

PROCEEDINGS from the

**Virден and Area
Community Workshop
On Climate Change**



**Tuesday, November 18, 2003
Elks Lodge, Virден**

Climate Change. Are you doing *your bit?*

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I. Notes from Roundtable

Question 1: What is your interest in climate change?

Question 2: What question do you want answered over the course of the day?

- Climate Change is important because if we can decrease energy conservation, it will improve conditions for future generations.
- It is up to municipal bodies to take action.
- Very interested in climate change as an issue.
- Came to learn and see and find out about climate change
- Organization looks at options in alternate fuels, take part in manning locally opportunities in green economy.
- Interested in what we can do to help out with decreasing emissions.
- Interested in climate change, Bioterre, and anaerobic digestors.
- Interested in anaerobic digestors and biogas facilities.
- I came to gather information to pass on to students.
- We produce oil: we try to protect people and environment, work within environmental parameters.
- Here to see workshop again. I was very impressed with the workshop in Brandon. Positive and Upbeat. We are a *Partners for Climate Protection* community, we put up signs, and we are in compendium.
- Here to learn, represent agriculture.



Virден workshop participants gather information on Manitoba climate change emissions and impacts, energy efficiency, municipal funding opportunities and much more.



- I am from Deloraine, former TMCD. Interested in changes to landscape make as farmers, impacts of CC, mitigation options.
- To collect information, concerned about legacy to kids, what they will have to clean up.
- I am here to learn about programs to bring back to my municipal corporation, to learn about grants and funding.
- I am with the Hamiota Conservation authority, also UARCD board, looking for information for decision-making. Funding is important as well.
- I am educated on climate change, environmental problems, and recycling. I know it can be difficult to educate people! Happy to be at the workshop. Looking forward to learning more, passing it on.
- Will there be impacts of climate change on Glenwood? Are there economic opportunities? What will Kyoto mean? Revenue streams for rural municipalities? What about our grandchildren – the planet we will leave behind for them.
- To learn and pass on information to the public and Water Works staff.
- To learn concerns about diesel fuel in school buses, fuels in gas furnaces, in schools, reducing emissions.
- Cost implications on rate-payers and collect information on alternate energy sources.



Workshop participants take the opportunity to network over breakfast, compliments of Climate Change Connection.

II. Notes from Brainstorming Session on Climate-Friendly Living

Question 1: What is your reaction to this information? Are you surprised? What did you find most interesting?

- Biodiesel information. The school division has 40 diesel school buses that could run on biodiesel.
- Actually, the historical information on carbon dioxide emissions surprised me. The persistence of carbon dioxide from the industrial revolution.
- The fact that halocarbons take so long to break down in the atmosphere.
- The discussion on paper recycling. Shred it for bedding, packing, BUT do not shred for recycling
- What about airline GHG reductions?

Question 2: Where do your personal GHG emissions come from?

- Many of us have at least two vehicles and travel with one person per vehicle. And the 10-15 minute warm up! Idling!
- I could recycle more and compost.
- I have really crappy windows.
- We have an old freezer, very energy inefficient.

Question 3: How could you emit fewer GHG's from your lifestyle?

- Walk more.
- Encourage kids to avoid car as #1 transportation.
- Reduce chemicals on lawns.
- Improve lawnmower/small engine technology.
- Look at drought-resistant plants (Dutch Clover)
- Rain barrels and /or composters
- Programmable thermostats.
- Home energy assessment, apply for incentive (\$\$!).



Ray Cochrane from Virden Collegiate and Kathy Harvey from Chevron Canada Resources discuss their reaction to the climate change information module.

III. Questions and Comments, “Making Your Building Power Smart”

Q. What are emissions reduction covenants for industry? (NRCan)

A. Industry has expressed interest in covenants as an emission reduction approach that may lend itself more readily to dealing with individual sector or company circumstances than a purely regulatory approach.

