

EVALUATION FORM

INTEGRATING ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN NATURAL RESOURCE MANGEMENT CONFERENCE JUNE 21-24, 2005 UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Suggestions for the next conference :

Things that can be improved, things that worked well for you etc..

- not clearly identified where sessions, lunch where held. Where the yellow meal cards worked, ex. only in Pembina hall not in food court. Little more detail.
- a very good session for first time participant
- would like to hear more debate- for/against certain initiatives
- for other accommodations it would have been nice for a shuttle to the university
- sharing a room with a stranger was inconvenient.
- not very good directions as where reception, registration, was on the first day
- grouping of binder/handouts more "together" i.e. bio's with speaking notes
- perhaps have working sessions to produce a product at the end of the conference, e.g. best management, guide line template etc....
- would have been great to have attendance names etc. published for other attendees, on final day
- Start planning conference one year in advance, many people I spoke to had not heard about it or heard about it too late
- Having coffee breaks in the meeting room and having beverages available in the session room
- Having everything in one place was easy to get around and relaxing
- Half day/Full day workshop breakout sessions with multi-topic discussions
- Opportunity for dialogue vs. questions from microphones. More interactive, less of a passive learning experience, healthier foods for lunch
- more available to first nations people, government people outnumbered community members
- Too much talk between talks, could have covered all talks in 2 days
- Too much emphasis on forestry management and issues. Include other aspects of Natural Resources management (e.g. Lands, mines, oil and gas, fish and wildlife)
- More updates as to formal policies or drafts regarding consultation, both legal and policy based
- Presentations were well thought out, although should of indicated at the beginning if a where the presentations could have been found.
- The amount of information provided was almost too much – Overwhelming

The most important part if the conference is the information presented

The purpose of this evaluation is to determine if:

We met or exceeded your expectations?

- 20/54 expectations were met
- 20/54 expectations were exceeded

Some comments made:

- Ms. Gordon and Justice Sinclair enabled you to exceed
- Not quite met expectations as much of what was presented I knew. However I did get some "pearls" of wisdom from every presenter.
- high expectations were met
- Thought that the conference would be more interactive in terms of sessions. Found the format to be very structured with no room for exchanging ideas on a more personal level.

- Yes, but heard a lot of forestry presentations in the past
- Conference organizers did an excellent job to bring diverse group presentations together
- No expectations coming in First time
- Too many presentations that were “overviews”
- Fewer presentations with greater detail

Did you learn things that will assist you in your job?

- 40/54 people said “yes” that they learned things that will assist in their job.
- 4/54 people said “no” that they didn’t learn anything that will assist in their job.
- 11/54 had no comment

Some comments made:

- The history of Government and Aboriginal people consultation, accommodation
- Legal perspective on Treaty rights understand (listening) to history
- Some better understanding of particular native values and issues.
- A little bit, consulting is a major aspect in my career
- Yes, lots
- Same Re-co management policy: capacity development, economic development
- Yes, definitely there are member of “Consultation Models” out in the resource management field that can be adopted, rather than re-inventing the wheel
- Possibly, Still have to digest some things before I know for sure.
- Yes, information will be very helpful.
- Yes, it confirmed some feelings and showed me I am not alone in seeking to build relationships.
- Yes, especially with regards to consultation and in use of Boards and Committees.
- Yes, to and extent-legal, nice to hear what is going on in other locations.
- Yes, very useful information sharing
- Assist in developing a network.
- Definitely
- Yes, although much of the information was n’t new, but rather reinforced what I already knew.
- Yes, update on consultation efforts
- definitely, networking is so inpatient in these functions
- Yes, I always believed as a government employee that we need to talk with aboriginal people in the communities, to respectfully ask how our work would help them, how things could be done effectively. This conference and ones like it in the future will help us all achieve that.
- Networking, latest legal opinions, analysis of recent projects

Was there any missing links in the information?

