

**Sustainable  
Development  
Innovations Fund**

**Fonds des innovations  
de développement  
durable Manitoba**

**Annual Report  
2011-2012**

**Rapport annuel  
2011-2012**



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**MINISTER OF  
CONSERVATION AND WATER STEWARDSHIP**

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, 2011 to March 31, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

"Original signed by"

Gord Mackintosh  
Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship



The Honourable Gord Mackintosh  
Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship  
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 2011-2012 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.

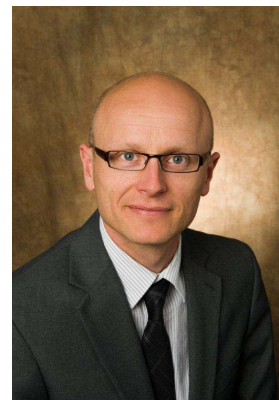
During 2011-2012, the SDIF provided grant funding for innovative projects and supported other significant initiatives that contributed to the province's environmental sustainability.

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



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

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| <b><u>TITLE</u></b>  | <b><u>PAGE</u></b> |
|--|--------------------|
| <b>PREFACE</b>   | <b>2</b>           |
| <b>PRÉFACE</b>   | <b>5</b>           |
| <b>TARGETED FUNDING INITIATIVES:</b>                                   | <b>8</b>           |
| - <b>MANITOBA CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION FUND (MCCAF)</b>                   | <b>10</b>          |
| - <b>WASTE REDUCTION AND POLLUTION PREVENTION (WRAPP)<br/>    FUND</b> | <b>19</b>          |
| - <b>WATER STEWARDSHIP FUND (WSF)</b>                                  | <b>20</b>          |
| <b>DEPARTMENTAL AND GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:</b>               |                    |
| - <b>BEAR SMART INITIATIVE</b>   | <b>25</b>          |
| - <b>MANITOBA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION WOODLOT PROGRAM</b>                 | <b>27</b>          |
| <b>APPENDIX I<br/>FIVE YEAR PROJECT SUMMARY</b>                        | <b>30</b>          |

# PREFACE

## Organization of Report

The format of the 2011/12 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, and from the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) on the Environmental Handling Charges (EHC).

## Communication

The Fund is promoted through the following activities:

- Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship 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; and
- Word of mouth.

## Process and Fund Management

The Pollution Prevention Branch of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship 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 and reporting.

The Branch manages various initiatives under the Fund, including the 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 the Water Stewardship Division of the Department.

The 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 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 and Water Stewardship 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; and
- 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 as funded projects are intended to have a direct impact on the natural environment. By supporting environmentally sound and sustainable practices, the Fund assists with facilitating behavioural changes of individuals, households, businesses and institutions.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

During 2011/12, the SDIF supported projects and programs under the following categories:

### **1. Targeted Funding Initiatives**

- 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
- Woodlot Program
- Sustainability Initiatives
- Special Initiatives

In 2011/12, approximately \$3.34 million was expended under the SDIF. Under the Targeted Funding Initiatives, a total of 33 projects were awarded grant funding expending approximately \$0.9 million. Projects funded under this category included 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<sup>er</sup> 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 et Gestion des ressources hydriques 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 :

7. appuyer et promouvoir l'innovation dans les secteurs de l'environnement et du développement durable;
8. encourager des prises de décision et l'adoption de mesures respectueuses de l'environnement;
9. promouvoir la recherche et la mise à l'essai de nouvelles initiatives ne faisant pas partie des programmes existants;
10. 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;
11. adopter de nouveaux moyens d'éviter le gaspillage et la pollution et de conserver les ressources;
12. 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 et Gestion des ressources hydriques 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 et Gestion des ressources hydriques Manitoba gère le Fonds en vertu de la *Loi sur le développement durable* et elle lui fournit le soutien administratif général dont il a besoin. Cela consiste notamment à répondre aux demandes et à présenter des rapports.

La Direction assure la gestion de diverses initiatives de financement dans le cadre du Fonds, notamment le Fonds pour la réduction du volume et de la production des déchets 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 la Division de la gestion des ressources hydriques du ministère.

Le Fonds pour la réduction du volume et de la production des déchets et le Fonds de gérance des eaux emploient des processus semblables en ce qui a trait aux demandes et aux propositions. Le personnel du ministère 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.

