

The Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association









19th Annual Report 2011/12

November 1, 2011 - October 31, 2012



For the 19th Annual General Meeting held at MacDon Ind. in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

22nd April 2013



IT'S ILLEGAL TO "TOP UP" AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEMS

Air conditioning refrigerant leaks (whether in vehicles, ag equipment, home or building systems) are potentially harmful to the equipment and damaging to the environment if left leaking. If a system is not cooling well or "low on refrigerant", there's possibly a refrigerant line leak. A certified trained service professional can diagnose and leak test according to standards and make a permanent repair to the unit.

It is against the law to "Top Up" refrigerant (just adding more refrigerant to a system). Under Manitoba law, refrigerant systems must be "leak tested" and permanently repaired. Manitoba Certified Refrigerant Service Technicians are trained to capture your remaining refrigerant, to perform the leak test, and repair all leak sources BEFORE recharging your system. It's their responsibility to record the results of your leak test, and to ensure it is repaired, under provincial law.

Wrongful servicing can lead to penalties of up to \$1,000,000 for companies and fines of \$100,000 for persons and imprisonment.

Repairing your air conditioning system properly is not only a good idea, IT'S THE LAW...

To learn more about acceptable leak testing procedures, visit www.mopla.ca/outreach/leak-testing

Any suspicious air conditioning service practices should be reported to an Environment Officer at your local Manitoba Conservation office at 204-945-7100.

For the full regulations, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/pollutionprevention/ods

This poster courtesy of



M O P I A 1 • 888 • 667 • 4203 204 • 338 • 2222 www.mopia.ca mopia@mts.net



AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE DO'S & DON'TS

DO'S

Any time there is a refrigerant leak, a thorough leak test must be performed to determine where the actual leak is located. Once this is determined, the leak can be permanently repaired. Just adding refrigerant to a system is not permitted as this does not fix the problem, and may lead to long term equipment failure and harm to the environment.

Certified technicians can use refrigerants existing in system while performing leak test, but cannot add refrigerants to leak test.

If no leak is found using an approved leak test protocol, refrigerant may be added.

If a leak is found, the technician must tell YOU, the customer. The owner of the vehicle or equipment is then obligated to get the leak repaired as soon as possible, as this will minimize potential damage to the equipment and the environment.

DON'TS

The following practices are not permitted:

- Just "topping up" a leaking system
- The discharge of a regulated refrigerant (i.e. HCFC, HFC) into the environment is illegal
- Continuing to run without repairing the leak. Owners should be advised by the mechanic of the environmental impact of their leak, and know that they can damage their A/C unit by running it without a proper charge of refrigerant
- Adding a different refrigerant than the one already in the system, which can cause a potentially dangerous "chemical cocktail", which can also damage your system
- Adding refrigerants other than the factory-mandated ones into your A/C system

Leak testing methods are specific, as prescribed by The Code of Practice (Environment Canada) and MOPIA.

For details, visit www.mopia.ca or http://ec.gc.ca/ezone/default.asplang=En&n=E06A6B0D-



MOPIA issued a series of industry awareness bulletins – seen above is our "Top-Up" issue (see more on page 13).

Manitoba instituted a new and more protective approach on the use of sunbeds by persons under 18 (June, 2012).

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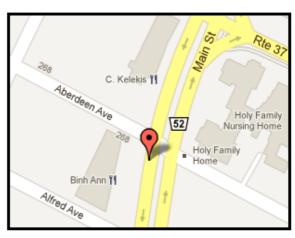
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Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association (MOPIA) CORPORATE INFORMATION

MOPIA's offices are located at 1082 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. The Association subleases office space with the Manitoba Geothermal Energy Alliance (MGEA). MOPIA has a renewable 5-year lease with Mutual Agencies (November 2016).





Contact Information: Telephone: 204.338.2222

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Primary E-mail: mopia@mts.net
Website: www.mopia.ca

Date of Original Incorporation (Manitoba): 21 October 1993

Fiscal Year: 1 November - 31 October

Financial Institution: Steinbach Credit Union at Winnipeg, Manitoba

Corporate Auditor for the 2011/12 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. MOPIA was appointed by Manitoba's Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship, The Hon. Gord Mackintosh, for specific tasks and responsibilities.



