

Matt Allard – ST. BONIFACE

Hello Alexis,

Thank you for the email. I sent you an email requesting further dialogue, please find below my answers to your questions.

1. City council approved funding for the updated design of the NEWPCC Interim Phosphorus Removal Capital Project on July 21, 2022. The projected completion date for this project is Aug. 31, 2023.

Will you ensure the NEWPCC Interim Phosphorus Removal Capital Project is completed and operational by Aug. 31, 2023? If not, please explain why you aren't making this commitment.

I will support this initiative as well as support the funding for the upgrades and I would like to support measures that may contribute to more significant reductions of nitrogen and phosphorous being introduced into lake Winnipeg as I did when Council supported the Netley Marsh program. I would like to see what 130 million dollars invested in a bio harvesting program of plants absorbing carbon, phosphorous and nitrogen would achieve over and above the Winnipeg commitment. I understand the City of Winnipeg is responsible for about 6% of emissions with approximately a three percent reduction with these upgrades. In addition to the Winnipeg commitment, I will continue to promote legislation from the provincial and federal governments to remove nitrogen and phosphorus prior to its entry to the lake which would have the potential to solve the problem of nitrogen and phosphorous entering the Lake Winnipeg Watershed. Unfortunately, to date I have not seen any commitments from the provincial or federal governments that would put in place a plan that would resource reductions in phosphorous and nitrogen into lake Winnipeg to an extent that the lake would be saved. We know the policies that we need to achieve this goal, all that is missing is the political will to do it. Solutions we know include initiatives like we have seen with Netley Marsh which was supported by council as well as regulating agriculture to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus entering the waterways. Other ways included regulating agricultural activities such as naturalized buffer zones and only enough fertilizer as is required and not more as I understand is the case with most agricultural operations. I understand aquatic plants like duckweed can double in 24 hours, and that other plants can be used to produce biomass to absorb nitrogen and phosphorus, and that plants like these can be removed from the watershed pulling out nitrogen, hydrogen and carbon from the waterways prior to its entry into the lake. Removing 3% emissions from the city of Winnipeg into the watershed is a step in the right direction. In addition to the Winnipeg commitment, I support an approach of removing nitrogen and phosphorous using plants, and regulating agricultural run off will greatly reduce phosphorus and nitrogen being introduced into lake Winnipeg that would reduce nitrogen and phosphorus to the levels that would be required to make a significant change in the future health of the lake. The biomass harvest solution also affords us the opportunity to absorb the nitrogen and phosphorus coming upstream from Winnipeg, including in the United States, where we do not have the jurisdiction to regulate the outflows. Thank you for the opportunity to answer this questionnaire and thank you to the efforts of the Lake Winnipeg Foundation.

City council deferred the estimated \$130 million cost to increase digester capacity in the NEWPCC Biosolids Facilities Project to the 2024-2027 multi-year budget process. Winnipeg's next city council will be asked to approve this funding to ensure the new biosolids facilities can achieve phosphorus

compliance. Will you approve the necessary funding for increased digester capacity in the 2024-2027 city budget? If not, please explain why you aren't making this commitment.

I will support this.

From your perspective, what consequences do continued algal blooms on Lake Winnipeg have for long-term prosperity and quality of life in the city of Winnipeg?

Algal blooms will kill lake Winnipeg and this should be stopped. I will support initiatives for Winnipeg to reduce phosphorus and nitrogen from entering the waterways like sewer upgrades and initiatives like the netley marsh and other more ambitious initiatives that require legislation and funding of other levels of government so that we might achieve the reduction levels to save the Lake.