



NDP ENVIRONMENTAL PROMISES SINCE 1999

Manitoba Wildlands
February 2011



The following chart summarizes environmental promises made by the Manitoba NDP since the 1999 election when the NDP took power. A copy of the letters, surveys, questionnaire responses, and election promises made can be found on Manitoba Wildlands webpage at: http://manitobawildlands.org/govern_elections.htm. Highlighted dates in rows above promises listed shows when the promise was made. The Review is based on public information available to Manitoba Wildlands. If further clarification or detail is available contact us at: info@manitobawildlands.org

LEGEND OF SYMBOLS

- √ A check mark indicates promise has been fulfilled.
- √ - A check minus indicates the promise is only partially done; further work remains.
- ? A question mark means it is unclear if promise has been fulfilled.
- X An "X" means the promise has not been fulfilled to date.



The repeat icon to the left is used to indicate repeat of a previous promise.

CATEGORIES




Environment promises are listed in the same categories used in the Manitoba Wildlands 2007 Pre-election Survey.

- **Climate Change**
- **CEC/PUB**
- **Energy**
- **Land Use Planning**
- **Government**
- **Manitoba Hydro**
- **Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site**
- **Public Access to Information & Consultations**
- **Licences**
- **Water**




NDP Environment Promises Summary	
Total Promises	105
Fulfilled	13
Partially Fulfilled	18
Unfulfilled	70
Not Clear	4

NDP ELECTION PROMISES	Has environment promise been fulfilled ?			CATEGORY
	YES	NO	COMMENTS	
September 4 1999 Letter from NDP				
1. Protection of natural areas inside and outside of provincial parks including the expansion of Ecological Reserve sites	√ -		Action has been slow: in 1999 8.1% of Manitoba's land were protected, as of 2009 this only increased to 8.2%	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
2. Control of ex-urban development		X	Approved Waverly West in Winnipeg, and Manitoba Cites like Winnipeg and Brandon continue to sprawl. No legislation in place to prevent further sprawl	Land Use Planning
3. Improved zoning for large scale development including hog barns.	√ -		Large hog barns banned in Southeast and Interlake regions of Manitoba, but still allowed in most of Manitoba. Other large scale developments not zoned.	Land Use Planning
4. Completing scientific inventory of Manitoba's forests for future forestry licensing considerations		X	Not done	Licensing
5. Protect the quality and quantity of Manitoba water		X	Water quality continues to decline in lakes across Manitoba, including Lake Winnipeg. Monitoring and reporting weak.	Water
6. An end to licensing developments in stages.		X	Developments still licensed in stages, (various instances), no definitions, or standards for stages.	Licensing
7. A transparent environmental licensing process that includes public consultation at the earliest opportunity.		X	Many large scale public works projects are "in the works" for years, with little or no public information.	Licensing

8. A new Independent Environmental Assessment Commission made up of experts in environmental sciences.		X	Not done	Government
9. An environmental auditor		X	Not done	Government
10. Intervener funding for public hearings	√ -		Some instances, administration of funds not independent, and funds may not be sufficient.	CEC/PUB
11. Whistle blower protection	√ -		New legislation put in place, room for improvement still exists	Government
12. A protocol for open dialogue with First Nations on environment and development issues.		X	No protocol, First Nation consultations remains inadequate, public standards not in place.	Public Access to Information & Consultations
13. A new Sustainable Practices Act		X	Never enacted	Government
14. A new Clean Water Act	√ -		New act in place, but is inadequate, water quality problems persist. Water use permits not public.	Water
Sept 13, 1999 Letter from NDP				
15. Action Plan for the Network of Protected Areas.		X	No action plan since 2003	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
16. Complete the review of potential sites for protected areas and withhold development on these sites until the review is complete		X	.Reviews not complete, development not always withheld. Over 100 candidate sites remain, public information reduced.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
17. Complete design for areas of "special interest".		X	Forest and agricultural regions areas of special interest not done.	Protected Areas
18. Inclusive public process in the designation of protected areas including a protocol for First Nations negotiations as recommended in the CODSDI report		X	First Nation consultation for protected areas remains inadequate, and MOU used early in office abandoned.	Consultation
19. Completing network of protected areas within the earliest possible time frame		X	Establishment of protected areas networks for regions remains slow, not completed	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site




