

The Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association



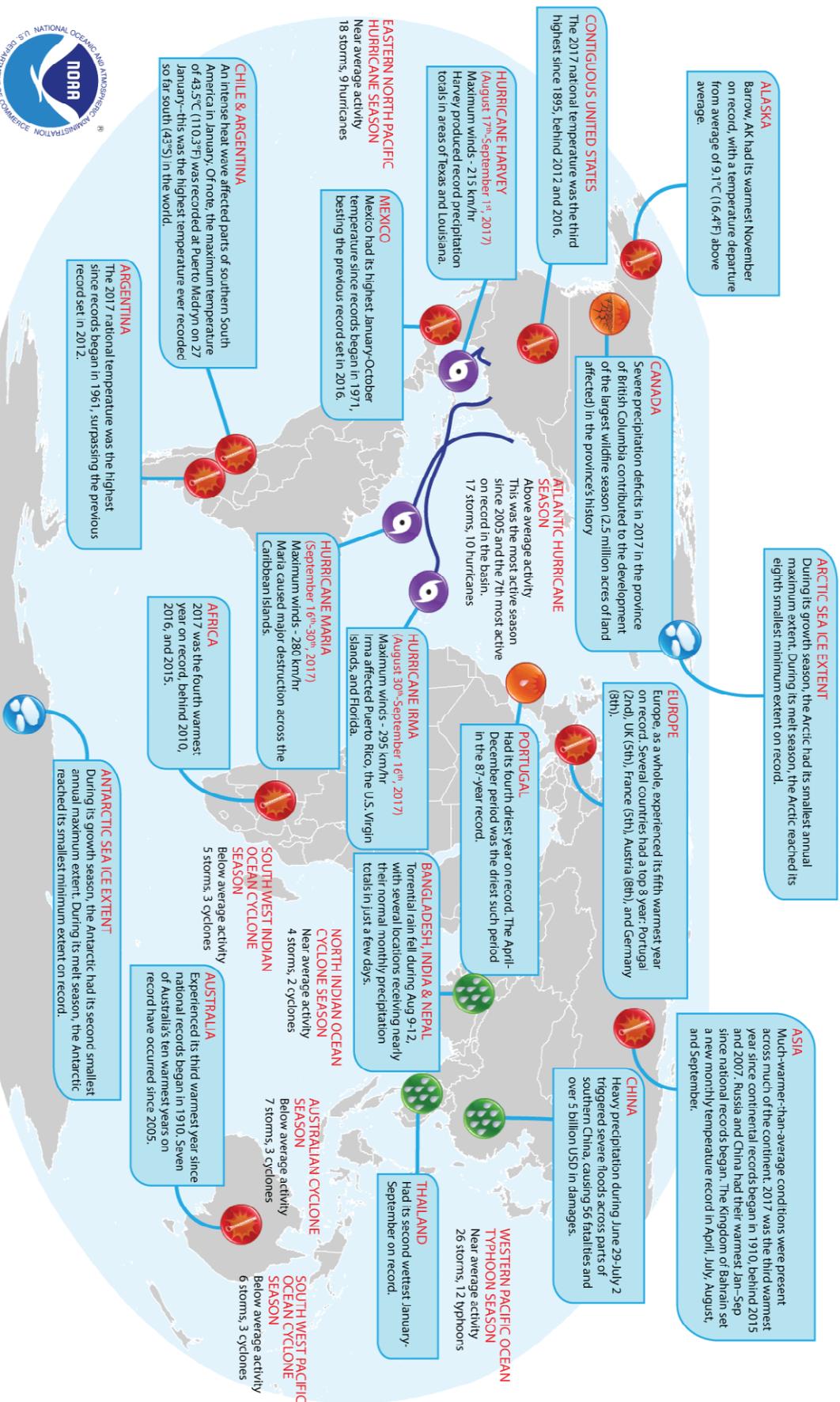
24th Annual Report 2016/17

November 1, 2016 - October 31, 2017

*For the 24th Annual General Meeting
Held 10th April 2018
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*



Selected Significant Climate Anomalies and Events in 2017



MOPIA continues to identify the impacts of climate change. Here is a profile of climate anomalies.



