

Manitoba Forestry Association

Manitoba Envirothon

2013-2014 Summary of Activities



Looking south from Brandon Research Centre towards flooded Assiniboine River Valley, May 2014

The Manitoba Envirothon is a program of THINK TREES – Manitoba Forestry Association (MFA). In 1996, MFA explored the idea of Envirothon. Four teams participated in the first Manitoba Envirothon in 1997 at Birds Hill Provincial Park. In 2006, the MFA hosted the North American Canon Envirothon and made Envirothon one of its core programs.

Due to the popularity of the Manitoba Envirothon, it evolved into a regional and provincial format in 2010. In 2011 Manitoba won the Canon Envirothon—the first and only Canadian team ever to do so.

Today, the Manitoba Envirothon is still going strong with over 2,500 students participating to date!



OVERVIEW

For the past 18 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. In 2014, 43 teams competed at the Regional level, with 20 teams advancing to the Provincial level. The topic theme for 2014, Sustainable Agriculture \ Locally Grown, allowed the students and advisors to explore the roles and responsibilities needed to successfully manage food supplies, particularly local ones, and best management practices that hopefully ensure their operations are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.

In 2014 there were five Regional Envirothon competitions that were held throughout the province during the week of April 21 to 25, 2014. The MFA partnered with the following Regional Host organizations: Frontier School Division (Thompson - April 24), Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas (Rennie – April 24, The La Salle Redboine Conservation District (Pinkerton Lakes – April 23) and Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre (April 25) to stage events – all with less than ideal weather! Continuing the structure fully implemented in 2012, all teams were required to qualify at the Regional level in order to advance to the Provincial Envirothon.

The Provincial Envirothon took place at Brandon University (BU) from May 22-24, 2014. The teams were again housed and fed at this fine facility, delicious meals were again provided by members of the Brandon University culinary team. The field test took place on the hills, fields and forested ravine of Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada's Brandon Research Centre. It consisted of 15 stops with normally two teams per stop and took place under hot, sunny conditions – much better than Regionals! After the field test, and the Friday evening dinner, students and advisors moved to the BU Theatre for a multi-media presentation on “Environmental Education and Career Options” with a particular focus on “Learn by Doing”, by Steven Hills & Richard Baker, Environmental Technology Instructors at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon MB. Thanks gentlemen!

The orals competition was held in the classrooms and Theatre of the John R. Brodie Science Centre at BU. Presentations on the orals challenge presented to them that morning – having a “role playing” conversation on one of three theme scenarios (Appendix D) on managing changing local farming and food production needs and practices. Once the scores from the field test and the oral competition were tallied the winning team was the Swan Valley Watershed Conservation District from Swan River, Manitoba. The team won Registered Educations Savings Plans in lieu of the cancelled Georgia North American Envirothon!

There will again be the ongoing reviews of the program - incorporating feedback we get from the event participants and partners, to ensure that the MFA is providing the best Envirothon program for participants to experience hands-on learning opportunities and possibly begin careers as resource managers or scientists or empowered citizens and future leaders!

The 2014 Manitoba Envirothon was dedicated to the memory of our visionary leader:

JIM POTTON

JAMES EDWARD POTTON It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of James (Jim) Potton on Saturday, March 29, 2014 at the age of 75. Our Papa' will be missed by wife Myrna, children Michael (partner Rochel), Traci (Randy), and Nanci, grandchildren Garrett, Dylan, Emma, Samantha and Elijah, along with numerous relatives, friends and colleagues.



His passion for the outdoors drove his desire for becoming part of the forestry / parks sector.

After receiving a Master's Degree in Recreational Management from the University of Minnesota, he spent six years as a Park Ranger for the US National Parks Service in Hawaii, Wyoming, and Montana, before coming north to Canada, in 1968, to work for the Alberta Provincial Government as Assistant Deputy Minister of Parks, and then to Manitoba as Director of Parks. He was the Director of the Manitoba Forestry Association for over 25 years but his passion was fueled by a high-school environmental program called Envirothon in which he served as Chair since its inception in the province in 1997. He also represented Manitoba on the North American Envirothon Committee and served as a Director for three years. Jim will be remembered for his passion, vision, dedication and his ability to forge strong relationships. As he touched the hearts of all he worked with and was a truly inspiring leader. He was most recently recognized for his efforts in 2011, when he was inducted into the Envirothon Hall of Fame and in 2013, when he received The Order of the Buffalo Hunt, one of the Province's highest honours. Cremation has already taken place and a celebration of his life will be held at a later date with a memorial tree planting. The family would like to thank the staff at Health Sciences Centre GH3 as well as Jim's many health care providers over the years. Flowers gratefully declined. If desired, donations can be made in the name of the Potton-Booth Family of Winnipeg to the Envirothon Program of the Manitoba Forestry Association. **"Oh what a Beautiful Morning, Oh what a Beautiful Day!"**. Thank you Papa, you have left an amazing legacy. www.seasonsfunerals.ca

As published in the Winnipeg Free Press on April 05, 2014

Pinawa 2008



Find Jim! – There he is... where he loved to be - surrounded by students!

2014 Theme: Sustainable Agriculture \Locally Grown



*Sustainable Agriculture,
Locally Grown*



2014

“Made in Manitoba” Theme Document

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Kelvin Seifert for preparing the citations – a tedious job, thoughtful editing, and care and feeding of the primary author. Thanks to Olwyn Friesen for final editing and formatting, and for preparing the Companion Documents. And thanks to all the reviewers:

Lindsey Andronak (Western Ag Innovations)

Mae Elsinger (Agriculture Canada (AC))

Jeff Fidyk (Manitoba Agriculture Food and Rural Development (MAFRD))

Elaine Gauer (MAFRD)

Aaron Glenn (AC)

Laureen Janusz (Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship)

Patsy Michiels (AC)

Glenn Peterson (Manitoba Forestry Association)

Clayton Robins (Manitoba 4-H Council)

Jane Thornton (MAFRD)

Mitch Timmerman (MAFRD)

John Heard (MAFRD)

Barbara Fuller, December 2013

REGIONAL ENVIROTHON'S

The Manitoba Forestry Association and the Manitoba Envirothon Steering Committee implement a regional qualifying format for the program, where teams are required to qualify at a regional level competition in order to advance to the provincial level. The advancing structure was set up as follows:

REGIONAL TO PROVINCIAL ADVANCEMENT POLICY

Regional Scoring

Teams competing in Regional Envirothon events will be scored on three components:

- Field Test Core questions supplied by the Manitoba Envirothon Steering Committee (50%)
- Regional Questions provided by the Regional Organization (10%)
- Oral presentation (40%)

The percentages indicated above represent the weighting given in determining a team's final score.