			since 99	
20. The need for protected areas will be included in forestry licenses and future forestry licenses will be subject to public review		X	Logging in provincial parks ended, but new developments occurring, and no new protected lands in these parks. Protected areas in Tolko, LP licences not in place.	Licensing
21. Comprehensive land and water use planning throughout Manitoba		X	Far from comprehensive after 12 years. Water use planning not public process.	Water
22. Negotiate with the federal government on the creation of new National Parks		X	No new National Parks designated since 1996 (Wapusk)	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
23. Conduct a public review of the Committee on Sustainable Development Implementation Report		X	No review, despite steady use of the report as public policy.	Government
24. A revamped Clean Environment Commission that will include scientific experts		X	Not done. Many operational and mandate needs not acted on.	CEC/PUB
25. Transparent environmental licensing process that will end licensing in stages		X	 Not done, projects still licensed in stages.	Licensing
26. Transparent environmental licensing process that will have automatic triggers for public hearings for large scale developments		X	Not done, no automatic hearing trigger for large scale developments, only discretionary decisions.	Licensing
* 1999 Commitments were all reaffirmed in 2003 election				
NDP Response to 2003 Questionnaire				
27. Maintain protection standards for all existing protected areas		X	Protection was removed from East Paint Lake, Hudwin Lake, and Long Point, with no substitution or replacement of protection. Current standards for potential world heritage site protected areas are weakened.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
28. Work towards completing protected areas networks		X	 Establishment of protected areas has	Parks, Protected Areas, World



28. Work towards completing protected areas networks		X	Establishment of protected areas has been slow	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
29. Achieve adequate representation of Manitoba's natural diversity through networks of protected areas		X	Adequate representation of regions needs completed networks or protected areas, designed for sustainability. Boreal forest and prairie representation drastically needed	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
30. Committed to facilitating public consultations on areas under review for protected status, in working towards the establishment of protected areas		X	Protected area designations no longer placed in public registry, and process of establishing areas is unclear	Public Access to Information & Consultations
31. Extension for Amisk Park reserve	√ -		Interim protection still, no addition in lands.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
32. Extension for East Paint Lake Park reserve		X	This park reserve is no longer protected from development	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
33. A new pilot project for eco-tourism training in the Manigotagan River Park Reserve		?	Unclear if this has happened or not.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
34. Work towards tripling the current 250-metre protection boundary on each side of the Manigotagan River canoe route	√		It took four years for this step, and most river corridors on the east side and in the World Heritage Site nomination are not protected.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
35. Renewing memorandum of understanding with First Nations to continue the establishment of new protected areas		X	Never done	Public Access to Information & Consultations
36. Prioritize establishment of protected areas in our forest regions within the earliest possible timeframe, and with proper consultation processes.		X	Most new protected areas are North of the tree line. Boreal regions lack protected areas.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
37. Work cooperatively with Ponlar River First Nation to			Area has been reduced and the	Parks, Protected


38. Consultations with the Forestry Sector regarding ASIs in Natural Region 5C (Eastman) towards supporting the establishment of protected areas.	√ -		A few new small ASIs have been protected. Most in this region are not yet protected.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
39. Establish protected areas in agro-Manitoba	√ -		Few new accessible protected areas in agro-Manitoba	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
40. Develop an updated protected areas Action Plan that is consistent with current protection standards, design standards and ecological principles		X	 Updated action plan has never been provided and most park plans pre-date '99	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
41. Continue the establishment of new protected areas, in conjunction with the First Nations MOU		X	 Establishment of First Nations protected areas mostly prior to 2001, and First Nation consultation MOU not being supported or honoured.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
42. Putting priority on advancing public consultations on areas of special interest, with the aim of completing protected areas networks. Actively pursuing ASIs in Natural Region 5c, in the Hudson Bay area, and Red Deer Lake in particular.		X	Several ASIs along Hudson Bay being ignored, Natural Region 5c opportunities becoming stale, and no action on Red Deer Lake ASI as yet.	Public Access to Information & Consultations
43. Work with First Nations towards the establishment of new protected areas in the Hudson Bay area in 2004		X	Kaskatamagan and Kaskatamagan Sipi wildlife management areas added in 2010, but 8 others have been sitting in limbo for over ten years	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
44. Inclusion of Red Deer Lake ASI, within Tolko's forest management area, in Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative in 2004.		X	Not done	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
45. Establishment of the Manitoba Lowlands National Park in the very near future.		X	Never completed	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
46. Advancing the network of protected areas to represent all natural regions in Manitoba, including the South East region, as quickly as possible.		X	 Most new protected areas have been North of the tree line, boreal and prairie representation	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site