Please Note: Material provided in this map was compiled from NOAA's NCEI State of the Climate Reports and the WMO Provisional Status of the Climate in 2017. For more information please visit: <http://www.climate.noaa.gov/soic>

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association

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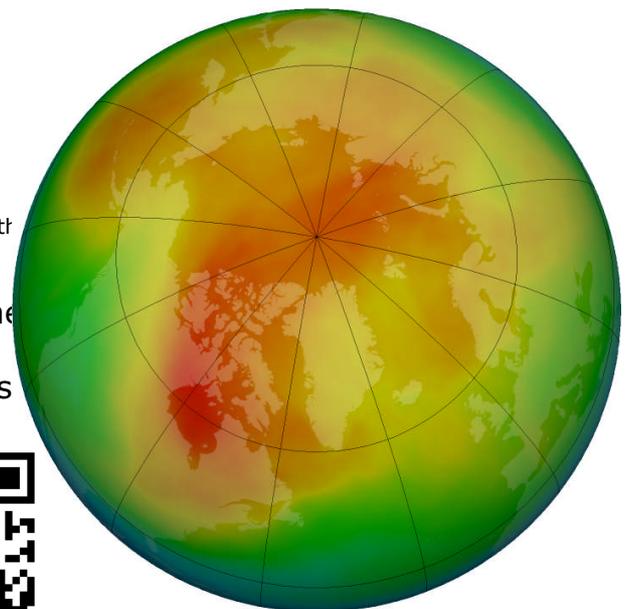
Appendices

23rd Annual General Meeting Minutes (14th)

Statement by the Secretary General of the

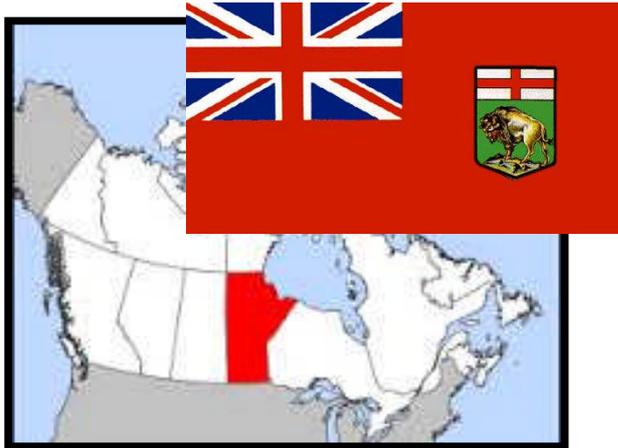
Auditors Report – Financial Statements as
Attachment

MOPIA’s “QR Code” is
portrayed on various
outreach materials.



Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association (MOPIA) CORPORATE INFORMATION

MOPIA's offices are centrally located at **1082 Main Street**, within the City of Winnipeg, Province of Manitoba, Canada. MOPIA has a multi-year lease (expiring November 2018). The Association subleases office space to the Manitoba Geothermal Energy Alliance (MGEA) and The Manitoba Water Well Association (MWWA).



Contact Information:



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MOPIA

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www.mopia.ca

Date of MOPIA's Incorporation (Manitoba): **21 October 1993**

Fiscal Year for the Association: **1 November - 31 October**

Financial Institution: Steinbach Credit Union (www.scu.mb.ca) Winnipeg, MB., Canada

Corporate Auditor for the 2016/17 Fiscal Year: Ryan J. Marshall, Chartered Accountant Inc.

Responsibility Centres: MOPIA is a multi-stakeholder, not-for-profit Association operating through the direction of a member elected Board of Directors and Executive Committee composed of our Officers (i.e. Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Member-at-Large, Past Chair and Executive Director).

MOPIA was "Appointed" as authorized under the Manitoba Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbons Regulation 103/94 by Manitoba's Minister of Sustainable Development for specific tasks and responsibilities for the contract period. (June 2016-2021).

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Mission: To be the best resource for information and services in relation to atmosphere protection.

Vision: To contribute meaningfully to a healthy atmosphere for future generations.

Core Values:

Teamwork – we are committed to effective partnerships between volunteers, staff, and our stakeholders. New strategic alliances should always be seen as an opportunity.

Commitment – we accept the challenges involved in implementing an aggressive environmental approach.

Responsiveness – we strive to be accessible, flexible, transparent, and will demonstrate a sense of urgency in our resolve and decision making.

Accountability - we are committed to achieving, measuring, and reporting the results of our actions and inactions. MOPIA is accountable to a multi-discipline and elected Board of Directors, as well as, its stakeholders, members and The Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship. MOPIA accomplishes this through annual general meetings, being open to the public, holding awareness sessions for members, press releases, website transparency and via scrutiny by our member elected Board of Directors.

Ethics: Adhere to the highest standards of ethics and integrity, respect, privacy, and confidentiality, avoid conflicts of interest, and comply with the law.