Ce comité examine les projets et les évaluations, puis il formule des recommandations au ministre de la Conservation et de la Gestion des ressources hydriques en ce qui concerne le financement. Le ministre a reçu le pouvoir d'approuver les projets bénéficiant d'un financement maximal de 25 000 \$. 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 2011-2012, le Fonds des innovations de développement durable a appuyé des projets et des programmes dans les catégories suivantes :

### **3. Initiatives de financement ciblées**

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

### **4. Priorités stratégiques du ministère et du gouvernement**

- Initiative Gare aux ours
- Programme des boisés
- Initiatives de développement durable
- Initiatives spéciales

Pendant l'exercice 2011-2012, environ 3,34 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 0,9 million de dollars ont été attribuées à 33 projets parmi lesquels : des initiatives clés qui assurent le suivi du plan d'action « Au-delà de Kyoto » par le truchement d'activités sur les répercussions et sur l'adaptation et de programmes d'éducation sur le changement climatique; 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.

Les pages suivantes présentent un résumé des dépenses dans le cadre des initiatives de financement ciblées du Fonds et des priorités stratégiques du ministère et du gouvernement.

## TARGETED FUNDING INITIATIVES

### **Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund:**

A total of \$200,000.00 was expended during the 2011/12 fiscal year for two key 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 \$480,035.10 was expended during the 2011/12 fiscal year for 23 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, waste reduction and minimization, regional recycling, integrated waste management, market development, pollution prevention, promotion and education.

### **Water Stewardship Fund:**

A total of \$217,193.30 was expended during the 2011/12 fiscal year for eight 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 \$56,535.81 was expended during the 2011/12 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 2011/12 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 \$1,585,000.00 was expended and recovered by Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship during the 2011/12 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 and private sectors, and civil society on a national and international basis; Manitoba Eco-Network, to support operating costs of the organization; Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, to provide operating funds for the delivery of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in Manitoba; and for water related research and consulting initiatives.

### **Special Initiatives:**

A total of \$627,750.00 was expended during the 2011/12 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; and for environmental sustainability and conservation initiatives, including the collection and information sharing of data on species at risk, the disposal of obsolete pesticide and animal health products, and the final year of a multi-year project to rehabilitate the shade trees along Broadway Avenue in Winnipeg.

**Table 1: Summary of SDIF Supported Projects and Programs**

| <b>Project Categories</b>  | <b>Number of Projects Allocated Funding in 2011/12</b> | <b>Amount Expended</b>       |
|--|--|------------------------------|
| <b>1. Targeted Funding Initiatives</b>   |  |                              |
| Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund (MCCAF)  | 2  | \$200,000.00                 |
| Waste Reduction and Pollution Prevention (WRAPP) Fund  | 23   | \$480,035.10                 |
| Water Stewardship Fund (WSF)   | 8  | \$217,193.30                 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>33</b>  | <b>\$897,228.40</b>          |
| <b>2. Departmental and Government Strategic Priorities</b>   |  |                              |
| Bear Smart Initiative  |  | \$56,535.81                  |
| Woodlot Program  |  | \$170,000.00                 |
| Sustainability Initiatives   |  | \$1,585,000.00               |
| Special Initiatives:<br>• Newspaper Recycling Agreement<br>• Environmental Sustainability and Conservation Initiatives |  | \$500,000.00<br>\$127,750.00 |
| <b>Total</b>   |  | <b>\$2,439,285.81</b>        |
| <b>Grand Total for SDIF</b>  |  | <b>\$3,336,514.21</b>        |

# TARGETED FUNDING INITIATIVES

## DETAILED LISTING OF PROJECTS ALLOCATED

### FUNDING DURING THE 2011/12 FISCAL YEAR

#### MANITOBA CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION FUND

**Administering Department:** Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
**Date Approved:** 2011/12 Estimates  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$200,000.00

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. Continued annual support was provided to two key initiatives under priority areas of education and outreach and impacts and adaptation.

Brief descriptions of the initiatives supported under the MCCAF are as follows:

#### CLIMATE CHANGE CONNECTION

**Proponent:** Manitoba Eco-Network Inc.  
**Priority Area:** Education and Outreach  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$100,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$100,000.00

An annual 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 change, 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.