Advancing to the Provincial Event

The teams with the three highest scores, (based on the combined field test, regional questions and orals in the proportions described under Regional Scoring), will advance to the Provincial Envirothon. This ensures representation from every region.

The remaining entry positions for the current year's Provincial Envirothon will be determined using a team's score on the Field Test Core Questions only and the Provincial host location. Teams, other than the three winners from each Region, will be ranked using their Field Test Core Question score and offered the entry positions available for the current year's Provincial Envirothon.

Sample scenario: 5 regions, a **24** team maximum Provincial Event:

- **15** - Regional 1st, 2nd and 3rd teams will have automatic entries to the Provincial event
- **8** - Teams from across the province will be offered entry based on their Field Test core question scores (all Regions combined) in descending order from highest to lowest.
- **1** - Allowance for a *local* school to participate at the Provincial's even if they did not qualify otherwise.

Provincial Envirothon Attendance

The top three teams from each Region will automatically advance to the Provincial competition based on their combined score as described in Regional Scoring. Should any of these teams decline their entry position in the Provincial Envirothon that entry will then go to the team in their region with the next highest combined score and so on until the limit is reached.

Manitoba Envirothon REGIONALS



EVENT DETAILS:

NORTH REGION:

Location—Thompson, Manitoba
Host—Frontier School Division
Date—April 24, 2014

EAST REGION:

Location—Rennie, Manitoba
Host—Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas Branch
Date—April 24, 2014

SOUTH-WEST REGION:

Location—Pinkerton Lake WMA, Manitoba
Host—La Salle Redboine Conservation District
Date—April 23, 2014

WINNIPEG and WEST REGIONS:

Location—Oak Hammock Marsh
Host—Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
Date—April 25, 2014

TEAM REGISTRATION: \$75

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Looking for a fun way to get outside?

Manitoba Envirothon provides students and teachers a fun, inexpensive, outdoor education experience. At the one day event students will meet experts in the field of environmental management, and gain hands-on experience with the equipment used for environmental monitoring.

This approach to environmental education helps students develop skills necessary to address environmental issues, such as team work, problem-solving, critical thinking, and public debate.

What teachers are saying about Envirothon:

"Envirothon is the BEST program we participate in for student engagement, citizenship, social justice, environmental awareness, sustainability education!"

"All round value for developing organizational skills, communication and presentation skills, confidence, demonstration and integration of the knowledge gained"

GET INVOLVED!

EMAIL: ENVIROCOORDINATOR@THINKTREES.ORG

960 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R5M 2Y4 Tel: 204.453.3182 Fax: 204.477.5786 WWW.THINKTREES.ORG



Five regional events were held across the province on April 23, 24th and 25th, 2014, with local host organization partnerships coordinating these unique events. Regional partners for the 2014 competitions included:

Regional Hosts

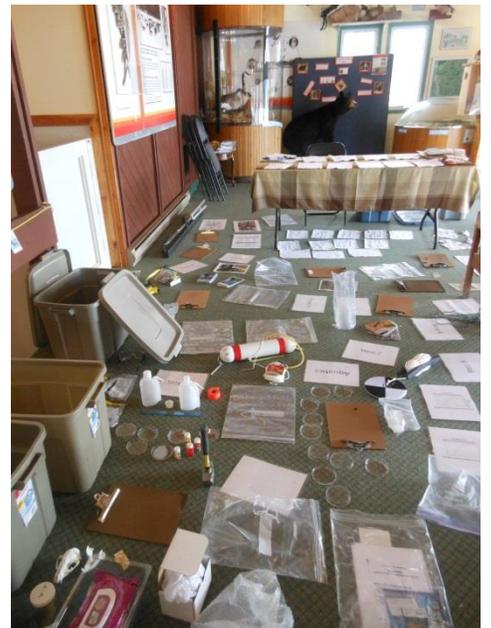
- **North Region:** Frontier School Division
- **East Region:** Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas Branch
- **South Region:** La Salle Redboine Conservation District
- **Winnipeg & Western Regions:** Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre



STUDENT PARTICIPANTS AT OAK HAMMOCK MARSH (WINNIPEG) REGIONAL EVENT!

The Test Writing Committee prepared a standard test that was made up of core questions that are consistent throughout the regions. Regional hosts are also able to add local questions if they choose, subject to approval from the Test Writing Committee. For the first time, the Orals component was built into all Regional field tests as a two-stop cluster and then marked by judges. The students were given the Orals question two weeks before the Regional events and expected to develop a poster and presentation and then answer questions to support their analysis. Throughout the day host organizations had the ability to showcase their own programs and facilities.

There were initially 47 registered teams, and 43 teams participated in regional events from 24 different schools. Last minute cancellations and cold, snowy or rainy weather posed a challenge for the Regional hosts but they adapted and put on wonderful events. One of the advantages to the regional program is that the host organizations are able to educate the students on the local environment and resource management issues in a local setting.



DRYING OUT EQUIPMENT AFTER THE FIELD TEST AT ALF HOLE

Participating Schools 2014

There were 47 teams that originally registered for the regional events, however due to a variety of issues, 43 teams representing 23 schools were actually able to compete.

REGISTERED TEAMS (43)

Northern Regional (5)

Cormorant Lake School (1)
Frontier Collegiate (1)
Helen Betty Osborne Ininuw Resource Centre (2)
R. D. Parker Collegiate (1)

SouthWest Regional (19)

Baldur School (4)
Carmen Collegiate (3)
Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School (2)
Fairholme School (1)
Glenboro School (1)
Nellie McClung Collegiate (4)
Shevchenko School (1)
Prairie Mountain High School (2)
Virден Collegiate Institute (1)



ORALS PREP. AT THE NORTHERN REGIONAL COMPETITION

Winnipeg & West Regionals (16)

Gimli High School (3)
Shaftesbury High School (1)
St. Boniface Diocesan High School (3)
St. James Collegiate Institute (1)
Swan Valley Regional Secondary School (3)
Vincent Massey Collegiate (2)
Westwood Collegiate (3)

Eastern Regional (3)

Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Resource Centre (1)
Pinawa Secondary School (1)
Wanipigow School (1)

PLEASE SEE APPENDIX B FOR A REGIONAL EVENT SUMMARY



BIRD ID TESTING AT OAK HAMMOCK MARSH

PROVINCIAL ENVIROTHON

The Provincial Competition was hosted at Brandon University (BU), from May 22-24, 2014 with the field test on the grounds of Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada's (AAFC) Brandon Research Centre facilities.



