

Abstract Submission for 5th Canadian River Heritage Conference

Title of Presentation:
Encouraging the Next Generation

Category: Community Engagement

Presenter:

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Abstract

As children become increasingly divorced from the natural world how do we encourage the next generation to become good stewards of our river systems? Rivers West and Manitoba Parks and Natural Areas have developed curriculum guides for teachers that aim to address this issue. These guides provide teachers with the information needed to teach the existing curriculum, using the Red and Hayes rivers as examples. The four guides encourage students to explore the natural and cultural features of the rivers in their backyards.

The four guides are *The Red River Basin: Water Systems* (Grade 8 Science), *Habitat Means Home* (Grade 4 Science), *Historic Places of the Red River* (Grades 4 to 6 Social Studies) and *The Hayes River: Highway to the Interior* (Grade 5 Social Studies).

We will have a quick look at why we chose to use this format, what the guides cover and how they hope to develop an understanding and appreciation for our rivers. The guides can be used as models for developing teaching guides for rivers in other jurisdictions. CDs of some of the guides will be available.

Biographical sketch:

Sherry Dangerfield is an interpretive planner with a master's degree in Natural Resource Management and thesis on riparian management. As an interpretive planner Sherry has developed a wide range of interpretive media from interpretive trails, to visitor centres and museum exhibits, to curriculum guides and interpretive maps. She has won a number of awards, both nationally and internationally.