## **GHG REDUCTIONS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES**

|                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Proponent:</b>             | Green Action Centre    |
| <b>Priority Area:</b>         | Impacts and Adaptation |
| <b>Total Amount Approved:</b> | \$100,000.00           |
| <b>Total Amount Expended:</b> | \$100,000.00           |

An annual 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 Campaigns** – To help maintain a public profile for sustainable transportation year-round. This series of events and seasonal campaigns include participant registrations and trip tracking to document impact and measure results. Activities include the annual Commuter Challenge in June, a Year-Round Commuter Challenge, Campus Commuter Challenge, and a pilot winter city commuting promotion.

**Workplace Commuter Challenge** – 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.

# WASTE REDUCTION AND POLLUTION PREVENTION (WRAPP) FUND

**Administering Department:** Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
**Date Approved:** 2011/12 Estimates  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$480,035.10

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 supported projects in the following areas: construction and demolition waste management, composting, education and information, model integrated waste management system development and planning, organic waste management and composting, regional recycling; and waste reduction and pollution prevention.

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

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total Allocation for 2011/12</b> |                     |
| Applications Processed              | 32                  |
| Applications Approved               | 23                  |
| Applications Deferred               | 3                   |
| Applications Declined               | 6                   |
| Applications Withdrawn              | 0                   |
| Projects Carried Forward to 2011/12 | 1                   |
| Total Amount for Grants Expended    | \$387,068.00        |
| Program Development                 | \$92,967.10         |
| <b>Total Expended</b>               | <b>\$480,035.10</b> |

Brief descriptions of the 23 projects supported under the WRAPP Fund are as follows:

## CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE MANAGEMENT

### CONCRETE WASHOUT STATIONS

**Proponent:** HaulAway and More Inc.  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$8,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$8,000.00

A grant of \$8,000.00 was approved to research the environmental effects of caustic washout water created from washing construction equipment, tools, machinery, and delivery vehicles. Research will also investigate possible LEED credits that contractors may obtain for the use of a containment system and will provide possible locations that may accept by-products.

## **FOSTERING COMMUNITY-LED APPROACHES TO POLLUTION PREVENTION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**Proponent:** Harvest Moon Society  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$10,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to deconstruct an abandoned building and use reclaimed materials to build a demonstration structure at the Prairie Centre for Sustainable Landscapes and Communities. The project will focus on the creation of an open air classroom with salvaged materials. An extensive educational and public outreach component to train community members and builders in building reclamation skills will also be incorporated.

## **WOOD WASTE RECOVERY PROJECT**

**Proponent:** Wood Anchor  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to construct an environmentally responsible four-season Wood Waste Processing Building using existing materials and diverted elm. Dutch Elm Disease (DED) infected trees destined for landfill will be reclaimed and reused for purposes such as furniture building and flooring construction, which will divert 5,000 metric tonnes (MT) of DED wood waste and 15,000 MT of construction wood waste from the Brady Landfill every year. A rainwater harvesting system will be designed to support equipment cleaning, while a modest interpretive program will be developed to help partners understand the environmental benefits of the redeveloped building and of diverting elm wood.

## **EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

### **CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP 2012**

**Proponent:** Solid Waste Association of North America – Northern Lights Chapter  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to host the Northern Lights Chapter Conference focused on rural waste issues and the clean-up of waste left behind following recent natural disasters. Discussions to include the new hazardous waste stewardship programs in Manitoba, Brandon's landfill gas collection, and the reuse of demolition waste. The conference will provide opportunities for technical sessions, landfill tours, and workshops.



## **ESTABLISHING A BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SYSTEM AT A COMPOST FACILITY**

**Proponent:** Composting Council of Canada  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to develop best management practices for large-scale compost facilities which will assist in enhancing and expanding organic waste diversion in Manitoba. Activities include: conduct site visits of existing composting operations; undertake a municipal survey to update data on Manitoba compost operations; develop educational materials and a training course for compost facility operators; and organize a "Compost Matters" workshop.

