

# ***MANITOBA ENVIROTHON***



## **FINAL REPORT**

**2000-2001**

Prepared: June 19, 2001

# *MANITOBA ENVIROTHON*

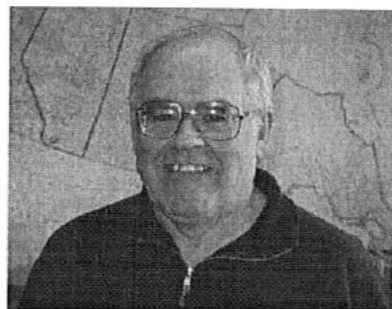
## **Final Report 2000-2001**

The first step in the Envirothon process each year is the preparation of binders of information and supplementary materials to be distributed to those schools registered for the program. This year the four basic binders, including forests, soil, aquatics and wildlife, were reviewed and, where applicable, information was added, removed or updated. Thanks to the efforts of Andrea Swain and Allen Tyrchniewicz the material required to prepare for the current environmental topic (Non-Point Source Pollution) was provided to the schools in the form of website addresses. This was undertaken to address the concerns of some committee members about the volume of paper being handled each year.

Meetings of the volunteer steering committee were scheduled at regular intervals through the fall and winter, increasing in number as the provincial competition approached. This committee and several sub-committees are responsible for all aspects of the competition, including test writing, ordering t-shirts, working with Brandon University and the McLeods to organize accommodation, food and sites for the trail testing and orals competitions, and finding additional volunteers to prepare for and deliver the event. At the helm were Jim Potton, Chair and Mike James, Coordinator.



**Jim Potton - Chair**



**Mike James - Co-ordinator**

The co-operation of many individuals was invaluable in making possible this undertaking. Included in this list are the volunteers (over 75), the teachers and students who enthusiastically participated, the contacts at Brandon University including Maurice Koschinsky and Ananda Balu, Paul O'Driscoll and Daniel Karam, and Mr. & Mrs. McLeod who generously allowed the trail testing to take place on their property south of Brandon. The McLeods were able to join the group for the barbecue as well as the closing dinner, and observed the final orals presentation Saturday afternoon.



**Mr. and Mrs. McLeod accepting a gift of appreciation for the use of their farm for the 2001 Manitoba Envirothon Trail Testing.**

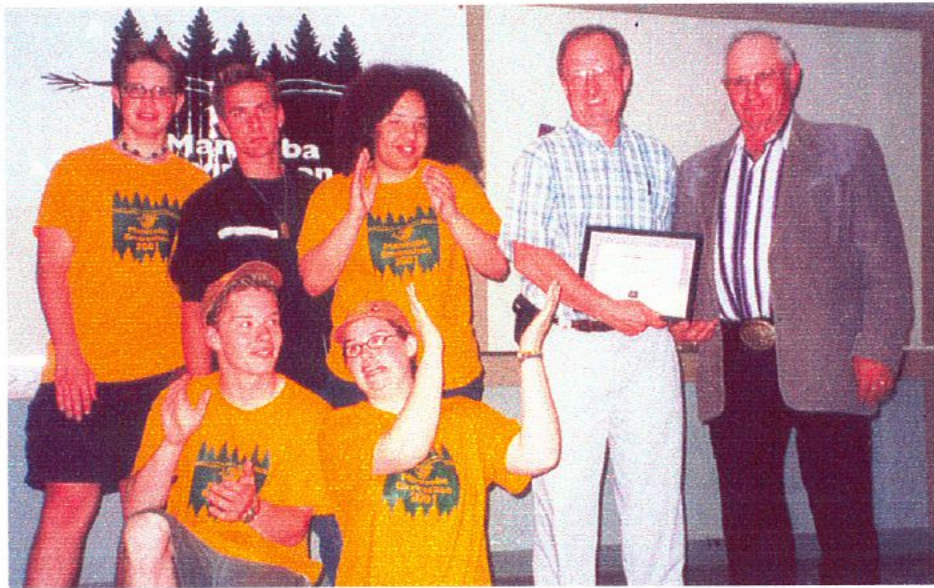
Seventeen teams participated in the competition, the first year all registered teams have been able to compete. The teams involved were: Arthur Meighen High School, Portage la Prairie; College Jeanne Sauve, Winnipeg; Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School, Brandon; Decker School, Decker; Fairholme School, Portage la Prairie; Fort Richmond Collegiate, Winnipeg; Gimli High School, Gimli; Lord Selkirk Regional School, Selkirk; W. C. Miller Collegiate, Altona; Morris School, Morris; Pembina Valley Conservation District Environmental Club, Manitou; Shaftesbury High School, Winnipeg; Silverwinds School, Sperling; Stonewall Collegiate, Stonewall; Swan Valley Regional Secondary School, Swan River; Vincent Massey Collegiate, Winnipeg and Windsor Park Collegiate, Winnipeg.