Throughout the planning of the event the Manitoba Envirothon had tremendous support from The City of Brandon, Paul O'Driscoll and Koren Hamilton at BU and Byron Irvin and Mae Elsinger from AAFC Brandon and their respective staffs!

Thanks folks!

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School
Shaftesbury High School
R. D. Parker Collegiate
St. Boniface Diocesan High School
Nellie McClung Collegiate
Westwood Collegiate
Pinawa Secondary School
Cormorant Lake School
Vincent Massey Collegiate
Carman Collegiate
Gimli High School
Frontier Collegiate
Swan Valley Regional Secondary School
St. James Collegiate Institute

The field test and event training took place among the fields, forests and in “the Ravine” on the grounds of AAFC’s Brandon Research Centre. Having open rangeland, urban development and research set so closely within aspects of the Boreal Forest and a spring-fed natural wooded ravine allowed for a very topical (and shorter!) field test. Crossing through large areas of Manitoba farmland to get to Brandon allowed the participants viewing \learning opportunities to help in their later Oral preparation studies on Sustainable Agriculture.

Again in 2014, a single trail was used for field test, advantages include being able to offer topic training opportunities in the morning, and a shorter marking session for the Test Writing Committee, without losing the outdoor or marathon-type nature of the event! This again required two teams to be at a stop together but as always; friendship, a common purpose and mutual respect allowed all to compete fairly!

Accommodation\Food

Students, volunteers, MFA staff and the Steering Committee were again housed at the McMaster Hall on the Brandon University campus. This was our fifth successful time at BU . The meals, hospitality and facilities were again outstanding and helped make a very good experience for all participants. Quizno’s, Middleton Avenue, Brandon provided the delicious lunch for the field test. Murray Smith and Linda Christianson also provided meals for the SC and TWC during the event set up on Thursday.

Appendix C contains the programs Financial Summary

Evening Activities

Thursday

Once teams had arrived on Thursday and after a good meal in the evening they gathered in the Upstairs Dining Room at McMaster Hall for lively team introductions to the event. Co-chair of the Steering Committee, Byrnes Benoit served as Emcee for the evening. After a moment of silence and a multi-media show in memory of the life of Jim Potton the event officially began! Each team was given the opportunity to get up in front of the group to use their imagination and creative spirit to introduce themselves. Teams performed skits, songs and everything in-between, to tell the group a little bit about who they are, and where they are from! These introductions also serve to remind everyone of the other talents these students possess. Important house-keeping and logistical notices were provided.

Friday

After the field test, and the Friday evening dinner @ BU, students and advisors moved to the Theatre for a multi-media presentation on “Environmental Education and Career Options” with a particular focus on “Learn by Doing”, by Steven Hills & Richard Baker, Environmental Technology Instructors at Assiniboine Community College in Brandon MB. Thanks gentlemen!

Field Test

The field test took place on the “Prairies and Sloughs” trail, established in and around the Ravine on the Brandon Research Centre of Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada. Having open rangeland, urban development and research set so closely together allowed for a very topical (and shorter!) field test! Crossing through large areas of Manitoba farmland to get to Brandon allowed the participants viewing \learning opportunities to help in their later Oral preparation studies on Sustainable Agriculture.

Again the field test configuration was a single trail of 15 stops. Due to limited mobility, one student was chauffeured around via motorized cart for the field test.

Please refer to [Appendix A](#) to view maps of the 2014 Field Test. As in the past, there were two teams per stop, where they were required to share the equipment. At the end of the test teams were allowed an additional 12 minutes to finish up any questions from the field test.

It was one of the first hot sunny days of the summer so it was good that we again had an on-site First Aid person to provide health tips, and handle the potential heat stroke and other issues which arose.



TREE SPECIES ID AND DENDROCHRONOLOGY (TREE AGE) STOP

So despite the heat the teams managed to stay cool and judging by the smiles and laughter, a good time was had by all!

ANOTHER FIELD TEST CONQUERED!



The team advisors were again given the important duty of being a “team buddy” and guiding a team of students from a school other than their own, around the field test. In this way they actually observe the field test, interact with the volunteers (but not distract the students) and the share the thrill of the competition. Post-test team \ advisors debriefings help them plan future teams and provides feedback to the Test Writing and Steering Committees.

Orals Competition

On Saturday morning teams were presented the Orals Challenge – which this year was; to have a “conversation” amongst the team on one of three provided topics, rather than a formal audio\visual presentation. The intent – based on past feedback was to rely more on topic knowledge and ability to clearly express their opinion than colored paper and posters.

As in the past they were sequestered into individual rooms for 2 ½ hours to prepare a ten minute conversation. This year there were 5 panels of judges of 5 judges each, each panel seeing 3-4 teams. Judging orientation and training was modified this year due to the new type of challenge presented. Once the scores of the preliminary orals and field test scores were combined and tallied three teams were announced as the top-ranking: Swan Valley Watershed Conservation District, St. Boniface Diocesan and Vincent Massey Collegiate. These teams then re-presented in front of a large audience including all the other teams and advisors and a new panel of 5 judges. At this point scores were re-calculated, taking into account these final oral scores, and their final placing were announced.

The Regional and Provincial Orals Questions are included in Appendix D

Final Standings

First Place: The Swan Lake Watershed Conservation District Team from Swan River Regional High School won this year’s Manitoba Envirothon. The team, Braden Barker, Tayler Fleming, Jayden Wlasichuk, Chloe Lagace and Victoria Verhoek put in a stellar trail test performance on Friday in unseasonably hot conditions. The Trail Test was hosted on Agriculture and Agri-Foods Canada’s research farm, just off 18th Street in Brandon. 15 stops challenged the 19 teams competing. The Swan Lake team, advised by Alex Verbo and Shawn Stankewich, delivered a very comprehensive and entertaining Orals Presentation to take first place overall. The Manitoba Forestry Association, presenter of the Envirothon will provide five RESP scholarships among other prizes donated that the students can use as they see fit to continue their educations.



Second Place: The team from St. Boniface Diocesan High School placed second. Griffin Swanson, Natalia Wicislak, Hannah Payumo, Kyunghyem Kim and Breanne Beaubien were advised by Michael Villanaueva and Paul Grossman. This team performed very well in the heat of the Trail Test, but excelled at the Orals Presentation with a compelling and well-informed presentation on Sustainable Agriculture and Locally Grown Food, this year's theme topic.



