

Photovoice: Giving 4-H members a venue to encourage discussion and

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) has researched and piloted a variety of approaches to encourage communities and organizations to become engaged in actively planning and determining their own development. "Photovoice" is one of these approaches. Using pictures and stories Photovoice is a tool that any community or organization such as 4-H can easily use to encourage community discussion and planning towards a more vibrant future.

Photovoice is a process that gives "voice" to "photos" to help communities and organizations to see and talk about common issues and to find ways to take action on these issues. Photovoice can serve as a catalyst for action planning; it can assist 4-H in creating a vision; it can provide an assessment of the current situation; it can identify goals. Photovoice can also be used as an evaluation process: how have we improved?, what have we changed?, what are we doing well? Photovoice is also a way to engage and involve all sectors of the community, including those who traditionally have not been involved in 4-H program planning. It is a way for youth to become involved and to have a voice to share their ideas. Photovoice can be a way to celebrate successes and a fun way to showcase 4-H over the past 100 years. It can also be a way to demonstrate how 4-H has positively influenced the lives of 4-H Alumni.

The Photovoice process involves asking 4-H

members, leaders, parents and 4-H alumni to take pictures to illustrate a certain theme or community issue. The participants are asked to record their thoughts about their pictures as they relate to this theme. The pictures and stories are collected, organized and presented to an audience who are then encouraged to discuss and plan the future of their community or organization. For example, these photos celebrate the past 100 years what do we want the next 100 years in 4-H to look like?

Photovoice can be a relatively inexpensive way to engage people in discussions on 4-H program planning and development. Although it must be recognized that in order for your Photovoice project to be truly successful you must have a committed group that is willing to contribute time, energy and creativity. MAFRI has created a "**Manitoba's Photovoice for Community Development Guide**" which provides community organizations with the resources and the step by step instructions to conduct their own "Photovoice" project.

If your 4-H club or area council is interested in participating in a Photovoice project, please contact: Joanne Baker, RLS, MAFRI Virden GO Office Joanne.baker@gov.mb.ca 204 851-2481

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/agriculture/community.html>



Central Plains

Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives

Meghan - Carberry - 841-3577 meghan.sprung@gov.mb.ca

Joann - Carberry - 834-8815 joann.calvert@gov.mb.ca

Gladstone - 385-6633

Donna - Treherne - 723-3232 donna.gervais@gov.mb.ca

Joanne - Portage - 239-3352 joanne.galbraith@gov.mb.ca

Central Plains Area 4-H

Communications Event

More information about this event will be sent to head leaders in the coming weeks.

Each club is eligible to send 1 representative from each speech, visual presentation, and creative expressions category to the Central Plains Area 4-H Communications event.

Please forward the names of your representatives to your local MAFRI GO office



Manitoba 4-H Council

Amanda Perrin – Jr. Director
Diane Kovar - Sr. Director– 571-0854

Central Plains Area 4-H Council Meeting

will be held by conference call **January 11, 2012 at 7:30 pm**

Call in number: 1-877-727-8553

Participant Passcode: 797021362

Be sure to have one adult and one member representative from your club on the call to learn about opportunities available for your members and leaders.

Have you paid your Area Council fees??

Fees are due December 31st!



Area Council

Funding Application Forms

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2012

Clubs can access Area Council funds by submitting a funding application form to the Council.

Funds can be used for club and area events coordinated by the club.

Ex - Rallies, Achievement judges, leader training, workshops, camps, etc.

Contact your head leader or local MAFRI GO office for application forms. Please submit one form per event.

