

**NEWS RELEASE** September 20, 2018 For Immediate Release

## Ewasko to participate in U.S. training on cross-border cyber security

Lac du Bonnet MLA will visit five cities as part of International Visitor Leadership Program

Wayne Ewasko, MLA for Lac du Bonnet and PC Caucus Chair, will participate in an extensive educational program on international cyber security beginning this month and into October in the United States. Ewasko will be hosted by the U.S. government as part of the International Visitor Leadership Program, which will give him a unique opportunity to learn and exchange ideas in five cities with professional colleagues from the U.S. and Canada on a wide range of matters relating to cyber security.

"Cyber security is an increasingly important issue affecting Canada, the U.S. and other countries at various levels and in many ways, so I'm pleased to have this excellent opportunity to learn much about it from officials and experts in the U.S.," said Ewasko. "It's critical that governments at all levels in North America, including ours in Manitoba, keep up to date on these issues. I'm hoping the information I gather during this program will assist us here at home."

Ewasko is the only Manitoba MLA and one of only a handful of Canadian elected officials or experts in the field taking part in the program titled Improving Cyber Security Across Our Border. His participation will be fully funded by the U.S. government and will involve travel to Washington, D.C., Annapolis, Md., San Francisco, Boston and San Antonio, Texas.

Beginning on Sept. 22 in Washington, Ewasko will visit a range of agencies and government offices for seminars on matters such as the U.S. strategy to secure cyberspace, protection of energy infrastructure, security of elections infrastructure against cyber-attacks, civil liberties in cyberspace and the role of the private sector in cyber security.

Participants are selected to the International Visitor Leadership Program, which is run through the U.S. Department of State, following an application process. The program was established by the U.S. Congress in 1948 to promote mutual understanding and goodwill between the U.S. and other countries.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Ross Romaniuk, Communications Officer Manitoba Progressive Conservative Caucus Tel: (204) 945-4689 Cell: (204) 291-7702 Email: <u>ross.romaniuk@leg.gov.mb.ca</u>