Pictured (I-r): Mark Miller (Executive Director), Hon. Stan Struthers (Minister of Finance), Bill Taylor (Member of the Board of Directors), George Kurowski (Past Chair) and Michael Blackey (Former Chair)

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

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

<u>Vision:</u> To contribute meaningfully to a healthy atmosphere for future generations.

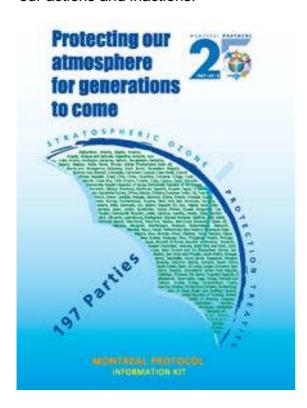
Core Values:

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.



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

<u>Goal:</u> 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.

Accountability: MOPIA is accountable to a multi-discipline and elected Board of Directors, as well as, its stakeholders and members. MOPIA accomplishes this through annual general meetings, being open to the public, holding awareness sessions for members, regular press releases, and a member elected Board of Directors

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association OUR ASSOCIATION EXCOM & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee (Officers)

Chairperson Doug Alexander Vice-Chair Meghan Johnson

Secretary Bill Taylor

Treasurer Laverne Dalgleish Member-at-Large Michael Blackey Past Chair George Kurowski



Inez Miller John Kubilanski Don Thomson Bill Grywinski Kurtis Calder Ed Kirby Botho Kramer Jeff Hillock



Pictured below: Michael Blackey, Scott Nicol, Bill Grywinski, Mark Miller, Sarah McCullough, Bill Taylor, Inez Miller, John Kub. Meghan Johnson, Don Thomson, George Kurowski and Botho Kramer



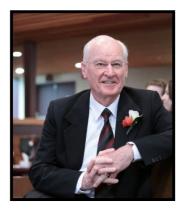












MOPIA Team Members (Paid Staff):

Executive Director Executive Assistants Special Projects Officers Mark Miller Lauren & Grenadine Melissa, Daniel and Graham (shown)









Board Meetings held during the 2011/12 Fiscal Year:

 Meeting #65
 9 January 2012

 Meeting #66
 13 February 2012

 Meeting #67
 2 April 2012

 Meeting #68
 14 May 2012

 Meeting #69
 14 Occaptors for 2014

Meeting #69 10 September 2012

The Executive Committees' last meeting was held:

Meeting # 107 2 February 2009



Recharge kits and small cylinders of HFC's are available for sale - seen here in Barbados. Small HFC refrigerant cans like these are prohibited in Manitoba.

Photo courtesy of Botho Kramer.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DOUG ALEXANDER







The past year has seen a lot of new efforts by MOPIA to raise the profile of compliance awareness. MOPIA designed and made available several new bulletins some geared to our stakeholders, others to consumers of air conditioning services or products. I believe we should continue to do these to make the regulation easy to understand for our members, the public and the industry.

Some new innovations and products were launched in Europe and Asia and MOPIA is watching keenly to see how these may affect our stakeholders. These include equipment using carbon dioxide and hydrocarbons.

I have enjoyed being your Chair and thank each Board member for their contribution, as well as, our staff.

Respectfully Submitted, Doug Alexander Chair of the Board of Directors

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association MOPIA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARK MILLER



MOPIA reached-out to our stakeholders during this time, more aggressively than ever before. We focused on compliance awareness and as such, developed a information compliance varietv of awareness bulletins. MOPIA identified several new stakeholders and we assisted them in their regulatory compliance. MOPIA has keeping aware emerging technologies innovations. We continue to take our responsibilities seriously and know that our leadership, influence and strategic collaborations are making a difference in Manitoba and elsewhere.

I've highlighted just some of our activities over the 2011/12 year below:

- Attended the 23rd Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol
- MOPIA held a series of program awareness sessions throughout Manitoba (May-July)
- Kept engaged with both Manitoba Conservation and Environment Canada regarding interprovincial issues (federal code, FHR, regulatory harmonization)
- Developed new compliance awareness bulletins for use by industry
- Identified new potential stakeholders who required our assistance in compliance
- Spoke to stakeholders and others about emerging trends, ozone and climate issues.