## **FREEZING/THAW LEACHATE STUDY FOR VOLUME REDUCTION AND TREATMENT PURPOSES**

**Proponent:** KGS Group  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$7,975.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$7,975.00

A grant of \$7,975.00 was approved to research alternatives for leachate volume reduction and treatment for landfills by studying freeze/thaw conditions for reducing sludge volume. Samples from the City of Winnipeg's Brady Road landfill will be collected and tested to show the influence of freezing/thaw conditions within the leachate and the potential applicability in the field for volume reduction and treatment performance.

## **WASTE REDUCTION SERVICES**

**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 assists in the maintenance of core services, such as research, resource material development, and volunteer coordination 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.

## **WEBSITE DESIGN**

**Proponent:** Manitoba Composting Association Corporation (MCAC)  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$3,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$3,000.00

A grant of \$3,000.00 was approved to develop a website which will allow MCAC to efficiently distribute information, current activities, and events related to composting and compost use. The website will facilitate the recruitment of members, provide information access to potential members, and be interactive with the general public through a “feedback” and “question and answer” section of the website.

## **MODEL INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING**

### **COMPOST INITIATIVE**

**Proponent:** Town of Treherne  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to implement a curb side organics collection program to divert household organic waste and residential yard waste from the landfill. Subsidized compost bins and a compost education session will be offered to residents at a composting information session.

### **COMPO-STAGES MANITOBA**

**Proponent:** Conseil Développement Économiques des Municipalités Bilingues du Manitoba (CDEM)  
**Date Approved:** November 2, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to establish a co-op program for organic waste and on-farm composting service to municipalities, institutions, commercial/industrial installations and livestock producers located in the Village of St-Pierre-Jolys, the RM of De Salaberry, the RM of La-Broquerie, and the Village of Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes. Centralized composting sites will be established in the Village of Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes and in the RM of De Salaberry. Organic waste will be diverted from the landfills to these centralized sites through a roadside collection service offered by the municipalities and by having residents’ drop-off their organic waste at the composting sites. It is intended that participating municipalities will retain the services of the composting co-op. The compost will be tested to ensure it meets quality standards. In addition, research will be conducted to determine the best local field composting methods and the use of the compost material.

## **SUSTAINABLE INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT IN RIDING MOUNTAIN BIOSPHERE RESERVE**

**Proponent:** RM of Rossburn  
**Date Approved:** November 2, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,500.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,500.00

A grant of \$5,500.00 was approved to carry-out a multiphase project focused on integrated waste management in Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve (RMBR). It is proposed that a waste survey for the towns, RM and communities within the RMBR will be undertaken in Phase I; implementation of the waste management program in Phase II; and be operating sustainably by Phase III. Information will be provided to the community in Phase I with meetings and open houses being offered regarding the waste plan.

## **ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT AND COMPOSTING**

### **RECYCLING BY COMPOSTING**

**Proponent:** Rossburn Elementary School  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$4,293.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$4,293.00

A grant of \$4,293.00 was approved to initiate a composting project where organic waste from school lunches will be composted through vermicomposting. Finished compost will be used in the school garden which will provide students with an ideal outdoor classroom. The project intends to facilitate student learning that will lead to making healthier choices, learn about nutrient cycles, and develop a deeper appreciation for the environment, community and each other. In addition, the recycling program will be expanded through the purchase of blue boxes. The project will be managed by community volunteers, Rossburn Community Recycling, and the students.

### **SENIORS COMPOSTING INITIATIVE**

**Proponents:** North Point Douglas Seniors Association  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to expand the association's Meals-on-Wheels organics collection program. Two hundred compost bins will be constructed and distributed to seniors within the community. Seniors will participate in composting activities and the finished compost will be used in community gardens.

## **URBAN ECO STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**

**Proponent:** West Broadway Development Corporation  
**Date Approved:** February 2, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$4,800.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$4,800.00

A grant of \$4,800.00 was approved to initiate a composting project for apartment residents and for housing providers to pilot two types of composting activities: vermicomposting and organic waste pick-up. The type of composting activity implemented with community residents will be based on participant interest and building site specifications. Environmental education, training and activity programming will be provided to all participants and housing providers to further engage residents in the project and in the community.