Third Place: Winnipeg's Vincent Massey Collegiate Team #1, Alex Bairos-Novak, Alicia Zelensky-Hill, Lauren Beauchamp, Yesha Subotinic-West and Laura Alsip, advised by Bronwen Davies placed third overall.



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

Thank You to Our Volunteers!



Without our volunteers we would not be able to operate this program! There are many individuals who are dedicated to the Manitoba Envirothon, some saying that, *“attending the events is the highlight of my year!”* Each regional organization was able to draw on a large number of volunteers from local organizations and surrounding community, and we thank them too!



In total over 100 individuals volunteered at the four regional competitions, and over 50 at the provincial competition!



Regional Volunteers

Each regional organization was able to draw on a large number of volunteers from local organizations and surrounding community. In addition, many long-time volunteers with the Manitoba Envirothon Provincial Competition also volunteered at the Regional events. The following individuals and volunteered their time and resources to help plan and deliver the regional events:

Al Thorleifson
Andrea Kraayeveld
Susan Kasian
Kyla Maslaniec
Kevin Barkmann
Cliff Greenfield
Colby Desender
Meghan Robidoux
Brenda Mutcher
Devon Baete
Karen Tjaden
Carol Graham
Grant Matchullis
Mitch Timmerman
Pam Cavers
Jennifer Bryson
John Heard
Jolene Gardiner
Marla Riekman
Justin Reid
Laura Greenfield
Lynda Matchullis
Nick Verras
Danielle Cabernel
Neil Zalluski
Bob Austman

Brock Houndle
Sloan Cathcart
Randy Dow
Rejean Picard
Robert Nichol
Scott Beaton
Tom Moran
Sean Haight
Jesse Howatt
Stephen Howatt
Armand Belanger
Jacqueline Monteith
Rockford McKay
Mark Sopkowe
Jason Leavens
Glenn Peterson
Olwyn Friesen
Lisa Tack
Darby Branconnier
Audrey Boitson
Barry Konzelman
Brendan Carruthers
Brigitte Demarchuk
Carl Nixdorf
Chris Randall
David Garrod

Diane Garrod
Dorthea Gregoire
Ellen Monro
Floyd Rayner
Heather Alexander
Janelle Siekaniec
John Perry
Karina Drewniak
Katrina Froese
Linda Adie
Maggie Katzelay
Nia Massey
Ray Peebles
Sandra Redekop
Sharon Nixdorf
Shirley Esaruk
Sybil Finnson
Dusty Molinski
Faye Brandson
Nathalie Bays
Paula Grief
Ria Semenowich
Tabitha Martens
Teresa Visser

Provincial Volunteers

A number of volunteers also commit time and energy to help make the Provincial event a huge success. These volunteers come from many areas: the local area, all levels of government, industry, different interest groups, retired teachers and professionals, etc. They perform many duties, big and small, but all contribute to the overall success of the event.

We would like to thank the following individuals for donating their time to the Manitoba Envirothon in 2014:

Allison Krause Danielson	Amber Lahti	Andrea Evans
Andrea Kraayeveld	Andrea Swain	Andrew Olynyk
Barb Benoit	Barbara Fuller	Bev McKenzie
Bill Kraayeveld	Brenda Robinson	Brendan Carruthers
Byrnes Benoit	Cathy Shaluk	Clayton Robins
Dan Dew	Daniel Drimes	Dave Wotton
Denise Levesque	Diane Olson	Elaine Gauer
Ellen Cobb-Friesen	Gil Godard	Glenda Fauske
Glenn Peterson	Irene Kraayeveld	James Hood
Jane Thornton	Janelle Schwindt	Jeffery Fidyk
Jennifer Bryson	Jennifer Jessop	Jennifer Lidgett
Johannes Waldner	John Perry	John Shearer
John Sinclair	Justin Reid	Katherine Lane
Kelly Lewis	Kyla Maslaniec	Laureen Janusz
Lee Hrenchuk	Linda Christianson	Lindsey Andronak
Madeleine Asselin	Madelyn Robinson	Mae Elsinger
Maria Zbigniewicz	Meghan Sprung	Meghen Krohn
Mercy Oluwafemi	Mitchell Timmerman	Murray Smith
Myrna Potton	Nicole Lavich	Olwyn Friesen
Patricia Pohrebniuk	Paul Leblanc	Perry Stonehouse
Rebecca McKay	Richard Wishart	Shane Robins
Sherry Dangerfield	Sloan Cathcart	Steven Hills
Susan Eros	Susan Kasian	Teagen Markin
Terri Willard	Tim Byers	Tina Harding
Traci Booth	Vicki Asu	Wade Cable
Walter Tokar	Wendy Creed	

If I have missed anyone or misspelled your name, my apologies!

2014 Steering Committee Members

Name	Steering Committee Position	Representative Organization
Jim Potton	Co-Chair	GOM - retired
Glenn Peterson	Coordinator	Manitoba Forestry Association
Laureen Janusz	Test WC Co-Chair	Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship (C&WS): Fisheries Branch
John Sinclair	Orals Committee Co-Chair	University of Manitoba: Natural Resource Institute
Byrnes Benoit	Co-Chair Media and Communications	Spectra Productions
Barbara Fuller	Education Committee	Teacher - retired
Brenda Robinson	Volunteer Recruitment and Training	Manitoba C&WS: Forestry Branch - retired
Brendan Carruthers	Strategic Planning and Fundraising Committee Co-Chair	Manitoba Hydro - retired
Susan Kasian	Test Writing Committee	DFO - retired
Murray Smith & Linda Christianson	Logistics	Manitoba MAFRI & CWS - retired
Paula Grief	Regional Host Organization Representative	Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
Mae Elsinger	Theme Expert	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Wendy Creed	Forestry, Orals, Map support	Manitoba C&WS: Forestry Branch
Kelly Lewis	Test WC Co-Chair	Manitoba C&WS: Forestry Branch
Jacqueline Montieth	Education, Regional Host	Frontier School Division
Olwyn Friesen	Wildlife, Orals	Student,
Rick Wishart	Education, Wildlife	Ducks Unlimited - retired
Sloan Cathcart	Regional Host Organization Representative	Manitoba C&WS: Parks Branch
Brock Houndle	Regional Host Organization Representative	Manitoba C&WS: Parks Branch
Justin Reid	Regional Host Organization Representative	La Salle Redboine Conservation District
Steven Hills	Orals	Assiniboine Community College

MANITOBA REPRESENTATION AT NORTH AMERICAN ENVIROTHON

Unfortunately due to unfavourable logistical and budgetary situations, the 2014 North American Envirothon scheduled for the University of Georgia in July was cancelled.

