

# Climate Change Policies/Commitments

## Analysis/Audit from Manitoba Wildlands Speeches Chart Manitoba Government 1999 – 2006 inclusive

Manitoba Wildlands  
January 2007



### 1999

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
N/A		Throne Speech November 25, 1999	

### 2000

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
As Canada moves forward in meeting its commitments to greenhouse gas reduction made in Kyoto, Manitoba Hydro may play an important role by producing even more of North America's electrical energy through environmentally desirable hydro-electric energy generation.	Policy Statement	Budget Papers – May 10, 2000	

### 2001

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
The Report of the Climate Change Task force, which was released in September following extensive consultations, will be the blueprint for making Manitoba a leader in clean air and alternative energy strategies.	Specific Commitment	Throne Speech – November 13, 2001	

Manitoba has formally declared to the federal government our support for ratifying the Kyoto Accord.	Policy Statement	Throne Speech – November 13, 2001	
Your Government is also committed to an alternative energy strategy that seizes on the economic opportunities arising from climate change.	Specific Commitment	Throne Speech – November 13, 2001	
Through our Hydro exports, Manitoba has become a regional supplier of renewable energy and has contributed in a major way to the displacement of carbon fuel emissions.	Declaration	Throne Speech – November 13, 2001	
The development of a comprehensive Climate Change Strategy is already underway and will be carried through as a partnership between national and local governments, First Nations, non-governmental organizations and educators.	Specific Commitment	Throne Speech – November 13, 2001	
A Climate Change Hub will be established to serve as a focal point for ideas, implementation strategies and curriculum.	Specific Commitment	Throne Speech – November 13, 2001	
A \$1 million fund to address the effects and opportunities of global climate change in Manitoba.	Specific Commitment	Budget 2001 – Keeping Manitoba Clean, Green and Growing	
To help further reduce harmful emissions, a 10-year tax advantage will be guaranteed for gasohol producers.	Specific Commitment	Budget 2001 – Keeping Manitoba Clean, Green and Growing	
Climate change is one of the most significant environmental challenges of this century.	Declaration	Budget Speech April 10, 2001	
We recently announced a \$1 million Climate Change Action Fund to address the impact of human activity on the environment. This Fund and our new Climate Change Task Force	General Commitment	Budget Speech April 10, 2001	

will help Manitoba meet its obligation to ensure a clean, healthy environment for future generations.			
As Canada moves toward containing greenhouse gas emissions, Manitoba Hydro is positioned to play an important role by producing even more of North America's electrical energy through environmentally desirable hydro-electric energy generation.	Declaration	Budget Papers 2001	

## 2002

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
Recognizing that the impacts of climate change are already being felt in our province, ours was the first jurisdiction to comprehensively assess the costs and opportunities of implementing the Kyoto accord and to develop a strategy for meeting our emissions reduction targets.	Past Actions	Throne Speech November 27, 2002	
Sustaining natural areas for carbon storage is also a key part of our Government's climate change plan.	Policy Statement	Budget Speech April 22, 2002 – Environmental Stewardship	
We are also acting on recommendations in the Manitoba Climate Change Task Force Report.	General Commitment	Budget Speech April 22, 2002 – Environmental Stewardship	
We launched the Energy Development Initiative to promote opportunities for hydro – a utility that has displaced 10	Past Action	Budget Speech April 22, 2002 – Environmental Stewardship	

million tones of greenhouse gas emissions per year.			
we have come to recognize the benefits of increased ethanol use for agricultural diversification and meeting our climate change objectives.	Declaration	Budget Speech April 22, 2002 – Environmental Stewardship	
Our Climate Change Strategy is conceived as a partnership between governments and public agencies at all levels: First nations; non-governmental organizations; businesses; and researchers and educators.	Policy Statement	2002 Budget Paper – The Economy – Appendix 2	
As part of a more explicit overall conservation mandate, Manitoba Hydro has been given an important role in positioning Manitoba to respond effectively to climate change issues.	Policy Statement	2002 Budget Paper – The Economy – Appendix 2	

### 2003

<b>Quote</b>	<b>Nature of Statement</b>	<b>Speech/Source /Date</b>	<b>Analysis</b>
Manitoba's early commitment to meet the Kyoto standards on emission reductions has positioned our province as a leader in clean energy technology.	Declaration	Throne Speech November 20, 2003	
Displacing coal generation with renewable energy is, in fact, the single biggest step Canada can take towards meeting our national Kyoto target.	Policy Statement	Throne Speech November 20, 2003	
We have committed ourselves to exceeding Kyoto Accord targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.	Specific Commitment	2003 Budget Speech Environmental Stewardship	
We are a continental leader in the production of clean renewable energy. Our Action Plan on Climate Change will allow us to build on this	General Commitment	2003 Budget Speech Environmental Stewardship	

<p>advantage. The Plan is grounded in Hydro's investments in conservation and in generation stations with low environmental impact, and in our ethanol initiative. It encourages research and development of wind power, solar energy, hydrogen fuel cells and geothermal heat pumps.</p>			
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**2004**

