

Manitoba Government

NEWS RELEASE



Information Services, Room 29, Legislative Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Telephone: (204) 945-3746
Fax: (204) 945-3988

February 8, 1994

ASSINIBOINE RIVER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD ESTABLISHED

The Manitoba government has established an advisory board to address sustainable development along the Assiniboine River, Natural Resources Minister Albert Driedger has announced.

The minister said the Assiniboine River Management Advisory Board will consult with local government, interest groups, residents and government agencies concerned with the management of water along the river.

"The Assiniboine River is the only major source of water for communities south of Riding Mountain National Park and west of Winnipeg," said Driedger. "Through consultation, the board will be able to provide valuable information to help guide water management decisions affecting this vital waterway."

Through proper assessment of the present and future needs and demands for water in the Assiniboine Basin, the board will ensure that provincial water policies and the principles of sustainable development are followed, the minister added.

The board includes representation from stakeholders along the river, from the Saskatchewan border to Winnipeg. The chair of the board is Tim Ball, a climatologist at the University of Manitoba.

The directors are:

Ian MacKenzie

Gene Nerbus
Albert Nabe

City of Portage la Prairie

Shellmouth-Assiniboine Valley
Economic Development Group

- more -

Rod McLaren	Association of Irrigators
Mike Shkolny	City of Winnipeg
Joe Omichinski	Central Plains Regional Development Corporation Inc.
Ted Snure	City of Brandon
Ted Poyser	Conservation Districts Commission
Larry Walker	Union of Manitoba Municipalities
Alison Elliott	Manitoba Wilderness Caucus
Calvin Pompana	Sioux Valley Band
Roy Stevenson	Town of Rivers

The Pembina Valley Water Co-op will have observer status on the board and a technical advisory committee will be formed to assist the board on an "as required" basis.

"The board will work together with Water Resources managers, existing and potential water users, interest groups and various government agencies as a team to identify and resolve future water management issues on the river," Driedger said.