



2017 Book of Reports

Manitoba Forestry Association Incorporated

Book of Reports Presented at the 2018 Annual General Meeting

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Our Mission

Our mission is to promote through public education and outreach the vital role of trees in sustainable resource development and management of our natural and urban environments.

2017 Book of Reports

Manitoba Forestry Association Incorporated

Our Organization

The **Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA)**, established in 1919, is the oldest forest education group operating in the province. We are a non-profit, registered charity governed by a board of voluntary directors.

Our Mission

Our mission is to promote through public education and outreach the vital role of trees in sustainable resource development and management of our natural and urban environments.

Our Objectives

To provide goods and services to enhance forestry/resource knowledge and understanding through collaboration, current practices and use of technology.

To encourage the planting and maintenance of trees through afforestation and reforestation activities in Manitoba.

To provide technical services to support sustainable forest management, which encourages economic viability/opportunities and long term forest health on private land.

To ensure MFA's long-term financial stability through prudent financial management, marketing, revenue generation and partnerships with key stakeholders.

To create a work environment that promotes team work, respect, innovation for the MFA, its clients and stakeholders.

Our History

The Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) was created in the early 1970's, but our roots reach back to the early 1900's. That is when the Canadian Forestry Association (CFA) was established by a group of foresters, business leaders, legislators, and private citizens who felt Canadians needed to understand the important role forests played in our country's environment and economy. It was a ground-breaking move, as the concept of natural resource conservation was barely understood in those days. However, these forward-thinkers forged ahead, kicking off their programming with a focus on forest fire prevention.

As the initiative expanded to encompass education around the entire forest ecosystem, so too did the CFA, and in 1945 the Canadian Forestry Division – Prairie Provinces Division was created. This evolved into the Prairie Provinces Forestry Association and finally, the three prairie province's established separate associations, and the Manitoba Forestry Association was born.

This successful legacy has since been nurtured by a dedicated and growing group of volunteers, funders, and MFA members who believe strongly in the importance of forest education.

Our Staff

Executive Director

Patricia Pohrebniuk

Education / Envirothon Coordinator

Glenn Peterson

Extension Officers

Tatiana Moroz

Kristen Malec

Admin/Accounting Assistant

Melody Olenick

Our Executive

President

Dave Wotton

Vice-Presidents

Trevor Stanley

Greg Carlson

Treasurer

Valerie Borkowsky

Secretary

John Dojack

Director At Large

Barry Waito

Our Directors

Wayne Arseny

Byrnes Benoit

Rick Bobby

Wendy Creed

Michael Doig

David Flight

Rebecca McKay

Ward Perchuk

Our Reports

President's Report

DAVE WOTTON

Dear Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of the Manitoba Forestry Association, I would like to welcome everyone to our Annual General Meeting. You will find herein the MFA's Book of Reports for 2017 and budget for 2018 provided for your review, assessment and assistance in guiding the association through the year ahead. This current year 2018 marks the 99th anniversary of the MFA, the oldest forest education organization in Manitoba. In addition, it was the 21st Anniversary of the Manitoba Envirothon initiated in 2006 by the late Jim Potton, one of our most cherished members. The year ahead 2019 will be one of celebration for our 100th Anniversary and we look forward to your participation and continued support.



The 2017 Book of Reports provides details and highlights in the delivery of our education programs and the variety of people and organizations we have served in addressing our mandate over this past year. Once again, the MFA has experienced a challenging year working within the constraints of our operational capacity. However, together with our many partners we have enjoyed positive relationships and accomplishments sharing our passion for trees and the natural environment. This includes organizations like Manitoba Sustainable Development, Manitoba Parks and Protected Spaces, Manitoba Hydro, Oak Hammock Marsh, Ducks Unlimited, Pembina Valley Conservation District, the Nature Conservancy and many others. These relationships are critical to the delivery of our programs and strengthen our staff in their knowledge and capacity to promote environmental education across Manitoba.

For the last several years we have reported our concerns for financial stability and those concerns continued throughout 2017, 2018 and into 2019. We continue to struggle with a significant deficit including lack of funding for summer students at Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre which limited availability again in both 2017 and 2018. The reality is that we have in the past positioned ourselves to rely on provincial grant funding and the current provincial government's financial constraints program has resulted in the loss of funding for the Private Land Resource Program (formerly the Woodlot Program) in 2017. In response, we have initiated a strategic review of our programs to incorporate the emerging issues of carbon & climate change as a focus for funding opportunities through the newly released initiatives of the Green Plan and carbon reduction programs.

