

Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve

Fall 2008

Box 232, Onanole MB, R0J 1N0

E-mail: rmbr@mts.net

Our Mission

To foster and encourage, through research, information exchange, education, and communication, a sustainable community-based regional economy, with high biodiversity, landscape, and social values, with Riding Mountain National Park of Canada as a key component.

Management and Direction

Board of Directors - 2008

Ray Frey (Chair) – RM of Park
Martin Woodley – RM of Strathclair
Rudy Usick – RM of Clanwilliam
Ilse Ketelsen – RM of Rossburn
Dwayne Blackbird – Coalition of
First Nations
Daryl Nuestader - member at large
Sandy Walters – member at large
John Whitaker - past Chair

Valerie Pankratz- Executive Director

The 3rd Annual Caching Riding Mountain Adventure Quest will be held June 13 & 14, 2009.

Visit cachingridingmountain.ca for more details

Where Canadian Biospheres Excel

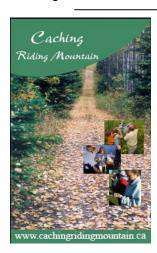
Canadian Biosphere Reserves have community-based organizations which coordinate biosphere reserve activities. Their partners (industry, government, NGOs etc) support research, monitoring, education, training activities to support biosphere reserve goals. As a world network of Biosphere Reserves, ideas and information are readily exchanged.

Phone: 204.848.4574

UNESCO (United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization) sees Canada's designated sites as the best example of community leadership and good examples of partner-based cooperation in BRs. Canada's biosphere reserves contain 8 national or marine parks (Parks Canada), 6 national wildlife areas or migratory bird sanctuaries (Environment Canada) and dozens of provincial parks or reserves. Their working landscapes contain key elements of Canada's economy: agriculture (12), forestry (12), Great Lakes – St Lawrence (7), fresh water management (13), coastal (4). Fourteen contain First Nations communities and include them in coordination. All address government interests in community capacity and rural revitalization. Canada's Biosphere Reserves truly are a door to North American, Western Hemisphere and European cooperation on sustainable development.

Bovine Tb Stakeholders Advisory Committee

Since 2003 Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve has organized and chaired the Bovine Tuberculosis Stakeholders Advisory Committee (TbSAC) which brings Federal and Provincial governmental agencies together with local stakeholders and non-governmental organizations to address issues of Bovine Tb within the Riding Mountain Eradication Area. Tb-free status was regained in the summer of 2006, and the TbSAC Committee continues to meet to discuss issues, learn about the progress of Parks Canada and Manitoba Conservation programs. This year meetings were held April 7, May 22, June 26 and October 13. The next TbSAC meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2008.



Caching Riding Mountain

Many existing treasures are hidden in our communities at this very moment. These rich cultural and natural treasures are now being showcased in RMBR via a new and innovative activity called Geocaching. The intent of the Caching Riding Mountain project is to assist local communities to celebrate and showcase their unique community cultural and nature-based treasures by developing GPS learning experiences which will be available through web-based marketing for travelers, students, international groups, local residents, and passionate Geocachers from all over Canada, and the world. In total this year we have reached over 900 people through GPS events, workshops and programs.

Three Functions of a Biosphere Reserve

They help in the <u>conservation</u> of biological diversity. they try to make sure all the animals, plants, insects, trees, and fungi remain there for generations to come.

They help in the development of better ways to live and work in the environment so that we do not destroy nature's resources or the traditional and cultural ways of the people who live in these areas.

They also help support scientific research by being "open air" laboratories and classrooms for research and for teaching people how to find solutions to some manmade problems in the environment.



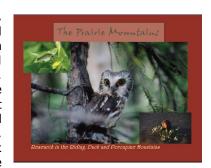


Contact Us

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Scientific Publication

The Prairie Mountains: Research in the Riding, Duck and Porcupine Mountains is not the typical science journal. Find out what researchers from around the globe come to the Riding, Duck and Porcupine Mountains in Manitoba to investigate. Discover the flora and fauna of the area and the natural and man-made phenomena that affect them. From invasive plant species and destructive insect pests to preferred owl habitat, from human/wolf interactions to bird species back from the brink of extirpation and much more. See



the research and explore the results of their investigations.

Written in an easy to understand style and liberally sprinkled with full color photographs and maps - it's well worth the read. The publication is for sale through Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve and The Nature Shop in Wasagaming. The cost per book is \$22.95.

Mountainside Community Woodlands

RMBR has initiated a new pilot project with the objective of sustaining/ maintaining regional woodlots by demonstrating ecologically sound forest management practices designed to deliver ongoing economic return to landowners while developing practices that meet landowner needs with landowner inputs.

On November 19 and 20 the RMBR and partners Manitoba Agriculture, Nature Conservancy Canada and the Little Saskatchewan Conservation District held a locally-produced forest products tour "The Forest to Your Home". A two hour tour on each of these two days showed how managing your woodlot can not only provide a source of income, but also improve the overall health and biodiversity of your community, as well as sustain water quality. The tour included tree selection and marking, sawmilling to maximize profit and a selection of products made from locally harvested wood by local producers.

Parkland Habitat Partnership

Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve administers funds for the Parkland Habitat Partnership (PHP) projects which sponsor landowner workshops that increase awareness and appreciation for conservation within the RMBR and surrounding area, educational opportunities for youth and survey of the conservation potential of selected private lands between Riding Mountain National Park and Duck Mountain Provincial Park.

Over the next few months the PHP will be acquiring and organizing existing, but disparate GIS data layers from research that has been done in this area and synthesizing new data layers where appropriate.

Promoting Conservation and Sustainable Economic Development



The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has recognized 15 regions in Canada that demonstrate a balanced approach to conservation and economic development. These biosphere reserves are geographical regions in which community-based initiatives protect the natural environment, while ensuring the continued growth of the local economy in an ecologically sustainable way. Canadian Biosphere Reserves are

grass-roots, not-for-profit organizations that provide networking and expert support to communities within the designated areas of the biosphere reserve.