

Eddie Ayoub – ST. JAMES

Hi Alexis,

Thank you for reaching out. I am a huge fan of the critical work that you and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation have been doing for so many years. I have stood on the shoreline of lake Winnipeg many times, saddened and angered by the sight of thick, foamy algae, zebra mussel shells, and dead fish. It did not have to happen, and it should not happen. If elected, I will be among your most steadfast and passionate allies on City Council.

Art City, where I am Artistic Director, made an installation at Kris' Fish and Chips some years ago that contained artwork and advocacy messaging made by the children who attend our program. Bringing the kids out to Gimli for the day, and facilitating their involvement in that project is a fond memory that continues to inspire my work.

Here are my answers to your questions:

If elected to City Council:

1. Yes, I will ensure the NEWPCC Interim Phosphorus Removal Capital Project is completed and operational by Aug. 31, 2023.
2. Yes, I will approve the necessary funding for increased digester capacity in the 2024-2027 city budget.
3. In my opinion, continued algae blooms on Lake Winnipeg will be an indicator that Winnipeg doesn't care about its impact on our natural environment, or preserving this beautiful natural resource for future generations. I don't know anyone who has experienced Lake Winnipeg who doesn't love Lake Winnipeg. To experience any part of it is to love it, from its blazing hot beaches to way out in the middle of the water, in a boat on a quiet night. I don't think money is more important than our natural environment. I know that preserving Lake Winnipeg is worth the investment and hard work. Anyone who isn't on side should simply be brought out to experience it. We have a responsibility to our children and future generations to do the right thing, and to show the world that it's possible.

Alexis, if you don't mind, I'd like to promote the fact that I support your work. Please let me know if this is agreeable.

With kind regards,

Eddie Ayoub

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