Goal: To work towards protection of the stratospheric ozone layer through the control, reduction, and eventual elimination of emissions of ozone depleting and climate change substance to the atmosphere.



Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association

OUR ASSOCIATION EXCOM & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee (Officers)

Chairperson	John Kubilanski
Vice-Chair	Michael Blackey
Secretary	Meghan Skorodenski
Treasurer	William (Bill) Grywinski
Member-at-Large	Don Thomson
Past Chair	Meghan Skordenski

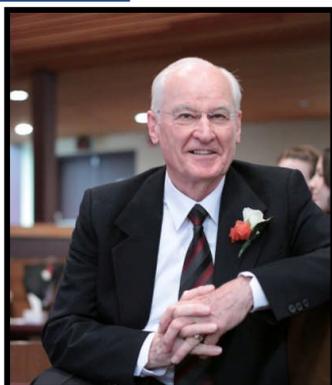


Members of MOPIA's Board of Directors

Kent Cielen	Inez Miller
George Kurowski	Laverne Dalgleish
Kirk Esau	Botho Kramer
Jeff Hillock	



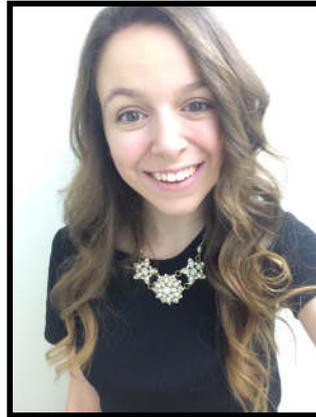
Pictured above: Meghan Skorodenski, Kent Cielen, Kirk Esau, Don Thomson; below: Laverne Dalgleish, Michael Blackey, Bill Grywinski, John Kubilanski. Botho Kramer, Inez Miller, George Kurowski and Jeff Hillock.



MOPIA Team (paid staff) Members:

Executive Director
Executive Assistant
Administrative Assistant
Summer Admin. Assistant

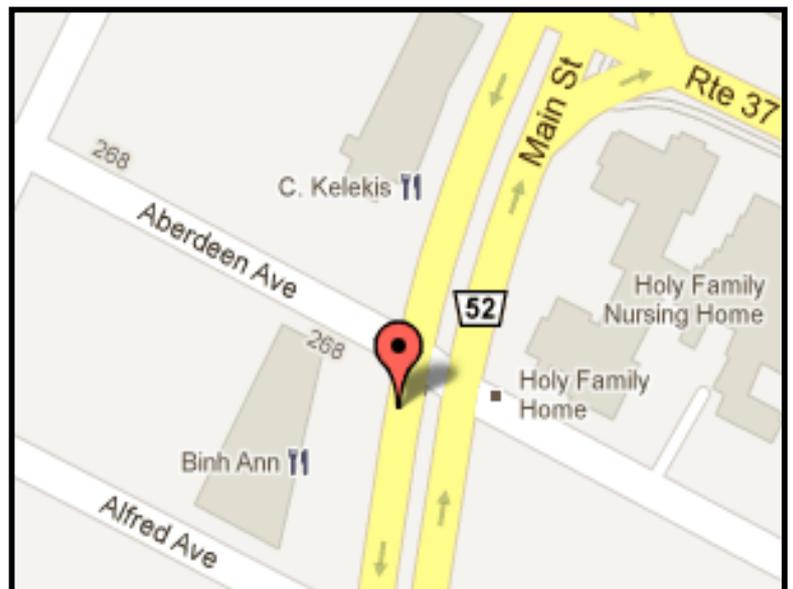
Mark Miller
Laura Bjornson
Jocelyn Silva
Nina Lee



MOPIA's Board of Directors held Meetings during the 2016/17 Fiscal Year on:

Meeting #84	28 th November 2016
Meeting #85	8 th May 2017
Meeting #86	18 th September 2017

MOPIA's Manitoba Headquarters 1082 Main Street



Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association

INNOVATIVE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Manitoba's MOPIA has been at the forefront of providing ozone and climate leadership for government and industry since first initiated in 1993.