MOPIA has continued to strive where no other organization has and as such, have made some positive achievements over the past 19 years. The exciting news is that there are many challenges yet ahead (i.e. control of HFC's and introduction of new technologies) and that MOPIA has an important and distinct role. With the valuable input of our Board and stakeholders and the commitment and extraordinary efforts of our office team we'll continue to influence change for the betterment of the ozone layer, our climate and our stakeholders.

Thank you to our Board members, and our Chair who were supportive and decisive helping to make our Association relevant, active and leading edge. I sense it's all making a difference for our environment!



My best regards,

Mark Miller Executive Director

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association PROFILE ON OUR KEY STAFF TEAM MEMBERS

MOPIA has an energetic, conscientious and dedicated paid staff team. They are motivated and continue to prioritize objectives and achieve results. Our employees (both full and part-time) have been the cornerstone of our success. Two of our staff are profiled below.

As MOPIA strives forward, our specialized and experienced staff will continue to work hard for our stakeholders. This includes proficient response times to inquiries, renewals and training needs. MOPIA will also keep our stakeholders informed of industry and government decisions and impending changes.



Grenadine Parotina, Executive Assistant

Grena began with MOPIA during this period and has learned to play an instrumental role in our day-to-day operations. That included database management, support with environmental certification training administration and many other tasks.

Grena was invaluable to MOPIA as she encouraged the initiation of several new database and excel management systems that have made MOPIA more efficient and productive.



Lauren Griffith-Parker, Executive Assistant

Lauren played a principle front line role as our member liaison throughout periods of the year particularly during the summer and midwinter months of 2011/2012.

Lauren also continued to study in College as she pursues her education and knowledge advancement.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association PROGRAM INFORMATION & HIGHLIGHTS

- ➤ MOPIA was re-appointed (2011/12) by the Honorable Gord Mackintosh, Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship (Manitoba). MOPIA has certain responsibilities and is required to provide administrative assistance on various initiatives as detailed in the formal Appointment Agreement.
- As of October 2012, there were 5,267 technicians certified, 307 subscription members and 49 steward members. As of October 2012, 443 companies were secondary distributor permit holders.
- ➤ MOPIA held 9 (8 in 2009/10; 9 in 2010/11) one-day environmental certification training courses during this fiscal period. These were held: December 3, February 28, March 31, April 21, May 24, July 25, August 22 and September 22.
- Red River College (Winnipeg) and Assiniboine Community College (Brandon) also held MOPIA sanctioned training as part of the trades training programs (Re: The Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic Trade Regulation 229-97) and truck, agriculture, auto and transport.
- ➤ MOPIA received approximately 2,600 telephone calls/inquiries during the 2011/2012 fiscal year and approximately 1,800 emails from stakeholders.
- MOPIA issued 12 E-Bulletins, one per month, during this past fiscal period.
- MOPIA's Board nomination committee was chaired by Mr. George Kurowski, (Past Chair).
- MOPIA held program awareness sessions across Manitoba, including the communities of Winkler, Winnipeg, Brandon, Dauphin, Steinbach, Morris, Portage la Prairie as well as site visits to stakeholders and potential stakeholders in Swan River, Minnedosa and other several other communities.
- ➤ During the summer of 2012, MOPIA received a grant from the Urban Green Team program to hire a person for a climate change and sun awareness project. MOPIA hired a student to coordinate activities within the program.

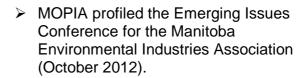


- MOPIA held its' 18th Annual General Meeting on 23rd April 2012 at the Ramada, Viscount Gort Hotel (Winnipeg, Manitoba).
- MOPIA was a sponsor of the 2012 Eco-Calendar. 100,000 copies distributed.









MOPIA did not attend Refrigerant Management Canada's 11th AGM, but kept engaged in their information exchange for our stakeholders.





