

International Joint Commission
Canadian Section
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I am submitting a comment on the proposed recommendations for nutrient pollution targets for the Red River in Manitoba. Lake Winnipeg is the 10th largest freshwater lake in the *world*, let that sink in. I have seen the unsightly and toxic algae blooms that appear in lake Winnipeg each and every summertime. Please note that Algae blooms are caused by an excess of phosphorus. The connection between phosphorus and algae growth has been demonstrated over five decades of research in freshwater lakes at the acclaimed International Institute for Sustainable Development – Experimental Lakes Area in Ontario. This is indisputable scientific evidence. I do not support the IJC’s proposed nitrogen objectives, since reducing nitrogen loading will have no impact in reducing algae blooms in Lake Winnipeg. To meaningfully address eutrophication and make effective use of limited resources, policy must be based on the best available science, and science tells us to focus on phosphorus.

I implore the governments of Canada and the United States to work together in a constructive way on evidence-based actions that will lead to meaningful improvements to this exceptional natural resource.

Thank you,

Regards,

[Garth Guttormson](#)