

FINAL REPORT

2002-2003

Prepared: June 18, 2003

This year's Envirothon was very exciting and challenging as Manitoba partnered with Swan Valley Organizing Committee to deliver the Envirothon competition in Swan River.

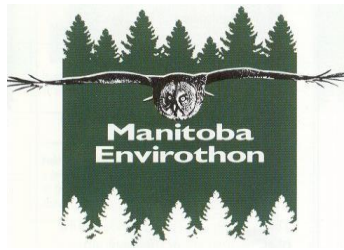
The first step in the Envirothon process is always to prepare binders of information and supplementary materials to be distributed to those schools registered for the program. Mike James and Andrea Swain undertook this time consuming work with the co-operation of members of the various committees. Andrea also spent many hours researching and preparing information on climate change which was then incorporated into the four basic binders of forests, soil, aquatics and wildlife, and into the fifth binder covering the special environmental topic: "Agriculture – Conservation and Preservation".

Meetings of the Manitoba volunteer steering committee were scheduled at regular intervals throughout the fall and winter, increasing in number as the provincial competition approached. Members of the Swan Valley Organizing Committee were able to participate by conference call in several of the meetings, and this was very helpful in keeping things on track. The steering committee and several sub-committees were responsible for all aspects of the competition.

At the helm for Manitoba were Jim Potton, Chair; Mike James, Coordinator and Andrea Swain, Assistant Coordinator.

The co-operation of many individuals was invaluable in making possible this undertaking. Included in this list are the volunteers from Swan Valley and throughout the Province (close to 200), the teachers and students who enthusiastically participated, and our financial supporters.

Twenty-two Manitoba teams registered for the program and nineteen participated in the competition. The teams involved were: Arthur Meighen High School, Portage la Prairie; College Jeanne Sauve, Winnipeg; Edward Schreyer School, Beausejour; Fairholme School, Portage la Prairie; Fort Richmond Collegiate, Winnipeg; Gimli High School, Gimli; Glenway School, Glenway; Grant Park High School, Winnipeg; Lac du Bonnet Senior School, Lac du Bonnet; Lord Selkirk Regional Secondary School, Selkirk; Morris High School, Morris; Morris District Team, Morris; Northwest Soil Management Association, Swan Valley; Pembina Valley Conservation District Environmental Club, Manitou; Riverbend School, Carberry; Shaftesbury High School, Winnipeg; Swan Valley Regional Secondary School, Swan River; Vincent Massey Collegiate, Winnipeg; and Vincent Massey High School, Brandon.



Pre-Competition Workshop

Mike James and Eric Uhmman planned and facilitated a full day of activities at Fairholme Colony on Friday, April 11th through the co-operation of Anna Maendal, colony members and students. A copy of an article on the workshop prepared by Selma Maendel 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.

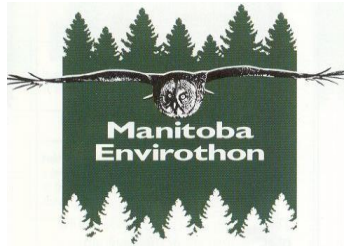
Provincial Competition

Thursday, May 29th

Registration for the Provincial Competition took place on Thursday, May 29th in the Swan Valley Regional Secondary School (SVRSS). Registration boxes had been pre-packaged for the teams and this made registration much more efficient. T-shirts, name tags and mugs (donated by Manitoba Hydro) were distributed to the teachers, students and volunteers. Most students set up tents in the school gymnasium. Volunteers were booked into the Westwood Inn.

Once the teams were registered they gathered in the dining room for dinner and the evening program. Dinner was provided by SVRSS.

Glenn Peterson provided an orientation session for those working on the trails the next day, i.e. captains, guides and station attendants.



Friday, May 30th

Everyone boarded buses at the school and drove to the Duck Mountain Forest Centre/Loggers & Haulers site near Minitonas where a hearty breakfast, prepared by Dick Walker and his enthusiastic volunteers, was waiting for them. A guide on each bus provided information on local points of interest. Following breakfast a brief training session took place for the teams and teachers. Then half the teams boarded buses to proceed to the Fulford Trail and the other half boarded “people movers” which took them to the Beaver Island Trail on the Loggers and Haulers site. The trail captains and guides participated in a short orientation session with Patricia Pohrebniuk.

