

# Agenda, Registration & Sponsor Information

## 43rd MCDA Conservation Conference

December 10-12, 2018  
Keystone Centre, Brandon, MB

### Get the inside scoop on conservation in Manitoba

Join us at the 43rd MCDA Conservation Conference, Dec 10-12, 2018 in Brandon, to get inside info on:

- Opportunities with the new multi-million dollar Conservation Trust;
- Major changes coming to provincial drainage regulations;
- How treaties shape partnerships between First Nations and conservation groups;
- Success stories in boosting agricultural soil health;
- And much more. See the full agenda at [mcda.ca/conference](http://mcda.ca/conference)

### How you can participate

- **Book a trade show booth** to engage your brand with hundreds of delegates from academia, agriculture, business, conservation, and the public, all working to protect Manitoba's soil, water, and climate. See page 3 for more details.
- **Become a sponsor** to gain further visibility for your organization, with high-profile recognition throughout the conference agenda. A trade show booth is included with the River and Watershed Steward packages. See page 2 for more details.
- **Buy a regular ticket** ("Non-Member") for full admission to the conference and banquet, or pick up a **student ticket**.
- Short on time or money? Get a **banquet-only ticket** and you can still network with hundreds of delegates at the Conservation Awards Banquet.
- If you're a councillor or staff with a municipality that is part of a conservation district, you qualify for the "CD Member" reduced ticket price. Contact your conservation district to register. For all other guests:

**Register now** at [mcda.ca/conference](http://mcda.ca/conference), or use the accompanying form, or call Sean Goertzen at 204-570-0164.

### Looking for a hotel room near the Keystone Centre?

**Book with Clarion Hotel & Suites**, mention the MCDA Conference when booking, and Clarion will donate \$10 per booking to support MCDA's work. Call 1-800-852-2709 or visit [clarionbrandon.com](http://clarionbrandon.com)

# Become a Sponsor

Support the work of Manitoba's 18 conservation districts to protect our soil, water, and climate, in partnership with communities across Manitoba. Have your brand recognized by hundreds of delegates from academia, science, agriculture, business, environmental organizations, and the general public. Our work depends on your support!

## Watershed Steward: \$3,000 – \$10,000

Watershed Steward sponsors will receive:

- 5 minutes at the microphone and the chance to introduce one of the following: a keynote speaker, banquet (*sold*), or the Conservation Awards (*sold*);
- A 10' x 20' trade show booth;
- 2 conference tickets (including the banquet);
- 4 extra banquet tickets and a reserved table;

## River Steward: \$2,000 – \$2,999

River Steward sponsors will receive:

- 5 minutes at the microphone and the chance to sponsor and introduce one of the following: a networking break (*sold*), lunch (*sold*), or the band at the *Breaking the Ice* party (*available*);
- A 10' x 10' trade show booth;
- 2 tickets to the full conference and banquet; and
- 2 extra banquet tickets.

## Stream Steward: \$1,000 – \$1,999

Stream Steward sponsors will receive:

- 2 conference tickets (banquet included).

## All sponsors will also receive:

- Recognition in the banquet program;
- Recognition from the podium;
- Recognition on conference signage and screens;
- Recognition on our website, Facebook, and Twitter with links to their website.

To confirm sponsorship or inquire, contact:

Sean Goertzen  
MCDA Executive Director  
[sean@mcda.ca](mailto:sean@mcda.ca)  
204-570-0164

# Book a Trade Show Booth

Engage with hundreds of delegates from academia, science, agriculture, business, environment, all levels of government, and the general public. Reserve your trade show booth for the 43rd MCDA Conservation Conference, December 10-11, 2018 in Brandon.



## Trade Show Logistics

The trade show runs from Mon, Dec 10, 2018 at noon to Tues Dec 11 at 5:45 PM.

Location: Keystone Centre (MNP Hall) – #1 – 1175 – 18th Street, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 7C5

Set-Up: Monday, December 10, 2018, 8:00 AM to Noon

Trade Show Hours:

Mon Dec 10 2018, 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Tues Dec 11, 2018, 8:00 AM to 5:45 PM

Breaking the Ice: We're having a party in honour of you, our trade show exhibitors! Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 10 PM at the Great Western Roadhouse Bar & Grill at the Keystone Centre.

Take-Down: Move out will take place after 5:45 PM on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, with the option to take down the morning of December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Booths: All booths include a table and two chairs with draping in the back and short draping on the sides. Check the box on the online form if you require electrical outlets. Wireless internet is available to all exhibitors.

Access: MNP Hall is accessed via the outdoor ramp entrance at Westman Place. Walk up the ramp inside, and enter on the right side past the bathrooms.

To book a booth, visit [mcda.ca/conference](http://mcda.ca/conference), or use the attached form, or call Sean at 204-570-0164

# Agenda

Visit [mcda.ca/conference](http://mcda.ca/conference) for updates to the agenda.

All rooms are located in the Keystone Centre, #1 1175 18th St, Brandon, MB

## Monday, December 10

### Registration & Trade Show Opens

12:00 pm, Corridor & MNP Hall

Get signed in and check out our trade show: chat with the organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

### Introductions

1:15 pm, Amphitheatre

MCDA executive director Sean Goertzen will welcome everyone and kick the conference off with a few words.

### Keynote: Designing Conservation Around People

1:30 pm, Amphitheatre

Josh Donlan is the founder of Advanced Conservation Strategies and has worked on environmental and social issues in over a dozen countries, including the management of invasive species, environmental restoration, conservation finance, and market-based approaches to environmental conservation. He has published over 80 scientific and public articles on environmental topics, including those receiving widespread attention in the media. His current interests are focused on discovering where entrepreneurship, design, and human behavioral change can intersect to create new ventures that improve the environment and the lives of people. Josh will share insights on how to design environmental programs around the people at the heart of them.

