

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy promotes the following Principles and Guidelines of Sustainable Development.

- 1. INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC DECISIONS:** requires that we ensure economic decisions adequately reflect environmental impacts including human health. Environmental initiatives shall adequately take into account economic consequences.
- 2. STEWARDSHIP:** requires that we manage the environment and economy for the benefits of present and future generations. Stewardship requires the recognition that we are caretakers of the environment and economy for the benefit of present and future generations of Manitobans. A balance must be struck between today's decisions and tomorrow's impacts.
- 3. SHARED RESPONSIBILITY:** requires that all Manitoba acknowledge responsibility for sustaining the environment and economy, with each being accountable for decisions and actions, in a spirit of partnership and open cooperation.
- 4. PREVENTION:** requires that we anticipate, prevent or mitigate significant adverse environmental (including human health) and economic impacts of policy, programs, and decisions.
- 5. CONSERVATION:** requires that we maintain essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life-support systems of our environment; harvest reusable resources on a sustained yield basis; and make wise and efficient use of our renewable and non-renewable resources.
- 6. WASTE MINIMIZATION:** requires that we endeavour to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover the products of our society.
- 7. ENHANCEMENT:** requires that we enhance the long term productive capability, quality and capacity of our natural ecosystems.
- 8. REHABILITATION AND RECLAMATION:** requires that we endeavour to restore damaged or degraded environments to beneficial uses. Rehabilitation and reclamation require ameliorating damage caused in the past. Future policies, programs and developments should take into consideration the need for rehabilitation and reclamation.
- 9. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION:** requires that we research, develop, test and implement technologies essential to further environmental quality including human health and economic growth.
- 10. GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY:** requires that we think globally when we act locally. Global responsibility requires that we recognize there are no boundaries to our environment, and that there is ecological interdependence among provinces and nations. There is a need to work cooperatively within Canada, and internationally to accelerate the merger of environment and economics in decision making and to develop comprehensive and equitable solutions to problems.

FUNDAMENTAL GUIDELINES

- 1. EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES:** we shall encourage and support development and application of systems for proper resource pricing, demand management, and resource allocation together with incentives and disincentives to encourage efficient use of resources and full environmental costing of decisions and developments.
- 2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** we shall establish appropriate forums which encourage and provide opportunity for consultation and meaningful participation in decision making processes by all Manitobans. We shall endeavour to ensure due process, prior notification and appropriate and timely redress for those affected by policies, programs, decisions and developments.
- 3. UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT:** we shall be aware that we share a common physical, social and economic environment in Manitoba. Understanding and respect for differing social and economic views, values, traditions and aspirations is necessary for equitable management of these common resources. Consideration must be given to the aspirations, needs, and views of various regions and groups in Manitoba.
- 4. ACCESS TO ADEQUATE INFORMATION:** we shall encourage and support the improvement and refinement of our environmental and economic information base and promotion of the opportunity for equal and timely access to information by all Manitobans.
- 5. INTEGRATED DECISION MAKING AND PLANNING:** we shall encourage and support decision-making and planning processes that are open, cross-sectoral, incorporate time horizons relevant to long-term implications and are efficient and timely.
- 6. SUBSTITUTION:** we shall encourage and promote the development and use of substitutes for scarce resources where they are both environmentally sound and economically viable.