- MOPIA remembered Mr. Trevor Rees, a former Chair 1996-97 (January 2012).
- A new Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship was appointed by the Provincial Government, The Hon. Gord Mackintosh (January, 2012).
- ➤ MOPIA re-launched our website (October, 2012).
- Manitoba released its Report on Climate Change (February, 2012)
- > MOPIA saw the Government of Canada cut the ozone monitoring program
- ➤ MOPIA produced a buyers beware bulletin highlighting the concern of counterfeit refrigerants.
- ➤ MOPIA settled into our new office site with 5 year lease at 1082 Main Street with dramatic long term savings. A tenant was also found to support costs, the Manitoba Geothermal Energy Alliance.
- ➤ MOPIA continued our paperless "Green Meetings" within our Organization, distributing meeting information electronically and via LCD projector on screen when in-house. Paper use/circulation has been cut by over 90%.

Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association 2012 PROGRAM & COMPLIANCE AWARENESS SESSIONS



During the Spring and Summer of 2012, MOPIA hosted a series of program compliance and industry awareness sessions across Manitoba. These were held sessions as breakfast or 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 host locations.

These events were also an opportunity to review ODS record keeping methods, answer questions and hear feedback from many stakeholders. Special guest speakers participated including Mr. Neil Armstrong (pictured above & a rep. from Apprenticeship dept. https://www.gov.mb.ca/tce/apprent/index.html) and Jennifer Court (rep. from Canada's Switch-the-stat program).



- MOPIA hosted our 2012 program awareness events in Steinbach, Winkler, Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Morris and Dauphin.
- Our stakeholders provided many excellent and encouraging comments, some of which we have begun to adopt (i.e. 2 yr. renewal option). MOPIA's thanks our members and stakeholders for their many suggestions. We plan to act on many of the suggestions and seek more of your feedback in future.
- MOPIA assisted to promote the Switch-the-Stat stewardship initiative. www.switchthestat.ca



Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association COMPLIANCE AWARENESS BULLETINS



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

MOPIA identified non-compliant cylinders from Asia being sold in Manitoba, which raised both local concern and international attention.







Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

MOPIA continued to maintain a strong rapport with UNEP DTIE. Valuable information and resources are available through the Branch. Future project collaborations are possible. They issue the OzoNews, an electronic E-Bulletin, which is profiled on MOPIA's website.

MOPIA attended the 23rd Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in Indonesia. Michael Blackey and Mark Miller represented the Association in various meetings 21-25 November, 2012. Key amendments were considered including the inclusion of HFC's. While there, MOPIA stayed at an EarthCheck Hotel, an environmental choice location.

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



MOPIA continued to maintain a strong partnership with officials from Manitoba Conservation INCLUDING their Environment Officers who followed up on tips and other suspicious activities. Our professional working relationship has lasted over 19 years through various governments and department reorganizations.









Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association FROM OUR TREASURER





Respectfully submitted, Laverne Dalgleish Treasurer

Please find attached the financial statements for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2012 for scrutiny and approval by our membership.

The financial statements show a slight surplus over expenses for our 2011/12 fiscal period. The financial statements reflect in principle the approved budget. The statements continue to demonstrate our history of sound financial management and detailed scrutiny of our organization's financial accounting system.

I'm reporting that the financial statements, as independently scrutinized by Ryan J. Marshall (Chartered Accountant), accurately reflect the financial transactions of our organization ended October 31, 2012.

Once again over this past year, I have worked closely with our Executive Director to assist and ensure our Board approved budget reflects the demands and priorities of our organization.



APPENDIX

18th Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

Disposal of Assets Policy

(Adopted April 2012)

The Statement by the United Nations Secretary General (Ban Kimoon) on the Occasion of International for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (September 16, 2012) can be seen at:

http://www.unep.org/ozonaction/Events/OzoneDay/2011/tabid/56178/Default.aspx

Auditors Report - Financial Statements October 31, 2012



THE MANITOBA OZONE PROTECTION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION Inc.