A covenant is a negotiated agreement varying the requirements set out in regulations. It will allow government and industry to more precisely identify specific obligations and activities that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Covenants can take into account various factors affecting an individual sector or company, such as competitiveness, technological investments and any other initiatives to reduce emissions, as well as partnership activities. Also, a key advantage of a covenant system is that it will allow the backstop regulations to be kept relatively simple.¹



**Gerry Nadon, the Manitoba Hydro
Energy Services Coordinator for the Virden area.**

Q. What are chillers?

A. Chillers cool water that is used by space cooling equipment to remove heat from commercial building spaces. Though they are an effective method for keeping a building comfortable, chillers also typically consume more electricity than any other single device in a large commercial building. And now, with environmental legislation governing the use of ozone depleting substances, many users are faced with replacing their chillers in the near future and are investigating new refrigerant choices.

¹ NRCan. Achieving Greenhouse Gas Reductions in Industry. Downloaded and adapted February, 2004: www.nrcan-rncan.gc.ca/lfe-ggef/English/reductions_en.htm#cov

Manitoba Hydro's new Power Smart Chiller Program provides customers with technical guidance that will maximize the efficiency, performance and comfort of their buildings. In addition, financial incentives are offered to assist customers with the incremental cost of energy efficiency upgrades. Paying a little more upfront for even moderate improvements in efficiency can yield substantial energy savings and attractive paybacks.²

Q. Do these incentive programs apply to agricultural buildings?

A. Yes. In fact, the program treats farms like businesses so farmers can retrofit outbuildings such as machine sheds and workshops.

Q. Are there incentive programs available for replacing or upgrading compressors in skating rinks?

A. Manitoba Hydro offers financial assistance and technical guidance to commercial customers to install energy efficient technologies in commercial new construction and renovation projects. This includes programs for rinks and arenas. Program highlights include Off-the-Shelf Measures (barrier systems, energy efficient windows, high efficiency air conditioners and parking lots controllers) and Custom Measures (efficient systems for heating and cooling, ventilation, refrigeration and the building envelope), which encourage the customer to seek innovative, energy efficient solutions for the building. Custom projects require an engineer's study, which Manitoba Hydro subsidizes by 50%, up to \$10,000. For more information about programs for rinks and arenas, contact your Manitoba Hydro representative and ask for the "Guidelines for Operators of Manitoba's Rinks and Arenas"³.



Workshop participants take in the Manitoba Hydro presentation "Making Your Building Power Smart".

² Manitoba Hydro. Power Smart for Business. Chiller Program. Downloaded and adapted February, 2004: www.hydro.mb.ca/saving_with_ps/psmart_chiller.shtml

³ Manitoba Hydro. 2003. Saving Money Through Energy Efficiency: Guidelines for Operators of Manitoba's Rinks and Arenas.

IV. Questions and Comments, “Earth Energy Heating/Cooling Systems”

Q. Are there any other up and coming technologies and projects?

A. *Anaerobic digestors for hog barns are being actively tested in Manitoba. The manure is held in covered tanks/lagoons. The methane is collected and used to power a generator. The power is sufficient to run a typical family farming operation. An excess of gas is often produced, and has to be flared. Wind power is also in development. A windfarm is currently being planned for St. Leon – the largest in Canada when finished. It will supplement the hydroelectric stations. There is also an entirely geothermal subdivision being planned in Winnipeg.*

Q. Is there any maintenance necessary for the geothermal ground pipes? What about corrosion?

A. *Closed loop systems require very little maintenance. They are filled with an antifreeze fluid that is environmentally benign if a leak should occur. Open loop systems require more attention as they circulate groundwater. Mineral deposition can be a problem with this type of system. Closed loop systems are typically installed in Manitoba.*

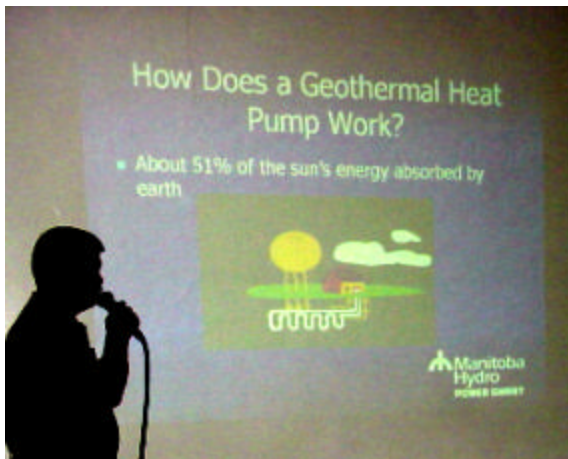
Q. I had to replace a compressor for \$4,000.00. Is this normal?