The Manitoba Envirothon Steering Committee has always helped subsidize the travel cost of our winning team to represent us at the North American championship. So, as we had budgeted for the trip, and disappointingly, the team did not get to travel to the southeastern United States, the Committee decided to award each student of the winning team one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars, hopefully to be used for their future education needs.

Congratulations folks, we are sure you would have done us proud! Like always!

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

We would like to thank the 2014 Manitoba Envirothon Sponsors whose generosity helped us make this youth environmental education program a success.

LEGACY PARTNERS

The City of Brandon

The Government of Manitoba

***Aboriginal and Northern Affairs • Agriculture, Food and Rural
Development • Conservation and Water Stewardship •
Education • Innovations, Energy and Mines***

Manitoba Hydro

SUSTAINING PARTNERS

Red River Cooperative Ltd.

ENCOURAGING PARTNERS

Faculty of Science, Brandon University

FRIENDS OF THE ENVIROTHON

Jim and Myrna Potton

REGIONAL HOSTS



The Manitoba Forestry Association would like to thank the following organizations for their team sponsorship and in-kind support:

In-Kind Support

4-H Manitoba Council
A Rocha Prairie Canada
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Assiniboine Community College
Assiniboine Hills Conservation District
Brandon University
Byers Environmental Studies
Dave Wotton Consulting
Ducks Unlimited
East Interlake Conservation District
Environment Canada
Fort Whyte Alive
International Peace Garden
LaSalle Redboine Conservation District
Louisiana Pacific Ltd.
Manitoba Agriculture and Rural Initiatives
Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship

- *Fisheries*
- *Forestry*
- *Parks and and Natural Areas*
- *Water Science and Management*
 - *Wildlife*
- *Strategic Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs*
 - *Fire Program*

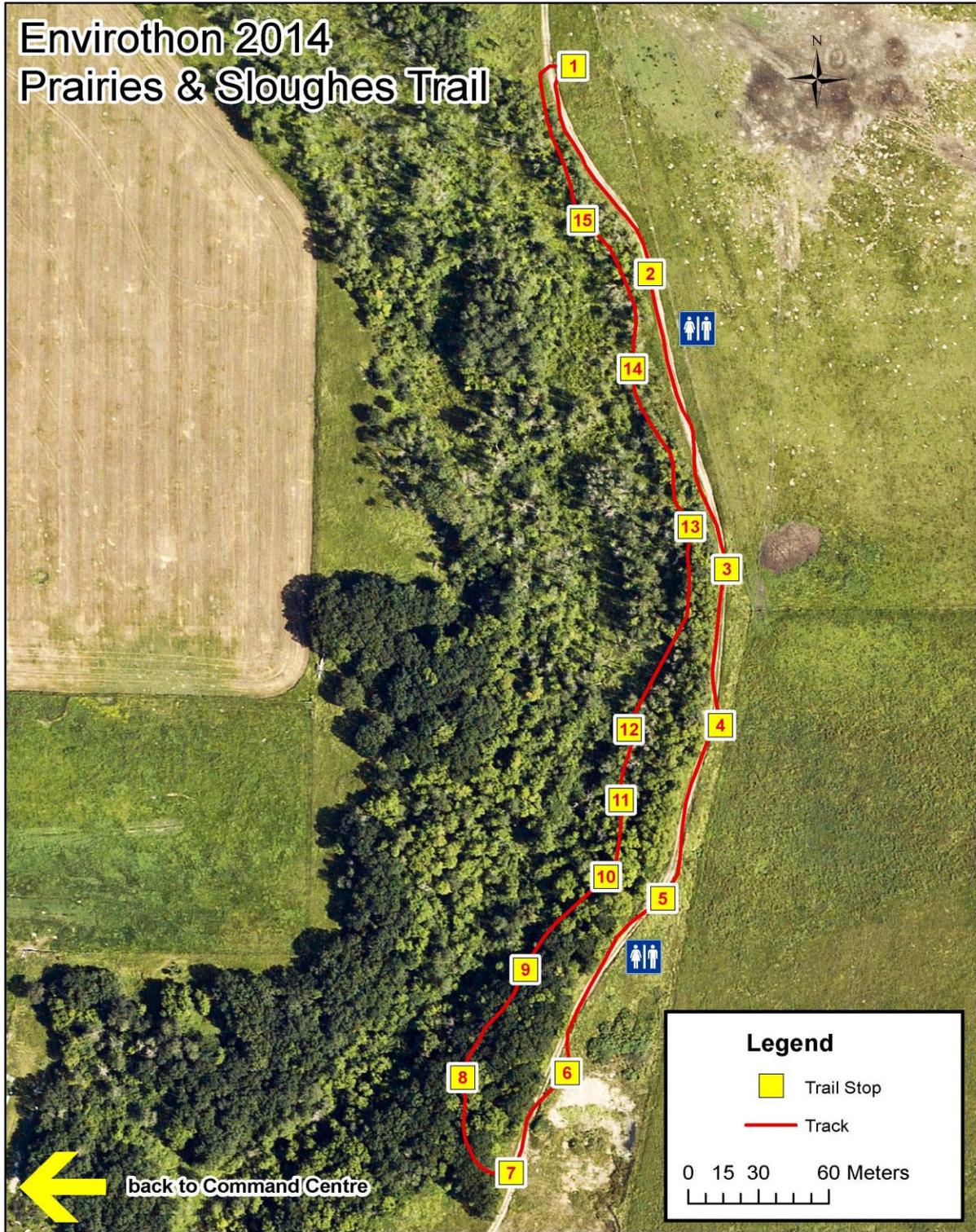
Manitoba Education
Manitoba Hydro
Manitoba Model Forest
Manitoba Museum
Maskwa Ecological Consulting Inc.
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Nature Manitoba
Natural Resource Institute-University of Manitoba
North Dakota Forest Service
Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
Parks Canada
Pineland Forest Nursery
Prairie Architects Ltd.
Prairie Spirit School Division

S. Dangerfield Interpretive Planning
Smith Poultry Consulting
Spectra-Productions Ltd.
Spruce Products Limited
Turtle Mountain Conservation District
University of Manitoba
University of Winnipeg
Youth Encouraging Sustainability