- MOPIA developed a leading environmental and regulation awareness certification training program for those handling ODS refrigerants within the air conditioning and HVAC/R sectors. Over 14,000 people have been trained in Manitoba.
- MOPIA envisioned several new regulatory approaches including the world's only mandatory halon sector certification training program, halon system bans, mandatory permits for all buildings operating CFC chillers and permits for company's purchasing of ODS & regulated parts.
- MOPIA facilitated the phase-out of ODS sterilants from all medical facilities/hospitals throughout our province. This was among the first jurisdictions to do so in the world.
- MOPIA hosted several international capacity building study tours in collaboration with UNEP DTIE.
- MOPIA participated in a World Bank sponsored Halon phase-out program Mission to (Beijing) China.
- MOPIA facilitates and hosts industry engagement and awareness sessions every year.
- MOPIA keeps engaged with emerging international technology innovators, private industry and NGO's to ensure we're a leading info source for our stakeholders
- Several public, consumer and industry compliance awareness materials have been created. MOPIA's popular Industry Compliance Guide, is available in hard copy and electronically. The 9th Edition was made available to our stakeholders.
- MOPIA is non-political, not-for-profit and is not beholden to any corporate interests.
- MOPIA continues to offer innovative legislative and regulatory advice to government on ozone and climate protection strategies.

MOPIA's CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
JOHN KUBILANSKI



MOPIA was active with our stakeholders this past year providing program awareness and certification training across the Province of Manitoba.

MOPIA hosted several free compliance awareness sessions in communities from Brandon to Selkirk, Winnipeg, Winkler and Dauphin.

MOPIA also liaised with Provincial Environment Officers to ensure all non-compliance issues were investigated.

On the International front, the Montreal Protocol was amended (Kigali) to include HFCs. Canada introduced a new strategy to limit HFCs going forward.

MOPIA remains committed to hearing our stakeholder concerns and striving to ensure members are the best informed across the various HVAC/R sectors.



I look forward to continuing this important work with our stakeholders to best ensure our members are industry leaders in ODS compliance and emerging ODS technologies.

I also want to thank our stakeholders, members of MOPIA's Board and our staff for their continued diligence and fostering Manitoba's leadership in addressing ODSs.

With respect,

JOHN KUBILANSKI
Chair of the Board

MOPIA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARK MILLER



This past year, MOPIA focused again on compliance awareness for our stakeholders. This included identifying companies not known to MOPIA vis-a-vis importing or purchasing into Manitoba regulated products or where servicing air conditioning or HVAC/R systems.

Further, MOPIA continued to keep our stakeholders aware of relevant news and emerging technologies via our monthly info Bulletin, some new compliance awareness Bulletins and MOPIA's program awareness sessions held across Manitoba.

MOPIA has an important responsibility. I believe our leadership, influence and strategic collaborations are making a positive environmental impact both locally and elsewhere!

We have highlighted some of MOPIA's key activities for 2015/16 in this Report:

- MOPIA held a series of program awareness sessions throughout Manitoba (May-September)
- Strong liaison with both Manitoba Conservation & Water Stewardship and Environment Canada regarding interprovincial issues (federal code, FHR, regulatory harmonization)
- Developed new compliance awareness Bulletins for use by industry
- Involved and engaged with stakeholder organizations.
- Kept aware and engaged on emerging trends related to ozone and climate issues.

Finally, a huge thank you is extended to Lauren, Laura, our Board and ExCom members who were supportive and determined to make a difference.

My best regards,

MARK MILLER
Executive Director

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association COMMITMENT TO THE BEST CERTIFICATION TRAINING

MOPIA prides itself on having among the most comprehensive and thorough certification training program in the world. No other program is delivered with the expertise and knowledge of our experienced trainers. Primary instructor Botho Kramer along with Bill McEwen, Trevor Dobson and Brian Baker have extensive hands-on, practical and formal training within the HVAC/R and/or automotive sectors. Mr. Kramer having been an HVACR Instructor at Manitoba's Red River College for over 30 years.



Red River College and Assiniboine Community College are the two primary training institutions providing apprenticeship training programs to students across Manitoba. These include programs in automotive, trucking, heavy duty machines, agriculture, HVACR, and the various air conditioning and refrigeration levels.

See:

<http://me.rrc.mb.ca/Catalogue/ProgramInfo.aspx?ProgCode=REF5F-CT&RegionCode=WPG>

<http://assiniboine.net/programs>

MOPIA's training manual is continually improved, reviewed and updated as any new or pertinent information becomes available. This, to ensure the most relevant information is being shared to our students. Few other certification training programs have this type scrutiny and continuous improvement.

