



**2011 Manitoba Election  
Survey #1**  
**Lake Winnipeg**



***Green Party Response – Received August 18, 2011***

If elected, will your party:

- 1) **Make sure public hearings, announced by the Selinger government regarding the health and regulations of Lake Winnipeg, are held within six months?**

***Yes, hearing should have been held more than 3 decades ago, before we regulated the lake, we need to get on with it ASAP.***

- 2) **Put in place funding for public participants for preparation and participation in the Lake Winnipeg hearings?**

***Yes, participant funding is vital to ensuring that concerned citizens and organizations can provide their input, and therefore all angles are considered.***

- 3) **Make sure this participant funding is at least as much as participant funding for the Wuskwatim hearings?**

***Likely yes, but unaware of total amount of funding given for Wuskwatim. Need more information to answer fully.***

- 4) **Keep on line the schedule, presentations, transcript, and all evidence for the hearings before, during and after the hearings?**

***Yes, access to information and a clear record is vital, not just during the hearings, but also as historically as time passes.***

- 5) **Give Clean Environment Commission hearings a clear mandate that includes the health of the lake over time, status of the lake system, public policies and**

past assessments, and economic factors in relation to regulation of the lake for 40 years?

*Yes, review should be as broad as possible so that all factors can be considered.*

- 6) Make sure participant funding is administered by an agency other than the agency managing the hearings?

*Yes, this would help to prevent any conflicts of interest.*

- 7) Put regulatory mechanisms in place for protection of waters adjacent to, inside, flowing into, and for marshes, wetlands, or islands in Lake Winnipeg?

*Yes, regulatory policy should be broadly construed to protect all of Manitoba's waters.*

- 8) Ensure this protection meets the protection standard for waters inside protected areas in Manitoba that has been in place for 20 years?

*Yes, moreover we would work to improve and enhance protection standards (e.g. creating protection standards for waters inside provincial parks).*

- 9) Establish a Lake Winnipeg Commission with the resources and regulatory ability to guide a science-based recovery of Lake Winnipeg?

*Yes, the Commission should include both experts, and concerned citizens and organizations as well.*

- 10) Provide the Lake Winnipeg Commission oversight on environmental proposals, licenses or dispositions, which may impact Lake Winnipeg?

*Yes.*

- 11) Put consistent, predictable annual funding in place for the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium?  
**Yes.**
- 12) Provide multi year funding for the Lake Winnipeg Foundation to support delivery of its mandate and mission?  
**Yes.**
- 13) Put in place meaningful consultations with Aboriginal Peoples regarding Lake decision-making that may impact rights?  
**Yes.**
- 14) Invest in research, public education, Lake reports, data collection, and a virtual library about Lake Winnipeg?  
***Yes, access to information and transparency is key for both scientific research and citizen empowerment.***
- 15) Support citizen science, lake monitoring, and ongoing reporting about the Lake, its marshes, wetlands, shoreline, and species?  
**Yes.**
- 16) Support shoreline inventory guidelines to provide guidance for management, protection, and monitoring of shoreline systems?  
***Yes, establishing the “ordinary high water mark” has become difficult in the post hydro water regulation era.***
- 17) Remove both Nitrogen and Phosphorous at water treatment plants?  
**Yes.**
- 18) Have a public plan with benchmarks and reports back - to protect Lake Winnipeg watershed?  
***Yes, reporting is vital to track progress.***

