OPERATIONAL PROTOCOLS FOR DRAINAGE SYSTEM

Proponent: University of Winnipeg
Date Approved: February 9, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$14,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$14,000.00

A grant of \$14,000.00 was approved to gather detailed information on the release patterns of soil phosphorus under temporarily waterlogged soils specific to Manitoba. The majority of soils in Manitoba's Red River Valley region are poorly or very poorly drained. These conditions minimize sediment and nutrient transport; however, these conditions may have the opposite effect for phosphorus, increasing phosphorus loadings by creating temporary water logging on flooded land. This will aid in the development of Best Management Practices for designing and managing surface and subsurface drainage (including restored wetlands) that will minimize phosphorus mobilization from soils.

CHARACTERIZATION OF DISSOLVED ORGANIC CARBON IN A TYPICAL MANITOBAN POTABLE WATER SUPPLY

Proponent: University of Manitoba
Date Approved: February 9, 2011
Total Amount Approved: \$25,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to investigate the normal organic matter content of the Red River and some of its tributaries (the La Salle River) in Manitoba. The trihalomethane formation potential will be determined for each fraction in order to establish which fraction(s) contain the greatest number of trihalomethane precursors. The efficacy of various coagulants in removing trihalomethane precursors will also be studied. This information will aid water treatment plants in providing their customers with cleaner, safer water.

EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS

Proponent: Rivers West, Red River Corridor Inc.
Date Approved: February 9, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$24,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$24,000.00

A grant of \$24,000.00 was approved for the development of a "Storm Water Management Guide for Schools". This guide will serve as a "What Is and How To" on storm water management, and will include an introduction to the concept and principles, potential solutions to water/drainage/storm water management issues on school grounds, what is required for implementation, and how to implement these systems. The guide will also contain curriculum-based activities for schools.

PHASE TWO OF “DOWN THE DRAIN”: A DEMONSTRATION LANDSCAPE USING PLANTS AND NATURAL SYSTEMS TO CLEAN OUR WATER

Proponent: Ecole St. Avila Home and School Association
Date Approved: February 9, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$4,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$4,000.00

A grant of \$4,000.00 was approved for the second phase of a project to develop bio swales, dry creek beds and a “rain-garden” – which are all key elements in the development of a “natural playground” and “outdoor classroom”. All surface drainage from play structures, school rooftops, and other hard surfaces are now channelled into the rain-garden. Phase two of this storm water management project includes the installation of native plants in the rain-garden, “Geogrid Pavers”, grass and sod, and bilingual interpretive signage of the site. This storm water management project is considered a first of its kind in Manitoba.

WATER CONSERVATION

CHILDREN’S WATER FESTIVAL

Proponent: Brandon School Division, Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School
Date Approved: February 9, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$6,500.00
Total Amount Expended: \$6,500.00

A grant of \$6,500.00 was approved to support the first-ever Children’s Water Festival for students in the city of Brandon. Grade 12 students enrolled in an Environmental Science class are to design and deliver a water festival for grade 4 or 5 students in their school division. The festival will consist of learning stations around a water theme where young students have the opportunity to learn many facts about water in an engaging and hands-on atmosphere.

WATER STEWARDSHIP

THE FORKS RIPARIAN RESERVE: A DEMONSTRATION LANDSCAPE SHOWCASING RIPARIAN PLANTINGS TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

Proponent: The Forks Renewal Corporation
Date Approved: February 9, 2010
Total Amount Approved: \$15,000.00
Total Amount Expended: \$15,000.00

A grant of \$15,000.00 was approved to restore riparian habitat on approximately two acres of riverbank, located on the banks of the Assiniboine River. The project will establish riparian plantings including trees and understory, as well as an educational tree “snag” habitat area. A series of interpretive signs will tell the story of this project, and will explain the effects of these initiatives on water quality, water conservation, and water stewardship in the Lake Winnipeg watershed.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPING ORGANIC FERTILIZER FROM FISH WASTE

Proponent:	University of Winnipeg
Date Approved:	August 18, 2010
Total Amount Approved:	\$24,903.00
Total Amount Expended:	\$24,903.00

