



**For Release: September 16, 2015**

The General Assembly of the United Nations (Resolution 49/114) has declared September 16 as “**International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer**”. The theme for Sept 16, 2015 is “30 years of healing the ozone together.” See the UN website dedicated to this day at: <http://ozone.unep.org/en/precious-ozone>

MOPIA’s Manitoba stakeholders continue to be global leaders in their efforts to protect the ozone layer. Several initiatives including broad service technician environmental and regulation awareness training, integration of alternatives to ozone depleting substances, industry innovations and public awareness are all valuable efforts that have led to Manitoba’s successful leadership in protecting the fragile stratospheric ozone layer and climate system.

Manitoba is unique as our province has one of the most comprehensive and dynamic climate protection programs in the world. MOPIA has hosted international capacity building study tours in collaboration with the United Nations. MOPIA is an advocate for industry innovation and empowering knowledge. Strong stakeholder partnerships and commitments by our partners has ultimately reduced the use and impact of ODSs and substances contributing to climate change.

### Media Background

September 16 was selected to commemorate the date in 1987 when The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer” was originally signed.

- The Montreal Protocol was originally signed by 24 nations (including Canada) in 1987. Today, there is universal ratification by all 197 Nations on Earth!
- The Protocol came into effect in 1989 and requires Parties to freeze production and consumption of substances harmful to the ozone layer on a graduated schedule.
- There are 96+ chemicals controlled. Nations must introduce measures, including regulations and codes, and take responsibility for governing the production and use of controlled substances.
- The Montreal Protocol is the worlds’ first climate change treaty.
- The 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol takes place 1-5 November 2015 at Dubai, UAE. The Signatories will consider measures to further strengthen and protect the ozone layer and continue to address climate change.

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