I regret to report that I personally have not been able to fulfill my position of President for the fiscal year 2018 due to a health issue. Fortunately, John Dojack has competently fulfilled this role since late 2017 with strong support from your Executive Team. The Executive has been most diligent in meeting and addressing the financial and operational issues of the MFA in both 2017 and 2018. Following our last AGM, they have met regularly and kept current through communications by e-mail and phone. As reported in 2016, the opportunity to co-locate our operation at the Birds Hill Nursery on the north side of Birds Hill Park is still in the exploration stage as agreed at the 2015 & 2016 AGMs. MFA staff since 2016 has successfully hosted our Seedling Distribution program at the Bird's Hill site.

The MFA has experienced a reduction of 2 staff over the past year. In December 2017 Tatiana Moroz resigned to pursue other opportunities after serving as a Resource Technician with the PLRP program since 2014 and in April 2018 Glenn Peterson retired. Many of you will be familiar with Glenn and recognize the important role he served as the Director of Education since 2012 and his additional recent role as Envirothon Coordinator. Glenn joined the MFA following his retirement from the Manitoba Forestry Branch and his forestry expertise and dedicated service is greatly missed. In particular, his involvement with the MFA began over 20 years ago with Jim Potton during the first year of the Envirothon program. Glenn consistently provided his own knowledge and expertise in environmental and natural resource management but also provided a truly family experience by involving his wife and children in the Envirothon program. The MFA greatly appreciates the dedication and commitment of Glenn, the whole Peterson family and Tatiana to the organization for these many years of service.



I would like to also recognize and sincerely thank our dedicated Executive Director, Patricia Pohrebniuk, as well as our professional staff Kristen Malec and Melody Olenick for the successful delivery of our programs and achievements again this fiscal year. In addition, I greatly appreciate the contribution of our enthusiastic members, volunteers, partners and stakeholders. Further, I wish to particularly thank those members of our Executive and Board of Directors for their dedicated commitment, professional advice and continued contribution to the MFA throughout 2017 as well as their ongoing commitment in 2018.

Dave Wotton,
President, MFA

Executive Director's Report

PATRICIA POHREBNIUK

Key elements of delivery in 2017 focused on supporting the four pillars outlined in the Association's strategic plan. These pillars provide the foundation for us to continue to serve our audiences through a variety of programs and services, to raise awareness of the important role of trees in our environment and to help inspire Manitobans to better care for the trees and forests in our communities and right across our province.

Please find below a summary of the activities undertaken in 2017 to support the objectives and priorities established by our organization.



Forest Resource Education - Increasing Our Knowledge and Understanding of Trees

Manitoba Envirothon – The Manitoba Envirothon is our core educational program and will serve as the foundation for all future program development. This year, 58 teams participated in the program. This program would not be possible without the dedication of over 100 volunteers, 50 organizations offering in-kind support, as well as, our sponsors and regional hosts! Many thanks to all those involved, we very much appreciate your support!



Outdoor Education – Hands-on opportunities are key to promote knowledge and understanding and each of our three forest centres offers a unique first-hand forest experience. This year, the Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre operated on an appointment only basis. We've seen a significant shift from school-based programming to more group use (both MFA directed/self-directed programming) for this site in the last four years. The Duck Mountain Forest Centre experience another successful year with 187 students and 150 visitors visiting the site for educational programs, meetings and general visits.



Heritage Trees – The objective of the MFA is to work with our partners (Manitoba Sustainable Development and Trees Winnipeg) to provide educational, technical and logistical support for delivering the Manitoba Heritage Trees Program. The MFA continues to promote the Manitoba Heritage Trees program through workshop and presentations, ongoing program delivery, and networking opportunities with board members, partners and sponsors.

Private Land and Community Support - Building Local Capacity

Community Engagement – MFA staff participated in ten educational outreach opportunities in the form of informational booths in different venues in both Winnipeg and in western Manitoba. In addition to social media activities, it is extremely important to maintain ties to the communities we offer our services in. The MFA continues to act as an informational hub for forestry related resources.

Private Land Resource Planning (PLPR) – Funding for our Private Land Resource Planning Program concluded in March 2017. Our Resource Extension Officers continued to provide extension and outreach to private landowners across the province in a limited capacity.