## **REGIONAL RECYCLING**

### **BUILDING TO HOUSE RECYCLABLES**

**Proponent:** Peguis First Nation  
**Date Approved:** November 2, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$20,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$20,000.00

A grant of \$20,000.00 was approved to expand and enhance the community's existing recycling centre to accommodate the proper storage and containment of e-waste and household hazardous waste materials. The expansion will involve the construction of a new building which will serve as a depot or recycling centre until the materials can be transported to the processing centre.

### **CORMORANT COMMUNITY RECYCLING INITIATIVE**

**Proponent:** Cormorant Lake School  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$4,500.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$4,500.00

A grant of \$4,500.00 was approved to enhance the community's recycling activities by acquiring a mobile trailer. The trailer will be used to store recyclables on Cormorant Lake School property and the recyclables will be transported to The Pas & Area Recycling Centre bi-weekly throughout the year or when required. The project will serve the entire community, and is intended to help create awareness of the importance of recycling among residents, and to encourage them to participate in the new local program.

## **RECYCLE TRAILERS TO “GREEN” SNOW LAKE**

**Proponent:** Town of Snow Lake  
**Date Approved:** November 2, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$10,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to enhance the Town of Snow Lake’s recycling efforts. Two recycling trailers will be added to the program to provide sufficient storage for recyclables before being hauled to The Pas & Area Recycling Centre for processing. The public will be educated about the project on an ongoing basis through flyers, website, newsletters, and the local newspaper. The locations of the trailers will be evaluated six months after the trailers are placed to see if residents find them convenient.

## **RECYCLING DEPOT**

**Proponent:** RM of South Norfolk  
**Date Approved:** November 2, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$9,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$9,000.00

A grant of \$9,000.00 was approved to construct a recycling storage shed to house recyclables until they are ready to be transported to Portage & District Recycling. The recycling shed will be located at the Treherne Transfer Station and will store all plastic, metal, tin, paper, and glass until ready for pickup.

## **RECYCLING PILOT PROJECT**

**Proponent:** Fisher River Cree Nation  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$20,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$20,000.00

A grant of \$20,000.00 was approved to enhance and expand the community’s recycling program with a new baler and recycling storage facility. A recycling program was fully implemented in 2010 with the collection of beverage containers, plastics, tires, and scrap metal. The new storage space and the addition of a baler at the landfill will assist the community to gradually improve, expand and store all recyclables in a centralized location. In addition, other materials will be accepted diverting more waste from the landfill, including: used oil and oil containers, household hazardous waste (HHW), electronic waste (e-waste), and shingles. The Fisher River Cree Nation will also store recyclable materials collected from the Bay River Cottage Development, Jackhead First Nation, Fisher Bay Métis Community, and outside contractors.

## **TRAILER ENHANCEMENT AND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**Proponent:** The Pas & Area Recycling  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to expand and enhance its regional recycling efforts with the addition of a high density baler and mobile recycling trailers for deployment at various locations in and around The Pas, Rural Municipality of Kelsey, and Opaskwayak Cree Nation. The additional trailers and baler will assist to increase waste diversion and assist in making recycling more accessible.

# WASTE REDUCTION AND POLLUTION PREVENTION

## ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM – GREENING THE FESTIVAL: TRANSPORTATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

**Proponent:** Winnipeg Folk Festival  
**Date Approved:** July 15, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to increase recycling efforts by 10% from 2010 to having a total of 220 recycling stations at the festival site and campgrounds. In addition, the Festival will offer free public transportation every 30 minutes from downtown Winnipeg to Birds Hill Provincial Park throughout the 2011 festival and will launch six group bike rides to and from the site to encourage festival attendees to use alternate forms of transportation rather than vehicles. Each ride will have four experienced volunteer ride leaders who will be equipped with road safety vests, cell phones or radios, energy bars and drinks, and maintenance kits. A designated vehicle will transport the camping equipment of each rider.

## PLAYGROUND SURFACE REPLACEMENT

**Proponent:** Stars of Promise  
**Date Approved:** July 5, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to enhance the playground area of the Stars of Promise child care centre by replacing the existing loose-fill crumb rubber with a different crumb rubber product called Pour-in Place, made of recycled tires.