(MOPIA)

18th Annual General Meeting for Membership

MEETING MINUTES

(18)

23rd April 2012

7:15 pm Ramada Viscount Gort Hotel Viscount A 1670 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Canada

1. Call to Order

George Kurowski (Chair) called the Meeting to Order at 19:15 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: MOVED by Bill Taylor that the Agenda for the 18th Annual General Meeting be approved as presented. SECONDED by Bill Grywinski.

MOTION APPROVED.

3. Guest Speaker (Mr. Neil Armstrong, Apprenticeship Training Coordinator)

Information on Manitoba's Apprenticeship programs was presented, including the various industry sector programs and levels. Manitoba pay rates were highlighted.

A new initiative called Access Manitoba has been launched that will act as a hub for information for employers and employees. Neil provided Access Manitoba contact information (www.accessmanitoba.ca).

Neil responded to questions regarding enforcement. Besides Manitoba Conservation, Workplace Safety and Health and the Department of Labour are also departments that have responsibility with the various trade sectors.

A key strategy is to make known to homeowners and building owners who can can work on various pieces of equipment.

Discussion regarding the College (i.e. pre-employment at RRC) training and student prerequisite for "MOPIA" certification. The college programs should reinforce that students require their MOPIA certification as often this is not available any longer within certain college program(s). MOPIA is making certification training dates and venues accessible for students and other stakeholders on an as needed basis. Instructors are informed of certification training dates.

4. Approval of the 17th Annual General Meeting Minutes (14th March 2011)

MOTION: MOVED by Don Thomson that the Meeting Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting of 14th March 2011 be approved. SECONDED by Michael Blackey.

MOTION APPROVED.

5. Report from our Chair of the Board of Directors & Excom (Mr. George Kurowski)

The Chair's Report is contained in the 2010/11 Annual Report beginning on page 7. George highlighted the 2010 halon phase-out, the introduction of new HCFC and HFC alternatives and the environmental consequences of climate change.

6. Report from our Treasurer Mr. Laverne Dalgleish

The Treasurers report is contained in the 2010-2011 Annual Report (pg. 14) and it includes the Auditors Reports (appendix). MOPIA's financials are consistent to the Boards direction throughout the year and there were no concerns expressed.

MOTION: MOVED by Laverne Dalgleish that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and approved. SECONDED by Botho Kramer.

MOTION APPROVED.

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

Mark highlighted MOPIA's accomplishments throughout fiscal 2010/11. These can be seen on pages 10-12 of the 18th Annual Report.

MOPIA was reappointed by the Provincial Government, this is an annual process.

Provincial outreach sessions were successfully held and they were well received based on the evaluations from participants. A series of outreach sessions are once again planned for Spring 2012.

MOPIA continued to hold certification training sessions.

New outreach materials are planned to strengthen compliance awareness.

8. Report from the Nominating Committee (Mr. Michael Blackey)

A verbal report was presented to the membership, highlighted on screen.

Eligible candidates and those nominated for a two-year term are: Ed Kirby, Jeff Hillock, Don Thomson, Michael Blackey, Bill Taylor, Botho Kramer, Laverne Dalgleish and George Kurowski.

Those remaining on the Board until our 19th AGM are: Inez Miller, Bill Grywinski, Russ Martin, John Kub, Kurtis Calder, Doug Alexander and Meghan Johnson.

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey to accept the Nominations Committee Report of nominated Board candidates as presented. SECONDED by Bill Taylor.

MOTION APPROVED.

9. Appointment of Auditor for 2011/2012

Laverne suggested any organization should routinely rotate auditors every 3-5 years to best ensure accuracy and too lessen risk of oversights.

MOTION: MOVED by Laverne Dalgleish that MOPIA continue with our current Auditor, Ryan J. Marshall for the current fiscal year, 2011-2012. SECONDED by Bill Grywinski.

MOTION APPROVED.

10. <u>Date for MOPIA's 19th Annual General Meeting</u>

MOTION: MOVED by Don Thomson that MOPIA's 19th AGM be tentatively held on April 22, 2013 with the discretion of the Board to change this date in future. SECONDED by Laverne Dalgleish.

MOTION APPROVED.

11. <u>Date for Board of Director's Meeting to S/elect Officers (Excom)</u>

This item and the date will be dealt with via an email circular to the Board.