Tree Planting and Forest Health – Growing Healthy Forests

Setting Down New Roots – The increased variety of species and stock types being offered through this program has greatly assisted landowners with their tree planting projects here in the province. The partnership with the Pineland Forest Nursery and other nurseries within Manitoba are key to the successful delivery of this program. The use of the Birds Hill Forest Nursery site has helped to facilitate the distribution of seedlings to our customers right across the province, as well as, northern Ontario.

Corporate Tree Plantings – The MFA continues to work with several corporate sponsors on coordinating tree planting initiatives on their behalf. Whether the organization is interested in installing the trees themselves, as a staff-initiated project, or if they are interested in partnering with other organization which would plant the trees on their behalf, the MFA has been successful in coordinating these plantings efforts to create meaningful partnerships.



Partnerships – Extending our Reach

The MFA continues to develop and maintain partnerships with educational institutions, private industry, governments and community organizations locally, nationally and internationally to cross promote programs and services.

Our Thanks

To our staff, board, partners and our many volunteers, the delivery the programs and services outlined above would not be possible. The time and dedication given by these individuals and organizations is critical to help us ensure we are continuing to meet our commitments as an organization.

To our funders, sponsors and members, your financial contributions allows our organization the ability to meet the educational needs of students, educators, landowners, communities and members of the general public in Manitoba.

We offer congratulations to two of our staff members, Kristen Malec and Tatiana Moroz. Kristen Malec became a new mother in May of 2017 and Tatiana Moroz accepted a new position as the Fire Smart Coordinator in Fort McMurray, Alberta!

Please find highlighted, in the following pages, additional information on the programs and services delivered by the Manitoba Forestry Association in 2017. We thank you for your support as we continue to strive to be your “go-to” forestry organization!

Our Programs

The goal of Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) is to provide educational information, resources and programming for both teachers and students on the importance of Manitoba’s trees and forests to individuals and communities based on initiatives and activities that can be delivered both in the classroom, as well as, in the natural environment out-of-doors.

Through the use of a time-tested toolbox of programs and services, the MFA provides opportunities for people from all walks of life to learn more about the importance of our forests, and to better understand our natural heritage. The MFA offers a wide variety of programs to students, teachers, landowners and interested citizens.

Manitoba Envirothon

The Manitoba Envirothon is a core education program of the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) run by a Steering Committee, comprised of MFA staff and volunteers representing the many partners of the program who are actively involved in the implementation of the program. Envirothon provides senior year (S1-S4) students across the Manitoba with a hands-on opportunity to learn about current environmental issues.

For the past 21 years the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA), along with its partners and funders, has been the proud host organization of the Manitoba Envirothon. This program has provided Manitoba’s high school students a unique and fun way to learn about the environment and current issues.

As a core program, the focus and nature of this program allows the MFA to extend our reach to all areas of the province.

- In 2017, 64 teams Registered to compete at the Regional level, with 58 (from 32 schools) attending and 19 teams (from 16 schools)



advancing to the Provincial level.

- The theme topic for 2017: Agricultural Soil and Water Conservation Stewardship, allowed the students and advisors to explore the roles and responsibilities needed to successfully manage resources and situations related to each core topic. Learning centered on “beneficial management practices (BMP’s)” and the importance of multi-disciplinary collaboration to hopefully mitigate the negative consequences of land management practices and their effects “downstream”.

Regionals

There were five Regional Envirothon competitions that were held throughout the province during the weeks of April 18 to 26, 2017. The MFA partnered with the following Regional Host organizations:

- Frontier School Division
- LaSalle Redboine Conservation District
- Manitoba Parks and Protected Spaces
- Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
- Riverbank Discovery Centre

Continuing the structure fully implemented in 2011, all teams were required to qualify at the Regional level in order to advance to the Provincial Envirothon.

Provincials

The Provincial Envirothon took place at the International Peace Garden (IPG), Boissevain from May 25-27, 2017 – our fifth time at this facility. The teams were housed and fed onsite. The event was kicked off by words of welcome from Garry Enns, CEO of the IPG followed by Dave Wotton, President of the Manitoba Forestry Association, finished off by the creative and memorable Team Introductions

Friday, the field test took place around Lake Udall and the International Game Warden’s Museum on the hill and creeks of the “Turtle Mountain Meadows Trail”. It consisted of 15 stops with typically two teams per stop. The Saturday orals competition was held in the Rindt Hall and Burdick Centre at IPG. Orals prep was done all in advance with the students for the first time allowed to create and bring with them a digital presentation (without audio or web access) if they so choose or they could of course use a poster as at Regionals.