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
<p>Nationwide, the greatest opportunity for reducing greenhouse gas emissions is to displace coal-fired electricity plants with hydro and other clean energy sources.</p>	Declaration	Throne Speech November 22, 2004	
<p>Manitoba and Ontario are negotiating a long-term Clean Energy Transfer, which would export Manitoba's hydro-electric and wind-generated power to Ontario. The environmental impact of the transfer would be a reduction in emissions equivalent to removing 500 000 cars from the road.</p>	Claim	Throne Speech November 22, 2004	
<p>In addition to providing energy security, the grid would serve as Canada's clean energy highway, and as the centerpiece of our national Kyoto strategy. Added east-west transmission capacity will spur the development of wind and other renewable energy sources that are now stranded from potential markets.</p>	General Commitment	Throne Speech November 22, 2004	
<p>My government's Green Strategy includes...a plan to meet and exceed Manitoba's clean air Kyoto targets and expansion of our province-wide</p>	Specific Commitment	Throne Speech November 22, 2004	

network of biking and walking trails.			
Manitoba was the first province to consult with citizens and adopt its own Action Plan on Climate Change. The plan lays out a strategy to meet and exceed Manitoba's Kyoto targets and, at the same time, positions our province as a leader in low emissions and clean energy technologies.	Declaration	Throne Speech November 22, 2004	
Much of the impetus for Kyoto implementation is now coming from the local level. This year, a network of 11 communities in northern Manitoba, Peguis First Nation, the City of Brandon and the towns of Winkler and Morden will begin implementing their own recycling and emissions reduction plans. These efforts are supported by the Community Challenge program launched in partnership by Manitoba and the federal government.	Specific Commitment	Throne Speech November 22, 2004	
Manitoba continues to lead the nation in addressing climate change and developing clean energy.	Declaration	Budget Speech April 19, 2004 'Building on Our Energy Advantage'	
Two years ago, the Government of Manitoba decided to strengthen its national position on climate change. Eighteen months ago, it backed up this approach with a new Department of Energy, Science and Technology – including a new unit, the Energy Development Initiative with a mandate to focus on these opportunities. It has become clear that Manitoba's approach	Past Action	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	

is to ensure minimal downside risk to existing major industries, position itself to lever in new resources, and benefit from the very specific advantages its possesses.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manitoba is working with potential buyers to ensure that, wherever possible, the new export sales are used to reduce coal-fired generation, and thus, CO2, acid rain, mercury and other emissions.</li> </ul>	Policy Statement	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	
Our province has reduced its overall CO2 emissions and led the national climate change effort.	Claim	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	
The St. Leon project is furthest along in development: sufficient wind data has been gathered; local access and wind rights have been secured; environmental approvals have been completed; final terms for a power purchase agreement with Manitoba Hydro are being negotiated; and financing is being arranged. Should this 99.5-MW project go ahead, it would trigger investment of \$190 million; create 280 jobs in construction and 25 to 30 ongoing operational and management positions; and provide hundred of thousands of dollars in annual payments to local landowners and the community. If its power replaced coal-fired power, it would eliminated more than six million tonnes of CO2	Declaration / Claim	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	
Production of 130 million litres of ethanol (10% of the Manitoba market) would result in \$1 billion remaining in Manitoba’s	Claim	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	

economy over the 20-year lifetime of the plants. And environmentally, this initial stage of ethanol expansion will reduce CO2 by 135,000 tonnes – the equivalent of removing over 10,000 vehicles from the road.			
Each geothermal home reduces CO2 by approximately 10 tonnes and each commercial unit by 50 tonnes.	Claim	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	
From 1990 to 2002, Manitoba’s emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases were kept stable at 20 million tonnes (M). However, during that time, our electricity exports soared – largely from Limestone – allowing an ongoing 10 MT of CO2 reduction by our coal-burning trade partners. In addition, the federal government credits Manitoba with expanding its agricultural and forestry “carbon sinks” by 5.5 MT during that time. This all adds up to a “net” Manitoba emission level of around 5 MT of CO2 today.	Claim	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	
Manitoba, however, has it entirely within its grasp, not just to become the first jurisdiction to reach such a “net zero CO2” position (e.g. by building Conawapa) – but to become the world’s first “net carbon-positive” region. With a net carbon deficit today of only around 5 MTs, the development of even a subset of the projects above – e.g. the Ontario power sale, three new wind farms, 140 million litres of ethanol, methane capture at Brady landfill, and limited market sales	Claim	2004 Budget Papers – The Economy Appendix 2	

of hybrids and geothermal systems – could well see Manitoba reach a +5 MT or even a +10 MT carbon budget. This is an outcome with which many innovative industries and companies (such as those discussed above) would wish to be associated.			
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### 2005

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
N/A			

### 2006

Quote	Nature of Statement	Speech/Source /Date	Analysis
The province’s Climate Change Action Plan, adopted in 2003, called for Manitoba to become a leader in geo-thermal installations, wind power, hydrogen development, bio-fuels and the provision of clean, renewable power to neighbouring jurisdictions.	Claim	Throne Speech November 15, 2006	
Business Week magazine named Manitoba as the best in the world for taking action on climate change	Declaration	Budget Speech – Introduction	
Manitoba’s climate change strategy was also ranked number one in Canada by the David Suzuki Foundation.	Declaration	Budget Speech – Introduction	
The actions taken by Manitobans have made our province a world leader in developing clean energy and addressing climate change	Claim	Budget Speech – Clean Energy for a Green Economy	
Business Week magazine recently ranked Manitoba as the number one regional	Declaration	Budget Speech – Clean Energy for a Green	

government in the world for battling climate change.		Economy	
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