			drastically needed. Oil and gas development accelerating without protected areas networks completion.	
47. Ensure that Protected Areas Initiative (PAI) maps are regularly updated.		X	Mining sector protected areas map no longer available. Aggregate representation maps fail to indicate basis for updates.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
48. Dedicating the resources to adequately support the Manitoba Protected Areas Initiative.		X	Announcements of funding and staff increases have been made, but based on slow action these resources are not adequate.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
NDP Response to 2007 Pre-Election Survey				
49. An additional 300 MW of wind energy		X	St. Joseph project scaled down to 138 MW. St. Leon predates this promises, and is 99 MW.	Energy
50. Build Conawapa		X	Still in early planning stages, not clear it will be built	Energy
51. Introduce an ethanol mandate	√		Done despite ecological and economic impacts of ethanol and other fuel crops.	Energy
52. New and expanded incentives for geothermal heating installations	√		Incentives introduced for installations after January 1, 2009, and Hydro offers attractive financing for geothermal	Energy
53. Report regularly on the status of its energy initiatives		X	No reporting and no energy plan for Manitoba.	Energy
54. Ensure that public licensing and assessment standards are respected for all new renewable energy projects		X	No renewable energy portfolio (targets) standards in place, and no licensing and no EA standards for wind, ethanol, geothermal projects. No EA regulation under Environment Act.	Licensing
55. Environmental licenses will continue to have public comment periods as a central element	√ -		Public comments remain but processes have reduced public	Licensing





			review of EA standards, dropped proponent responses, and limited what is in public registry when.	
56. Work with Manitoba Hydro to make information easily available and accessible		X	Hydro remains shrouded in secrecy and much information is not publicly available. Manitoba Ombudsman has just released a report indicating how Hydro has to improve its access to information.	Manitoba Hydro
57. Work with Manitoba Hydro to ensure that notifications for changes in water levels are made public as soon as possible		X	Still no public system for notification in advance of expected changes in water level.	Manitoba Hydro
58. Climate change legislation will contain requirements for further reporting, specifically on our government's actions to reduce green house gas emissions and the results of these actions	√ -		Reporting on results since 2000 is part of Act, but government still refuses to release basis for its GHG estimates which have been consistently wrong. Auditor General report identifies failure in reporting and in reducing ghgs. Note – all numbers are still estimates only.	Climate Change
59. The creation of a climate change registry in Manitoba		X	Never completed	Climate Change
60. Enshrine in law our commitment to meet our Kyoto target by 2012		X	Law does not enshrine Kyoto targets, but rather that emission are lower than they were in 2000, not 6% below 1990 levels as required by Kyoto Protocol	Climate Change
61. Require Manitoba Hydro to reduce the use of coal	√		New Act requires Hydro to only use coal in emergency situations	Manitoba Hydro
62. Submit a plan to switch off-grid communities to renewable energy		X	Never done, communities like Shamatawa were promised	Energy






