Back grounder

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MEMBERS OF THE 2011 FLOOD REVIEW TASK FORCE

The task force will be chaired by David Farlinger, a civil engineer. Farlinger also chaired the Manitoba Water Commission that undertook an independent review of the 1997 flood. The other task force members are:

- Louis Allain, St. Laurent;
- Kam Blight, reeve, Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie;
- Darryl Jackson, mayor of Souris;
- Craig MacLaughan, retired, Nova Scotia Emergency Measures Organization;
- Rhonda Kirkness, project manager, Fisher River First Nation;
- Ron Woodvine, hydrological engineer, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; and
- David Andres, Northwest Hydraulics Consulting.

MEMBERS OF THE LAKE MANITOBA AND LAKE ST. MARTIN REGULATION REVIEW AND OPERATING ADVISORY

The review committee will be chaired by Harold Westdal, an economist and certified management consultant. The other members of the review committee are:

- Caron Clarke, Manitoba Beef Producers;
- Gordon Goldsborough, associate professor, biological sciences University of Manitoba;
- Randy Helgason, Lake Manitoba fisher and Ashern councillor;
- · Gary McLean, Lake Manitoba First Nation;
- Gary Morlock, Fisheries Enhancement Fund;
- Alfred Morrisseau, mayor of Crane River;
- Cheryl Smith, Association of Lake Manitoba Stakeholders;
- Emery Stagg, former chief, Dauphin River First Nation;
- Tom Teichroeb, Lake Manitoba Flood Rehabilitation Committee;
- Norman Traverse, elder, Lake St. Martin;
- Don Walsh, reeve of Woodlands; and
- Rick Bowering, retired hydrological engineer.

TERMS OF REFERENCE SUMMARY

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2011 Flood Review Task Force, Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review, Operating Advisory Committee

The task force and committee may choose the format and extent of public engagement, and it is expected that feedback, along with the task force's findings, conclusions and recommendations, are to be made available to the public.

The 2011 flood review will be conducted concurrently with the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review and both groups are expected to co-ordinate their investigation, activities and, if possible, their recommendations.

2011 Flood Review Task Force

The 2011 flood was unprecedented in scope and geographical extent. High soil moisture at freezeup, above-normal winter snow, additional snow and rain during the spring period, significant summer rain events and some severe storms all contributed to the 2011 flood event in Manitoba.

Although the flooding in 2011 was devastating, much can be learned through a thorough review of the action undertaken previous to, during and after the flood.

The 2011 Flood Review will consider and provide recommendations on the following matters:

- The operation of provincial flood-control infrastructure and ancillary works, including the Red River Floodway, Portage Diversion, Shellmouth Reservoir, Assiniboine River dikes, Hoop and Holler controlled breach and the Fairford Dam, to determine whether established rules of operation were followed, determine their role in reducing the overall impact of flooding and provide suggestions for operational improvements.
- Suggested procedures for undertaking flood-mitigation measures such as sand bagging, emergency dikes and the appropriateness of such actions.
- The accuracy and timeliness of the province's flood-forecasting efforts, giving particular attention to the current state of flood-forecasting practices, capabilities and technologies, and co-ordination with other jurisdictions.
- The level of flood preparedness, flood-fighting capacity and response by the province, the cities of Winnipeg and Brandon, other municipal governments and individual citizens in dealing with the flood.
- · The adequacy of existing flood protection infrastructure and the need for additional works.
- The environmental, social, water-quality and human-health impacts related to flooding of environmentally sensitive developments such as sewage lagoons, landfill sites and gasoline, oil and farm chemical-storage sites.

- Land-use policies and zoning criteria relative to areas of the basin that are vulnerable to flooding.
- Adequacy of communications to the public about information such as flood forecasts, emergency response, disaster recovery and flood-mitigation programs.
- Impacts on road networks and bridges to businesses and public access.

In addition to its final report, the task force is also encouraged to make interim recommendations to government if items are identified where immediate changes could be of significant benefit in the prevention or mitigation of future flood events.

Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review, Operating Advisory Committee

The flooding on Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin was unprecedented in 2011, a result of numerous factors that combined to cause the worst flooding ever recorded on Lake Manitoba. The Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin Regulation Review will consider and provide recommendations on the following matters:

- The current range of regulation of Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin, and the rules of operation for the Fairford Water Control Structure.
- The need for additional water-control works in the future.
- The impact of water-level regulation on the surrounding lake uses such as agriculture, wetlands, wildlife, recreation, etc.
- The most acceptable and practicable range of regulation within which the levels of Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin might be controlled.
- Land-use policies and zoning criteria relative to areas around the water bodies that are vulnerable to flooding.