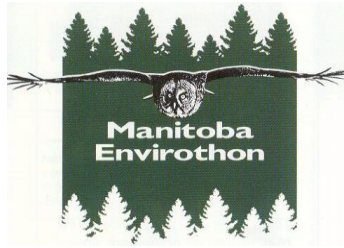


A reporter from The Swan Valley Star & Times was on hand to talk to various people associated with the program.

While the trail testing was underway, half the teachers toured the Louisiana-Pacific plant and half toured Spruce Products Limited. Dan Soprovich and Stephanie Jersak led these tours.

Team members and volunteers gathered at noon for a bag lunch provided by the SVRSS, while the teachers toured the trail at Fulford Trail and had their lunch at that site with the trail attendants.

Trail testing continued after lunch. Mike James and Dan Soprovich organized a workshop for teachers on planning an Envirothon, and Andrea Swain did a presentation on the 2004 environmental theme. Teachers were given the opportunity to tour the Beaver Island Trail as soon as the teams had completed their test.



Everyone returned to the main site at Loggers and Haulers where Swan River volunteers organized by Dick Walker prepared an excellent dinner of barbecued bison, pork and veggie burgers and all the trimmings. This dinner was sponsored by the Loggers and Haulers Association.

The evening program, with Dennis Windsor as emcee, included a short presentation by Anna Maendal and many thank-yous to volunteers. Bruce Mitchell explained that a small fire had been started outside and that he would be calling a firetac helicopter crew to come in and deal with it. Eleanor Burgess, Natural Resource Officer, provided an explanation of the process, and during the final part of her presentation the sound of the helicopter could be heard overhead. Everyone rushed outside to watch and were suitably impressed with the speed and precision the crew used to douse the fire.

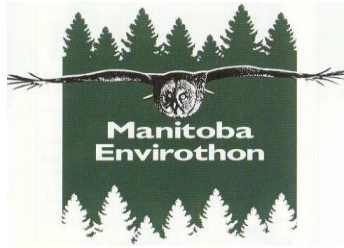
Garry Wowchuk and Colleen and Becky Ames provided demonstrations on local culture and history, including the making of pottery.

Saturday, May 31st



Following breakfast at the school, teams received instruction from Mike James about the Orals preparation and presentation and were set up in the dining room and library to prepare.

Teachers gathered with Glenn Peterson, David Hay and 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.



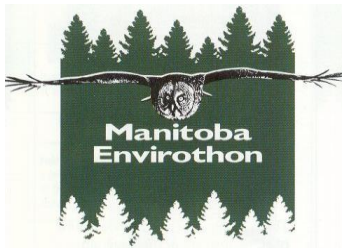
Judges were greeted and addressed by Andrea Swain, Jim Potton and Michele Kading. Elaine Gauer gave an entertaining presentation on the 2003 special environmental topic of “Agriculture – Conservation and Preservation”. Michele then met separately with the facilitators.

Pizza, a specialty of Swan River, arrived for lunch. The first round of Oral Presentations began at 1 p.m. with 5 teams presenting at a time. Presentations continued until 3 p.m. Presentations were 10 minutes with an additional 5 minutes for questions from the judges. Teachers were allowed to observe only their own team.

Once the preliminary judging was completed everyone moved to the SVRSS Theatre at 4 p.m. Dale Stewart was emcee. The teams who had placed in the top four positions (Fairholme Colony School, Fort Richmond Collegiate, Northwest Soil Management Association and Swan Valley Regional Secondary School) were announced. While the first of the four teams prepared to present their Orals, team prizes were distributed by Michele Kading.



At 4:30 p.m. the team from Fort Richmond Collegiate presented their final orals to a panel of 7 judges, and were followed in turn by the other three teams. The teams placed as follows: Northwest Soil Management – 1st Place; Fort Richmond Collegiate – 2nd Place; Fairholme Colony – 3rd Place; Swan Valley Regional Secondary School – 4th Place. The Northwest Soil Management Association team will represent Manitoba at the Canon Envirothon in Maryland from July 29th to August 4th. “Tree trophies” were presented to the Manitoba winning team. Second and third place teams received medallions. Other prizes were given to recognize teams for excellence in trail testing, etc.



