

Name: Lynnette Froese

Subject: Focus on Phosphorous Reduction

Message:

My name is Lynnette Froese and I am a cottage owner in the community of Hillside Beach on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and a resident of Winnipeg Manitoba. Our family have been cottage owners on the shores of Lake Winnipeg for many years. This prairie ocean is an important recreational jewel, strong economic contributor for the province of Manitoba and the home of many Indigenous Nations. Governance of the lands around the Lake, the shores, the watershed and the waters of Lake is complex. As an advocate for the health of Lake Winnipeg, I recognize that the many governing bodies need to commit to guiding principles that will begin and extend positive steps towards the health of the Lake. As a citizen I rely on the information shared by the Environmental Scientists to increase my personal awareness and promote personal positive practices and actions for the health of Lake Winnipeg. The reduction of phosphorus load that enters our waterways is the primary and most important means to work towards a healthier Lake Winnipeg. All governing bodies in the watershed of Lake Winnipeg need to have the same commitment to phosphorus reduction through:

Wetland restoration

- Agricultural practices including:

- o Regulations for fertilizer use

- o Water retention ponds

- o Increase restricted application zones for fertilizers

- Water Pollution Control centers and water treatment centers reducing phosphorus emissions to 1mg/l

Lake Winnipeg health has been deteriorating significantly in the past number of years. The blue-green algae blooms come earlier and stay longer. Science has confirmed that the primary contributing nutrient for the growth of bluegreen

algae which is toxic to the ecosystem of the water, wildlife and poses increase health risks to humans, is **PHOSPHEROUS**.

In 2019 the increasing concerns of our Hillside Community for the health of Lake Winnipeg and the challenges we faced in receiving “positive action news” from the many governing bodies led to the collaboration of other communities on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg. The continued importance of the reduction of phosphorous from all contributors is the primary and most important goal for the Coalition. The urgency for action has grown and I am a volunteer Steering Committee member with the Coalition to Save Lake Winnipeg.

The Coalition to Save Lake Winnipeg (CSLW) is a collaboration of communities in the South Basin of Lake Winnipeg. The CSLW includes individual citizens, Cottage Associations from the east and west sides of Lake Winnipeg, Rural Municipality representatives and the Manitoba Cottagers Association. All stakeholders who have interest in the health of Lake Winnipeg are welcome to join the Coalition to Save Lake Winnipeg. The message we hear from Scientists and well documented research is **FOCUS ON PHOSPHEROUS REDUCTION**.

I urge the International Joint Commission to recommend to those government bodies in the US and Canada to reduce the nutrient load of phosphorous in the Red River as the primary and only goal. It is with this focus that funds and collaborative efforts will demonstrate the most positive impact on the health of Lake Winnipeg We are all accountable to for taking positive and proactive steps for the health of Lake Winnipeg.