Funding provided over the last two years by Environment Canada through the ecoACTION 2000 program made possible a number of community-based activities by the Envirothon teams. The achievements of three teams, namely Crocus Plains School Environmental Studies Class, Brandon; Pembina Valley Conservation District Environmental Club, Manitou and Swan Valley Regional Secondary School, Swan River were recognized during the Envirothon by the presentation of suitably inscribed citations.



**Don Alexander presents an ecoACTION 2000 citation to Lynda Matchullis and the Pembina Valley Conservation District Environmental Club.**





**Arnold Hildebrand accepts award on behalf of Crocus Plains RSS from Jack McLeod.**



**Bob Mackenzie acknowledges the work of Swan Valley Regional Secondary School.**

## ***Pre-Competition Workshop***

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Mike James and Eric Uhmman planned and facilitated a full day of activities at the Freshwater Institute, University of Manitoba on Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the schedule forms part of this report. The presentations by experts in the various fields were designed to help the Envirothon students prepare for the competition in May.

## ***Provincial Competition***

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**Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** – Registration for the Provincial Competition took place on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> in McMaster Hall Residence, University of Brandon between 6 and 7 p.m. T-shirts, name tags, pens and rulers (donated by Tetra Pak) and mugs (donated by Manitoba Hydro) were distributed to the teachers and students. Registration of volunteers was done in a more orderly fashion this year, with t-shirts, name tags and Smokey appreciation pins being given out.

Once the teams were registered they put on their t-shirts for team pictures, and then gathered in the Down Under Cafeteria for the evening program. Light refreshments were provided by the University. The first presentation was by Jim Fisher, Delta Waterfowl Foundation, who spoke to the group about his hunting experiences.

Jim Potton was Master of Ceremonies and Mike James and Andrea Swain, who had also provided a display pertaining to recycling, addressed housekeeping items.



**Stonewall Collegiate introducing their team members to other Envirothon participants.**

Each team of students had been asked to prepare a skit or some other entertainment during which they would introduce themselves. This proved to be a highlight of the evening as many of the teams had obviously put a lot of thought into their presentations, and the Hutterite students joined together to provide musical entertainment, which was very well received. Following introductions, the teams took part in a trading

session and then adjourned for some free time before lights out at midnight.





**Hutterite choir entertained during team introductions.**

**Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>** – Following breakfast at Brandon University everyone boarded buses to proceed to Jack McLeod's property just south of Brandon. Team members participated in training stations during which they were provided with information, including an introduction to equipment they would be using during the trail testing. New volunteers (those who had not registered the evening before) were greeted and assembled. Most were assigned as Trail Stop Guides working with Trail Captains Ken Fosty, John Hreno and Patrica Pohrebniuk.



**Water quality testing.**



**Teamwork is important for completing trail test questions.**

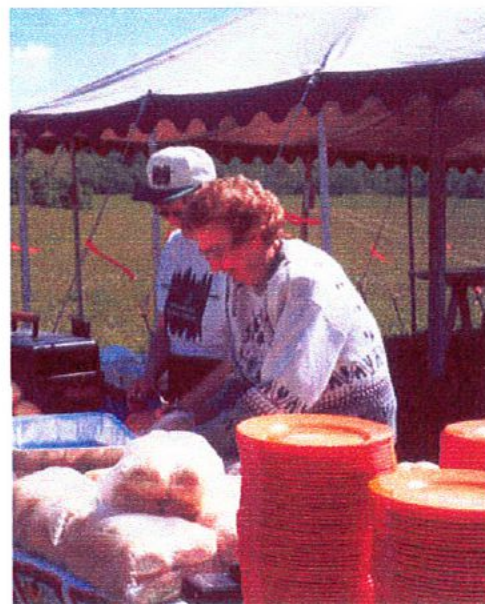
While the trail testing was underway, teachers participated in an Information Sharing Workshop organized by Mike James. This is always a valuable session for the teachers, particularly those who are new to the program, and for the MFA as we are always looking for new and better ways to achieve our objectives.