A. *You should have gotten more mileage out of your pump! 25 years. You should not have had to replace your compressor. That is very unusual.*

- *In 1985, we installed geothermal heat pump system in our home. There is a maintenance schedule. It has paid for itself already. It was well worth the eight thousand dollars. I highly recommend a heat pump. Cool in the summer, too.*

Q. How deep do you have to bury the piping?

A. *Horizontally, four to six feet deep, below the frost line. This requires a larger surface area. Vertical piping – necessary in smaller lots – must be sunk 80 feet deep and requires heavy drilling equipment for excavation.*



Gerry Nadon explains the finer points of geothermal heating and cooling systems at Virden and Area Community Workshop on Climate Change.

V. Notes from Facilitated Discussion of Community Needs and Interests

Question 1: Do you feel that climate change is important issue for your sector?

- Yes, climate change is important to agriculture. I think that households need to rethink all activities. Climate change will clearly impact us the most. We have a long way to go though!
- Yes it is important to agriculture. It's discouraging that we have increased canola production, but no access to biodiesel. I would like to see quicker development in that area with Manitoba agricultural products.
- I don't like the conservation impacts of climate change. It is very dry here; there are already water quality and quantity issues. The drainage is brutal – the land has no retaining capacity. It seems we spend 2 weeks of the year trying to clear water from the land, and 52 weeks trying to get it back.
- I think people are not thinking far enough ahead. I just hope my family farms.
- I hope more people will farm, but we need holistic management groups. Right now, I am deficit farming in Deloraine. I am spending 9 calories of energy to produce 1 calorie of food. We have to work with nature. We're not thinking of the future.
- Some good points were raised from the presentations and discussions. I have worked all over Manitoba and South America – there is waste everywhere. I have been involved in mining for 25 years - very wasteful! It's going to take a long time to change these bad habits.
- I see value in this discussion: we are attempting to address this issue, and I would like to learn more on energy management in facilities - I think it will be a difficult sell, but I think increased awareness is on the rise. Hey, I took my license off my truck and started walking.

Question 2: What is your reaction to the GHG reduction/energy efficiency strategies you have heard about today? Could you apply them to your sector?

- I agree with everyone, energy waste is important. It would be easy to address a lot of these issues with retrofits and small changes.
- From the farming view, the loss of crops, the disease – it would cost a lot to correct or deal with these things after the fact. We should incur costs now to protect future resources. I also like the anaerobic digestors, taking waste to make energy is very interesting.
- Biodiesel is most interesting for me.
- No one point really stood out for me, it all was good. The whole public awareness situation, like the school discussion. Awareness at the municipal level is important. We should be setting examples to the general population through actions and services offered.
- I've received positive phone calls about the anti-idling signs. They have been noticed, and hopefully they will help.



- I think the awareness is there, and we need more actions available at individual level (tips).
- The diesel trucks are very noticeable when they idle.
- No one thing stood out for me. I knew a lot, and this reinforces it. However, that 56% of GHG emissions are under municipal control was shocking.

Question 3: For your area, who could you convince to take action?

- The CAO? Council, convince them.
- I think farmers are already functioning at the bottom line, already squeezed –they would be the toughest sell of all.
- I think the economists.
- Marginal farmers cannot make these changes. They are already struggling.



Jeff McConnell, Councillor for the Town of Virden, and Tiffany Burgess, Manager of the Virden-Wallace Community Development Corporation, discuss GHG reduction strategies for the Virden area.

Question 4: What do you need to change?