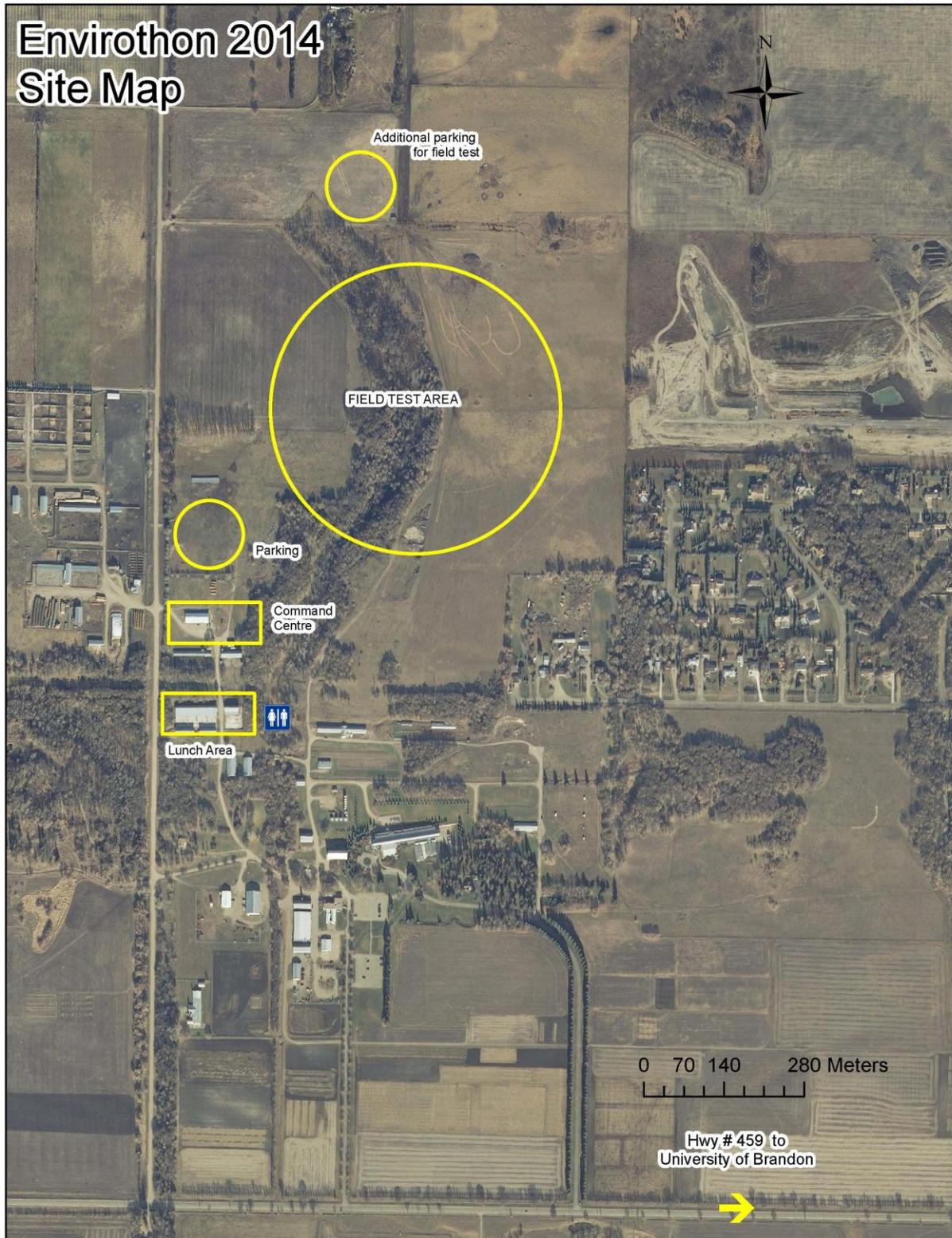
Team Sponsorship

East Interlake Conservation District
Frontier School Division
La Salle Redboine Conservation District
North-West Soil Management Association
Pembina Valley Conservation District
Prairie Rose School Division
Prairie Spirit School Division
School District of the Whiteshell
Sexton Building Group
Swan Lake Watershed Conservation District
Swan Valley Regional Secondary School

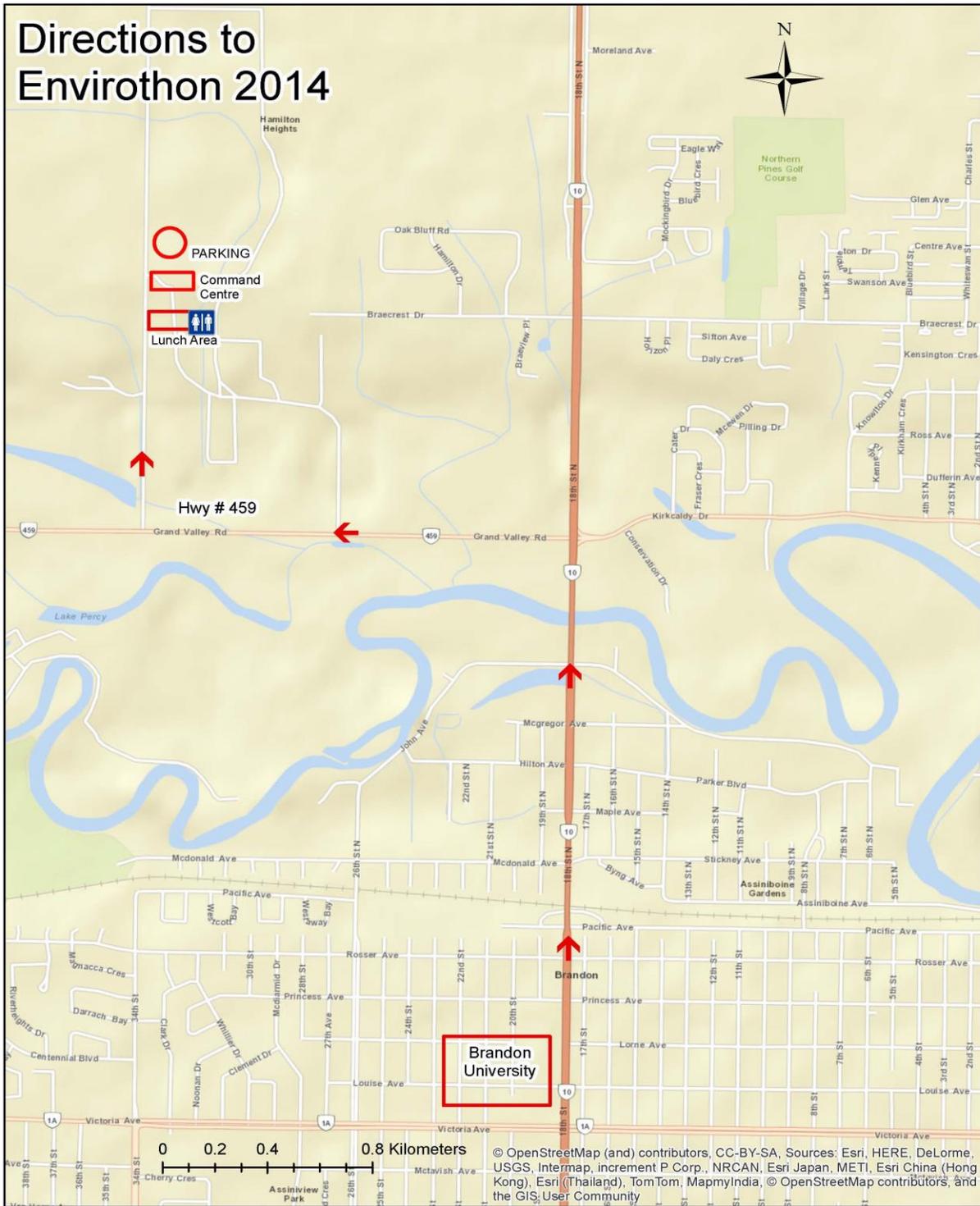
Appendix A
2014 MANITOBA ENVIROTHON FIELD TEST