- 3/54 said “no” there wasn’t any missing links
- 1/54 said “yes” there was missing links
- 49/54 had no comment

Some comments made:

- Perhaps more wildlife content in presentations would be useful. Aboriginal people know and understand a lot about the birds and animals that are part of their traditional territories.
- Please provide paper copy of presentations before hand. It makes it much easier to follow the talk and take notes
- Possibly more regional information, less local specific information
- I realize you can not content this, but a full set of presentations would be great at the time of the conference
- Still need more practical tools to engage aboriginal people in conversations

- Invitations could be sent to INAC reps/Fisheries & Oceans etc.
- Not enough focus on “integrating” Aboriginal people more focused on “consultation” obligations
- The aboriginal view of consultation, what it is. Also legal interpretations of a shared resource or do FIY have the first right to fish and wildlife resources. Little to no presentations on fish and wildlife management and Aboriginal involvement, issues.
- INAC/federal government roles in natural resources, natural resources and provincial responsibility; obligations/responsibilities federal government fiduciary
- Not aware of any
- Practical components of how to put these ideas into action. Most presentations were overviews but maybe a workshop on steps and what these steps look like on the ground would have been helpful.
- Traditional use mapping, values gathering
- Not well circulated for those who may have wished to attend
- Structuring all legal talks/discussions on same day followed by presentations on specific projects etc. would set the context better
- More information could have been presented in detailing of Human Capacity development
- Water management issues
- Environmental effects monitoring ----Who does it?
- Perhaps move Aboriginal organizations with success stories involvement in co-operative resource management
- More First Nation representatives
- Would have enjoyed hearing more about the mechanics i.e. Challenges and responses behind some projects presented
- We continue to step around issues of resource use regulation and enforcement. I think more focus is needed on policy development
- Not having been involved in government for long. I was at times lost in the lingo of policy
- Yes, fish, fur and tourism/recreational opportunities for First Nations was not covered
- Heavy emphasis on Forestry but the aspects in Natural Resource management that I am interested in.
- Would like contact information for presenters-for future conservation/reference
- Not enough detail in presentations-in depth case studies would have been beneficial
- I thought more emphasis could be placed on fish to wildlife management and conservation
- The social issues, re abuse, suicide, issues in many communities make it hard for them to focus on capacity building. Resource managers are equipped to take this into consideration in their jobs/interactions with community. I would like First Nations advice on how to “help” more out this way.
- First Nations perspective on the project, specific presentations→ what worked? What didn't?
- What does INAC do?

Did you meet others who can help you in the future?

- 39/54 said “yes” that they had met others that will help them in the future.
- 2/54 said “no” that they hadn't met anyone that will help them in the future
- 3/54 said “maybe” they met someone that will help them in the future
- 10/54 had no comment

Some comments made:

- Yes, lots of networking
- Yes and send out delegate list and contact information, put on website
- Definitely, great variety from across Canada

- Yes, several other First Nations people and resource people from other jurisdictions
- Not a lot of time for networking during the day
- This is one of the main reasons I attended. Opportunities to network and make new contacts
- Yes, but a circulated list of participants would have been very helpful
- Yes, it was a good opportunity to met people
- Not directly
- Possibly
- Yes, conference such as this one, is a ideal venue for networking and meeting other resource management professionals
- Not really
- Yes, provincial counterparts, Community experts
- More networking would have been nice.
- Yes, and that they share the same challenges
- Yes, I would leave with more friend and potential associates than I had when I arrived

Opening remarks:

Elders Opening Prayer:

- 7/54 excellent
- 7/54 suitable/appropriate
- 2/54 appreciated
- 3/54 way to start a conference
- 1/54 fine
- 16/54 very good/good
- 3/54 honors culture
- 15/54 no comment

Some comments made:

- Very moving and “grounding” experience
- Nice context setting
- Just a way to start a conference
- Need that message of wisdom
- That was good, not too long