Once the scores from the field test and the oral competition were tallied the winning team was another first time winner (continuing a three year trend); Westwood Collegiate, Winnipeg Manitoba. Congratulations! The team then attended the North America Envirothon in late July at Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

- Please see Table 2. 2017 Provincial Event Summary for a complete listing of the number of students, schools and school divisions which participated in both the Regional and Provincial events in 2017.

All student participants experienced hands-on learning opportunities and possibly stimulated future careers as resource managers, scientists or future leaders as empowered citizens!

There will again be the ongoing reviews of the program - incorporating feedback we get from the event participants – students, advisors, volunteers and partners, to ensure that the MFA is providing the best Envirothon program possible!

Jim Potton Environmental Responsibilities Scholarship

The MB Envirothon Steering Committee would also like to announce that Kadeyn Labossiere of Prairie Mountain High School, Somerset has been awarded the second Jim Potton Environmental Responsibilities Scholarship.

Table 1. 2017 Regional and Provincial Event Summary

Event	School	# Teams	School Division
Northern	Cormorant Lake School	1	Frontier School Division (FSD)
	Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute	2	Kelsey School Division (KSD)
	Duke of Marlborough	1	FSD
	Swan Valley Regional Secondary School	4	Swan Valley School Division (SVSD)
	R. D. Parker Collegiate	1	Mystery Lake School Division (MLSD)
SouthWest	Carman Collegiate	3	Prairie Rose School Division (PRSD)
	Elm Creek School	2	PRSD
	Nellie McClung Collegiate	2	Prairie Spirit School Division (PSSD)
	Pilot Mound Collegiate	1	PSSD
	Prairie Mountain High School	3	PSSD
	St. Claude School Complex	1	PSSD
	Miami School	2	PRSD
Winnipeg	Elmwood High School	1	Winnipeg School Division (WSD)
	Gimli High School	1	Evergreen School Division (ESD)
	John Taylor Collegiate	1	St. James - Assiniboia School Division (SJSD)
	Shaftesbury High School	1	Pembina Trails School Division (PTSD)
	Maples Met School	1	Seven Oaks School Division (SOSD)
	St. James Collegiate Institute	2	SJSD
	Fort Richmond Collegiate	1	PTSD
	Vincent Massey Collegiate	2	PTSD
	Sisler High School	3	WSD
	Warren Collegiate	1	Interlake School Division (ISD)
	Westwood Collegiate	1	SJSD
	Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School	4	Lord Selkirk School Division (LSSD)
Eastern	Gimli High School	1	ESD
	Sturgeon Heights Collegiate	1	SJSD
Western	Brandon Crocus Plains	6	Brandon School Division (BSD)
	Fairholme \ Baker Colony Schools	1	PSSD
	Rivers Collegiate	1	Rolling River School Division (RRSD)
	Grant Park High School	2	WSD
	Virden Collegiate Institute	3	Fort La Bosse School Division (FLBSD)
	William Morton Collegiate Institute	1	Pine Creek School Division (PCSD)
BOLD = Rookie Teams			
5 Events	32 schools	58	17 Divisions
Provincial	Nellie McClung Collegiate	1	PSSD
	Westwood Collegiate	1	SJSD
	St. James Collegiate Institute	2	SJSD
	Prairie Mountain High School	1	PSSD
	Cormorant Lake School	1	FSD
	Grant Park High School	2	WSD
	Carman Collegiate	1	PRSD
	Shaftesbury High School	1	PTSD
	Gimli High School	1	ESD
	Virden Collegiate Institute	1	FLBSD
	Duke of Marlborough School	1	FSD
	Swan Valley Regional Secondary School	2	SVSD
	Fort Richmond Collegiate	1	PTSD
	R. D. Parker Collegiate	1	MLSD
	Fairholme & Baker Colony Schools	1	PSSD
	Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School	1	LSSD
16 Schools		19 Teams	11 Divisions

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

We would like to thank the 2017 Manitoba Envirothon Sponsors, Funders and Partners whose generosity helped us make this youth environmental education program a success.

Partners of the 2017 Manitoba Envirothon

REGIONAL HOSTS

Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
 Frontier School Division \ University College of the North
 LaSalle Redboine Conservation District
 Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas Branch
 Riverbank Discovery Centre



LEGACY PARTNERS



Agriculture | Education & Training | Sustainable Development

SUSTAINING PARTNERS



Final Standings

First Place:

The team from **Westwood Collegiate** won this year's Manitoba Envirothon. The team includes: Sean Thain, Chase Hornby, Luke Roffey, Jarrod Brake, Alison Matwick and advisor: Dave Westwood. The Manitoba Forestry Association, host of the Envirothon will provide the team funds and support as they represent Manitoba at the NCF North American Envirothon in Emmitsburg, Maryland July 23 - 29, 2017.