Envirothon 2014 Site Map



Directions to Envirothon 2014



THANKS TO WENDY CREED OF MANITOBA CONSERVATION AND WATER STEWARDSHIP, FORESTRY BRANCH FOR THE OUTSTANDING MAP WORK!

Appendix B - REGIONAL SUMMARIES

Regional: *Eastern*

Host Organization: Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, Parks and Natural Areas Branch

Date of Competition: Wednesday, April 24, 2014

Location of Competition: Alf Hole and Rennie Community Centre, Rennie, MB.

Trainers:

Soils and Land Use: Mitch Timmerman (MAFRD)

Forestry: Bob Austman (MBMF)

Wildlife: Jennifer Bryson (C&WS)

Aquatic Ecology: Brock Houndle (C&WS)

Theme: Sloan Cathcart (C&WS)

Field Test Information: Questions generated by prov. TWC

Format of Orals Component: Students were presented the topic two weeks before the competition and prepared a posted and presentation to address the challenge

Food: Catering provided by host committee

What Worked: Well organized

Needs Improvement: Too few teams due to last minute cancellations. Need to line up more volunteers (especially trainers) earlier in advance. Brock ended up throwing Jennifer and Sloan into the mix at the last minute as trainers.

Total Cost: (3 teams) Food - \$250.00, Facilities: - \$300.00 = \$550.00

Regional: *Southwest*

Host Organization: LaSalle Redboine Conservation District

Date of Competition: Wednesday, April 23, 2014

Location of Competition: Pinkerton Lakes Wildlife Refuge Area, Treherne, MB.

Trainers:

Soils and Land Use: John Heard, Mitch Timmerman (MAFRD)

Forestry: Kyla Maslaniec (C&WS), Neil Zalluski (AHCD), Andrea Kraayeveld, Kevin Barkmann (MFA)

Wildlife: Jennifer Bryson (C&WS)

Aquatic Ecology: Devon Baete, Susan Kasian (SC)

Theme: Rejean Picard, Marla Riekman

Orals: Al Thorleifson, Laura Greenfield

Field Test Information: Questions generated by prov. TWC, additional by host committee

Format of Orals Component: Students were presented the topic two weeks before the competition and prepared a posted and presentation to address the challenge

Food: Catering provided by host committee, Fairholme Colony

What Worked: Great facility, but needed work

Needs Improvement: Too many teams in SC's opinion, unbalanced Regional #'s but was handled well by great committee. Heavy snow over winter cause sign plowing costs and fast snow melt the week before caused flooding requiring extensive trail modifications

Total Cost: (19 teams) Food - \$2,881.50, Facilities (inc. plowing) - \$3,622.00 = \$6,503.50

Regional: *Northern*

Host Organization: Frontier School Division

Date of Competition: Thursday, April 25, 2014

Location of Competition: Riverlodge Place, Thompson, MB.

Trainers:

Soils and Land Use: Jason Leavens, Mark Sopkowe (FSD)

Forestry: Glenn Peterson (MFA)

Wildlife: Olwyn Friesen (SC)

Aquatic Ecology: Lisa Tack (vol.), Darby Braconnier (Tolko)

Theme: Jacqueline Monteith (FSD)

Orals:

Field Test Information: Questions generated by prov. TWC

Format of Orals Component: Students were presented the topic two weeks before the competition and prepared a posted and presentation to address the challenge

Food: Catering provided by host committee

What Worked: As many northern schools had not been involved before, Regional competition was preceded by two days of teaching and training by subject specialists and Frontier Staff

Needs Improvement: A number of local hosts members were called to meetings so were not available to assist for event

Total Cost: (5 teams) \$2,000.00

Regionals: *Winnipeg and Western*

Host Organization: Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, DU

Date of Competition: Friday, April 25, 2014

Location of Competition: Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre, Stonewall, MB.

Trainers:

Soils and Land Use: Teresa Visser (OHM)

Forestry: Tabatha Martens (OHM)

Wildlife: Ria Semenowich (OHM)

Aquatic Ecology: Dusty Molinski (OHM)

Theme: Olwyn Friesen (SC)

Oral Judges: Audrey Boiston, Armand Belanger, Sandra Redekop (all EICD), Katrina Froese (Fort Whyte Alive), Chris Randall, Dorthea Gregoire (both SRRCD)

Field Test Information: Questions generated by prov. TWC, additional by host committee

Format of Orals Component: Students were presented the topic two weeks before the competition and prepared a posted and presentation to address the challenge

Food: Catering provided by host committee

What Worked: Organization was good, good amount of time (1.5 hrs for training)

Needs Improvement: More supplies, some training issues, wants materials earlier before event

