



**For immediate release**

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***The MWF Announces the Hiring of Brian Kotak as its new Managing Director***

**WINNIPEG:** Dr. Brian Kotak has accepted the role of Managing Director at the Manitoba Wildlife Federation and will start in this capacity on September 11. This role is the senior staff position at the MWF, responsible for all aspects of the day to day management of the operations of the Federation.

The Manitoba Wildlife Federation is the Province's oldest and largest conservation organization with over 13,000 members and 100 local wildlife clubs across Manitoba. The MWF is a leading voice representing the conservation, hunting, fishing and trapping community.

"We are thrilled that Brian Kotak has accepted the staff leadership role for our organization. He brings with him many years of senior experience in the field of natural resources management," said MWF President and Chairman of the MWF Board of Directors, Randy Walker.

Brian Kotak most recently ran the operations of the Manitoba Model Forest, helping that organization achieve many years of success in educating the public about sustainable forest and wildlife management practices.

"I am incredibly excited to take on this new challenge of running the MWF and using my past experiences in conservation to help this organization continue its terrific work on behalf of the Manitoba outdoor community and the fish and wildlife resources of this Province," said Kotak.

Brian is the Chair of the Cooperative Committee for Moose Management which is a ground-breaking working group that includes First Nation communities, licensed hunters, conservation organizations and government managers, all working towards creating a sustainable moose management plan for eastern Manitoba. This Committee recently created an exhaustive status report on the moose population in eastern Manitoba, including recommendations to Government on how to recover the population.

The MWF has also been working on creating community-driven moose management partnerships and has been focused on working with indigenous hunters to build a sustainable vision for moose management in Manitoba.

“Brian comes to us with proven experience in working positively with First Nation and Metis communities on moose management. His skill set will help us accelerate our work towards creating partnerships between licensed moose hunters, indigenous communities and government so that our moose populations can recover,” said MWF President Randy Walker.

Past Managing Director, Rob Olson, has accepted the role of Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development for the Province of Manitoba. “I am ecstatic that we have secured Brian Kotak to take over the MWF. We have all worked so hard to bring the MWF back to a high level of prominence in this Province. He is going to do a great job on behalf of the MWF membership, the Manitoba outdoor community and the resource,” said Rob Olson. “I look forward to working with Brian in my new role as Deputy Minister of Sustainable Development,” added Olson.

To learn more about the efforts of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation, go to [www.mwf.mb.ca](http://www.mwf.mb.ca) and subscribe to our e-newsletter.

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