Second Place:

The team from **Grant Park High School** placed second. Team members included: Brett Macfarlane, Fiona Lebar, Clair Schon, Katherine Gledson, Jack Osiowy, and advisor, Mike Patenaude.



Third Place:

The **Fairholme & Baker Colony Schools Team** placed a strong third. Team members included: advisor: Ashleigh Maendel, Hadassah R. Maendel, advisor: Artie Maendel, Delphine Waldner, Amaris Maendel, Hadassah S. Maendel, and Thaddeus Waldner.



And to all the teams that competed, congratulations on a job well done! We hope you had fun too!

Manitoba representation at North American Envirothon

The 2017 NCF Envirothon was held at the Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, Maryland, July 23 - 29, 2017. The Manitoba Envirothon has always helped subsidize the travel cost of our winning team to represent us at the North American championship. Teams that win the Manitoba Envirothon and advance to the NCF North America Envirothon are faced with additional costs for traveling to the competition. The Manitoba Forestry Association, as part of the Manitoba Envirothon Budget, provides up to \$5,000CDN to assist with these travel and event registration costs.

Although Manitoba did not clinch one of the top spots, they competed well and made new friends during the weeklong competition! Thanks for being such wonderful ambassadors for our program and Province!



Outdoor Education

Operation of our Forest Centres offers schools and Manitobans of all ages an opportunity to experience hands-on forest-based learning in the out-of-doors from historical resource management to identification of trees and forest ecosystems.

Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre

The Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre was operated on an appointment only basis from May to October 2017, due to budget constraints. Volunteers continue to be critical in aiding with educational programming. Many thanks to the MFA Board of Directors, CIF members, Pineland Forest Nursery staff and other partner organizations who assisted in 2017!

Programming

Grade specific programming offered at the Centre supports the current Manitoba curriculum and offers students the opportunity to learn about the forest in a natural setting. Program options include guided hikes, bannock bakes, tours of the interpretive buildings and Pineland Forest Nursery, crafts, games and much more!

School programs at the Centre were made available on weekdays from late May to the end of June, for students from kindergarten to grade 12. Daycares or other organizations were encouraged to book a special program for the months of July and August.

The following schools participated in day programming at the Centre in June 2017:

- June 21st – Anola School – 37 students participated in a Bannock Bake
- June 22nd - Ecole Christine D’Esperance School 43 students participated in a general day program.

Two one-day programs were conducted for McDonald Youth Services, a charitable organization providing support, care, and treatment for children, youth, young adults and their families, in August 2017. The group visited the site on August 3rd and 10th, 2017 and took part in a bannock bake and a guided tour of the trails and buildings.



The Agassiz Chainsaw Sculptors held a chainsaw carving camp at the Centre May 2nd -4th. Ten participants were involved in this course. This has been an excellent partnership between the two groups allowing the MFA to diversify the opportunities being offered at the site. A sampling of the artist’s work can be viewed on the Sculptors website at <http://www.chainsawcarve.ca/>.

Three researchers from the University of Winnipeg called the centre home from July 30th – August 19th, 2017. The Centre was home base for the research of native bat populations conducted during this time. The University of Winnipeg also rented the facility from July 19th – 29th, 2017. Ten students participated in the Small Mammal Field Course offered through the university.

Ongoing maintenance of the site was conducted throughout the summer by MFA staff and volunteers.

Duck Mountain Forest Centre – Rick Bobby - Chairman

The following is a summary of activities undertaken at the Duck Mountain Forest Centre in 2017.

- 2 students were employed for July and August at the Centre.
- Swan Lake Watershed Conservation District held Water Days again in June with 187 young students participating.
- Various school classes visited the Centre mid to late June. The end of the school year is a popular time for teachers to take their students on field trips.
- The Duck Mtn Trappers Assoc. and Duck Mtn Cottage Owners Assoc. held their annual meetings at the Centre this summer.
- Visitor numbers were down this summer. Approx. 150. Probably due to most weekends being rainy/wet weather.