A grant of \$24,903.00 was approved for a pilot study to produce organic fertilizers from fish waste. Roughly 7,500 tons of fish waste is produced in Manitoba's commercial fisheries each year. Much of this ends up on the landscape and in our waterways where it is a significant source of aquatic pollution and greenhouse gases. The objectives are two-fold to produce a value-added product from material that is currently discarded and to solve a major aquatic pollution problem and reduce greenhouse gas output from the use of synthetic fertilizers. The product, an organic fish fertilizer, can be used in any agricultural setting as an environmentally friendly substitute for synthetic fertilizers that are a major greenhouse gas source. Removal of fish waste from our waterways will also help protect our lakes and rivers from the effects of nutrient overloading. The longer term goal is to commercialize the results to produce a liquid organic fish fertilizer.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Managing Department:	Manitoba Water Stewardship
Date Approved:	2010/11 Estimates Review Process
Total Amount Allocated:	\$40,000.00
Total Amount Expended:	\$33,164.31

The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program continued to support activities and programming that focused on proactive prevention to prevent accidental introduction of zebra mussels and other AIS into Manitoba by visitors transporting water-based equipment across our borders. Programming continued to provide a message to heighten public awareness to the issues of zebra mussels and other AIS in Manitoba.

Zebra mussels are small clam-like organisms that are not native to North America. They were discovered in Lake St. Claire in 1988. It is generally believed that they were transported to North America in the ballast water of an ocean going vessel and that this ballast water was then discharged into the Great Lakes system in approximately 1986. Since that time, zebra mussels have spread quickly to all of the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, Trent-Severn and Rideau Canal systems, Mississippi River from St. Paul Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico delta including its major tributaries.

Manitoba remains vulnerable to invasion by zebra mussels and other AIS. Although not presently found in Manitoba's waters, this costly foreign species is now within the Red River watershed and will likely continue to spread northward due to the northern water flow. Trailered watercraft is recognized as a key vector of zebra mussel dispersion by North American agencies responsible for AIS prevention and management. Dispersion of zebra mussels in large connected water basins is largely due to the movement of commercial watercraft such as large ships and barges that have zebra mussels attached to the hull. Movement of zebra mussels from infected bodies of water to other, isolated bodies of water is due to accidental transport on water-based equipment including boats, trailers, motors, as well as in live wells and bait buckets.

Water quality data indicate that numerous lakes and rivers in Manitoba would support populations of zebra mussels. Trailered watercraft with attached zebra mussels has resulted in dispersion to unconnected or isolated bodies of water throughout Michigan, Wisconsin, southern Ontario and, more recently, the US portion of the Red River in North Dakota. The likely route of entry of zebra mussels into Manitoba is by accidental introduction from trailered recreational watercraft originating from the Great Lakes area of Ontario and from northeast and central U.S. The Manitoba/U.S.

border offers a convenient inspection location of recreational watercraft trailered from U.S. locations. The international border crossings also offer an opportunity for visiting fishers and recreational boaters to be informed and surveyed about zebra mussels and other AIS. Objectives of the AIS program include:

1. To inspect and survey visitors transporting water-based equipment at high-traffic international border crossings in eastern Manitoba. Whiteshell Provincial Park is also a popular recreational destination for visitors. As such, inspections of boats and trailers will be conducted where practical (boat launches, Travel Manitoba Info Centre, etc.).
2. To provide literature and outreach materials to boating visitors about how to prevent accidental introduction of aquatic invasive species into Manitoba.
3. To supply information to appropriate Manitoba Government regional offices (brochures, fact sheets, posters) for distribution and posting.
4. To target the boating audience with the clear message of preventing accidental zebra mussel introduction into Manitoba (information provided to registrants of fishing derbies, booth at the Mid-Canada Boat Show, advertisement in the Manitoba Angler's Guide, presentations throughout Manitoba's Provincial Parks, and written articles).
5. To employ students under the STEP Employment Initiative.

