

Wayne Sturby, Manitoba Party, Wolseley

I want to thank you for contacting me and presenting these questions for me to respond to. I can assure you that the health and viability of Lake Winnipeg is very important to me and to the Manitoba Party. We all have good reason to love, appreciate, and look after this beautiful natural resource.

Since receiving your questionnaire, I have spent a good deal of time researching this issue and learning more about this problem. This is a very serious matter and the failure to deal with it will affect all Manitobans in profound ways.

While doing my research, I was quite happy to see how nature provides so many remedies to problems that occur. The abundance of wetlands and the important work that peat moss does in filtering water overflow was encouraging. As part of my reading, I have become more aware of the harvesting of peat moss in critical areas that could make the problem worse if not checked.

Here is my current situation. I am overwhelmed with requests for answers to questions, requests to explain my position and my party's position on important issues, preparing for debates, and the job of campaigning. It places enormous demands on my time and energies. I am asking for your understanding and patience.

The Manitoba Party is in the process of developing more detailed positions on the issues as we confront them. If you check on our website, you will see that we believe in the role of science in determining our policy. In all our policy development we will proceed by argument, evidence and proof.

I am convinced of the need to address this issue and I see the opportunity for Manitoba to become a leader in protecting and preserving our fresh water bodies. I do not have the time right now to give the detailed answers to some of the questions, but I can answer yes to the questions where you are asking for direct answers for our support. This is a win-win situation. I do not want to see it turn into a lose-lose.

I hope that this will suffice for now. Please forward the most recent research and current strategies to me so that I can be more informed.