Manitoba Heritage Trees Program

The Manitoba Heritage Trees Program promotes awareness among Manitobans of the environmental, cultural, social and historic importance of trees and forests in Manitoba. The program designates trees with exceptional significance as heritage trees if they are associated with an historic event or have significant cultural importance; are one of the largest, broadest or oldest of its species in Manitoba or is a prime example of a species that is extremely rare in Manitoba; or is located in a unique location, has unique characteristics or features or that has attracted widespread public recognition as a prime example of its species.

All potential heritage tree nominations are reviewed by a committee that makes recommendations to the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship (Sustainable Development) for designation.

The objective of the Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA) is to work with our partners (Manitoba Sustainable Development and Trees Winnipeg) to provide educational, technical and logistical support for delivering the Manitoba Heritage Trees Program.

Program specific information relating to the Manitoba Heritage Trees Program was maintained on the MFA website at www.thinktrees.org. This included information on the general program, what trees were eligible for nomination, how to nominate a tree, nomination process, nomination forms, as well as, contact information for further assistance.

MFA staff continue to update the Manitoba Tree Register with all nominations received in person, by fax or through the mail. Staff have also been working on managing the nominations received through previous initiatives and gaining the proper approvals to highlight these trees in the Manitoba Tree Register.

The following trees have been surveyed by MFA staff and are being reviewed by the province for future designation:

- **Le Gros Arbre (The Big Tree) from St. Laurent**
A beautiful cottonwood that is located on the shore of Lake Manitoba at Sandpiper beach.
- **Confederation Park Cottonwood from Morden**
A cottonwood that has grown from a cutting received in New York around 1891
- **Silver Birch from Dauphin**
A beautiful healthy birch that has significant aesthetic value
- **Private cottonwood from St. Francois Xavier**
Tree is notable in size and valued by the family that nominated it.



Le Gros Arbre (The Big Tree) from St. Laurent

Community Engagement

Community engagement is achieved through educational and training opportunities for landowners, communities, and members of the general public. Through the celebration of forest related events and activities, such as National Forest Week and National Tree Day we're able to help increase the awareness of the many benefits that forests and trees provide.

MFA staff participated in ten educational outreach opportunities in the form of informational booths in different venues in both Winnipeg and in western Manitoba.

In this reporting period, MFA staff had participated in the following outreach opportunities:

1. Team Up and Clean Event – April 11, 2017
The MFA was invited to both set up a booth and hand out seedlings to the 1,200 students in attendance that day. The Team Up and Clean event is an annual event hosted by Take Pride Winnipeg to celebrate the efforts of students who are involved in clean-up activities in their schools and around their communities.
2. Earth Day Celebrations – April 22nd, 2017
The MFA set up a booth and handed out free seedlings to the public at two separate events to celebrate Earth Day. Approximately 600 seedlings were distributed at the booth set up outside of 900 Corydon Avenue from 11 – 2 pm, and another set up in the town of Richer from 3-8 pm that day.
3. Woman's Institute Dinner – June 11, 2017
300 Seedlings were distributed at the annual Woman's Institute Dinner in Ridgeville, Manitoba. Patricia was invited to attend to speak to guests about forest health, answer questions about trees and tree planting and distribute seedlings. Those who attended really appreciated the both the seedlings and the information provided. An additional 300 seedlings were left with members of the Woman's Institute who volunteered to distribute the trees to the students of the Roseau Valley School in Dominion City, MB.
4. Canada 150 Tree Planting Event – June 30th, 2017
Patricia was asked to address the participants at a Canada 150 Tree Planting Event held in Emerson, Manitoba on the 30th of June, 2017. Trees recognizing Canada's 150th Anniversary were planted throughout the Emerson-Franklin Municipality along the TransCanada Trail. The MFA provided technical support in terms of identifying species selection, stock types, sources, and planting instructions. Funding for the project was provided by Trees Canada. Tree planting and coordination was undertaken by the RM. Special recognition was provided to the MFA for our assistance.

5. 50th Anniversary of Birds Hill Provincial Park – July 15th, 2017
Dave Wotton, President, represented the MFA at the official 50th Anniversary celebration of Birds Hill Provincial Park.
6. Informational Booths -Informational booths were set up at the following locations in 2017. Staff were on hand to promote our education programs, answer questions about tree planting and tree health, as well as, hand out seedlings:
 - a. National Forest Week Celebrations – Assiniboine Park – September 23rd, 2017
 - b. St. Vital Mall – October 12th and November 10th, 2017
 - c. Manitoba Conservation Districts Association Meeting – December 11-13th, 2017



7. CIF Breakfast Meeting – December 6th, 2017
Tatiana Moroz provided a brief update on the program and activities of the MFA to members and guests in attendance at the morning breakfast meeting.

