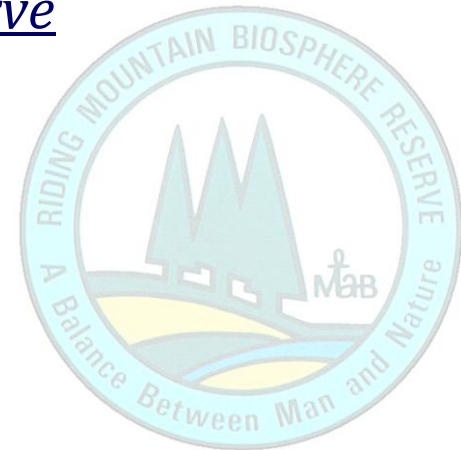


Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve Research & Knowledge Forum

Agenda



Friday March 20, 2009

4:00-6:00pm Arrival & Check-In

6:30 pm Cocktails

7:00 pm Dinner: Welcome & Introduction to the Forum & the Biosphere Reserve

8:00 pm Key Note Speaker: Laura Rance- Editor of Manitoba Cooperator

"A Healthy Biosphere: What is it and What does it Take?"

9:00 Evening Socializing

Saturday March 21, 2009

~Breakfast on your own~

9:00-10:00 Overview of past research:

- **Knowledge & Research in the RMBR: Overview of Past and Present Work**
- Questionnaire Results and Summary
 - What was identified / gathered?
 - What was missing?

Feedback: what do you know we missed?

10:00-10:20 Health Break

10:20-11:30 Panel discussion:

"What are the issues/forces at play today in the RMBR?"

➤ **Ecosystems and Neighbours: Protected & Working Landscapes**

Cary Hamel- Conservation Science Manager, MB Region- Nature Conservancy of Canada

➤ **Rural Communities: Changes Ahead**

Doug Ramsey- Department of Rural Development, Brandon University

➤ **Sustainable Economies: What's Working?**

Ann Dandeneau- Business Development Specialist - Community Development , Manitoba Agriculture, Foods and Rural Initiatives

11:30-12:00 Questions of clarity for the Panel Members

12:00-1:00 Lunch Break

1:00-2:30 Table Group Discussion Sessions

From your understanding, what are the relevant areas and gaps in knowledge and research that need to be addressed to ensure the health of the Riding Mountain biosphere and the people that live here?

2:30-3:00 Health Break

3:00-3:45 Report back from Group Discussions

- Report from facilitators/table expert

3:45-4:00 Ranking Exercise

How would you rank which are the most important knowledge and research topics within the RMBR?

4:00-5:00 Guiding the Gathering of Knowledge and Research

De-briefing: What were our goals? Did we accomplish them?

- Purpose and interest in a steering group to help guide the study and research effort in the RMBR
- Future/next steps
- Who else should be involved next time? How can we improve the next event?