- All of the above! Money, people, effort!
- We need to do the same thing as the Manitoba government – to teach from Kindergarten onward. Get it in schools at early level, work through curriculum to make it a complete part of education. We're up against apathy in older people, must start at an early age
- The issue of asthma very important, I see as air quality issue indoors and outdoors.
- Shuttle systems to the collegiate (17 in shuttle system in Virden: 15 minutes)
- Biodiesel in fleets. We have a fleet of school buses that could run on biodiesel.
- Education is one challenge, but what are activities of major employers, what are their impacts?

- For farmers in my RM, things are tight. I think offering practical, energy-efficient technologies like biodiesel, ethanol, and biodigestors needs attention and funds.
- For intensive livestock operations for example, digestors would take care of methane emissions.
- The federal government has started to get money flowing quickly.

Question 5: Are these incentive programs being well received? Are people making use of them? *(from the audience, addressed to Gerry Nadon, Manitoba Hydro)*

A. *I have been pleasantly surprised by general knowledge and questions from audiences. However, I think there could be greater uptake on these programs. People need to be educated about them, and we appreciate the opportunity to spread the word through these workshops. Energy efficiency is always offered, but we also need to give information on emissions benefits.*

- Anaerobic digestors seem expensive to install, but if it cleans up the air and water quality, payback even bigger than cheap energy – we need larger picture. The incentives help, but it will take education.
- I think we need education in the schools, starting with young kids, every level, then kids could come home and educate me. It is just like the seatbelt issue.
- My company is concerned and we have talked to hydro about generators. We have a few routes we can go, cleaner options. But it has to complement the way to we do business; we are worried looking at efficiency.
- My sector is economic development and community. We look at environment, social and economic, needs balance between these three. We could get industry and businesses to the table, but it is only one third of what we do. One thing I can immediately think of for the conservation of energy: shop locally -- that money (including energy to leave and come back) leaves the community
- My personal habits changed after attending the Brandon workshop. I have reduced idling. It makes make an economic difference. We received 25 free signs for Virden. I was refreshed by CCC's thoughts, and I am happy they are here, spending time and money in our community. I always look for opportunity, and there is the bottom line aspect to these programs that is worthy.
- I was very impressed by impact of climate change on our environment. If the just 10% of the gun control money was spent on this issue, what a difference it would make! If people knew the situation they would buy in. You need proper incentives -- if you want to reduce fossil fuel use, increase geothermal use, need even lower interest rates.
- We've changed the rink over to natural gas.



VI. Break-Out Group Work

Question 1: What actions would you and your neighbors need to undertake to achieve this? How will you become more sustainable and climate friendly?

Group 1

- Beautiful
- Active
- Clean air
- Economic opportunities
- Affordable housing
- Excellent health care
- Variety of services -- shopping, recreational
- Community support
- Great education system
- Low utility rates – gas, electric, etc.
- Great water supply
- AAA: Aggressive Agricultural Area
- Arts and cultural facilities
- Lots of wildlife
- Winter activities
- Seniors/personal care homes
- Excellent EMS
- Various daycare centers



Participants generate ideas to achieve a more climate-friendly Virden and area.

Group 2

- Healthy and Caring
- Considerate of needs of all and all points of view
- Positive growth: population and industry
- Services to meet all needs: youth, seniors, recreation, health, businesses



- Progressive government: municipal, administrative, school division, elected
- Healthy partnerships: planning, chamber, conservation district, economic development
- Good education services
- Receptive to new ideas
- Environmental stewards
- Beautiful
- Friendly
- Active
- Good emergency services
- Opportunities exist
- Great community spirit!

Group 3

- Open to new ideas
- Proactive
- Attractive
- Educated: adult and K-12
- Progressive
- Caring: service clubs, health care, churches
- Open for business: sustainable development
- Safe environment
- Diverse
- Regional service hub (Virden) with healthy spokes
- Recreation
- Co-operation between neighboring communities
- Good transport
- Sustainable, clean, natural resources: water and air
- Employment options



Group 4 posts their vision for a more sustainable, climate-friendly Virden and area.

Group 4

- Friendly and receptive
- Growing
- Good infrastructure
 - schools, hospitals
 - recreational facilities and services
 - greenspace and parks
 - waste disposal and recycling
- Ample housing: reasonable taxation
- Employment opportunities

Question 2: How would you want your community to be described to potential new residents (beautiful, active, or ...)?