- Wonderfully done, the elder was captivating and comforting
- Most appropriate it reflects conference theme
- Set a great tone for the conference
- “sweet”
- Give a presence; honors the aboriginal culture

Minister’s Opening Remarks

- 17/54 Very Good/Good
- 1/54 appropriate
- 3/54 OK
- 1/54 fine
- 2/54 too rushed
- 2/54 fair/poor
- 28/54 no comment

Some comments made:

- Should have stayed to hear the legal presentation
- Amusing and enjoyable

- Informative
- Good to see the support from government for the conference
- This government is committed to equal partnership and aboriginal involvement decision making
- Appreciated his attendance
- Interesting set the tone
- Covered the intent of conference
- Expected a stronger statement
- Shows that subject is a government priority

Conference Coordinator Opening Remarks

- 7/54 Excellent
- 4/54 good sense of humor
- 21/54 very good/good
- 3/54 fine
- 2/54 OK
- 1/54 Appropriate
- 16/54 no comment

Some comments made:

- Excellent job- humor, wit, and complete information kept things going
- Made us feel welcome
- Short and to the point
- Saved the conference

Noo-si-sim Singers Opening Song

- 7/54 Entertaining
- 2/54 Involving
- 10/54 Excellent
- 12/54 Very good/good
- 3/54 Appropriate/suitable
- 1/54 Fine
- 19/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Great to involve them
- Beautiful
- “Sweet”
- Great singers, perfect start a day
- Super
- Enjoyable
- Fitting the occasion
- Good to see young people participating and embracing the culture
- The future we are working for
- Always worthwhile to include youth in these conferences
- Cool! Keep honoring your culture
- Wonderful

Keynote Speakers:

Honourable Mr. Justice Murray Sinclair

- 5/54 highlight of conference
- 24/54 excellent
- 6/54 interesting

- 8/54 best speakers
- 7/54 informative
- 3/54 entertainment
- 2/54 appropriate
- 7/54 very good/good
- 1/54 impressed

Some comments made:

- As usual "The Best" what a gift Manitoba
- Worth the whole conference
- Incomparable! Thank You!
- Extremely interesting! Excellent speaker
- I would have liked a copy of presentation, excellent-informative, much useful information
- Very Informative
- Very personal and very informative. Helped with the type of education and knowledge that is necessary for government staff
- Good, direct message- need to hear it
- Fantastic! One of the best speakers I have heard in awhile and a very important message for all senior management to hear
- Interesting history of First Nations treatment by government but lengthy
- Excellent speaker and topic
- Very useful tips and knowledge
- Very personal approach that touched individuals
- Unbelievable, wonderful, informative, a special man
- This was the highlight of the conference. It definitely gave me a different perspective on the history of treaties and Government/ Aboriginal relationships in this country
- Key points made
- Engaging speaker with a remarkable ability to reach out to everyone in the audience
- 5 stars *****
- Balanced, appropriate, on time
- legal and historical perspective
- Outstanding presentation
- Quite interesting and enjoyable, very unbiased perspective
- I could listen to him speak all day.
- Brilliant, great choice, almost made the whole trip worthwhile all by himself

Minister Eric Robinson

- 6/54 Excellent
- 12/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Informative
- 1/54 Honest
- 2/54 Interesting
- 2/54 Fair/Poor
- 30/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Northern Development strategy -housing for example. Where are they going to get the money?
- Bold and Visionary
- open, honest
- So-so

- Not inspiring, too much political mush
- Surprised at what he said about his dedication to his people first and government second, being that he is a Minister
- I enjoyed his philosophy “speak as First Nations pursue as well as a government official”
- Appreciated his attendance
- Adequate
- Good specific examples
- Disturbed that an elected Minister of the crown would publicly state he would side with First Nation against his Government, my Government.
- Too verboseshorten or elimination as one politician is sufficient
- First Nation from Political side
- Very relevant comments
- Must be a challenge to balance the needs of all Manitobans with the needs of your Nation
- Not on topic
- Maybe he would have did better with his prepared speech
- Very well spoken, “a pleasure to know”