## RECYCLE-A-BICYCLE

**Proponent:** Winnipeg Repair Education and Cycling Hub (WRENCH)  
**Date Approved:** February 6, 2012  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$5,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$5,000.00

A grant of \$5,000.00 was approved to expand its bike repair education program with the aim of distributing more bikes destined for landfills. WRENCH will deliver education programs, participate in the City of Winnipeg bike auction, and better coordinate the recycling of bicycles and their parts. In addition, WRENCH will coordinate trips to Brady Landfill to collect unused bicycles for distribution to community bike shops, school programs, and community organizations.

## PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

In 2011/12, the WRAPP Fund expended \$92,967.10 towards supporting the following activities:

- Product Stewardship Program and Regulation Development
- Administration of the SDIF
- Professional development and training
- Membership and conferences
- Research, consulting services; and event and workshop sponsorship

## WATER STEWARDSHIP FUND

**Administering Department:** Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
**Date Approved:** 2011/12 Estimates  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$217,193.30

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. These projects address 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 zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species.

|                                     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total Allocation for 2011/12</b> | <b>\$217,500.00</b> |
| Applications Processed              | 12                  |
| Applications Approved               | 8                   |
| Total Amount for Grants Expended    | \$175,000.00        |
| Aquatic Invasive Species Program    | \$42,193.30         |
| <b>Total Expended</b>               | <b>\$217,193.30</b> |

Brief descriptions of the 8 projects supported under the WSF are as follows:

## EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

### FIRST NATIONS' CHILDREN AND YOUTH WATER GUARDIANS WORKSHOP

**Proponent:** Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources Inc.  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved for an interactive, two-day outdoor, experiential learning workshop for First Nations youth from Sagkeeng First Nation to learn about indigenous and western science knowledge about water and watersheds, and approaches to water stewardship and water conservation.

## **WATER CONSERVATION**

### **BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR WATER SOFT PATHS IN MANITOBA**

**Proponent:** Friends of the Earth Canada  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to develop and deliver two interactive and hands-on workshops addressing concepts used in earlier work with the Pembina Valley Conservation District, along with strategic issues and challenges to integrating this methodology into provincial planning approaches. The project is intended to complete the knowledge transfer cycle initiated in 2009/2010.

## **WATER STEWARDSHIP**

### **FOSTERING COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES TO WATER STEWARDSHIP AND CONSERVATION**

**Proponent:** The Harvest Moon Society  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$20,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$20,000.00

A grant of \$20,000.00 was approved to create a water conservation system at the Harvest Moon Learning Centre and implement an educational program that demonstrates to the public how to effectively implement water conservation systems in their own applications.

## **WATER-RELATED SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

### **A GEOCHEMICAL AND ISOTOPIC ANALYSIS OF NITROGEN TRANSFORMATION AND REMOVAL FROM AN ANTHROPOGENICALLY IMPACTED RIVER**

**Proponent:** University of Winnipeg: Department of Geography and the Centre for Forest Interdisciplinary Research  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$24,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$24,000.00

A grant for \$24,000.00 was approved to study the key nitrogen removal and O<sub>2</sub> cycling processes in the effluent plume of the Winkler sewage lagoon system during its spring discharge to Dead Horse Creek. By using the changes in concentrations and isotopic ratios, the proponent will separate the relative importance of these processes through geochemical/isotopic modeling.



## **DOES THE GRAND MARAIS TREATMENT WETLAND REMOVE EMERGING CONTAMINANTS AND DRUG-RESISTANT MICROORGANISMS FROM WASTEWATER?**

**Proponent:** University of Manitoba, Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$24,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$24,000.00

A grant of \$24,000.00 was approved to evaluate the effectiveness of constructed wetlands at Marais Creek, in the Rural Municipality of St. Clements to remove emerging wastewater contaminants; specifically pharmaceuticals and personal care products, as well as antibiotic resistant genes that result from the presence of antibiotics in wastewaters and receiving waters.

## **RETROSPECTIVE STUDY INVESTIGATING THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN CANCER RATES AND FRESHWATER CYANOBACTERIAL CONTAMINATION IN MANITOBA**

**Proponent:** University of Manitoba – Faculty of Medicine  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$22,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$22,000.00

A grant of \$22,000.00 was approved to conduct a cross-sectional study designed to determine if an ecological association exists between exposure to cyanobacterial contaminated drinking water and certain types of cancers within Manitoba between 1985 and 2007.