Group 1

- Community cooperation and involvement. Waste management, recycling, Communities in Bloom
- “Lead by Example” for municipality
- Promote programs like “no idling”
- Economic development -- promote area to business who build/manufacture energy efficiency
- Provide pre-service lot with ground loops included in costs, owner pays for geothermal unit
- Promote ongoing “Health Communities” programs. Focus on clean air.
- Lobby the Dept. of Education to make “Climate Change” part of the curriculum



A representative from Group 2 reports back to the rest of the workshop participants.

Group 2

- Education and promotion of environmental program in schools
- Recycling programs
- Rule by example



- Market and advertise
- Promote physical activity
- Update facilities for recreation, water/sewage, roads and waste management
- New facilities (trails)
- Encourage involvement: process improvement and anti-idling, Communities in Bloom and education
- Commit to environmental assessment
- Baby steps, like turning off the town/R.M. trucks
- Inter-governmental cooperation- planning, partnerships, fireboards, conservation districts
- Economic incentives and penalties, like bag limits
- Training for administrative staff, elective officials, public

Group 3

- Public forum opportunities
- Publicity drives (local and other)
- Volunteer Management!
- Sustainable infrastructure
- Community economic development vision
- In-sync policies
- Communication between all stakeholders
- Municipalities lead the way!

Group 4

- Local economic development (environmentally friendly) and round-table discussions
- Address infrastructure upgrades and stress environmental and economics issues (GHG's)
- Focus on sustainability and looking to the future
- Use of volunteers
- Ongoing communication through municipal mailings and newsletters



VII. Check Out Roundtable

- I hope to see -- from thoughts and group work -- transition into community activity and action plans.
- Thank you, well done, good presentation.
- Thank you, very informative, should be in AMM meeting presenting.
- Thank you, sped through it quite quickly. The day went fast.
- Thank you, excellent presentation and thanks for coming to Virden.
- Great! I am going to talk to the district office
- Thank you, very good day. No one nodded off!
- Thank you, good use of my time, enjoyed sharing thoughts and hearing others.
- Question -- is there a formula for communities to measure reduction? A formula for each community to compare to others?
- Glad, enjoyable day. Will you have a booth at AMM?



VIII. Workshop Participants

Baxter, Norm	Town Superintendent, <i>Town of Virden</i>
Burgess, Tiffany	Manager, <i>Virden-Wallace Community Development Corporation</i>
Chacun, Maxine	Councillor, <i>Town of Virden</i>
Cochrane, Ray	Science Teacher, <i>Virden Collegiate (AM)</i>
Combs, Murray	Provincial Appointee, <i>Turtle Mountain Conservation District</i>
Didluck, Bob	Councillor, <i>Town of Virden</i>
Findlay, Robert	Supervisor of Operations, <i>Fort La Bosse School Division</i>
Harvey, Kathy	Reclamation, <i>Chevron Canada Resources (AM)</i>
Henry, Derald	Councillor, <i>RM of Archie</i>
Johnson, Rob	Councillor, <i>Town of Hamiota</i>
Judd, Tom	Councillor, <i>RM of Archie</i>
Lacey, Brent	Production Foreman, <i>EOG Resources Canada</i>
Lee, Ralph	Councillor, <i>Town of Hamiota</i>
Mazier, Dan	Director, District 7; <i>KAP</i>
McConnell, Jeff	Councillor, <i>Town of Virden</i>
Nadon, Gerry	Energy Services coordinator, <i>Manitoba Hydro</i>
Robertson, Allan	Mayor, <i>Town of Hamiota</i>
Sanderson, Sandy	Reeve, <i>RM of Glenwood</i>
Wadham, Lil	Honoured Royal Lady, <i>Virden Elks (AM)</i>
Weidenhamer, Derek	Councillor, <i>RM of Winchester</i>



IX. Community Workshop Evaluation Summary

NOTE:

Rating System is out of 5 points. 5 representing “most satisfactory” or “strongest agreement”.