Bill Yetman MLA

- 1/54 Excellent
- 2/54 Detailed
- 5/54 Very good/good
- 46/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- A little issue specific
- Could have spent more time on the subject of planning
- Hard to understand
- Great Cree content

Session 1(a): Consultation Strategies, Legal Aspects and Best Practices

Know your History: A Foundation for Relationship-Building

- 4/54 excellent
- 14/54 very good/good
- 1/54 fair/poor
- 2/54 informative
- 2/54 ok
- 3/54 interesting
- 3/54 well done
- 6/54 good overview
- 19/54 no comment

Some comments made:

- Would have been good if examples of surveys and materials were available
- Primer and Refresher
- Good information
- Good presentation, hopefully we will get more info as it comes available
- I have recently made an attempt to know my history and the importance of this investigation was affirmed by this presentation.
- Good foundation but boring
- Very important to know about Aboriginal Relations “LOL” especially for resource management

- This must be for Government
- Would like to see the course structure to see what it covers
- The two presentations will be very helpful. They cleared a lot of hazy areas in my understanding
- Awesome
- Good background
- A lot to hear OMNR is trying to improve relationships by starting within. Good message!
- Theme reinforced by offer specials through out conference message
- Good example of how to improve our understanding of the aboriginal perspective
- Would have liked to see a “snap shot” of Ontario’s Crown view on history.
- Finely, right on, ties on with Justice Sinclair’s talk
- Elaborate for such a simple point
- Important to educate staff
- Well presented and informative

Legal Duty to Consult

- 8/54 Excellent
- 8/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Fair/poor
- 5/54 informative
- 1/54 Ok
- 3/54 Interesting
- 1/54 well done
- 5/54 good overview
- 1/54 appropriate
- 21/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Best explanation of Duty to Consult
- Excellent separation of law (what we must do) and policy (what government must choose to do)
- Good update on Manitoba’s policy on consultation
- Very straight and clear
- To what about “moral duty”? Hopefully, someday, consultation will look beyond legal duty
- Great view points
- Heather was definitely pro-aboriginal
- I appreciated the legal knowledge and perspective brought by Heather Leonoff
- Very candid-perhaps to candid

Session 1(b): Consultation Strategies, Legal Aspects and Best Practices

Wuskwatim Projects-Crown Consultation

- 2/54 Excellent
- 11/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Fair/Poor
- 3/54 Informative
- 2/54 Ok
- 3/54 Interesting
- 1/54 well done
- 5/54 Good overview
- 1/54 Appropriate
- 25/54 No comment

Some Comments made:

- We need more time but sometimes development won't wait. How do we balance demands?
- Too much detail
- Refreshingly frank and open for a legal presentation
- Steve→ Boring and corporate. Ramona→ interesting to hear the approach taken to consult, I would be interested to know the monies and manpower spent on this initiative.
- Adequate
- Not enough information
- Talk was directly related to the work I am doing. I would have enjoyed a more thorough, discussion to hear about the mechanics of the project i.e. challenge response
- Too weak, expected more
- This was a very interesting project and I would have enjoyed a focus on the consultations and more details regarding the project.
- Very multi-faceted difficult and complex process. DFO should have been present
- Hands on, real antidotal information
- Would have liked to hear more about how aboriginal input influenced or was used in sharing the project.
- Should have had MB Hydro doing the presentation

First Nation's Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development

- 1/54 Excellent
- 15/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Informative
- 1/54 Ok
- 1/54 Good example
- 35/54 no comment

Some comments made

- Neil Reddekopp→ not very interesting, enlightening or educational
- Lots of money for consult/capacity building
- For an ADM Neil did not have the answers he should have had, maybe use another person from Alberta to give presentation.
- Specific information and guiding examples
- Alberta not into resource sharing, it appears. How much consultation did they do with First Nations?
- Analysis was useful to me
- All policy related without any real experience from application

Involvement of Aboriginal Peoples in the Implementation of Species At Risk Act in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba

- 2/54 Excellent
- 13/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Fair/poor
- 1/54 Informative
- 4/54 Ok
- 1/54 Interesting
- 32/54 no comment

Some comments made:

- Not much information
- Becoming a big issue in First Nation Communities, especially in Ontario, link to Environment Assess

- Seemed a bit nervous
- Wanted more reimplementation
- Not much experience to provide ideas to participants. Planning without implementation yet.