Mr. Baker unfortunately passed away in 2016 but had operated his own private sector business along

with offering specialized boiler and related air conditioning training. Mr. Baker was a past Chair of HRAI Canada and RSES among other organizations.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association PROGRAM INFORMATION & HIGHLIGHTS



Formal Manitoba Government Appointment With MOPIA

- MOPIA has certain responsibilities and is required to provide administrative assistance on various initiatives as detailed in a formal Government Appointment Agreement under the authority of The Manitoba Ozone Depleting Substances and Other Halocarbons Regulation 103/94. As such, MOPIA was re-appointed by Manitoba's Minister of Sustainable Development for a five year term, 2016-2021.



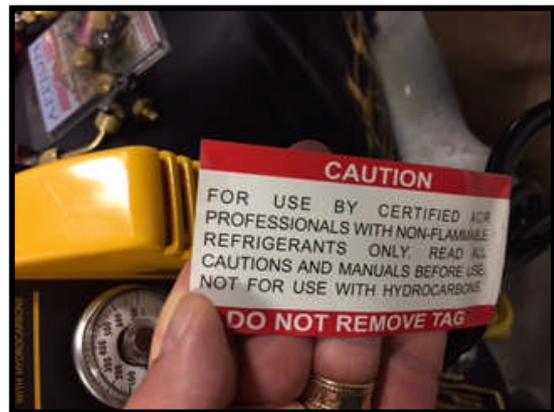
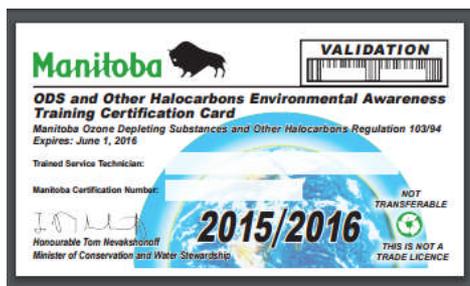
Manitoba's Ministers of Sustainable Development (2016-present)

Hon. Rochelle Squires (seen above)
Appointed August 17, 2017 to present

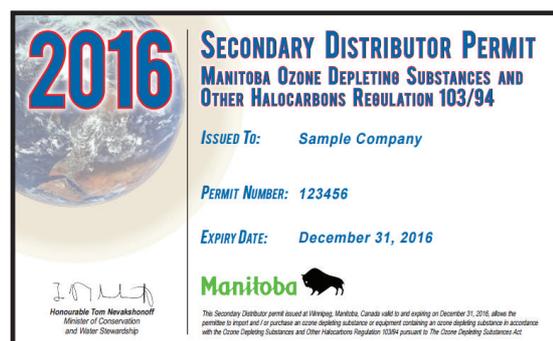
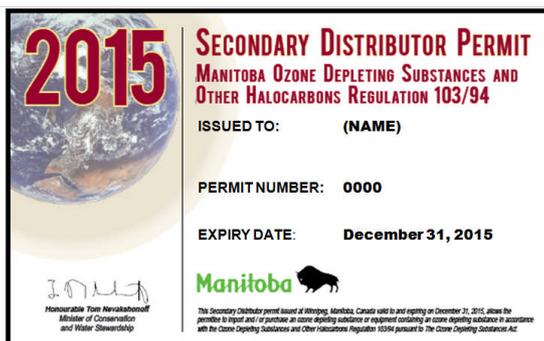
Hon. Cathy Cox
Appointed May 3, 2016 – August 17, 2017
Currently: Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage

Statistics

- As of October 2016, there has been over 14,000 persons trained and certified in Manitoba since 1992.
- In 2015/16 (by October 2016) some 4,630 technicians re-certified (1,363 renewed for 2 years) and 26 steward members.



- As of October 2016, 529 companies were issued Secondary Distributor Permits.



Certification Training

- MOPIA coordinated and offered 13 one-day environmental certification training classes during this fiscal period (12 in 2014/15; 11 in 2013/14; 10

in 2012/13; 9 in 2011/12). These classes were held: January 7, March 19, April 30, May 4 (CFB 17 Wing), May 12 (Brandon), May 28, June 14, July 14, August 13, August 15 (Keeyask), August 31 and October 15.

- Red River College (Winnipeg) and Assiniboine Community College (Brandon) also held MOPIA sanctioned training as part of the trades training programs. These include apprenticeship programs within a variety of trade sectors.
- Those advancing in the various HVAC/R levels are governed by The Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic Trade Regulation 229-97. Persons in truck, agriculture, auto and transport refrigeration also require certification training if they are involved in any type of air conditioning or refrigeration (reefer).



