



# **Integrated Watershed Management Planning in Western Manitoba**

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Manitoba Water Stewardship

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## Purpose of our discussion...

- The importance of planning
- Planning within watershed boundaries
- Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP)
- The IWMP process
- Lessons learned
- The status of planning in Western Manitoba
- IWMP experiences in Western Manitoba

## The Importance of Planning... Why Do We Need to Plan?

- We all make mistakes or poor decisions from time to time...planning can help us avoid this
- Prioritize resources through targeted efforts
- Provide a baseline on health of a watershed
- Provide the community with an active voice
- Prevention and planning is less costly than restoration

## If that isn't enough then what about...

- Boil water advisories
- Water shortages
- Flooding
- Climate Change
- Economic, Social and Cultural impacts

## Why Plan Within Watershed Boundaries?

- We need to consider the entire watershed...we don't often consider what impacts our actions are causing to others...what are we doing to our neighbors downstream?
- Provides opportunities to address a wide range of environmental, social and economic issues beyond the scope of single jurisdictions
- Hence the word “Integrated”

# What is an Integrated Watershed Management Plan?

- IWMPs are based on watershed boundaries.



- Outline the current state of the watershed
- Identify issues/problems
- Provide recommendations



## What is an Integrated Watershed Management Plan?

- We know where we want to be but we may not know how to get there
- Think of it as a roadmap
- The *Water Protection Act* (2006) provides the basis for launching the IWMP

## ***The Water Protection Act (2006)***

### Water Planning Authority:

1. The board of a conservation district,
2. The board of a planning district,
3. The council of a municipality,
4. Any other person or entity, or
5. A joint authority consisting of two or more entities or persons



## ***The Water Protection Act (2006)***

Water Planning Authority **Must** Consult With:

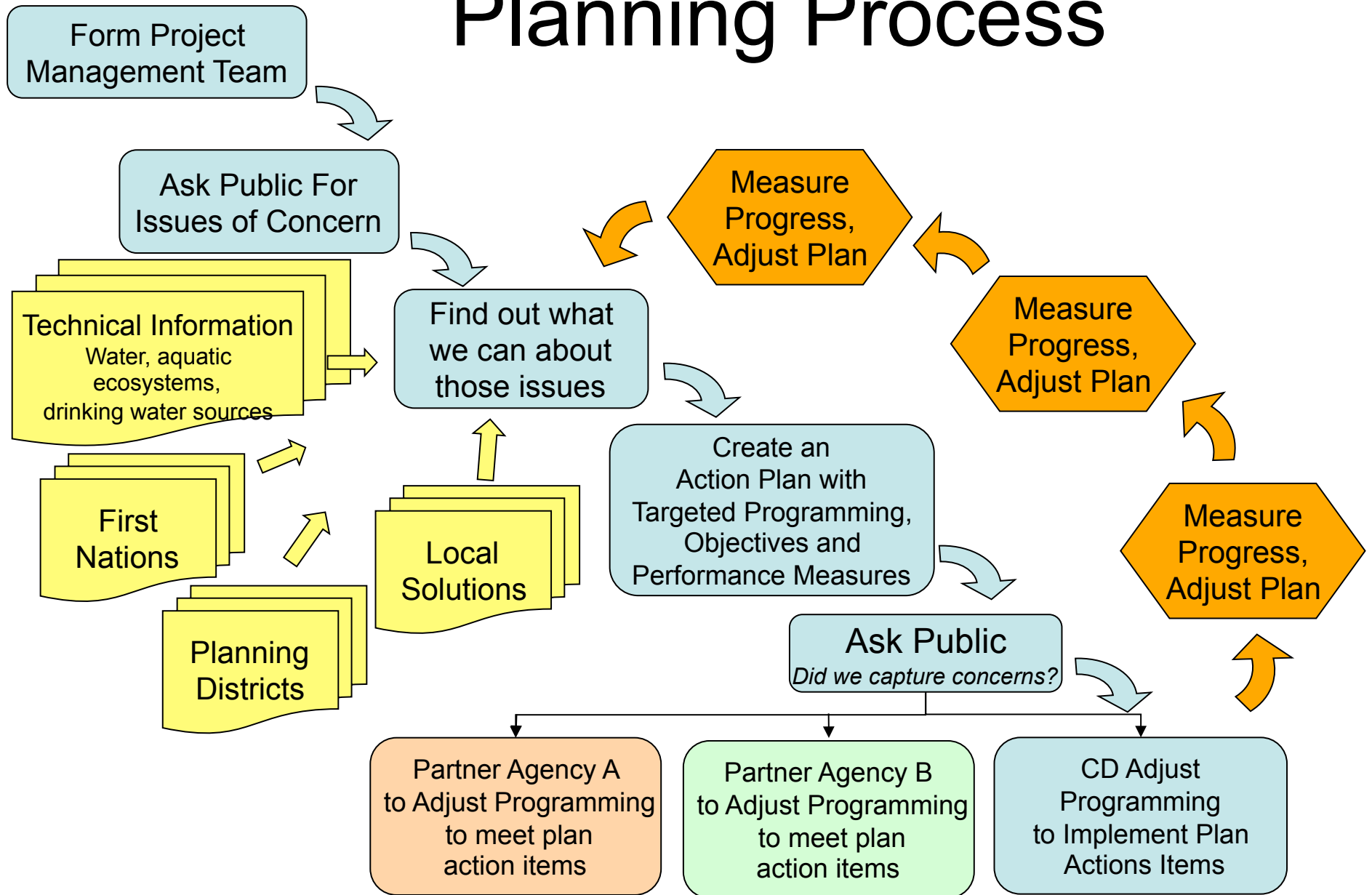
- Conservation District and Planning District
- Municipalities located wholly or partly within the watershed
- First Nations within the watershed
- Any other person or entity specified by the Minister

## ***The Water Protection Act (2006)***

### Watershed Management Plans **Must:**

- Identify issues relating to the protection, conservation or restoration of water, aquatic ecosystems and drinking water sources
- Contain objectives, policies and recommendations
- Specify linkages between water management and land use planning
- Identify ways to implement and monitor and evaluate the plan

# Planning Process



## IWMP STATUS

Shell River – 2006 -2009

East Duck Mountain/  
Sagemace Bay – 2008

Swan Lake – 2009

Dauphin Lake - 2010



## Lessons Learned...So far

- Focus limited time and resources
- Plans are very dependant on people
- People need to see results in order to buy into the process
- No one said this would be easy...change can be difficult

# Any Questions?

