



April 2010

RLND Class IV travels to Canada

Understanding International Issues and Culture by Medora Stevenson and Suzi Sobolik

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The first stop on the Canada Seminar was the International Peace Gardens. The group was guided on a tour through the Peace Gardens by Kathy McGhan, Administrative Manager. During the walking tour the RLND group was able to take a picture with one foot in each country.



RLND Class IV

After crossing the border, we traveled to St. Leon to learn about the wind farm. Paul Grenier, one of the initial land owners to have a wind tower on his farm, shared his joy about the energy and tourism that the "wind" has brought to St. Leon. The community of St. Leon has the true spirit of cooperation as they embrace the wind towers and the uniqueness it brings to their community, "the wind capital of Manitoba".

Thursday morning Tim Feduniw, Destination Winnipeg, discussed the importance of collaboration and innovation to best grow our area (ND and Manitoba). Tim challenged us to build innovation as a platform for moving forward in our communities. He encouraged us to participate on our local economic development board to learn more of what is occurring in our area and share our ideas with our local economic developers.

Thursday afternoon we had the privilege of being Larry Maguire's, Manitoba Legislator, guest and attended the "question period"

of the Manitoba legislature. During this period there was heated discussion between the parties to try to achieve the best outcome for all the people of Manitoba. It is awesome to see the legislature as excited as fans at a hockey game! Following this we toured the Manitoba Capital Building and learned of its incredible history. Mr. Maguire then sat down and answered questions about the Canadian government and how closely our two governments work.

Friday morning started off with a visit to the Peak of the Market. The Peak of the Market has been working for 42 years to assist local farmer's in getting their produce out to larger markets. Ken Krochenski, VP Operations, stated that Peak of the Market are "leaders not followers" to best get Manitoba's produce to grocery stores in Canada, US, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean.



Ken Krochenski with group

After touring Peak of the Market the group traveled to MacDon Industries. MacDon Industries is a family owned operation that manufactures harvesting equipment. During the tour, the group was able to see the many different processes it takes to put together a combine header. One of the highlights of the tour was the powder coat paint system, one of the largest of its kind in North America. After the tour, the group ate lunch on

site that was graciously catered by MacDon Industries. During lunch a presentation was given about the history of MacDon Industries.



Steve Topping, Mary Siverson at Winnipeg Diversion

Friday afternoon Steve Topping, Executive Director Manitoba Water Stewardship, joined us on the bus and took us to the Winnipeg floodway. Winnipeg has an incredible dual gate spillway to assist in diverting water from the Red River into the 47 kilometer water diversion path just East of the city. This water diversion has saved the city from millions of dollars of flooding most every spring.

The last tour of the day was of the Manitoba Telecom Services Center which is home to the Manitoba Moose hockey team. Brett Chestley took us on a tour around the building and gave a brief history of the event center. Brett told us that the MTS Center has hosted many large concerts with talent from around the world. He also stated that based on ticket sales the MTS Center is the 19th busiest arena in the world. The tour included a viewing of the party suites, which were quite impressive. After the tour, the group was able to enjoy the arena food and watch the Manitoba Moose take on the Peoria Rivermen. The Manitoba Moose won the exciting game 3-2.