Total Cost: (16 teams) Food - \$519.79, Facilities - \$1,520.00 = \$2,039.79

Appendix C - Program Financial Summary

Initially based on 45R / 24P Teams				Provincial Envirothon	Regional Envirothon Events	Total
INCOME						
<i>Province of Manitoba</i>						
	Manitoba Agriculture, Rural and Food Initiatives			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	Manitoba Water Stewardship			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	Manitoba Conservation			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	Manitoba Aboriginal & Northern Affairs			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	Red River Co-op				\$2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
	FEH - holdbacks - \$5.0			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	City of Brandon			\$4,250.00		\$ 4,250.00
	Youth In Philanthropy - St Mary's Academy				\$1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
<i>Corporate & Non-Government Sources</i>						
	Manitoba Hydro					\$ -
	Canon Canada T-Shirt Assistance					\$ -
	Society for Rangeland Management					\$ -
<i>Other Corporate & Non-Government Sources</i>						
	Friends of the Envirothon			\$300.00		\$ 300.00
<i>Other Revenue</i>						
	Admissions/Reg./Program Fees	(@\$600\(\$75)*		\$12,000.00	\$3,375.00	\$ 15,375.00
		est. # teams		20	45	
TOTAL INCOME				\$46,550.00	\$6,375.00	\$ 52,925.00
EXPENSES						
<i>Administration Costs</i>						
	Advertising & Promotion			\$200.00	\$500.00	\$ 700.00
	Legal Costs			\$200.00	\$200.00	\$ 400.00
	Subscriptions and Dues			\$2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00
	Meeting Expenses			\$300.00		\$ 300.00
<i>Office Supplies/Expenses</i>						
				\$700.00	\$700.00	\$ 1,400.00
<i>Professional Development</i>						
				\$100.00	\$100.00	\$ 200.00
<i>Salaries & Professional Services</i>						
	Professional Services (Northern Coordinator)					\$ -
	Theme Document Honorarium			\$1,500.00		\$ 1,500.00
<i>Program Delivery Costs</i>						
	Accomodations			\$12,061.50		\$ 12,061.50
	Awards & Recognitions			\$500.00		\$ 500.00
	Clothing Purchase			\$1,400.00	\$3,800.00	\$ 5,200.00
	Equipment Rental			\$1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
	Equipment Purchase				\$1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	Facility Rental			\$1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
	Meals & Catering			\$15,664.06		\$ 15,664.06
	Miscellaneous Expenses					\$ -
	Postage/Shipping			\$150.00	\$150.00	\$ 300.00
	Printing			\$500.00	\$500.00	\$ 1,000.00
	Program Travel					\$ -
	Accomodations				\$400.00	\$ 400.00
	Private Mileage			\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$ 1,500.00
	Meal Allowance			\$100.00	\$100.00	\$ 200.00
	Program Supplies			\$300.00	\$1,500.00	\$ 1,800.00
	Registration Costs-Seminars/Conferences			\$200.00	\$300.00	\$ 500.00
	Regional Support Payments				\$8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
TOTALS				\$ 39,375.56	\$ 17,950.00	\$ 57,325.56
<i>North American Envirothon Expenses</i>						
	Team Award \ RESP			\$5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
	Canon Membership Fees			\$350.00		\$ 350.00
	CEC Registration/Meeting/Travel					
	Team Registration					
				\$5,350.00		\$ 5,350.00
TOTAL EXPENSES				\$ 44,725.56	\$ 17,950.00	\$ 62,675.56
TOTAL INCOME				\$ 46,550.00	\$ 6,375.00	\$ 52,925.00
BALANCE				\$ 1,824.44	-\$ 11,575.00	-\$ 9,750.56

Appendix D – Orals Challenges

Manitoba Envirothon Regionals 2014

Farm Proposal

A 67 hectare parcel of agricultural land has come up for sale. It was a small part of the land holding of a local cereal and oilseed farmer who made use of 45 hectares of the land for his farming operation. In addition, three hectares of the farm land was devoted to a yard that contained machine-sheds, crop bins, fertilizer storage, fuel tanks, a water well, hydro pole for electricity, and plenty of graveled surface area to park and turn around farm equipment. Crop bins, fuel tanks and fertilizer storage were removed before the land was put up for sale. The remaining 19 hectares was too wet, steep, or forested to use for farming cereal and oilseed crops, so it was “left natural”.

Enthusiastic after learning much about sustainable agriculture and locally sourced food, you and your partners wish to purchase this land and use it to operate a farm. You and your partners have also agreed that you want to incorporate the following guiding principles into the farm operation as best as you can:

-
- Catch and Store Energy
- Minimize External/Purchased Inputs
- Use and Conserve Renewable Resources and Services
- Use and Conserve Diversity
- Integrate and Recycle
- Harvest a Surplus

As part of getting the loans from the bank to purchase the property and operate the farm, you must describe your farm proposal to the bankers, including responses to the following questions:

1. Based on the description above, draw an aerial sketch of the land, consider soil and terrain, forest and wildlands, aquatic and riparian areas, wildlife, agricultural and other land uses.
2. Who are your team members and what roles will they play in the farm? Who else will be involved in your farm operation?
3. What goods and services will you produce and where will you market them?
4. What general practices will you use to produce them that ensure economic, social and environmental sustainability? (e.g., What equipment, labour and infrastructure (i.e., buildings, fences, etc.) will you need to do this? What are your inputs and how would you use them efficiently? What are your potential wastes and how would you handle them and minimize them?)
5. What challenges will you encounter as you try to operate your farm sustainably?

Appendix D – Orals Challenges, continued.

Manitoba Envirothon 2014 Brandon University

Role Playing Exercise: Conversations about Sustainable Agriculture and Locally Grown food

There are a lot of perspectives on how growing and marketing food for the world should be done. Select **one** of the following scenarios and act out a conversation among the participants who have different viewpoints on sustainable agriculture and locally grown foods.

Select **one** scenario:

1. A father owns a family farm and has farmed in the conventional way since he apprenticed under his own father. A son/daughter of this farmer just finished an Agriculture Degree at University and has come home to participate in the family farm. In school he/she learned a lot about economic, environmental and social sustainability, and has ideas about practices that could improve the sustainability of the family's farm and appeal to those concerned about locally grown food options. Father, Mother, the son or daughter, a sibling, and a hired hand express their perspectives in a conversation about whether or not some changes are needed on the family farm.
2. A young couple from the city wants to start a farm or an agriculture-related business in a small rural community. At "coffee-row" in the local diner they get into a conversation about what they think about agriculture and its economic, social and environmental sustainability. A large-scale pulse and cereal grower, a naturalist, the local grocer, and the young couple take a variety of perspectives in this conversation.
3. At a local Manitoba wedding social five old high school friends are having a conversation about buying groceries. Each of them has a different job, income level, cultural background and values, so they express different perspectives about how their food purchasing practices are influenced by affordability, agricultural production practices, marketing, food safety, quality, community development, environmental footprint/sustainability, and personal connection.

In your conversations you will need to address the following points:

- i. The practices related to sustainable agriculture and locally grown food that each participant supports.
- ii. The benefits they cite that support their chosen practices (hint: think about possible economic, social and environmental benefits).
- iii. The reasons why some participants do not support practices that others think are viable.
- iv. The ideas/solutions that might help the group to reach some level of compromise on ways to move forward.