

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kam Blight is a fourth-generation farmer from Oakville and owns and operates Blight Native Seeds Ltd, specializing in native grass seed production. He has served on the executive of the International Northern Seed Trade Association for five years including as president for one year. In 2010, he was elected reeve of the RM of Portage la Prairie and is currently serving his third-consecutive term in this role. He previously served as vice-president of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and then was elected as president in November 2020. In 2011, the provincial government appointed him to the 2011 Flood Task Force.

Ray Bouchard is the co-chair of the Integrated Water Strategy Committee for the Manitoba Business Council and president and CEO of Enns Brothers Ltd., a 68-year-old agricultural equipment dealer in Manitoba. Bouchard is also a board member of Protein Industries Canada, the pan-Prairie supercluster, and board chair of the Manitoba-based Enterprise Machine Intelligence and Learning Initiative (EMILI). He has been involved in the agriculture industry for over 35 years and served as director, then president of the Canadian Association of Agricultural Retailers. His passion and vision for the future of Canadian agriculture is ambitious as he sees the long-term benefits for Canadians, the economy and the environment.

Elliott Brown is assistant deputy minister (ADM), ecosystem management division, with the Department of Agriculture and Resource Development. The division supports sustainable management and protection of Manitoba’s land and water ecosystems including wildlife, fisheries, and resource enforcement. He has worked with the Government of Manitoba since 2008, as director and then ADM for the international relations division with the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, and previously with the Government of Canada’s Treasury Board Secretariat.

Neil Cunningham currently serves as the acting assistant deputy minister of the Climate and Green Plan implementation Office, which is tasked with implementing *Manitoba’s Climate and Green Plan*. He holds a BA of economics, and a master of landscape architecture from the University of Manitoba’s faculty of architecture. He has worked on policy and programs related to climate change and energy since 2007 and has worked in various roles across the Manitoba government including the Civil Service Commission, Treasury Board Secretariat and the Department of Municipal Relations.

Carly Delavau is a senior water supply engineer with the Department of Agriculture and Resource Development (ARD), where her work centres on water supply analysis, drought management and policy development. Prior to joining ARD in 2015, she was a forecast engineer with Manitoba Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecasting and Co-ordination Branch. She obtained her bachelor of science in civil engineering in 2009, and her PhD in water resources engineering in 2017, both from the University of Manitoba.

Jacqueline Keena is the managing director of the Enterprise Machine Intelligence and Learning Initiative (EMILI). She is a professional agriologist and holds degrees in agribusiness and public policy. She is a board director for Assiniboine Credit Union and vice-chair of the Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba, a not-for-profit that administers small business loans for women entrepreneurs.

The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce (MCC) representative to be named later. Since 1931, MCC has served as the umbrella association for Manitoba's vibrant chamber movement. Today, its network comprises 68 local Chambers of Commerce across all regions of the province, as well as hundreds of direct corporate/organizational members. The mission of the MCC is to champion sustainable economic growth leading to greater prosperity for business and communities in Manitoba. The MCC works to help maximize the potential of local communities by bringing together a strong and united provincial network and focusing efforts on emerging issues.

Dimple Roy is the director of water management at the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), which conducts research on freshwater science and policy to ensure that regional and global freshwater resources are managed in a way that people and the planet thrive. IISD's research on watershed management, nutrient management in agricultural watersheds, analyses related to natural infrastructure and the use of data, market and policy mechanisms for climate adaptation has informed water- and climate-related programming in Manitoba and around the world.

Enterprise Machine Intelligence and Learning Initiative (EMILI)

Founded in 2016, EMILI is an industry-led non-profit organization established to accelerate the growth of the agri-food industry in Manitoba by promoting digital agriculture and digital agriculture technologies. EMILI's vision is to lead the development of Manitoba's Digital Agriculture Ecosystem across four strategic pillars, innovation and research, intelligent technology integration, skills, training and talent development and capital enablement. Artificial intelligence and machine learning tools will play a powerful role in developing a predictive water resource supply and demand model to support the strategy.