Stakeholder Interaction & Outreach

- MOPIA received approximately 2,550 telephone calls during the 2015/2016 fiscal year and over 2,000 e-mail inquiries.
- MOPIA issued 12 Bulletins, one each month. Editions #148-159. These were distributed to our steward members, subscribing and select stakeholders and key partners including those in the United Nations and Parties around the world.
- MOPIA successfully held several program awareness and outreach sessions across Manitoba during this period. MOPIA visited and hosted free stakeholder luncheon program awareness sessions in the communities of Selkirk, Winkler, Brandon, Dauphin, Steinbach, Portage la Prairie, Thompson, Winnipeg, as well as, site visits to various businesses and potential stakeholders in other locations.

A special addition to some of our awareness sessions was the participation of Environment Officers from Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship at select locations.

- Concern was raised regarding the over the counter sale of parts connected to the closed refrigerant loop, including various HC recharge kits for sale at prominent retails available in Manitoba and elsewhere.

UV Index

Exposure Category	UVI Range
Low	< 2
Moderate	3 to 5
High	6 to 7
Very high	8 to 10
Extreme	11 +



- MOPIA held our 22nd Annual General Meeting on 21st March 2016 at MOPIA (Winnipeg, Manitoba).
- MOPIA did not attend Refrigerant Management Canada's AGM, but kept engaged with their information to share with our stakeholders.
- MOPIA's Chair John Kub and Executive Director attended the 27th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol session in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (1-5 November, 2015).
- UAE, India and Pakistan again stalled progress on HFC controls on the Montreal Protocol at the 27th MOP.
- HFO and hydrocarbon refrigerants continue to emerge.



NEP Web
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- MOPIA continued our paperless “Green Meetings” within our Organization.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association 2015-16 PROGRAM & COMPLIANCE AWARENESS SESSIONS



During the Spring and Summer of 2016, MOPIA hosted a series of program compliance and industry awareness sessions across Manitoba. These sessions were held as luncheon events with interactive presentations lasting on average one and a half hours in length. Hundreds of stakeholders came out to hear our information at the various communities.

These events were also an opportunity to review ODS record keeping methods, answer questions and hear feedback from many stakeholders.

MOPIA also launched our voluntary website stakeholder directory available for all our stakeholders to directly be identified. The onus is on stakeholders to provide the information and it is aimed at increasing our website hits and as a valuable resource for the general public and others.





- MOPIA continued to promote the Switch-the-Stat stewardship initiative. www.switchthestat.ca
- Dozens of mercury switches were sent for safe and proper disposal

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association COMPLIANCE AWARENESS BULLETINS & NEW COMPLIANCE GUIDE

MOPIA produced several information bulletins for our stakeholders and the public to assist them in their understanding of their regulatory responsibilities and general awareness.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

MOPIA continued to maintain a strong partnership with officials from Manitoba Apprenticeship, Conservation and Water Stewardship including that with their Environment Officers who followed up on tips and other suspicious activities. Our professional working relationship has lasted over 22 years through various governments and department re-organizations.



MOPIA continued to maintain a strong rapport with UNEP DTIE. Valuable information and resources are available through their Branch. Future project collaborations are possible. They issue the OzoNews, bimonthly, which we profile on MOPIA's website.



MOPIA attended the 27th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in Dubai, UAE. John Kub and Mark Miller represented the Association at MOP 27 held 1-5 November, 2015. Key amendments were considered including the inclusion of HFC's.



MOPIA kept aware of initiatives of Shecco through and their various web portals of the **THENATURALVOICE**, Hydrocarbons 21, Ammonia 21, and "Atmosphere" Conferences.



17



Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS

November 2015

MOPIA representatives attended the 27th MOP in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

December 2015

21st COP (Paris) saw new global climate protection agreement reached.
MOPIA issues 2016 Secondary Distributor Permit Renewals to Business'

January 2016

New UNEP booklet summarizes how The Montreal Protocol has protected human health.

January 2016

2016 Secondary Distributor Permits take effect

March 2016

MOPIA's 22nd AGM held at MOPIA in Winnipeg
Prime Minister Trudeau and Premiers met in Vancouver to discuss climate change
MOPIA meets with Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship staff

April 2016

37th Open-Ended Working Group Meeting of the Parties has special workshop in HFC management in Geneva, Switzerland

April 2016

Manitoba's 41st General Election sees new PC Government take helm. New Minister Cox appointed to Sustainable Development portfolio replacing Conservation and Water Stewardship

May 2016

Environment Canada seeks comments on Canada's Climate Change Action Plan

June 2016

MOPIA attends Independent Supply open house meeting stakeholders

July 2016

President Obama addresses Canada's Parliament mentions The Montreal Protocol success.

