



On Oct. 9, the North End Water Pollution Control Centre Project (NEWPCC) Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from both the city and the province tasked with implementing an interim phosphorus reduction plan at Winnipeg's largest sewage plant, released an updated plan.

In 2019, both governments committed to accelerate phosphorus reduction at the NEWPCC. The updated upgrade plan still makes no firm commitments to reduce phosphorus before 2032. Opportunities exist to tackle the treatment plant's phosphorus loads and protect Lake Winnipeg well before long-term upgrades are slated to be complete.

Reach out your MLA and/or city councillor by phone, email or letter. Remind them of their commitment to focus on phosphorus at the NEWPCC and highlight the opportunities to achieve this.

Here is an example of an effective message about your concerns:

"I live in your riding/ward and am reaching out today on an issue that matters deeply to me: the impact of the North End Water Pollution Control Centre (NEWPCC) on the health of Lake Winnipeg.

Phosphorus causes algal blooms on Lake Winnipeg. I am greatly troubled to know that Winnipeg's under-treated sewage is the single largest point source of phosphorus to Lake Winnipeg. I own a cottage on Lake Winnipeg and have seen firsthand the algae that plague its waters every summer as a result of phosphorus loading. This ongoing pollution cannot continue.

I understand the NEWPCC Project Steering Committee has released an updated plan for NEWPCC upgrades. This plan fails to focus on phosphorus:

- *It does not commit to implementing interim phosphorus reduction by April 2022, [as per direction from Winnipeg City Council](#)*
- *It does not take advantage of expanded biosolids capacity to optimize the interim phosphorus-removal process so the NEWPCC can meet its legally required phosphorus limit.*

The governments of both Winnipeg and Manitoba have committed to accelerating interim phosphorus removal at the NEWPCC. Citizens have been calling for action for years.

I am frustrated by continued delays. As a lake-lover and a voter, I expect my governments to follow through on their obligations. I urge you to ensure phosphorous reduction at the NEWPCC is implemented as quickly as possible to achieve measurable results for Lake Winnipeg.

Please reply to let me know where you stand on this issue.

*Sincerely,
Your name"*

Remember to customize your comment as much as possible, and aim to be clear and concise with your message.