62. Submit a plan to switch off-grid communities to renewable energy		X	Never done, communities like Shamatawa were promised wind energy years ago	Energy
63. Require the capture of emissions from large landfills	√ -		Legislation and regulations allow capture or flaring of methane. Capturing for energy use preferable. Some demonstration projects underway. No requirements as yet.	Climate Change
64. Create a vehicle advisory board to create a “Made In Manitoba” vehicle efficiency standard		X	Advisory board created, but no efficiency standard	Climate Change
65. Legislate the province’s Green Building and Green Fleet vehicle policies to further address government emissions		X	Sections of the new act regarding government building and fleet emissions not enacted.	Climate Change
66. An additional 1,000 megawatts of wind power over the next ten years		X	Only 138MW thus far, and government now admits they will not reach 1000MW target. Several wind projects have environment licences but are unlikely to be developed.	Energy
67. Enshrine Kyoto targets in legislation		X	 Law does not enshrine Kyoto targets, but rather that emission are lower than they were in 2000, not 6% below 1990 levels as required under Kyoto Protocol.	Climate Change
68. Maintain protection standards for all existing protected areas		X	Instances of reduced protection have occurred since 2007, and draft regulations for world heritage site nomination are  .	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
69. Work towards completing protected areas networks, to represent all natural regions in Manitoba as quickly as possible		X	 Most new protected areas north of the tree line, boreal and prairie representation of regions	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site

70. Work at completing protected areas networks in forestry license areas.		X	 Logging in provincial parks finally ended, but no protection for those zones. New boreal protected areas in forested regions, to represent these regions urgently needed.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
71. Support open and transparent access to information, subject to the legitimate constraints imposed by legislation		X	Information has become increasingly harder to access. Reverse onus on citizens drives how freedom of information requests about lands and waters are handled.	Public Access to Information & Consultations
72. Speed up the transition to electronic filing of public registry files		X	Public registry is still paper-based, while other province like Ontario completely electronic. Postings on departments' web pages are NOT public registries, and some ranches/departments not excused from registry due to re organization.	Public Access to Information & Consultations
73. Support an effective method of public involvement in environmental decision making		X	Public involvement needs to be supported, encouraged, and enabled by access to information.	Licensing
74. Protecting water will be a top priority		X	 Water quality, particularly in Manitoba's Lakes continues to decline, and shoreline developments accelerate with insufficient oversight.	Water
75. Work with East Side communities to fulfill the principles of the East Side Planning Initiative (Wabanong Nakaygum Okimawin)		X	Principles are no longer available except on Manitoba Wildlands web site.	First Nation Consultation / Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
76. \$2.5 million commitment for traditional land use plans for the East Side of Lake Winnipeg	√ -		Little information about the WNO available. Perhaps five	First Nation Consultation /

			years at \$ 500,000 has been distributed. It should be noted that a sequence of \$ 32,000 grants will not provide a First Nation and its land users to arrive at a complete traditional lands plan.	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
77. New positions in areas such as Environmental Assessment, Contaminated Sites Program, Drainage Licensing and Enforcement, Conservation Districts Program, the Environmental Livestock Program, Water Licensing, Drinking Water Initiative.		?	Some of these positions have been filled, while other jobs are deleted or left empty. Manitoba Conservation has few biologists left, and regional teams are unable to fulfill their technical and licensing responsibilities.	Licensing Lands Planning
2007 Election - NDP Environmental Commitments				
78. Invest \$500,000 to modernize campgrounds at Asessippi Provincial Park	√		Money provided for 2010-11	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
79. Increase capital funding by an additional \$2 million annually by 2011 for parks in the Parklands region	√		\$1.5 for capital improvements was introduced for 2010-11	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
80. 1000 new cottage lots will be made available		?	 No way to track steps taken, location of new cottage lots, etc Only information for each lottery or draw on government web site.	Parks
81. No hydro development will take place on the East Side	√		To date there is a commitment to avoid having bi pole III or any other transmission corridors travel through the east side.	Manitoba Hydro
82. Work in partnership with First Nations to ensure Manitoba's vast boreal forest is protected		X	Consultation is inadequate. East Side Planning Act was passed despite objections of First Nation leaders. And the rest of Manitoba's boreal regions lack lands planning, and	Public Access to Information & Consultations