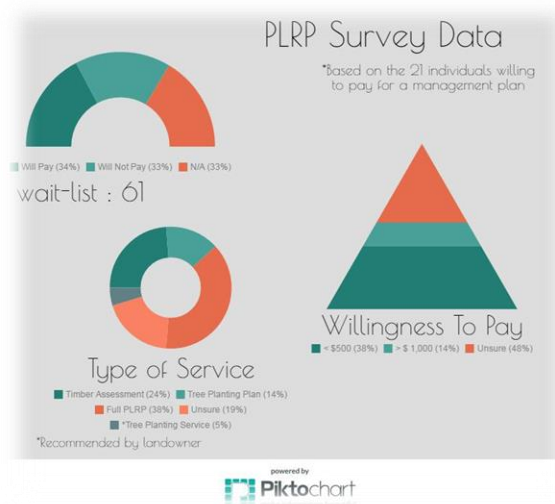
Private Land Resource Planning

The Private Land Resource Planning program promotes the wise management of private lands, and is the provincial delivery mechanism in ensuring that Manitoba's privately owned woodlots are sustainably managed. This program has been empowering land owners to be stewards of their land by educating them about sustainable forest management through the creation of tailored management plans.

PLRP Management Plans

Initially when the PLRP program was re-developed from its original Woodlot Program in 2012, it was offered free of charge to private landowners with the intention of charging a fee several years into the future. At the end of 2016, the PLRP program was once again evaluated for cost efficiency. The board determined it was no longer sustainable for the organization to offer the plans free of charge. PLRP staff reached out to all landowners on the PLRP waiting list and notified them about the potential change in the program. Landowners were asked if they would consider paying for a management plan and if so, how much they would be willing to spend.

- 61 individuals were contacted: 34% would pay, 33% would not pay and 33% did not provide an answer
- 24% would pay for a Timber Assessment, 14% would pay for a Tree planting plan, 38% would pay for a full RMP, 19% were unsure and 5% recommended a tree planting service.
- 38% would be willing to pay anything under \$5,000, 14% would pay more than \$1,000 and 48% were unsure.



Based on the data collected, the MFA decided to start implementing a fee-for-service starting in 2017. New charges were developed and proposed to all landowners on the waiting list.

PLRP Management Plans Completed:

In 2017, a total of 4 management plans were developed for private woodlot owners in Manitoba under a fee-for-service agreement:

- 3 Resource Management plans
- 1 Timber Assessment

In addition to developing management plans for private woodlot owners, PLRP staff delivered or took part in the following workshops, presentations and conferences.

PLRP staff delivered the following workshops:

- Taught grade 4 students about tree biology and the importance of forests and sustainable forest management during the Binney Water Festival at the Binney Siding Nature Preserve, Manitoba – June 09, 2017
- Led the forestry training workshop for grade 7 & 8 students at the Harvest Moon Eco-challenge in Clearwater, Manitoba – September 14, 2017
- Conducted a tree identification workshop at the annual Manitoba Environmental Industries Association (MEIA) career expo at the University of Manitoba – February 09, 2017

Extension

PLRP staff answer phone calls and respond to emails from private landowners requesting information pertaining to the following (approximately 30 to 40 inquiries are received monthly):

- Forest health and pest inquiries
- Market information
- Tree planting (species selection, site prep, planting, maintenance etc.)
- Forest Management

PLRP staff provide support to the following non-profit organizations:

- Membership renewal and website management for the Manitoba Christmas Tree Growers Association (MCTGA).
- Contribute articles to the Woodlot Association of Manitoba, as well as assistance to the organization during their monthly meetings.
- CIF breakfast updates for the annual CIF breakfast meetings.
- Act as mentors at the Manitoba Environmental Industries Association (MEIA) speed mentoring evening.



PRLP staff attended the following conferences, workshops and other to advance their learning and to network with landowners, students, other forestry professionals, and professionals in the environmental industry.

- **ManSEA Sustainable Energy conference – April 05, 2017**
Both Kristen and Tatiana attended this conference. The conference covered numerous topics such as: carbon pricing, environmental remediation and alternative energy systems.
- **Emerald Ash Borer Workshop – March 13, 2017**
Both Kristen and Tatiana attended the EAB workshop put on by the City of Winnipeg and Trees Winnipeg. The workshop discussed the latest research regarding the EAB outbreak and mitigation efforts that other cities have taken.
- **Climate Change symposium – November 23, 2017**
Tatiana attended the Climate Change Symposium which took place at the University of Manitoba. Academics from all across Canada gathered to discuss the global issues regarding climate change with respect to geography, economics and the Arctic.