12. Other Business

MOPIA should continue to encourage our stakeholders and members to AGM's. Many believe there are not any hot or controversial issues, so people are not inclined to participate.

Expressed by Jeff that companies should be good environmental stewards and it is important to learn and share information. MOPIA is a good platform for this type of dialogue and interaction.

13. Adjournment

MOTION: MOVED by Michael Blackey that the 18th Annual General Meeting adjourn.

MOTION APPROVED.

The meeting adjourned at 20:33 pm. (24th April 2012).

APPROVED TBA 2013
-- OFFICIAL COPY -
Chair of the Board of Directors

Originally drafted 4/25/12 at Winnipeg, Canada.

Disposal of Assets Policy

Effective 2nd April 2012

Rationale/Purpose

To ensure any assets disposed of by any individual representing MOPIA are justly accountable to our stakeholders and to ensure they are documented properly by Accounting and/or our Auditor.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure no MOPIA employee or stakeholder is profiting from the disposition of any asset. And, to ensure the asset is logged or documented in its end-of-life disposition.

MOPIA rarely disposes of equipment or assets in general. However, in the instance that this occurs the following must be followed.

<u>Assets</u>

Any MOPIA asset that has been deemed by the Executive Director or Board to have served its useful life may be disposed of according to the following guidelines.

- Any computer equipment or personal information (data) that has seen its useful life expire shall be disposed in a manner that is environmentally safe and protects the privacy of our membership.
- Staff, Board members or stakeholders may receive retired or expired assets but they shall not profit personally from the acquisition or sale of any of these assets.
- An asset that does have a probable value of \$100 or greater shall be offered for sale with the revenue accounted or the item may be donated to a charity or an organization in-need. A letter of receipt should account for this disposition/donation.
- An expired or purposeless asset with a probable value of less than \$100 may be donated to a charity or given away at the Executive Director's discretion (see below).

Recommended Protocol for disposing of Assets

Members of MOPIA's Board and Employee(s) may have first option on the item(s) to be disposed. An email shall be circulated offering the item(s) and the first one to respond (email date stamp) will be offered the item(s). If no one responds within 24 hours, the item(s) may be offered to a charity or given away randomly.

Adopted originally by the Board on April 2, 2012



UNITED NATIONS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

NATIONS UNIES

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MESSAGE ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER 16 September 2012

A quarter-century ago, one of the greatest challenges facing humanity – the thinning of the ozone layer that protects life on Earth from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun – led to what is arguably the best example yet of global cooperation on an environmental issue. The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer is not merely a success in meeting its immediate objectives, it offers substantive lessons and inspiration in addressing other global challenges and turning them into opportunities for common progress.

As we look to mitigate and adapt to climate change, tackle other environmental threats and implement the outcomes of the Rio+20 conference on sustainable development, the story of the Montreal Protocol highlights the benefits of pursuing an inclusive green economy. It shows that, in acting on one issue, many others can be addressed too.

With the global phase-out of 98 per cent of ozone-depleting gases in consumer, industrial and agricultural products, the ozone layer is now on track to recover over the next five decades. Millions of cases of skin cancer and eye cataracts, as well as the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation on the environment, have already been avoided. The Protocol has also catalyzed considerable innovation in the chemical and equipment manufacturing industry, resulting in more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly refrigeration systems.

Action under the Protocol has also had significant climate benefits. Many of these substances have been phased out, such as chlorofluorocarbons once used in products such as hairsprays, which are significant greenhouse gases. Nonetheless, the challenges are not over. Governments must maintain their commitment to finish the job and avert additional problems. The use of hydrofluorocarbons – ozone-friendly chemicals that are also powerful greenhouse gases – is growing rapidly to replace ozone-depleting substances.

The Montreal Protocol has demonstrated that fundamental principles – such as science-based policy making, the precautionary approach, common but differentiated responsibilities and equity within and between generations –can benefit all nations. On this International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, I congratulate all who have made the Montreal Protocol such an outstanding example of international cooperation. And I urge Governments and all partners to apply the same spirit to the other great environment and development challenges of our times. Together, we can achieve the future we want.