Program Results 2010/11:

Manitoba Water Stewardship continued with its AIS Inspection Program to inspect water-based equipment at popular recreational areas. During the summer of 2010 the following was achieved:

- 108 border inspections and interviews were conducted at two international border locations;
- 520 inspections of boat trailers were conducted in the Whiteshell Provincial Park;
- Distribution of new surveys to boating safety course participants to gauge Manitoban's knowledge of aquatic invasive species;
- Informational pamphlets, key chains, and posters were distributed and AIS specimens were displayed at fishing derbies, the Red River Ex, the Clear Lake Festival and many other events throughout Manitoba.
- Information packages were provided to fishing lodges cottage associations, regional fisheries and Provincial and Federal Parks, as well as boat dealerships and bait and tackle shops.

DEPARTMENTAL AND GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

2010/11 FISCAL YEAR PROGRAM RESULTS

BEAR SMART INITIATIVE

Managing Department:	Manitoba Conservation, Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch
Date Approved:	2010/11 Estimates Review Process
Total Amount Allocated:	\$30,000.00
Total Amount Expended:	\$25,287.01

The *Bear Smart* Initiative continued to support activities and programming that focuses on proactive prevention to reduce conflicts with black bears as most conflicts with bears are preventable and arise from improperly stored food and other attractants. By practicing *Bear Smart* principles, bears are less likely to become food conditioned and human habituated, thereby enhancing public safety, reducing property damage and the frequency of human-black bear encounters to maximize resource efficiency.

As cottage and acreage development expands into bear habitat, the frequency and intensity of negative human-bear interactions is expected to increase. Black bears sometimes cause damage to apiaries, leafcutter bees, crops, livestock, and private property. On rare occasions, they may also be a threat to human safety in areas such as parks, campgrounds, cottage developments, rural sub-divisions and remote areas. Minimizing conflict between humans and bears will result in fewer bears needlessly being destroyed.

An estimated 27,000 to 33,000 black bears live in Manitoba. The population continues to be stable in most non-agricultural areas. However, in some agro-fringe areas, the population is believed to be increasing. The variability in human-bear conflict is largely influenced by density and recruitment of bears in response to natural food availability, along with the level of bear presence and nuisance activity that the public is willing to tolerate.

In 2010/11, a total of 1,504 problem black bear occurrences were reported to Manitoba Conservation district offices. Of these, 971 were investigated and 20% were associated with recreational areas, 23% rural agricultural areas, 53% rural residential areas, and 4% in urban areas.

Bear Smart Initiative priorities include:

- education and awareness through public outreach programming, including highway, traffic and pedestrian signs, posters, booklets, brochures, advertisements, website and workshops;
- identification of effective strategies to encourage *Bear Smart* behavior over the long-term;
- showcasing positive outcomes to Manitoba communities, including the installation of necessary infrastructure for bear-proofing initiatives; and
- implementing bear-proofing initiatives in provincial parks and other high use outdoor recreational areas.

Program Results 2010/11:

- Two advertisements, one newspaper and one magazine advertisement were published to remind people on ways to reduce bear-human conflicts during the summer and fall, the time of year when bears are preparing for hibernation.
- Parks and Natural Areas Branch interpretive staff continue to play an important role in the delivery of the *Bear Smart* message to the public. *Bear Smart* presentations were delivered to approximately 5,000 park visitors across Manitoba. Interpretive events focused on areas where the potential for conflicts with black bears are likely to occur and included the following Provincial Parks: Birds Hill, Grand Beach, Grindstone-Hecla Island, Paint Lake, St. Malo, Whiteshell-Rennie and Whiteshell-Nutimik Lake. Many of these events involved amphitheatre presentations, guided walks, family and school presentations and inspections in campgrounds at camp sites.
- The *Bear Smart* display was exhibited at the Brandon Royal Winter Fair, Ag Days in Brandon and The Cottage Living Show in Winnipeg with approximately 3,400 individual contacts made about being "*Bear Smart*".
- Several "Bear Smart Kits" containing various items for use when in bear country were developed. Each Kit contained: *Be Bear Smart*, Protect Yourself – Protect our Wildlife booklet, banger launchers and projectiles, bear spray, extreme rattler, critter getter "warning system" and other sounding devices (siren), a fixed blade knife and a video "Living in Bear Country." Kits were distributed to all Manitoba Conservation Regional offices for staff and others for use as *Bear Smart* demonstrations.
- Copies of the videos: *Living in Bear Country* and *Staying Safe in Bear Country* were distributed to various Manitoba Conservation District offices across Manitoba.
- A student was employed to enter data for each District Occurrence Report (DOR) involving black bears, as well as assisting with *Bear Smart* workshops and public education and outreach sessions, which assisted in measuring outcomes of the various messages and initiatives undertaken.
- Preliminary results of the data analysis shows that of the total 1,504 Black Bear District Occurrence Reports (DORs), 971 were investigated by staff. Of those investigated, 20% were associated with recreational areas, 23% with rural agriculture areas, 53% with rural residential areas, and 4% in urban areas. These human-bear encounters could have been avoided through adopting *Bear Smart* procedures. Of the total DORs, 38 involved people deliberately feeding black bear and of these, 15 occurred in recreational areas, 12 in rural residential areas, 7 in urban areas and 4 in rural agricultural areas.
- Efforts to improve waste management facilities at Grand Beach Provincial Park continued in 2010 with the installation of a semi-automated bear proof containment bin. This initiative is on-going and involved changing the traditional waste collection bins with semi-automated bear-proof containment bins and collection system. To date a total of 25 bear-proof waste bins have been installed at seven drop-off locations and waste is now collected by a retrofitted truck to pick-up the new bins.
- 5,000 *Be Bear Smart* information booklets were reprinted and distributed. The booklet is a very popular educational tool that is used at all public education and outreach events.
- Development of an Emergency Response Protocol has been drafted and is intended to be implemented in cases where direct physical contact between an aggressive wild animal and a person has occurred. Components of this protocol are being developed in conjunction with a broader '*Be Wildlife Smart*' education and outreach campaign. The *Be Wildlife Smart* concept will mirror the components of the *Bear Smart* initiative where education is a key component to effect change in human behavior and thereby conserve wildlife as fewer numbers of bears, coyotes and foxes would have to be removed.

MANITOBA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION WOODLOT PROGRAM

Managing Department:	Manitoba Conservation, Forestry Branch
Date Approved:	2010/11 Estimates Review Process
Total Amount Allocated:	\$170,000.00
Total Amount Expended:	\$170,000.00

The Woodlot Program continued to be delivered through the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) and has been effective in delivering services to private landowners in the Southeast, Interlake and Red River Valley regions of the province with an expanded presence in the Swan River Valley and surrounding area. Technical services and woodlot management plans continue to be provided to landowners through the assistance of a contract employee and speaking engagements are being provided to promote the Woodlot Program. Woodlot program staff work with representatives of Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives, Manitoba Conservation, Town of Swan River, Rural Municipality of Swan River, surrounding municipalities and conservation districts, private landowners, and loggers in the area.

The objectives of the Woodlot Program are to promote land stewardship, and to help landowners realize the potential of their wooded property in meeting their personal goals. The program continues to evolve to better serve the target audiences in the region and to better address issues landowners are facing.

Program Results 2010/11:

MFA's Woodlot Program continues to be popular and in high demand. Training seminars were held and staff worked with Conservation Districts and rural municipalities to deliver the message, showcased successful landowners who conducted sustainable woodlot management activities and introduced field days and bus tours. In total, five landowners are on a waiting list for a management plan and a number of appointments were booked for walk 'n talks with interested landowners, and 27 return visits were held with management plan participants which demonstrated continued interest of landowners to be involved in sustainable woodlot management activities. Return visits have become an integral part of the Manitoba Woodlot Program.

The program promoted sustainable woodlot management opportunities available to landowners across Manitoba. Through newsletters, field days, bus tours, seminars and word of mouth, the program assisted landowners with their woodlots for economic, environmental and social benefits.

Woodlot Program Components

Components of the Woodlot Program include management plans, return visits, public education/extension, and partnerships. Achievements in 2010/11 include:

1. Management Plans

The primary component of the Woodlot program is an initial "onsite" visit that is offered to the landowner. Following the visit, a detailed Woodlot Management Plan based on the specific topics or objectives discussed during a "walk and talk" is prepared. The plan, inclusive of recommendations to be carried out is presented to the landowner.