1.0 Organization and Design	Score
Overall quality	4.27
The programme – flow of activities	4.33
Workshop documents	4.27
Location and facilities	4.27
Meals and refreshments	4.47

Comments:

- Haven’t reviewed docs, but look good. Facilities loud/not good for acoustics.
- Cold.

2.0 Presentations	Score
I could hear clearly	4.80
I could see clearly	4.73
Level of comprehension (minimal jargon, explained theories, etc.)	4.70
I could proceed with group work with the information given	4.53

2.1 Basics of Climate Change, <i>Rachel Van Caesele</i>	Score
Provided me with a basic understanding of CC	4.73
Understand impacts of CC	4.47
Understand link between lifestyle, GHG’s and CC	4.33
The presenter was dynamic and informative	4.50

Comments:

- Liked the womb joke.
- A good presentation – easy to listen to.
- Great, enjoyed the day -- those who were unable to come missed out!
- Very good.

2.2 Making Your Building Power Smart/Earth Energy Systems, <i>Marshall Hanke</i>	Score
I have ideas on how to reduce business GHG’s.	4.21
I feel well informed about earth energy systems.	3.86
I understand how to access the incentive programs	3.71
The presenter was dynamic and informative	3.93



Comments:

- Was not as informed about some information as he could have been – I’ll go to the website.
- Well done, lots of information.

2.3 Greening Municipal Operations, Jennifer Duggan	Score
Understand role of municipalities in CC	4.40
Understand link between reducing GHG’s and economic savings	4.60
Ideas for reducing GHG’s in my community from case studies	4.13
The presenter was dynamic and informative	4.40

Comments:

- Good again – am I sucking up?
- A good presentation – case studies help with ideas.
- These were big cities – maybe smaller urban/rural municipalities would be better (if any available).

3.0 Facilitated discussion	Score
Ideas for educating my network about CC and need for action	3.87
Identify GHG reduction opp’s in my community	3.87
Additional reduction opp’s (funding, networks, etc.)	4.00
Identify steps for an action plan	3.87

Comments:

- Enjoyed the input from others. Never buy the “preaching to the choir” argument.
- No computer.

4.0 Feedback*1. What was the most useful part of the workshop?*

- A better understanding of the amount of GHG that municipalities can have an effect on.
- Interesting to hear other ideas.
- General overview of the problem.
- Further information.
- I found the whole workshop really interesting and educational!
- Round table discussion (group as a whole).
- Info on other communities and experiences.
- The whole picture “Manitoba” perspective.
- The basic info at beginning was important.
- Group discussions, Hydro initiatives.
- Table discussions.

2. What was the least useful part of the workshop?

- It was mostly all useful.
- Large round table discussion.
- They were all good.

3. *What suggestions do you have to improve format and/or content at subsequent workshops?*

- Bring more individuals into the debate.
- None.
- More open discussions.
- More talk about digestors.

4. *Other comments.*

- What about trees? Can you include some indication as to how they help trap carbon from the air? Thanks for coming to Viriden. You are welcome back to help us more at the local level if you have the programs!
- A very good day!
- Learned lots and had a good day. Ladies did a very good job! Thanks.
- Thank you.
- Would be useful to more people -- are elected officials and community champions.
- Climate change activities need to be promoted as economic or cost-saving opportunities – too many people think with their wallet.



X. Acknowledgements

The Climate Change Connection would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their assistance in making the *Virden and Area Community Workshop on Climate Change* a success.

Jeff McConnell, Councillor for the Town of Virden, who invited us to his community after attending the Brandon workshop. Virden is one of four *Partners for Climate Protection* communities in Manitoba. They are taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and plan a more climate-friendly, sustainable future. There are already 20 “Healthy Communities Don’t Idle” signs in Virden!

All our participants, who took time out from their busy schedules to learn about climate change, listen to their fellow community members, and find solutions for a healthier, more sustainable Virden.

All presentations are provided in PDF format for download under Manitobans and Climate Change on www.climatechangeconnection.org. For copies of the handouts on municipal GHG-reduction option please visit the Emissions and Impacts section of the web site. Hard copies can be mailed out upon request to climate.connection@mts.net or (204) 943-4836.

The workshop programme follows.