August 2016

Environment Canada CEPA Amendments

October 2016

28th Meeting of the Parties (MOP) sees landmark Kigali HFC agreement approved
Canada sets new carbon pricing at \$10/tonne

MOPIA continues to advocate for a level playing field on enforcement, whereby compliance is mandatory and penalties shall be applied to those overlooking or abusing their regulatory responsibilities. MOPIA will facilitate provincial regulatory amendments proactively and based on federal and international direction.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association
TREASURER'S REPORT, WILLIAM (BILL) GRYWINSKI



Enclosed is MOPIA's financial report for the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 2016 for information and acceptance by our membership.

Our financial statements have been independently audited by Ryan J. Marshall, C.A. and our organizations financial transactions are current and accurate.

The recognized surplus in the amount of \$32,179 in this fiscal year will reflect as a "No Increase in membership fees for the coming fiscal year"

Our Executive Director, together with our Board members, achieved success in the operation of MOPIA within this period and the approved budget.

Respectfully yours,

William (Bill) Grywinski
Treasurer



Bill Grywinski, (middle) along with Michael Blackey, Scott Nicol, Mark Miller and Sarah McCullough at a past outreach event with the MOPIA display pop-up unit.

APPENDIX

**22nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes
March 21, 2016**

The Statement by the United Nations Secretary General (Ban Ki-moon) on the Occasion of International for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (September 16, 2016) can be seen at:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/ozoneday/>

Auditors Report – Financial Statements October 31, 2016



**THE
MANITOBA OZONE PROTECTION INDUSTRY
ASSOCIATION Inc.**

(MOPIA)

22nd Annual General Meeting for Membership

MEETING MINUTES

(22)

21st March 2016

@

7:00 pm

MOPIA

**1082 Main Street
Winnipeg, Canada**

1. Call to Order

Meeting Called to Order (John Kub/Chair) at 19:00 pm. (No proxy votes were sent-in or received at MOPIA for use at this meeting).

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey that the Agenda for the 22nd Annual General Meeting be approved, as presented. **SECONDED** by Botho Kramer.

MOTION APPROVED.

3. **Approval of the 21st Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Inez asked if the Bylaws reflected the corrections as referenced in the 21st AGM Minutes. The Executive Director indicated that the Bylaws were updated and circulated some time back to the Board, but will be circulated once again.

MOTION: MOVED by Kent Cielen that the Meeting Minutes of the 21st Annual General Meeting of 23rd March 2015 be approved. **SECONDED** by Inez Miller.

MOTION APPROVED.

4. **Report from our Chair of the Board of Directors & Excom (Mr. John Kub)**

The Chair read a verbal statement and a written Report is contained in the 2014/15 Annual Report on page 8.

MOTION: MOVED by Botho Kramer that the Chair's Report was received and that it be approved as presented. **SECONDED** by Michael Blackey.

MOTION APPROVED.

5. **Report from our Treasurer (Mr. William (Bill) Grywinski)**

The Executive Director read The Treasurers Report which is contained in the 2014/2015 Annual Report (pg. 18) and it includes the Auditors Reports in the Appendix. MOPIA's financials are consistent to the Boards direction throughout the year as there were no major unanticipated deviations.

An excess of revenue over expenses for the 2014/15 fiscal period was reported at nearly \$30k.

Clarification was requested regarding figures including (\$164,465), \$38,634 and (\$125,831) on page 7 of the Auditors Report. The Auditor will be approached to assist in the interpretation of these amounts.

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and approved. **SECONDED** by Botho Kramer.

MOTION APPROVED.

6. **Report from our Executive Director's Report (Mr. Mark Miller)**

The Executive Director highlighted selected MOPIA accomplishments throughout fiscal 2014/15. These achievements can be seen throughout the 22nd Annual Report.

Noted that the MOPIA Outreach sessions continued to be popular and well attended.

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey to accept the Executive Director's Report, as presented. **SECONDED** by Kirk Esau.

MOTION APPROVED

7. Report from the Nominating Committee (Don Thomson)

Don Thomson, Kirk Esau, Doug Alexander and Mark Miller scrutinized nominations for the Board of Directors.

Members were informed that Dietrich Schellenberg recently resigned from the Board due to work and family reasons, not due to any controversy or corporate issue(s).

Those nominated for a two-year term are: Don Thomson, George Kurowski, Botho Kramer, Laverne Dagleish, Melissa Leclerc, Michael Blackey and Jeff Hillock.