A total of 43 woodlot management plans were completed. Of these, 7 were conducted in the expanded area of the Swan River Valley. Since 1992, 1,287 management plans have been completed on 25,172.45 forested hectares throughout 57 municipalities across Manitoba.

2. Return Visits

The second component of the Woodlot Program is the return visit. A return visit complements the written woodlot management plan provided to the landowner and provides assistance to the landowner who wishes to proceed with timber harvesting, which may also include marketing assistance (Operational Return Visit) or has completed initial recommendations contained in the management plan and may want to carry out additional work in the woodlot (Technical Return Visit).

Woodlot management objectives vary between landowners as they manage their woodlots for environmental benefits, timber and non-timber forest products. Small scale salvage harvesting of dead and dying larch is becoming more frequent as the eastern larch beetle continues to cause mortality in larch stands on private land. Woodlot program staff continued to be busy assessing woodlots for timber volume and quality. Landowners find the “contract for sale of standing timber” included in their woodlot management plan very helpful and reassuring when conducting any timber harvest. The percentage of landowners interested in management activities and production of specialty products from private land includes:

- a) 13% - Traditional Tree Harvesting for Income. This includes harvesting for the sale of saw logs and pulpwood; value-added products such as planing, kiln drying and grading lumber for market within the community; lumber for on site building materials; and fuel wood.
- b) 14% - Non-Traditional Forest Products. This includes Manitoba maple syrup, mushroom production, jams and jellies; Christmas trees and hybrid poplars for pulpwood; saw logs and future carbon sequestering benefits.
- c) 73% - Environmental Benefits. This includes recreation (e.g. trail construction for snowmobiling, bird watching, hiking and skiing); wildlife enhancement; eco-tourism; and tree planting (over 3.75 million seedlings planted by woodlot owners).

3. Public Education/Extension

The third component of the Woodlot Program includes public education/extension activities, which includes a variety of other woodlot activities, such as woodlot education seminars, skills development seminars, bus tours, workshops and field days, as well as programming with groups and agencies supportive of woodlot management practices. The following were held:

- “Woodlot Series” included general woodlot management, Manitoba maple syrup, specialty mushrooms, and other non-timber forest products.
- Best Management Practices Seminars.
- ‘Woodlot Field Day’ which included demonstrations of small scale logging equipment, portable saw mill operation, chainsaw care and maintenance and other woodlot related demonstrations.
- Participation in the Intermountain Conservation District Water Festival and presentations were delivered on woodlot management, importance of trees and tree planting and non-timber forest products to elementary school children on September 2010.
- Attended the Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Association Annual General Meeting at Steinbach in October 2010 and delivered a presentation of the 2010 Woodlot Program activities at the Woodlot Association’s Annual General Meeting in Grand Marais on March 2011.
- Distributed over 50,000 seedling trees to approximately 177 landowners during the eighth annual “A Day in the Pines” and Sandilands Forest Centre tour in May 2010.
- Delivered presentations on proper tree planting for landowners, safe chainsaw use, insects and diseases of the woodlot, industrial tree planting, and basics of sawmilling and proper tree pruning.
- Assisted with promoting the Trees for Tomorrow program by identifying landowners qualified for the program, securing a forestation sites for the program in conjunction with landowners, and included information on the program in all of management plans.

4. Partnerships

- The Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Association and the Woodlot Association of Manitoba delivered various woodlot related initiatives on behalf of the Woodlot Program. The Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Association developed and electronically distributed quarterly member reports, replacing the association’s previous newsletter. The Woodlot Association of Manitoba produced six issues of “The Manitoba Woodlot” newsletter highlighting a variety of topics of interest to landowners.

**APPENDIX I -
Five Year Project Summary**

**Sustainable Development Innovations Fund
 Five Year Expenditure Summary (\$000)
 For years ending March 31, 2006 - March 31, 2011**

APPROPRIATION	Actual/Adjusted Expenditures				
	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Sustainable Development Innovations Fund	3,267	3,370	3,392	2,932	3,376
Total	3,267	3,370	3,392	2,932	3,376