Setting Down New Roots

Setting Down New Roots, a primary fundraiser for the organization, is multifaceted program offering an array of products and services to a wide variety of audiences. The funds generated through this program help to support the Manitoba Forestry Association and our educational programming.

MFA staff continues to provide educational support to land owners, communities and school groups on the proper handling, planting, maintenance, and selection of trees, as well as insect/disease control measures. This support is provided through workshops, events and displays, responding to inquiries, information and reference/resource materials provided on our website and through social media, coordination of school/community/corporate sponsored tree planting events, promotion of the MFA's Setting Down New Roots Seedling Sales and Private Land Resource Planning programs, submission of information articles in partner newsletters and local papers, as well as, and working closely on joint initiatives with other like-minded organizations.

Annual Seedling Distribution

The 'trunk' of our program is our Annual Seedling Distribution. The primary focus of this program is the sale of seedlings and potted stock to landowners at an annual distribution held each May. Seedlings are purchased for the purposes of establishing shelter and wildlife enhancement, afforestation and reforestation efforts, general aesthetic values, landscape stock or for Christmas trees.

The MFA's Setting Down New Roots program again delivered a successful 3-day seedling distribution at the Birds Hill Forest Nursery – May 11-13th, 2017, where approximately 97,855 seedlings were distributed to landowners across Manitoba and North Western Ontario. Approximately 350 landowners purchased their planting stock through the MFA. MFA staff, board members and volunteers were on hand at this three-day event to distribute seedlings, sell additional stock, provide planting instructions and answer tree planting and forest health questions our purchasers had. The Birds Hill facility lends itself well to this type of an extension/outreach initiative.

Throughout the reporting period, MFA staff continued to respond to inquiries and requests for information regarding, tree planting, spacing, accessing planting stock, forest insects and diseases, and general woodlot management.

Wedding and Special Event Seedlings

Tree seedlings make a unique and memorable gift for a variety of special occasions. The MFA offers pre-packaged, DIY seedling packages and seedlings to those wishing to provide a green and renewable gift. 16,500 seedlings were marketed through this program in 2017.



Corporate Tree Plantings

Take Pride Winnipeg Tree Plant

On July 6th, 2017 MFA partnered with Take Pride Winnipeg to plant white spruce seedlings in Assiniboine Park. Approximately 25 students came out to plant 400 seedlings. MFA staff provided a tree planting demo and did quality control throughout the event to make sure all trees were planted properly. 200 of the trees planted were donated by the Sustainable Manitoba Course through the University of Manitoba. To thank the individuals serving as guest lecturers in the course, a recognition certificate was provided, and 5 trees were planted on their behalf.



National Leasing Tree Plant

MFA staff coordinated and helped facilitate a tree plant for National Leasing. 206 white spruce trees were planted at Little Mountain Park Sportsplex on October 04, 2017. Approximately 12 volunteers came out to the Sportsplex and spent the morning planting the seedlings.



Batesville Living Memorial Tree Plant

A few weeks after the National Leasing tree plant, Little Mountain Sportsplex once again agreed to help get more trees into the ground. In late October 1,400 trees were planted for the Batesville Living Memorial program which is coordinated through the Canadian Institute of Forestry. Tatiana was responsible for coordinating the plant, delivering the trees and post-plant follow up.



Map of Little Mountain Sportsplex – plantings took place around each baseball diamond. All baseball diamonds now have white spruce trees growing around them

Media and Communications

The MFA continues to act as an informational hub for forestry related resources. Students, teachers and members of the general public utilize our website, YouTube channel and social media feeds for educational and training purposes.

MFA staff continue to provide extension services through phone, email, and attendance at workshops, as well as, participating in media interviews.

Manitoba Forestry Association – Website

www.thinktrees.org

Manitoba Forestry Association – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Manitoba-Forestry-Association-142759835841422/>

Manitoba Envirothon – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ManitobaEnvirothon/>

Sandilands Forest Discovery Centre – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Sandilands-Forest-Discovery-Centre-229261507091158/>

Manitoba Forestry Association Twitter Page:

@MBForestryAssoc

<https://twitter.com/mbforestryassoc>

Think Trees TV

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCt4QkQM39hJFfrxHyru_oQw