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey to accept the candidates nominated for MOPIA's Board, as presented. **SECONDED** by Kirk Esau.

MOTION APPROVED.

8. Appointment of Auditor for 2015/2016

Discussion regarding our satisfaction with our Auditor and the assistance they provide. MOPIA has had no concerns and the firm works professionally with our staff. A past suggestion was that switching auditors may be advisable to continue the independent scrutiny of our books, but some sense they are already accountable and held to codes and the authenticity of their work through their professional designation. Changing Auditors is advantageous if there are concerns (i.e. costs, poor scrutiny) but may in fact, raise flags if there are no relevant concerns. The costs/fees seem to be in-line to industry standards and to what MOPIA can practically afford.

MOTION: MOVED by Kirk Esau that MOPIA continue with our current financial Auditor, Ryan J. Marshall, for the current fiscal year, 2015-2016. **SECONDED** by George Kurowski.

MOTION APPROVED.

9. Date for MOPIA's 23rd Annual General Meeting

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey that MOPIA's 23rd AGM be held on March 27, 2017 in Winnipeg with the discretion of the Board to change this date and determine the meeting site location, in future. **SECONDED** by George Kurowski.

MOTION APPROVED.

10. Other Business

Michael Blackey highlighted that a major concern of his and others is the storage and disposal of empty refrigerant cylinders. Wholesalers and metal recyclers do not seem to be accepting back empty cylinders if they were not originally purchased at that retailer.

MR 103/94 Section 17 was referenced and is seen as not potentially specific enough to compel wholesalers to accept and process back empty cylinders broadly enough. Many businesses are storing empty cylinders with no avenue to dispose of them.

The core charge (deposit) on these cylinders range but on average is about \$80. It appears that this charge is unfair or a lucrative fee for refrigerant manufacturers as the cylinders themselves likely do not cost that much to produce and a great deal of the core charges are not being refunded back.

It is known that Refrigerant Management Canada (RMC) was set up to process these cylinders. There seems to be a disconnect happening between RMC, wholesalers and contractors who want to return cylinders (not bought directly from specific wholesalers/distributors).

It was requested that the Executive Director try to resolve or identify options for contractors to disposal of these cylinders along with the core charge issues.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey that MOPIA's 22nd Annual General Meeting adjourn.

MOTION APPROVED.

The meeting adjourned at 20:04 pm. (21st March 2016).

PENDING - APPROVED March 27, 2017
-- OFFICIAL COPY --

Chair of the Board of Directors

Executive Director

Originally drafted 3/22/16 at Winnipeg, Canada.



UNITED NATIONS

NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

**MESSAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER**

16 September 2016

Secretary-General's Message for 2016

The world has changed since we last marked International Ozone Day. We now have our 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which will foster equitable inclusive growth and further the well-being of people and our planet. On climate change, the Paris Agreement marks a historic turning point in our common journey towards a secure and sustainable world.

Now, we must turn ambition into action, and strengthen climate protection by harnessing the power of the Montreal Protocol to make progress in slowing the near-term warming caused by hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), the fastest growing of the greenhouse gases.

Next month, in Rwanda, we have an opportunity to do exactly that, when national delegations gather to reach a global consensus on phasing down HFCs under the Montreal Protocol. Years ago, HFCs were widely adopted as an effective alternative to products that were damaging the ozone layer, particularly those used in refrigeration and air conditioning. However, science has revealed that, while HFCs have greatly reduced the threat to the ozone layer, they are an extremely potent greenhouse gas. With their use increasing rapidly, we must take decisive action – just as we previously did to put the ozone layer on the path to recovery.

Phasing down HFCs would provide considerable benefits. It would avoid up to half a degree of global warming by the end of this century, providing a major boost for the Paris Agreement, and it could also significantly improve the energy efficiency of some alternative refrigerants and technologies.

A global problem requires a global solution. I am confident that any obstacles can be overcome, having already seen nations use the Montreal Protocol to avert up to two million cases of skin cancer a year and save many more people from the suffering caused by cataracts.

By using the Montreal Protocol regime to phase down HFCs, we can complement other efforts to reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions under the UNFCCC process. On this International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, let us remember how much has already been accomplished, and commit to do more to protect our atmosphere. By working together, we can build a safer, healthier, more prosperous and resilient world for all people while protecting our planet, our only home.

Ban Ki-moon

Selected Significant Climate Anomalies and Events October 2017

GLOBAL AVERAGE TEMPERATURE

October 2017 average global land and ocean temperature tied with 2003 as the fourth highest for October since records began in 1880.