The distribution of awards was coordinated by Brendan Carruthers. Dinner was provided in the school diningroom and teams departed for home.

Publicity

Publicity included one MFA media release prior to the competition, contact with The Graphic in Portage la Prairie, an article by Selma Maendel on the Workshop in *Countryside*, and an article in The Star and Times, Swan River.

Sponsors

We acknowledge, with much appreciation, supporters of the 2002-2003 Manitoba Envirothon:

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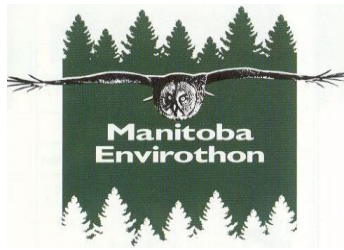
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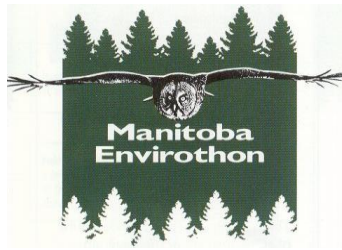
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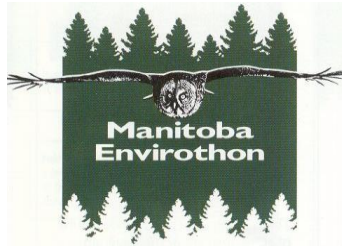
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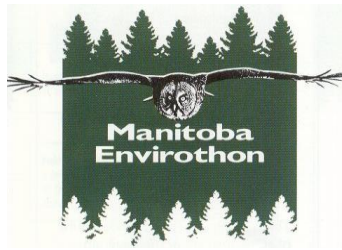
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Thanks to everyone who supported Envirothon !

Volunteers

A sincere thank you to all those who volunteered many, many hours to Manitoba Envirothon - close to 200 people from Swan River, Winnipeg, other parts of the Province and even from Regina, Saskatchewan.

We acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Swan Valley Organizing Committee: Ward Perchuk and Dan Soprovich, Co-chairs; Ron Robinson, Recycling; Stephanie Jersak, Meghan Rose and Jamie Mychalchuk, Volunteer Coordinators; Ken Wai and Dan Soprovich, Accommodations; Barry Waito, Program; Lee Friesen Alford, Food; Andy Grauman, Prizes; Duane Whyte, Classrooms; Peter Hildebrand and Glen McKenzie, Competition Coordinators (Friday and Saturday respectively); Boris Zenchyshyn, Map Coordinator; Ian Kitch, Transportation; Dick Walker and Steven Hills, Trail



Coordinators; Dick Walker; Coordinator of activities at Duck Mountain Forest Centre; Jill Eggie, First Aid; Dale Wiebach, Gordon Hornbeck, and Dan Soprovich, Registration/Reception; and Darlis Collinge, Media and Publicity.

And from the Steering Community: Jim Potton, Chair; Mike James, Envirothon Coordinator; Andrea Swain, Assistant Coordinator and in charge of recycling; Glenn Peterson, Chair of the Test Writing Committee and the Grievance Committee and responsible for evaluations; Michele Kading, Chair of the Orals Committee; Brendan Carruthers and Gil Godard, Co-Chairs of the Logistics and Food Committees; David Hay, who assists with all aspects of the Envirothon; Bev Dube and Lauren Janusz, prizes; Bill Baker, publicity and Dianne Beaven, volunteer coordinator.

Our thanks to all those who helped with registration and setting up of the test trails, participated as Trail Captains, Trail Guides and Trail Attendants, marked trail tests, packaged prizes and judged the Orals. Thank you to those who helped assemble material for the schools, and assisted with the many other details necessary to host a successful Envirothon.

Volunteer Component

Volunteer Time	6,363 hours x \$ 25.00	\$159,075
Materials		50
Other		865
Mileage & expenses		<u>500</u>
TOTAL:		\$

Special thanks to all volunteers!!!!

Attachments

Manitoba Envirothon program
Financial Summary
Press Release
Newspaper clippings
Photos (Photo credits: Gordon Hornbeck and Bill Baker)
April Workshop Schedule

June 18, 2003

Prepared by: Dianne Beaven