## **TALL GRASS PRAIRIE HYDROLOGICAL MONITORING PROJECT**

**Proponent:** Nature Conservancy of Canada  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$10,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$10,000.00

A grant of \$10,000.00 was approved to help fund a multi-year hydrological monitoring study in the Tall Grass Prairie Natural Area of south eastern Manitoba. This project represents an opportunity to develop an improved understanding of near-surface hydrology in the vicinity of suspected hydrological impairments in wetland swales in this area.

## **WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION**

### **WHITEMUD WATERSHED CONSERVATION AGREEMENT PROGRAM**

**Proponent:** Whitemud Watershed Conservation District  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2011  
**Total Amount Approved:** \$25,000.00  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$25,000.00

A grant of \$25,000.00 was approved to collaborate with the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation to identify vulnerable upland and riparian areas and provide a payment to landowners to protect these environmentally sensitive areas, in perpetuity, in accordance with *The Conservation Agreements Act*.

# Aquatic Invasive Species Program

**Administering Department:** Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Water Science and Management Branch  
**Date Approved:** 2011/12 Estimates  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$42,193.30

The Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program continued to support activities and programming that focused on proactive education and awareness to prevent accidental or intentional 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 vessels and that the 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, the Trent-Severn and Rideau Canal systems, and the 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 found 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 and recreational watercraft such as large ships, fishing boats, and barges that have zebra mussels attached to the hull. Movement of zebra mussels from affected 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 and a recent National Zebra/Quagga Mussel Risk Assessment conducted by Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Centre of Expertise for Risk Assessment; indicate that the majority of 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 U.S. portion of the Red River in North Dakota and Minnesota. The likely route of entry of zebra mussels into Manitoba is by accidental or intentional introduction from trailered recreational watercraft originating from the Great Lakes area of Ontario and from the 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 to survey and educate fishers and recreational boaters about zebra mussels and other AIS. Objectives of the AIS program include:

1. To inspect and survey visitors and residents 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 and residents about how to prevent accidental introduction of AIS 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 2011/12:**

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship continued with its AIS Inspection Program to inspect water-based equipment at popular recreational areas. During the summer of 2011 the following was achieved:

- 151 border inspections and interviews were conducted at two international border locations;
- Over 250 inspections of boat trailers were conducted in the Whiteshell Provincial Park;
- Over 45 public presentations were given at various venues and events including Provincial Parks, fishing derbies, cottage association meetings and events, collaborating agency meetings (e.g. Ducks Unlimited), and many others throughout Manitoba;
- Distribution of new surveys to watercraft inspection and Mid-Canada Boat Show 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 Basin Commission meeting, Lake of the Woods District Property Owners Annual Meeting, the Winnipeg Fish Festival, the Clear Lake Festival, Mid-Canada Boat Show, and many other events throughout Manitoba;
- Information packages were provided to fishing lodges, cottage associations, float plane companies, regional fisheries and Provincial and Federal Parks, as well as boat dealerships and bait and tackle shops;
- Monitoring for zebra mussels in the Red River at Emerson, Manitoba;
- Investigated sightings of AIS reported to the AIS Hotline by the public and other agencies such as Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship and Whiteshell Cottage Owners Association.

# DEPARTMENTAL AND GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## 2011/12 FISCAL YEAR PROGRAM RESULTS

### BEAR SMART INITIATIVE

**Managing Department:** Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Wildlife Branch  
**Date Approved:** 2011/12 Estimates  
**Total Amount Expended:** \$56,535.81

The *Bear Smart* Initiative continued to support activities that focus 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.