Everyone came back together at noon in the main assembly area for a barbecue lunch prepared and served by Myrna and Jim Potton, Bev MacKenzie and members of the South Winnipeg Kiwanis Club, including Mr. & Mrs. Laurie McGregor and Mr. & Mrs. Keith McGregor. Sun-Rype Products provided apple juice and Manitoba Pork donated pork loins. Andrea Swain and Natalie Seaba looked after recycling.

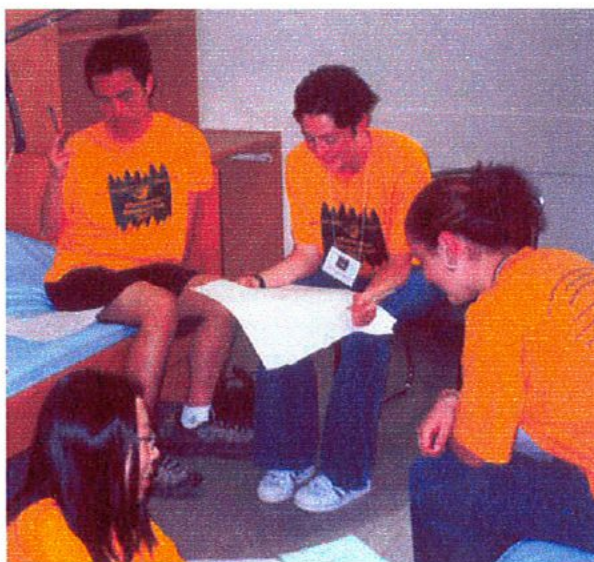
Trail testing continued after lunch, while teachers went on a tour to the Sportsplex for a presentation on the Riverbank Discovery Centre, and then to the Agriculture Canada Experimental Farm. Once they returned to the McLeod property they were given the opportunity to tour two of the trails so they would know what their students had experienced.

The teams returned to Brandon University for dinner and then enjoyed a presentation by the Green Kids, followed by a session with Christina McDonald, Manitoba Education and Training who lead a discussion on climate change. The evening closed with a "Do you want to be a recycler?" game with Andrea Swain.



**Envirothon volunteers working hard to get lunch ready for the hungry crowd coming in off the trails.**

**Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup>** - Following breakfast at the University, teams met in the Theatre where Mike James instructed them on preparation and presentation of their orals. Teams were then sequestered in individual rooms to prepare.



**Preparing for orals.**

Teachers gathered with Barry Oswald to review the trail tests and to discuss any aspects of the program which were creating difficulty. As always, worthwhile suggestions came out of this session.

Judges arrived for 10 a.m. and were greeted and addressed by Jim Potton with the assistance of Michele Kading. Glen Robertson gave a short presentation on non-point source pollution in and around the City of Brandon.

Following lunch the first four teams arrived to begin their final preparation. Preliminary judging took

place between 1 and 3 p.m., with four panels of judges. The question pertained to non-point source pollution in the Brandon area. Presentations were 10 minutes with an additional 10 minutes for questions from the judges. Teachers were allowed to observe only their own team.

Once the preliminary judging was completed everyone moved to Theatre A where, at 4 p.m., the four finalists were announced. They were College Jeanne-Sauve, Fort Richmond Collegiate, Shaftesbury High School and Vincent Massey Collegiate.

Brendan Carruthers emceed the awards dinner. Immediately following dinner the winners were announced as follows: Vincent Massey Collegiate 1<sup>st</sup> place; College Jeanne-Sauve 2<sup>nd</sup> place; Shaftesbury High School 3<sup>rd</sup> place and Richmond Collegiate 4<sup>th</sup> place. Vincent Massey Collegiate will represent Manitoba at the Canon Envirothon near Jackson, Mississippi from July 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>. "Tree trophies" were presented to the winning team. Second and third place teams received medallions. Many other prizes were given to recognize teams for excellence in trail testing, etc.

