

December 14, 2015

Conservation and Water Stewardship

Attention: Bruce Webb

BW

I am writing this letter to voice my concerns regarding The Notice of Environment Act Proposal notification posted in the Brandon Sun on Saturday December 12/2015 put forth by G.D. Newton on behalf of the Municipality of Harrison Park.

Municipality of Harrison Park - Sandy Lake Water Level Control Project - File 5804-00

My concerns are as follows:

- **Has there been an environmental study done on this proposal and the impact it will have on the Sandy Lake, Beauford Lake and the Little Saskatchewan River, and what is best for these bodies of water ?**
- What is the level at which drainage can start, the public notice only states 0.1, but 0.1 of what? And where on this sinking dock is the standard measurement, the lowest level of exposed dock or highest level or somewhere in between, as this dock is sitting on an angle?
- The dock is being removed, as per notice of tender in the latest edition of the South Riding Mountain Press, for no later than January 19, 2015 (again I am assuming a typo error, as that date has already passed), so what provision has been made to have a permanent benchmark in place before this date, or has this been considered?
- How low can they drop the water? A new floating dock has been purchased and was presented to the public at Western Days in early August.
- A number of years ago when the lake was low there was grave concern for the health of the lake because the golf course was drawing water from it to water the golf course. Now we want to drain the lake, what has changed? Why is this method of water removal more acceptable and why is there no longer concern for low water levels?
- What provisions for moisture are being introduced for draught years, as the lakes only supply is runoff and precipitation? And the dirty thirties is still within our memories reach and so is the high water level, maybe this is just a natural cycle?
- We have increased the population on the lake by opening at least two new camp grounds, increased the size of an existing one and there is another new campground proposed, what is the optimum number of people that should be using this lake, and how do we determine what is the best number for the size of the lake? So it seems to

me we are increasing the population on the lake and lowering the water volume. Is this good stewardship?

- What if the lagoon fills to its maximum and is draining into Beauford, then we get a high level of precipitation..and it is decided we need to drain Sandy Lake into Beauford, what will it do to Beauford and the people downstream on the Little Saskatchewan River?
- Why are we choosing to lower the lake instead of raising the cottages? We have the ability to correct these cottages, but have no control over mother nature.
- Has there been a public meeting to discuss these changes, or will there be one?
- Is there any proposals put forth to improve the water quality because of the increased concentration of pollution levels in Sandy Lake because of this proposal? Eg: grey water runoff, drainage from the new road that runs straight into the lake, and that road is covered annually with a dust control product. Salting of the roads in town that drain straight into the lake. Legislation for installing holding tanks on properties that only have pit privies.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I hope that whatever is decided is in the best interest of the lake.

Geri Pringle

Sandy Lake, Manitoba

ROJ 1X0

Webb, Bruce (CWS)

From: Hank Monita
Sent: December-17-15 4:15 PM
To: Webb, Bruce (CWS) BWJ
Subject: Sandy Lake water level control project - FILE: 5804.00

Hi Bruce.

Thanks for taking my call this afternoon and for providing clarification and more detail on this proposal.

As I stated in our conversation there is no argument that the water level at Sandy Lake has been high for the past half dozen years. Going back further than that, however, the reverse is true. So what is needed is a good balance, as neither extreme is good for the lake or for the cottage owners.

If the 0.1 meters (4") is to be the magic number, I would raise the following points for your consideration:

- in our conversation you stated that the 0.1 meter was put forth on the basis that in years of normal lake levels, the water level would have been at approximately the 0.1 meters below the level of the pier.
- you also stated that the last time that you personally viewed the existing pier it was relatively level. The current situation is, that one corner has sunk, and how do we know that the whole pier has not sunk. If it has, perhaps the proposed 0.1 would not be the optimum level.
- there is talk of a proposal to remove the current pier and replace it. It is reasonable to assume that a new pier would be built at a higher level. Therefore a different benchmark would be warranted.

Thanks for any consideration on the points raised.

Hank Monita

Sandy Lake, Manitoba

Webb, Bruce (CWS)

From: Janet Bradley
Sent: December-18-15 8:17 AM
To: Webb, Bruce (CWS) *JBW*
Subject: Re: Local news papers

My concern is people in Sandy Lake probably don't take the Minnedosa paper , so how are they suppose to be informed about the water control project .
Our experience with the environment and Municipality has not been very positive .

We have a neighbour with a 50+ out house on a slope facing the lake full of Human waste. The environment officers from Dauphin in charge has acknowledged a intermittent odour but because the New Environment Act # 16 + 17 allows pit privies this situation is not being investigated . She has stated the odour is coming from Wild animal Urine and the environment minister will not find a solution to this nasty problem .Meanwhile we are expected to live beside a pit full of human waste , and because of the Stench will not be able to use our cottage in the heat of summer . For this reason we do not Trust anything the Environment would propose .
We are very opposed to this project .

When the Environment will not protect the air , ground and the lake in our case , we have very little trust in decisions made with No common sense .

Lorne and Janet Bradley

Sandy Lake , Mb
Sent from my iPad

> On Dec 17, 2015, at 1:54 PM, Webb, Bruce (CWS) <Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca> wrote:

>
> Hello! You didn't mention which project you are referring to. If it's the Sandy Lake water control project, it was advertised in the Minnedosa Tribune on December 11, and the Brandon Sun on December 12. The deadline for comments is January 14. If you want to provide comments and need more time than that, I can arrange an extension for you. Our normal practice in advertising Environment Act proposals is to advertise in the nearest local paper, and the deadline for comments is about one month after the date the ad appears.