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, remote areas and even towns and cities as occurred in Woodlands and Selkirk. 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 2011/12, over 1,900 problem black bear occurrences were reported to Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship district offices. Preliminary results indicated that about 17% were associated with recreational areas, 15% rural agricultural areas, and 60% rural residential areas. Rural residential areas may be an increasing source of complaints with urbanization in the agro-forest fringe 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* behaviour 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 2011/12**

- 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, The Cottage Living Show in Winnipeg, and Parks Day at Pinawa Dam Provincial Heritage Park, with approximately 3,500 individual contacts made.
- 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 resupplied to all Manitoba Conservation Regional offices for staff and others for use as Bear Smart demonstrations.
- *Be Bear Smart* workshops were put on by the department in conjunction for staffs of two contracting companies, three government departments and two educational institutions. Copies of the videos: Living in Bear Country and Staying Safe in Bear Country were distributed to organizations requesting workshops.
- 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.
- Efforts to improve waste management facilities at Grand Beach Provincial Park continued in 2011 with the installation of additional semi-automated bear proof containment bins. 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 with 11 bins in 11 locations in the campground, and 14 bins at nine locations in the cottage subdivision and the day use areas.
- *Be Bear Smart* activity booklets were revised and 10,000 copies were made available for distribution. The booklet is a very popular educational tool for all ages and children can remit the completed booklets to Parks and Natural Areas for various rewards.
- The draft Emergency Response Protocol was reviewed 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 behaviour and thereby conserve wildlife, as fewer numbers of bears, coyotes and foxes would have to be removed.

## **WOODLOT PROGRAM**

**Managing Department:** Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Forestry Branch  
**Date Approved:** 2011/12 Estimates  
**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 and Water Stewardship, 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 2011/12:**

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, six landowners are on a waiting list for a management plan and a number of appointments were scheduled for walk 'n talks with interested landowners. There are 1,250 landowners with management plans in place and approximately 10% of these are requesting additional advice as they work towards their land management objectives.

The woodlot management plan structure was evaluated to ensure the program was continuing to meet the needs of landowners in its delivery area. The evaluation involved recommendations based on stakeholder input, assessment of other woodlot programs and woodlot management plans, and identification of emerging trends in forestry development.

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 2011/12 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 28 woodlot management plans were completed. Since 1992, 1,278 management plans have been completed throughout 57 municipalities across Manitoba.

## 2. Return Visits

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. 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. Return visits are a valuable service to the landowner and the wood purchaser in that both parties are comfortable with the staff’s technical involvement throughout the process.

## 3. Public Education/Extension

Public education/extension activities include 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 undertaken:

- “Woodlot series” included general woodlot management, Manitoba maple syrup, specialty mushrooms, and other non-timber forest products;
- Best Management Practices Seminars;
- Launch of the Amazing Tree Quest - a new partnership between Rivers West, Routes on the Red, and the Manitoba Forestry Association. This new initiative encourages community members to find the largest, most beautiful or unique trees located in municipalities which lie along the Red River corridor from the US border to the base of Lake Winnipeg. As a result of this partnership, a number of workshops on Tree Measurement/Amazing Tree Quest to other communities were delivered.
- Promoted “Trees for Tomorrow” program to qualified landowners, secured forestation sites for the program, and provided information on program in landowner management plans. Free seedling give-a-ways were provided to the public during the National Forest Week.
- Participation in the Pembina Valley Conservation District Eco-Challenge and presentations on tree measurements and tree identification of Manitoba’s native trees to elementary schoolchildren.
- Participation at the Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Association Annual General Meeting.
- Participation at the Direct Farm Marketing conference in Gimli, hosted by Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Initiatives. This conference addressed agri/experiential tourism which had been an increasing area of interest of private landowners interested in generating/diversifying income being generated from their woodlots.
- Participated in a municipal tree planting project with the Town of Emerson to establish a linear forest belt that would provide a visual barrier to the expansion of the Emerson Lagoon. An overall tree planting plan of prairie hardy trees, shrubs and grasses was developed. This project generated interest from neighbouring municipalities to consider larger scale tree planting initiatives.

## 4. Partnerships

- The Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Association and the Woodlot Association of Manitoba delivered woodlot related initiatives on behalf of the Woodlot Program. The Woodlot Association of Manitoba produced six issues of “The Manitoba Woodlot” newsletter highlighting 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, 2008 - March 31, 2012**

| APPROPRIATION                            | Actual/Adjusted Expenditures |         |         |         |              |
|--|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|
|  | 2007/08                      | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12      |
| Sustainable Development Innovations Fund | 3,370                        | 3,392   | 2,932   | 3,376   | <b>3,336</b> |
| <b>Total</b>                             | 3,370                        | 3,392   | 2,932   | 3,376   | <b>3,336</b> |