82. Work in partnership with First Nations to ensure Manitoba's vast boreal forest is protected		X	Consultation is inadequate. East Side Planning Act was passed despite objections of First Nation leaders. And the rest of Manitoba's boreal regions lack lands planning, and First Nations partnerships not in place.	Public Access to Information & Consultations
83. Introduce legislation to create a new protected-areas designation, which would allow East Side First Nations like Poplar River to create and implement their land-use plans and ensure the area is protected in a way that is consistent with the establishment of a UNESCO World Heritage Site on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.	√ -		New legislation was enacted over the objection of First Nation leaders and citizens. Other requests for protected lands sit in files.	Government
84. Invest \$165 million over five years on vital roads in northern and remote communities, including \$15 million for Rice River Road, the first leg of an all-weather road up the East Side of Lake Winnipeg	√		Money has been spent on northern and remote roads – and work is underway for Rice River Road.	Land Use Planning
85. New legislation drafted in consultation with First Nations to implement their land-use plan and continue working toward the creation of a UNESCO world heritage site		X	 legislation but not drafted in consultation with First Nations, most First Nations  ers spoke against the Bill in committee. Nomination package may be filed in 2011, 7 years after WHS support announced.	First Nation Consultation / Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
86. Permanently protect Poplar-Nanowin Rivers Park Reserve.		X	Years later it remains in interim protection	First Nation Consultation / Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
87. \$40 million for a down payment towards building an east-west power grid, with the funding coming from the federal ecoTrust fund		X	Never done	Energy

89. Buildings in parks and campgrounds such as shower rooms will be renovated to be more energy and water efficient, including new design features such as solar-heated showers, low-flow water fixtures and green building materials	√		 Eco-design part of some of the park upgrades	Parks, Protected Areas, World Heritage Site
90. A carbon credit registry in Manitoba.		X	 Not done	Climate Change
91. Water Smart program which saves more than one billion litres of water annually through removal of PST, rebates, and loans to help make water saving appliances, fixtures, etc	√ -		Program initiated through Manitoba Hydro, much more could be done. Public funds and licensing of new waste water systems continues with no water conservation standards required.	Water
92. Keeping Manitoba Hydro for the benefit of all	√-		Hydro is publicly owned, new Hydro developments may or may not be "for the benefit of all"	Manitoba Hydro
93. Introducing legislation that will ensure Manitoba meets its Kyoto targets by 2012		X	 Law does not enshrine Kyoto targets, but rather that emission are lower than they were in 2000, not 6% below 1990 levels as required under Kyoto Protocol	Climate Change
94. Act on the recommendations of the 2001 (Axworthy) climate change task force		X	Task Force report and 2002 plan have been removed from government webpages	Climate Change
95. Increasing wind power in Manitoba.	√ -		 Wind power in Manitoba has been increased by 138MW but well below the 1000 MW target	Energy
96. Working with private sector partners like New Flyer Industries on the low-and no-emission technologies of the future		?	We are unable to determine how to measure this.	Government

97. Reducing Manitoba Hydro's use of coal	√		 New climate act and regulations only allow Manitoba Hydro to use coal in emergency situations	Manitoba Hydro
98. Creating a "Made-in-Manitoba" vehicle efficiency standard, to be recommended by a vehicle advisory board		X	 Government did not implement efficiency standards, increased speed limit on certain highways instead.	Government
99. Require the capture of emissions from large landfills	√-		 Required, but only for the provinces three largest landfills	Climate Change
100. Invest in education programs like the new science complex at the University of Winnipeg	√		Investments were made	Government
101. Increasing the energy efficiency of new buildings by establishing a new code for efficiency	√		New more energy efficient building codes enacted in 2010	Gouvernement
102. Developing a plan to switch off-grid communities to renewable energy		X	 Has not been completed despite promises	Energy
103. Legislating the province's Green Building and Green Fleet Vehicle policies to further address government emissions		X	 Sections 7, 8, 11, & 12 of the <i>Climate Change and Emissions Reduction Act</i> have not been enacted, they would require government to green its building and vehicular fleet	Climate Change
104. Providing incentives for farmers to undertake projects that reduce emissions	√ -		Programs such as the MB Ag Practices Program (MSAPP) have been implemented	Climate Change
105. Reporting publicly on climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation		X	Reporting is a continuing problem as indicated in the Auditor General's review of Manitoba's climate plan	Climate Change