

“Inspiring Change” focus of Annual Manitoba Conservation Districts Conference
Conference to highlight sustainability for provinces water, soil resources and management practices

Brandon, Man, – Organizers are eagerly looking forward to the 36th Annual Manitoba Conservation Districts Association Conservation Conference, *Inspiring Change*, that will be held in Brandon December 12 -14, 2011 at the Keystone Centre.

“The conference provides us with an opportunity to look at current management practices within our local landscapes and the impacts of these practices on our watersheds,” says Sharla Boychuk, Executive Director of Manitoba Conservation Districts Association (MCDA), a non-profit organization representing the 18 Conservation Districts across the province. “The annual conference is an educational and networking event for those currently involved in or with a general interest in watershed management, sustainable agriculture and the quality of our water resources.”

The sustainability movement has gained momentum and is increasingly supported by research, economics and land practices. As it has evolved, sustainability on the landscape has spawned a number of advocates and promoters. To speak to this MCDA has lined up two of the world’s foremost key note speakers on topic.

“We are pleased to have arranged for Joel Salatin, a Virginia farmer specializing in local food systems and small scale agriculture, and Bruce Vincent, a Montana farmer who brings his experiences in sustainable communities, to address our conference delegates,” says Boychuk. “In addition, we will also have speakers from Manitoba Water Stewardship, Manitoba Water Council, Manitoba Health, Lake Friendly Initiatives and Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation. We believe the quality of our speakers will be outstanding and of great interest to all that attend.”

In addition to the keynote and guest speakers, the conference features a tradeshow exhibit, conservation awards reception, youth environmental education event and a banquet. Throughout the years this conference has grown to become the largest annual conservation conference in Manitoba. The event is open to all and features challenges, initiatives, partnerships and planning in our watershed management and future landscapes. Detailed agenda and registration information is available online at www.mcda.ca.

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