### Manitoba's Conservation Trust: New Opportunities for Conservation

3:00 pm, Amphitheatre

Earlier this year, the Manitoba government committed to creating a \$102-million Conservation Trust. The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation will be responsible for deciding how annual revenues from this trust will be invested in conservation projects throughout Manitoba. CEO Tim Sopuck will speak on the progress to date developing the trust and the opportunities it will present for conservation districts and other organizations.

## Networking Break

3:45 pm, MNP Hall

A great chance for all guests to check out the innovative organizations at the trade show.

## Charting MCDA's Future (CD Members Only) / Trade Show (All Attendees)

4:15 pm, Amphitheatre

Manitoba Conservation Districts Association exists to support Manitoba's conservation districts. This mandate is seen through by MCDA's board of directors, which includes a representative from each district. This open discussion session will give the board and staff members of every district another channel through which to discuss and shape the direction of MCDA. What should MCDA focus on over the next year? The next five years? Let's chat.

Non-members are encouraged to revisit the trade show at this time and connect with the organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

## Annual General Meeting (CD Members Only) / Trade Show (All Attendees)

5:00 pm, Amphitheatre

Conservation district board members will chart a course for MCDA's work over the next year, informed by the open discussion happening prior to the AGM.

Non-members are encouraged to revisit the trade show at this time and connect with the organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

## Managers' Meeting (Staff Only) / Trade Show (All Attendees)

5:30 pm, Viewing Lounge

## Breakin' the Ice

7:00 pm, Great Western Roadhouse Bar & Grill (on site at the Keystone Centre)

Connect with the people working on front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba. Take in some live music, visit with old friends, and make new ones.

# Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

## Registration & Trade Show Reopens

8:00 am, Corridor/MNP Hall

Chat with organizations working on the front lines of conservation and agriculture in Manitoba.

## Building Soil Health with Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers

8:45 am, Amphitheatre

Hear from Tannis and Derek Axten, a Saskatchewan farm family that has taken the leap into regenerative agriculture, cutting input costs, boosting profits, and improving soil and water health in the process.

## Success Stories from Manitoba's Conservation Districts (Part I)

9:45 am, Amphitheatre

Find out what Manitoba's conservation districts have been up to over the past year, and what they've learned along the way.

## Networking Break

10:30 am, MNP Hall

Grab a coffee and check out the innovative groups at the trade show.

## Drainage Licensing in Saskatchewan

11:00 am, Amphitheatre

Learn about the large scale drainage licensing happening in Saskatchewan to bring existing structures into compliance, and what it means for Manitoba.

## Amendments to The Water Rights Act: An update on potential new drainage regulations

11:45 am, Amphitheatre

In June 2018, the Manitoba government passed The Sustainable Watersheds Act. This act amends four pieces of legislation including The Water Rights Act which governs drainage and retention in Manitoba. Two new approaches will be incorporated into regulation including a new streamlined approach for authorizations and no net loss of wetland benefits. Andrea McLean from Sustainable Development will provide an update on proposed changes of interest to conservation districts and municipalities.

## Lunch

12:30 pm, UCT Pavilion (downstairs)

## Operation Pollinator in Western Canada

1:30 pm, Amphitheatre

Paul Hoekstra, PhD; Stewardship and Policy Manager, Syngenta

Operation Pollinator is a Syngenta biodiversity program designed to enhance the number of pollinating insects on farms and other areas. Focused on creating natural habitats for bees and other pollinating insects, this program provides farmers with a

practical and meaningful way to increase and improve biodiversity on their individual farm operations. In 2017, Syngenta Canada partnered with Soil Conservation Council of Canada (SCCC) to deliver Operation Pollinator to 100 farms in Prairie Canada with provincial partners: Agriculture Research and Extension Council of Alberta (ARECA), Manitoba Conservation Districts Association (MCDA), Saskatchewan Soil Conservation Association (SSCA) and Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA). As part of a multiyear program, the project included the measurement of pollinator diversity and abundance on selected sites. The results from the first year of monitoring data, along with feedback from the participants, will be discussed.

### Partnering with First Nations on Watershed Resilience

2:15 pm, Amphitheatre

David Scott has worked for many years to preserve the history, culture, and traditional values of Swan Lake First Nation. David will discuss the political, legal, and historical context that shapes opportunities for First Nations and conservation districts to work together.

### Networking Break

3:45 pm, MNP Hall

Grab a coffee and check out the trade show.

### Success Stories from Manitoba's Conservation Districts (Part II)

4:15 pm, Amphitheatre

Hear success stories and lessons learned from a consultant who has worked with a variety of conservation districts in Manitoba.

### Closing Remarks

5:00 pm, Amphitheatre

MCDA executive director Sean Goertzen will conclude the public portion of the conference with a few words.

### Trade Show Concludes

5:45 pm, MNP Hall

Get your networking in before the trade show closes!

### Conservation Districts Awards Banquet

6:00 pm, UCT Pavilion

Enjoy good food and celebrate the people working hard to advance watershed health in Manitoba.

# Wednesday, December 12th (Conservation District Members Only)

## Session with Sustainable Development

8:30 am – 12:00 pm, Amphitheatre

Manitoba Sustainable Development will provide an update on our collective efforts to modernize the Manitoba Conservation Districts Program. Background information on the Conservation Districts Program for new board members will also be shared. More details to come.

## Closing Remarks

12:00 pm, Amphitheatre

MCDA executive director Sean Goertzen will conclude the conference with a few words on the opportunities emerging for conservation in Manitoba.

*See you soon!*