Session 2: Aboriginal Participant in Natural Resource Management

Aboriginal Involvement in Forest management Planning

- 15/54 Very good/good
- 2/54 Fair/poor
- 3/54 Interesting
- 1/54 Informative
- 1/54 Fine
- 42/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Good example
- Too much local detail
- A bit dry but a good overview of FMP power
- Some interesting points covered, but not a real clear message
- Need more of the good stories
- Dry
- It is important to involve First Nations people from the set of any planning that will impact their culture and territory
- Tough spot to be in, Frank needs to do more public speaking
- I want to be like Quebec!
- Speaker was boring...must be from Ontario
- Would like to get a response from the First Nations on how well this is working

Access and Development of the Territory with First Nations

- 3/54 Excellent
- 7/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Fair/poor
- 1/54 Ok
- 3/54 Interesting
- 1/54 Informative
- 1/54 Fine
- 37/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Needed more details on development of relationship
- Entertaining way to enable First day and somewhat interesting story of the Quebec Government temporal change in its consultation approach
- Good closer- humorous, beneficial, needed to know more about Quebec.
- Enjoyed talk, used humor and kept us awake, got his message out.
- Hard to understand, however quiet voice
- Good, humorous, too bad he other presenter was not here. Interesting to hear from a different approach

Session 3: Aboriginal Involvement in Forestry Management Planning

Southern Hardwood Project

- 13/54 Very good/good
- 1/54 Fair/poor

- 1/54 Ok
- 4/54 Interesting
- 2/54 Informative
- 1/54 Fine
- 14/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Interesting approach to Aboriginal involvement in forest industry.
- Unfortunate that we don't have this opportunity in Ontario
- Question where the fiber is a make work project that will go nowhere
- I hope it works
- Information I can use
- Should have waited for all the presenters
- Would have been benefited from having more address to the political imperative to do the project

IOG-Report on First Nations and Forestry Industry, Advancing First Nations in Forestry

- 2/54 Excellent
- 9/54 Very good/good
- 3/54 Fair/poor
- 2/54 Ok
- 2/54 Interesting
- 2/54 Informative
- 1/54 Fine
- 5/54 too long
- 16/54 No comment

Some comments made

- A wealth of information but would have been beneficial from a more complete exploration of the slides
- Rambling talk
- Context setting at start of presentation was particularly interesting
- Felt presentation was a little bit negative in regard to progress that has been made
- Clear message
- Too quick
- A little dry but informative
- Balanced presentation
- Too much information on a slide
- Did not even realize they existed
- Useful information than other presentations because it is advisory based

Session 4: Community Capacity Building

Manitoba Model Forest & First Nations Partnerships, Traditional Area Advisory Committee & Hollow Water and Black River Land Use Studies

- 4/54 Excellent
- 15/54 Very Good/Good
- 1/54 Ok
- 4/54 Interesting
- 1/54 well done
- 4/54 Informative

- 1/54 Fine
- 14/54 no comment

Some Comments Made:

- Interesting concepts, but would have been most interesting to hear how the TAAC & Land use studies have, or have not, helped the bands to achieve their goals of protecting values & generating economic opportunities in resource based activities.
- Good presentation First Nation Representatives
- Excellent example of building capacity, community taking initiative
- Much needed, this is what I came here to learn about
- Good approach
- I believe Rene was in Saskatoon. His presentation was familiar, looks like they came a long way
- Would be good to discuss the real challenges & attempts to redress & talk about the timeframes
- This is big and growing interest by First Nations everywhere needs funding support as INAC had dropped the ball on this
- Excellent practical example. Useful model presented
- Good presentation of real hands on practical information
- Good case studies

