



# International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

Monday, September 16

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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, 2013 is “A healthy atmosphere, the future we want”. A website highlighting this can be seen at:

[http://ozone.unep.org/new\\_site/en/ozone\\_day\\_details.php](http://ozone.unep.org/new_site/en/ozone_day_details.php)

MOPIA’s Manitoba stakeholders continue to be global leaders in their efforts to protect the ozone layer. Several initiatives including technician environmental protection 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.

Manitoba is unique as our province has one of the most comprehensive and dynamic stratospheric ozone protection programs in the world. MOPIA has hosted international study tours in collaboration with the United Nations and is a strong advocate for industry innovation and ozone protection. Strong stakeholder partnerships and commitments by industry and government have reduced the use or impact of ozone depleting and climate change substances.

## **Background**

The Montreal Protocol was originally signed by 24 nations (including Canada) in 1987. 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.

September 16 was selected to commemorate the date in 1987 when The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer” was originally signed. Presently, 197 nations world-wide have ratified the Montreal Protocol. The 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol takes place 21-25 October 2013 at Bangkok, Thailand. The Signatories will evaluate the current framework and consider measures to further strengthen and protect the ozone layer and address climate change.

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