

Manitoba

Floodway Expansion Authority



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CHINESE DELEGATION LEARN ABOUT FLOOD PROTECTION BENEFITS OF RED RIVER FLOODWAY

Chinese Delegation Tours Floodway Inlet Structure

Winnipeg, Manitoba – Ernie Gilroy, CEO of the Manitoba Floodway Expansion Authority (MFEA), and technical staff from MFEA, today discussed flood protection and the benefits of the Red River Floodway with representatives from Anhui Province in China. As part of discussions, the Chinese delegates were also escorted on a tour of the Floodway Inlet Structure.

“The Red River Floodway protects 700,000 residents each spring and is recognized globally as a critical flood protection measure,” said Gilroy. “It is our pleasure to share our knowledge and experience with our Chinese friends and to hear about their flood protection challenges.”

Thirteen delegates from Anhui Province are visiting Manitoba from May 20-22. The delegation is being led by Party Secretary, Wang Taihua, Chairman of Anhui Provincial Peoples’ Congress.

Anhui Province has a population of sixty-two million and is an inland province located along the Yangtze and Huai He Rivers. In 2003, Anhui Province experienced extensive flooding throughout the province due to rising water levels in the Huai He River. It is estimated that the flooding displaced 3.5 million people and inundated 4 million hectares of farmland throughout the country.

Gilroy said that the Chinese delegates were very interested in the plans to expand the Floodway and increase flood protection for the City of Winnipeg. “Manitoba is fortunate to have constructed the Red River Floodway during the 1960s,” said Gilroy. “Over the years it has saved Manitobans millions of dollars in economic losses. The expansion project will increase the level of protection for the City and protect more Manitobans from a devastating flood in future years. We are pleased to discuss this project with our Chinese counterparts.”

“This is an excellent opportunity for us to learn about the challenges in China and how their leaders are trying to address them,” said Gilroy. “By sharing our ideas and perspectives with one another, both of our provinces will be in a better position to address our own flood challenges.”

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