

Meet Your Provincial Department

Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines – Climate and Green Initiatives Branch

Submitted by the Province of Manitoba

The province's Climate and Green Initiatives Branch – part of Manitoba Science, Technology, Energy and Mines – co-ordinates the government's strategic framework for a green, prosperous, growing province. Like Green Manitoba, the Green and Growing strategy is the basis of the branch's operations.

Climate and Green Initiatives develops, facilitates and co-ordinates climate change and green initiatives throughout the government. The branch promotes awareness of climate change issues, develops provincial climate change programs and funds opportunities for climate change action. It works with the government and communities to develop green initiatives that have economic, environmental and social benefits. The branch also supports research into climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In 2002, Canada ratified the Kyoto Protocol, which sets a target for achieving a six per cent reduction from 1990 greenhouse gas levels, by 2012. Manitoba has committed to working with citizens, communities and businesses to meet this target. It will make our province the first jurisdiction in Canada to meet a legislated Kyoto target by 2012. Manitoba recently solidified its position by passing *The Climate Change and Emissions Reduction Act*, which commits the province to meeting this target.

The act is supported by Beyond Kyoto, Manitoba's updated climate change action plan, which was released in April 2008. This plan and legislation are supported by more than \$145 million in investments over four years. There are 60 specific actions to reduce greenhouse gases, including:

- Introducing a coal-reduction strategy. A tax on coal emissions will be in effect. Capital support will be available for coal-reliant industries to convert to cleaner energy and the province



In 2002, Canada ratified the Kyoto Protocol, which sets a target for achieving a six per cent reduction from 1990 greenhouse gas levels, by 2012.

will support development of a coal alternative, biomass.

- Investing in public transportation, including continuing to pay half of transit's net operating costs, including rapid transit.
- Taking action on Manitoba's largest greenhouse gas emitters, including capturing methane in large landfills. Manitoba Hydro's coal-fired electricity plant in Brandon will be closed, except to support emergency operations. The province will work with the City of Winnipeg and Manitoba Hydro on a business plan for Brady Landfill.
- Encouraging greener cars and trucks. The province will expand the use of low-carbon fuels and establish a Vehicle Standards Advisory Board to make recommendations for a provincial standard for new vehicles.
- Implementing programs to reduce the number of inefficient automobiles on the road, develop "green driving" outreach programs and support new, efficient trucking technologies.
- Providing alternative transportation choices for consumers. Highway traffic laws will be updated to ensure that low-speed electric vehicles can be sold and driven in Manitoba. The province will continue to offer a consumer rebate for the purchase of hybrid and electric vehicles.
- Expanding clean energy actions, including energy efficiency initia-

tives and the further development of hydro, wind and geothermal energy.

- Supporting agriculture, forestry and community programs, including a new sustainable agriculture program. New programs will help municipalities track emissions, reduce waste and conserve energy and water. Also, the province will plant five million trees over the next five years.
- Partnering with other provinces, the United States and other jurisdictions. The province and our partners strive to share best practices, fund new research and innovation opportunities and meet broader, regional targets such as those set by the Western Climate Initiative.

Here are more actions the province is taking on climate change:

Manitoba is working with communities, businesses and Manitoba Hydro to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We are investing in knowledge, promoting technological development and innovation, and encouraging action in all sectors of the provincial economy.

Manitoba is recognized as a national leader in energy efficiency. All new buildings that receive public money will be required to meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system. New energy requirements for commercial buildings will be introduced. Also, a dedicated fund is supporting energy



does the price of fuel leave you feeling empty?

Introducing the new Prairie Fuel Advisors and a fresh approach to how your municipality buys its fuel. With up to an additional 7 cents off any existing discount and over 450 locations across Western Canada, the new PFA has all the advantages of a large program without compromising local relationships.

Provide your council with the confidence that fuel is being purchased fairly – contact the new Prairie Fuel Advisors today.

For your free cost analysis call **1-800-807-3750** or visit www.prairiefueladvisors.ca for more information



efficiency and related employment and training for low-income and First Nations communities in our province.

Manitoba has become a North American leader on ground source heat pump (geothermal) installations. These pumps provide the lowest-cost heating and cooling systems on the continent to thousands of Manitoba homes and businesses.

Ethanol production has grown from 10 million to 130 million litres due, in part, to Manitoba's biofuels mandate and tax incentives. The building of new, community based biodiesel plants has contributed to our communities' economy and job growth.



The Town of St. Léon is the centre of a major construction project to create one of the largest wind energy farms in Canada, with 100 megawatts of wind power being produced. The goal is to produce 1,000 megawatts over the next 10 years. When completed, the project will supply enough clean energy to power all the households in Portage la Prairie and Morden combined. This \$210 million project will have a major economic impact on the region, including creating 300 direct and indirect jobs.

Cities are adopting made-in-Manitoba biodiesel and testing hybrid buses in their transit fleets. Also, Manitoba is reducing transportation emissions through low-emission vehicle incentives, encouraging new technologies, such as plug-in hybrid cars, and continuing investments in public transportation and biking and walking trails. **L**

Evolution begins with E

EMPIRE MFG. CO. LIMITED

1906-1916

QUALITY EMCO BRASS GOODS QUALITY EMCO BRASS GOODS EMCO EMCO

1916-1936 1936-1946 1946-1956 1956-1986

PVC and HDPE pipe & fittings, valves, fire hydrants & Waterworks accessories.

There in the beginning. Evolving for the 21st Century—and beyond.

EMCO WATERWORKS **SANDALE UTILITY PRODUCTS**

One Stop Shop for All Your Water and Waste Water Needs.

Winnipeg 1-866-535-3626 Brandon 1-866-623-6202
Saskatoon 1-877-343-3626 Regina 1-800-363-8002

EMCO100
PEOPLE. PRODUCTS. PRIDE. SINCE 1906