Climate Change Connection

Jennifer Duggan, *Manager*
Rachel Van Caesele, *PEO Coordinator*
2-70 Albert Street
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1E7
Tel, Jennifer: (204) 943-4836
Tel, Rachel: (204) 786-9963
Fax: (204) 989-8476



XI. Workshop Programme

VIRDEN & AREA COMMUNITY WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Tuesday, November 18, 2003.
Elks Lodge, 227- 3rd Avenue South

Continental breakfast is provided.

9:00 – 9:15 WELCOME from Climate Change Connection

1. Explanation of logistics of programme. Pointing out of scribe and how to order follow-up proceedings.
- Jennifer Duggan, Manager
2. Who is Climate Change Connection? Brief description of mandate, information tools and services, & funding partners.
Presenter: Rachel Van Caesele, PEO Coordinator

9:15 – 10:00 ROUNDTABLE

Allows everyone present to identify themselves and share:

1. Their interest in climate change
2. A question they want an answer to over the course of the day
3. Identify resources available locally
4. Share activities from within the sector they are representing.

10:00 – 10:30 PUBLIC EDUCATION MODULE: Part One

BASICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE- What is climate change? What are the greenhouse gases (GHGs)? The enhanced greenhouse effect? How are human activities involved? What are the potential impacts? Where does Canada fit in internationally?.

Presenter: Rachel Van Caesele

10:30 – 10:45 BREAK

10:45 – 11:15 PUBLIC EDUCATION MODULE: Part Two

CLIMATE-FRIENDLY LIVING- How can we take action and live a more climate-friendly lifestyle? Discussion of Climate Champion Pledge. Brainstorming session with participants.

Presenter: Rachel Van Caesele

11:15 – 12:15 MAKING YOUR BUILDING POWER SMART

Manitoba Hydro's *Power Smart for Business* incentive programs for lighting, envelope and heating/cooling technologies maximize the performance, comfort and visual appeal of your facilities. Learn how to use Power Smart to significantly reduce your organization's greenhouse gas impact. Learn how you can save money plus make an important savings on your “carbon budget”.

Presenter: Gerry Nadon, Energy Services Coordinator



12:15 – 12:30 EARTH ENERGY HEAT/COOLING SYSTEMS

Gain an introduction to a low-GHG technology to heat and cool your homes/offices. Learn about the incentive programs.

Presenter: Gerry Nadon

12:30 – 1:30 LUNCH (provided), displays and informal networking

Please bring local information you wish to share.

1:30 – 2:15 GREENING MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

Up to 50% of emissions in any given locale are directly or indirectly under the influence of the municipal government. Many opportunities exist for municipal councils to reduce GHGs and provide their residents with cleaner air and healthier communities, while saving money! Success stories from other jurisdictions across North America will be shared. *Thanks to the Partners for Climate Protection Program, Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Energy Services, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives for providing content.*

Presenter: Jennifer Duggan

2:15 – 4:20 FACILITATED DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY NEEDS & INTERESTS

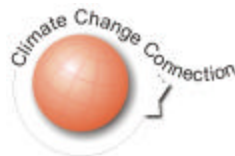
Facilitator will draw out participants' ideas on:

1. How to further educate their sectors and neighbours about climate change and the need for action,
2. What GHG reduction opportunities exist in Virden and area,
3. What the community would need/want in order to participate in outside-supported programs, or to generate locally-led programs
4. Envisioning what a climate-friendly sustainable Virden area would look like.

3:00 – 3:15 BREAK & filling out of evaluation and request forms.

Break-out groups for flip charting responses and feedback into larger session. Action planning for next steps. Final summary comments.

4:20 – 4:30 THANK YOU from Climate Change Connection & Power Smart



Climate Change Connection aims to build awareness and to empower Manitobans to take action to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, both individually and as a community.

GHG emission reductions achieved by Manitobans will help Canada to meet targets established by the Kyoto Protocol.

The Connection will work to assist Manitobans make the changes necessary to live more sustainable and climate-friendly lifestyles.

Working to reduce GHG emissions enables us to take responsibility for our part in a changing global climate.