

Manitoba Government **NEWS RELEASE**



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACHIEVEMENTS TO BE HONORED

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Seven Awards of Excellence to be Presented By Round Table on Environment and Economy

Six organizations and one individual will be honored this evening with the Sustainable Development Award of Excellence by the Manitoba Round Table on Environment and Economy.

Premier Gary Filmon, chair of the round table, will present the following awards in seven categories:

- Lloyd McGinnis, chair of the International Institute of Sustainable Development (Individual and Household);
- Meadow Materials Silicon Plant Project (Research and Development);
- the Baxter Corporation (Large Business);
- the Natural Resources Institute of the University of Manitoba (Education);
- the Manitoba/North Dakota Zero Tillage Farmers Association (Non-government Organization);
- Solar Solutions (Small Business); and
- the City of Winnipeg's Leaf It With Us Program (Public Sector).

"These award winners represent outstanding achievement in the area of sustainable development and on behalf of the Manitoba Round Table. I congratulate them on their efforts," said Filmon. "There is much work to be done in bringing economic growth that is environmentally sustainable to reality and we are pleased to see that so many individuals and organizations are taking up the challenge."

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The Sustainable Development Award of Excellence may be given for projects or services that employ the principles of sustainable development. Projects must be economically viable, have social and educational value and must show measurable improvement over existing or traditional practices.

Nominees are reviewed by an independent non-government evaluation committee representative of business, academic, native and consumer communities. The committee recommends finalists to the round table who then select the winners.

A total of 42 candidates were nominated in all seven categories. All nominees will be presented with a Certificate of Recognition.

Contact: Brigitte Sandron, 945-0594

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ATTACHED.

1993 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE WINNERS

MEADOW MATERIALS SILICON PLANT PROJECT (Research and Development Category)

- A collaborative effort of Dow Corning Silicon Energy Systems and UMA Engineering Limited of Winnipeg.
- The project resulted in the development and implementation of an innovative closed furnace technology for the production of silicon which is less energy intensive and less polluting than existing technology.
- Project will help meet the growing world demand for silicon with this new, low-cost production technology.

Contact: Ken Drysdale, UMA Engineering, 284-0580

BAXTER CORPORATION (Large Business Category)

- Medical products company based in Deerfield, Illinois, with a distribution centre based in Winnipeg.
- Recognized internationally for leadership in incorporating environmental concerns into its operation.
- Winnipeg facility is recognized as the environmental leader of the company's Canadian division and has received the 1993 Region of Peel Award of Merit for Outstanding Environmental Initiative and the Environment Canada 1993 Environmental Achievement Award.
- To date, the Winnipeg facility has achieved waste and packaging reductions of 90 per cent, far exceeding the regulatory targets set by the Waste Reductions Act and the National Packaging Protocol.

Contact: Ken Primeau, Baxter Corporation, 885-6606 ext. 255

NATURAL RESOURCES INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA (Education Category)

- Established by the Ford Foundation at the University of Manitoba in 1968.
- A national leader in sustainable development research and development.
- Provides education to future professionals and policy makers in sustainable resource development.

Contact: Professor Thomas Henley, U of M, 474-8373

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THE MANITOBA/NORTH DAKOTA ZERO TILLAGE FARMERS ASSOCIATION
(Non-government Organization Category)

- Zero tillage is an economically viable, erosion proof production system in which crops are planted directly into the previous year's stubble with minimum soil disturbance.
- The association developed an education program that included a manual outlining the advantages of zero tillage farming. Ten thousand copies of the manual were distributed in North Dakota and Manitoba, however, it has attracted such widespread interest across the Canadian Prairies and the Northwestern United States that the manual is now in its third printing with over 70,000 copies in distribution.
- The success of the manual demonstrates a demand for information that will improve farm operations to reflect current economic, social and resource issues.

Contact: Greg Fotheringham, 1-877-3340

SOLAR SOLUTIONS
(Small Business Category)

- Founded in 1991. Designs, manufactures and installs renewable alternative energy systems such as photovoltaic (solar) and wind generators and a full line of energy conservation devices.
- Photovoltaic are a sustainable approach to energy production. They eliminate the need to clear-cut for power lines and significantly reduce carbon dioxide emissions by limiting the need for generators.
- Company is responsible for setting up Manitoba's only wind generator utility interface at the Fort Whyte Centre. The power generated at this location is sold back to Manitoba Hydro.
- Produces energy efficient lights, water conservation devices, composting toilets and energy efficient household appliances.

Contact: Tim Yusishen, Solar Solutions, 986-4954

CITY OF WINNIPEG "LEAF IT WITH US" PROGRAM
(Public Sector Category)

- A successful yard waste composting program created in 1991 as part of the City of Winnipeg's commitment to the provincial Waste Minimization and Recycling Action Plan.

Contact: Shelley Downnik, City of Winnipeg, 986-4954

MR. LLOYD MCGINNIS

(Individual and Household Category)

- Chair of the International Institute for Sustainable Development located in Winnipeg which promotes, educates and supports the concept of sustainable development throughout the world. Instrumental in having the organization established in Canada.
- Member of the National Task Force on Environment and Economy which played a vital role in introducing the concept of round tables on environment and economy to the nation.
- Initiated the Focus 2000 Task Force on the Environment for the Canadian Chamber of Commerce.

Contact: Lloyd McGinnis, Wardrop Engineering, 956-0980