### ***Publicity***

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Publicity included a media release; several articles in local papers; and interviews by Jim Potton and Bill Baker on CKX-TV, Brandon.

### ***Sponsors***

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We acknowledge, with much appreciation, the partners and sponsors of the 2000-2001 *Manitoba Envirothon*:

Brandon University  
 Canon USA, Inc.  
 Clean Environment Commission  
 Delta Waterfowl Foundation  
 Ducks Unlimited Canada  
 Environment Canada ecoACTION 2000  
 Freshwater Institute, Fisheries and  
 Oceans Canada  
 International Institute for Sustainable  
 Development  
 Manitoba Agriculture and Food  
 Manitoba Climate Change Action Fund  
 Manitoba Conservation  
 Manitoba Forestry Association  
 Manitoba Hydro  
 Manitoba Intergovernmental Affairs,  
 Conservation Districts

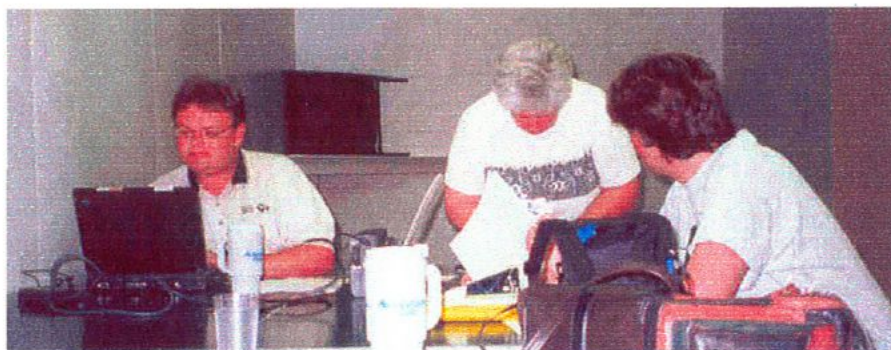
Manitoba Model Forest  
 Manitoba Naturalists Society  
 Manitoba Pork  
 Manitoba Product Stewardship  
 Corporation  
 Oak Hammock Marsh  
 Interpretive Centre  
 Myrna and Jim Potton  
 Prairie Farm Rehabilitation  
 Administration (PFRA)  
 Sun-Rype Products Ltd.  
 Tetra Pak Canada Inc.  
 University of Manitoba  
 Waste Reduction & Pollution  
 Prevention Fund



## *Volunteers*

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A sincere thank you to all those who volunteered many hours to *Manitoba Envirothon* and especially Jim Potton, Chair of the Envirothon Steering Committee; Mike James, Envirothon Coordinator; Barry Oswald, Chair of the Test Writing Committee; Michele Kading, Chair of the Orals Committee; Brendan Carruthers, Chair of the Grievance Committee; Glenn Peterson, evaluations; Jim Fisher, prizes; Bill Baker, publicity and Dianne Beaven, volunteer coordinator. Our thanks to all those who helped with registration, participated as Trail Captains and Trail Stop Guides, helped with the barbecue and judged the Orals. Thank you to those who helped assemble material for the schools, particularly Andrea Swain and Allen Tyrchniewicz on non-point source pollution.



**Volunteers mark tests and compile results.**

## *Volunteer Component*

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### Management/Professional Services

April 1 to June 30, 2001	1853.25 hours x \$ 20.00	37,065
January 1 to March 31, 2001	136.5 hours x \$ 20.00	2,730
October 1 to December 31, 2000	66.5 hours x \$ 20.00	1,330
July 1 to September 30, 2000	<u>22.5 hours x \$ 20.00</u>	<u>450</u>
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>4068.5 hours</b>	<b>41,575</b>



**Volunteers are essential to the success of Envirothon.**

## *Attachments*

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*Manitoba Envirothon* program

Financial Summary

Teams Registered 2000-2001

Oral Question

Press Release

Newspaper clippings

Photos (Photo credits: Derek Clarke, Ken Fosty, David Hay, Patricia Pohrebniuk, Steve Sager)

April Workshop Schedule

June 19, 2001

Prepared by: Dianne Beaven, P. Pohrebniuk