Aboriginal Training and Employment

- 16/54 Very Good/Good
- 3/54 Interesting
- 2/54 Informative
- 1/54 Fine
- 32/54 No comment

Some comments made:

- Not necessary on topic
- Encouraging hearing that communities are creating the capacity
- Great ideas
- Important topic
- Good to see Aboriginal communities involved in forest management
- A little dry
- How much more money do we spend on training? What happened to all previous training?
- Terrific example by Brokenhead & the NTFP initiative
- Long
- Good presentation of a good program. Nice to see a success story

Session 5; Broad Area Planning & Co-management Agreements

Broad Area Planning, East Side of Lake Winnipeg

- 2/54 Excellent
- 9/54 Very Good/Good
- 6/54 Fair/Poor
- 2/54 Ok
- 5/54 Interesting
- 1/54 Well done
- 1/54 Informative
- 5/54 Inexperienced
- 9/54 Too long
- 6/54 Too detailed
- 8/54 No comment

Some Comments Made

- too long information overload
- An interesting step by step approach of the process
- Too long
- Good overall but would have liked more on how such a big initiative was pulled of at the start and lesson some
- Very impressive
- Stay on time & focus
- Would have enjoyed more through discussion
- Interesting issue but poorly presented, hard to read, dark lettering on light background & pictures. First speakers very monotone

Saskatchewan Environment and Agency Chiefs Tribal Council

- 5/54 Excellent
- 13/54 Very Good/Good
- 1/54 Ok
- 1/54 Fair/Poor
- 4/54 Interesting
- 4/54 Informative
- 27/54 No comment

Some Comments Made

- Excellent job linking in with prior presentations
- Hopeful, good to learn that government is learning from experience
- Gave an insight on what can be done and what still had to be done to gain the confidence & support of First Nations and Métis
- Important to have key people “champion” the cause
- dry
- Well structured presentation with some good points

Session 6: Métis Issues

Response to the Powley Decision, Alberta

- 7/54 Excellent
- 14/54 Very Good/Good
- 1/54 Ok
- 6/54 Interesting
- 2/54 Well done
- 3/54 Informative
- 21/54 No comment

Some Comments Made:

- Very Stimulating, good to have
- Interesting on the subject of Métis rights and directions other provinces may take to address the issue of Métis rights
- Would have been nice to have Manitoba’s perspective as host province
- Lots of work to do
- Comprehensive
- Was surprised to see such an open and positive reaction to decision. It was encouraging to see
- Should have had overheads or power point to help follow along through

Response to the Powley Decision, Saskatchewan

- 5/54 Excellent
- 12/54 Very Good/Good
- 1/54 Ok
- 4/54 Interesting
- 4/54 Informative
- 28/54 No comment

Some Comments Made

- Would have preferred to have the Manitoba (Heather) also present and answer questions
- Time will tell what will happen

Wrap-up:**Elders Prayer**

- Excellent & Exhilarating
- Excellent
- Great Finish
- Leslie Nelson very solid
- Demonstrates Aboriginal traditions
- Very much appreciated their words of inspiration

Website

- 5/54 Excellent
- 14/54 Very Good/Good
- 5/54 More Information
- 30/54 No comment

Some Comments Made

- Little more information on where (which building) it is to be held in
- More information would have been helpful i.e. format of sessions, etc
- Not updated frequently enough prior to conference. Hope all presentations & Material will be available on the website
- Where the hell is it? No references to it in the binder
- I liked the music (loon)
- Wanted more updates but well designed
- Hope that all presentations, questions & answers will be available on website

Registration Format:

- 2/54 excellent
- 18/54 Very Good/Good
- 8/54 More information
- 26/54 No comment

Some Comments Made:

- Fast & efficient
- Need more details on logistics (where are meals to be served etc.)
- More info would have been helpful i.e. format of sessions etc
- Some e-mail problems

- Didn't except AMEX (government travel credit card for recommendation so I had to pay out of pocket..
- Would have appreciate other forms of payment
- Easy once I got the password right

Audio/Visual Identity & sight Line

- 7/54 Excellent
- 25/54 Very Good/Good
- 1/54 Fuzzy
- 21/54 No comment

Some Comments Made

- No problem with big screen can see from the back of the room
- Name tags should have had conference name on it

Audio/Visual equipment

- 7/54 excellent
- 24/54 Very Good/Good
- 23/54 No comment

Some Comments Made

- Speakers were easy to hear
- Wizard at controls
- Screen well placed and easy to see
- Never once did we get bad feed back (that high pitched noise)
- Technician on site a good idea

Information Binders

- 2/54 Excellent
- 23/54 Very Good/Good
- 8/54 More information
- 21/54 No comment

Some Comments Made:

- Okay , I like the insignia- it's beautiful
- Helpful, well organized
- Include list of Participants complete with affiliation, phone # & e-mail
- Section 2- incomplete, copies of presentations different places (hard to find) Copies outside of binders should be in one place-available for pick-up
- Prefer bios and presentations together
- A wealth of information that I can use for the years to come
- Add a pouch or folded page where one can place handouts

Comments/Recommendations on Integrating People in Natural Resource Management:

- Need to get in depth with fewer subjects what works, what doesn't
- Need a list of participants
- One or two workshops would provide opportunities for discussion and would give variety to the conference agenda
- DO NOT run lunch so close to supper

- In general, session presentations spent too much time on committee structure, vision, mandate etc. and not enough time on practical approaches, tools and best practices.
- Drop the morning wrap up sessions as they were a waste of peoples times. It is unfortunate presenters did not show, were late etc. it screwed up the scheduling. But you have to have contingencies to deal with these situations. Do not keep people sitting around wasting time
- Take a day and offering a choice of concurrent break-out sessions in different themes would allow for a more networking and take conference to a new level.
- Well thought out conference, well organized
- We need to continue to share information, best practices, mistakes etc.
- Having the next conference in Alberta may result in equal or greater First Nation participation. Would liked a presentation from BC
- Information presented creates new ideas for building relationships between government and aboriginal people
- Manitoba Conservation in particular "Aboriginal Relations Branch" did an excellent job in putting/hosting this conference. It is also positive to see that government "politicians" are committed to improving Government/Aboriginal Relationships in this province
- If Manitoba Conservation is to progress and move forward with the agenda of "Integrating Aboriginal People in Natural Resource Management" I recommend/suggest that management make a corporate commitment to educate front line resource managers in the historical content of Treaty/ Aboriginal right and Government to Aboriginal Relationship in this country.
- Keep the politicians and their speeches to a minimum
- It is apparent that we have come a long way in working toward the sustainability of our resources, but it is more apparent that we still have much to learn from and about each other and that we still have a long way to go
- Publicize and get posters out
- Nice art for conference "logo"
- Excellent presence of Ministers, political figures and speakers
- in general: useful and thought provoking
- Murray Sinclair was excellent and should be called upon again. Such a volume of knowledge and good mentor for ALL of us
- Culture awareness - more information on the history from government perspective should be a presentation then from an Aboriginal Perspective
- One format that could be explored- discussion group on topics or round table discussion
- Good to see the positive relationships being established in the different provinces between Aboriginal & provincial governments
- More industry (forestry, Mining, First Nation, Métis recreation/tourism) involvement needed in conference i.e. sessions/topics speakers
- Greater Aboriginal/Métis perspective on projects highlighted
- Future conferences should try and focus on success stories we can learn from and lesson policy planning