



MANITOBA



KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL –
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

FOR THE JOINT ADVANCEMENT OF WETLAND
SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND MANAGEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA

AND

KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL -

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

(hereinafter jointly referred to as “the Participants”)

WHEREAS Manitoba and Israel enjoy a long-standing co-operative relationship built on mutual respect and friendship;

WHEREAS Manitoba's Oak Hammock Marsh and Israel's Agamon Hula are geographically situated within important watersheds and trans-continental north-south bird migration flyways:

- Oak Hammock Marsh is part of the Mississippi Flyway, linking the Gulf of Mexico with the Arctic and linking the Arctic Ocean with Patagonia, and is tributary to and lies adjacent to Lake Winnipeg, the world's 10th largest freshwater lake, and
- Agamon Hula is part of the Great Rift Valley Flyway, linking Europe, Asia, and Africa, and is tributary to and lies in the centre of the watershed of Lake Kinneret, a major water resource for Israel and its only freshwater lake;

WHEREAS Manitoba's Oak Hammock Marsh and Israel's Agamon Hula share a remarkably similar history - both marshes were significantly degraded by early drainage then both marshes were more recently restored including the establishment of infrastructure supporting wetland monitoring, management, education and tourism;

WHEREAS the Participants intend to work closely with and in co-operation with many governmental and non-governmental organizations including in Manitoba, Ducks Unlimited Canada, an organization with a strong interest and a long history of restoring and protecting wetlands;

THEREFORE consistent with the laws, international treaties, and arrangements between their respective governments, the Participants, with the co-operation of and in collaboration with Ducks Unlimited Canada, intend to:

AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

1.0 Promote Respective Marshes through Reciprocal Public Information (the Marsh Twinning Project):

- Prepare public displays and website materials setting out:
 - scientific significance of both marshes;
 - shared history of both marshes;
 - promote the importance of both marshes as water bodies within watersheds of nationally important lakes;
 - promote the importance of both marshes as a unique environmental project that involves water preservation, nature restoration, tourism development and agriculture activity;
 - promote the importance of both marshes as tourist destinations for bird watching and for ecotourism;
 - promote the importance of the marshes as Internationally Important Bird Areas and as RAMSAR wetlands;
 - provide reciprocal information on monitoring information and management measures; and
 - provide reciprocal promotional information - displays and interactive web materials at Manitoba's Oak Hammock Marsh promoting the Agamon Hula as a site to visit when in Israel and at Israel's Agamon Hula promoting Oak Hammock Marsh as a site to visit when in Manitoba.

2.0 Collaborative Wetland Science and Management

- Develop and share information on science activities including monitoring and management between the respective interpretive centres; and
- Promote opportunities for professional exchanges between wetland scientists and managers working in the respective marshes.

3.0 Education

- Develop an educational curriculum and supporting materials for students in Manitoba and in Israel to learn about the respective wetlands through this Memorandum of Understanding.



LIMITATIONS

- 1.0 This Memorandum of Understanding does not create any contractual, financial, or other legal obligations for the Participants.

ENTRY INTO EFFECT AND DURATION

- 1.0 The Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date it is signed by the Participants and will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years from that date. The Memorandum of Understanding can be renewed for an additional period of five (5) years through mutual written consent of the Participants.
- 2.0 The Memorandum of Understanding may be amended with the mutual written consent of the Participants. Any such amendment will come into effect on the date determined by the Participants.

Signed in Israel this 18th day of October, 2010.

Original Signed By
Honourable Christine Melnick
Minister

Original Signed By
Efi Stenzler
World Chairman

For Manitoba Water Stewardship

**For Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael -
Jewish National Fund**