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> Bruce.
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> Bruce Webb, P.Eng.
> Water Development and Control Assessment Officer Environmental
> Approvals Branch Conservation and Water Stewardship
> Mail: 160 - 123 Main Street (Box 80)
> Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5
> Couriers: 2nd Floor, 123 Main Street
> Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5
> Tel: (204) 945-7021
> Fax: (204) 945-5229
> e-mail: bruce.webb@gov.mb.ca

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> -----Original Message-----
> From: Janet Bradley

> Sent: December-17-15 1:35 PM

> To: Webb, Bruce (CWS)

> Subject: Local news papers

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> Why has the notice of Environment Act Proposal not been published in local papers Local people have the right to be notified and unfortunately there is only one more paper before your deadline .

> Please contact

:

> This is a shame on the gov for being so underhanded.

> A local cottage owner with big complaints against environment .

> Lorne + Janet Bradley

>

> Sent from my iPad

Webb, Bruce (CWS)

From: Sheila Miller
Sent: December-18-15 5:31 PM
To: Webb, Bruce (CWS) *Br*
Subject: Environment Act Proposal -Sandy Lake,Mb.

Attention:Bruce Webb

Our Family has four properties on Beach Road Sandy Lake Mb.

It has been brought to our attention that The Municipality of Harrison Park has proposed a project to lower the High water level of the Lake.

I have been aware of the fluctuating water levels for over sixty years and have found the water quality leaves a lot to be desired during the low water level periods.

In the late 1990's the residents were concerned about water level and no one came up with help to raise the Lake level.

I don't believe in interfering with the balance of nature.

Our family has holidayed on the South shore of Sandy Lake for 75 years and coped with years of low water,high water,yucky water ,clear water, a lot of sandy beach to weed,or very little Beach,and last summer we brought the fourth generation back to enjoy it.

Please give this proposal careful consideration So we aren't forced to consider relocating.

I would be interested in knowing what the designated high water line for the Lake is .It used to be quite visible but people have landscaped making it harder to find.

Thanking you for your attention.

Sent from my iPad

Webb, Bruce (CWS)

From: Dennis Hodgson
Sent: December-22-15 9:20 AM
To: Webb, Bruce (CWS) *BW*
Subject: Municipality of Harrison Park Sandy Lake Water Level Project File 5804.0

I have noted the advertisement for the "Notice of Environment Act Proposal" for the RM of Harrison Park-Sandy lake Water Level Project in the Brandon Sun.

Our family are new property owners this past summer of 2015 on the south shore of Sandy Lake being unfamiliar with the area we have some concerns and questions about the impact of the project. We are very happy with the water level this summer and hope that it stays around that or near to that level for the long term. We realize variation in water level will occur depending upon rainfall and run-off and that managing that level may be required at times. Our property is above the historical shoreline.

Has a study been completed to identify the impact on water quality and lake level with the introduction of this structure and its operation? Property taxes are extremely high in this area with limited services. We are concerned about the future integrity of the property and its market value as it may be impacted by the installation and operation of this structure.

Do homeowners around Sandy Lake have any input prior to installation and operation of these structure to manipulate the water level in Sandy Lake? If so how doe that occur?

The ad indicates that water levels may vary between the top of the culvert at the outlet and less than .1 meters form the top to of the town-side community dock. **What is that difference in height? Does release of water from Sandy Lake cease once water level in lake is below less than .1 m of top of town dock?**

Or does release of water from Sandy Lake continue until the level reaches the top of the outlet culvert into Beaufort Lake?

In operating the system, is there a target or desired water level for Sandy Lake? Who operates the system and determines that when it should be employed?

I look forward to your reply.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Hodgson

Sandy Lake, Mb

Current Res Address:

Bowsman, Mb
ROL OHO

BARRY ZACHEDNIAK

SANDY LAKE, MB R0J 1X0

December 30, 2015

BRUCE WEBB BV

CONSERVATION & WATER STEWARDSHIP
123 MAIN STREET, Suite 160
WINDYPIEGE, MB R3C 1A5

Dear MR. Webb

I'm WRITTING IN REGARDS to the SANDY LAKE Water Level control project - File 5804.00.

In the notice that was POSTED, WHAT IS E.I., if this is a measurement AND if so what type of measurement.

Also AT what POINT of the pier is this measurement being referred to AS the pier is sinking with the lowest end being the furthest from shore.

As there is a REQUEST for QUOTATIONS for the demolition and removal of the SANDY LAKE piers, WHAT ARE you going to USE AS A REFERENCE POINT in the future.

I STRONGLY feel that someone is putting the cart before the horse AS to controlling the water level of sandy lake. Just a few points, Didn't Allowed people to build on such a low plane.

2) What about the water flowing in to SANDY LAKE who's controlling that, someone is not doing their job.

Hope to hear from you on all the above mentioned CONCERNS.

Yours truly,
Barry Zachedniak



Webb, Bruce (CWS)

BW

From: Vern & Iris
Sent: January-03-16 1:47 PM
To: ;
Subject: Water Level At Sandy Lake, Manitoba

My parents cabin is at Sandy Lake and I've been going there every summer for the past 74 years. I've seen the lake when the water level was high and it didn't bother me a bit

The only ones that complained were the cabin owners that built on the southeast end of the lake before checking on the high water level line. This was sheer stupidity on their part.

I remember as a kid how great perch fishing was in Sandy Lake. The water was lower and there was lots of weeds and cattails along the shore line. There was lots of algae and we'd

get the itch when we went swimming. One winter the lake froze too deep and killed all the fish. Hauled them away by the truck loads the next summer.

I think that more studies should be done on past water level fluctuations at Sandy Lake before approving Municipality proposals. Please do more research before jumping the gun.

We spend our summers at Sandy Lake from May through October every year.

Sincerely, Vern Cross