



COALITION TO SAVE LAKE WINNIPEG
**COMMUNITIES COMING TOGETHER TO ADVOCATE FOR POSITIVE
PRACTICES TO RESTORE AND SUSTAIN THE HEALTH OF LAKE WINNIPEG**
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**Municipal and Provincial Government Budgets need to
Commit to Compliance and Infrastructure Upgrades**

For 2 weeks in February a sewage leak by the Fort Garry bridge spilled **228.38 million litres of raw sewage** into the Red River. Currently a bypass is functioning until the broken pipes can be replaced by 2025.

In 2013 the Province of Manitoba provided the City of Winnipeg with [Combined Sewage Overflow Environment Act License](#). This licence requires implementation of the Combined Sewage Overflow master plan by **December 31, 2030**. The [City of Winnipeg Combined Sewage Overflow Master Plan](#) includes information regarding long term financial planning for CSO upgrades with and without additional governments support [cost and funding](#). The City of Winnipeg CSO Master Plan was approved by the Province of Manitoba [Environment and Climate Change Nov 13 2019](#).

In addition to the sewage leak in February, 2024 the North End Water Pollution Control Center (NEWPCC) releases **150 million litres of undertreated sewage daily**. [Lake Winnipeg Foundation](#) in a statement February 22, 2024 indicated that in December, 2023, **4, 419 million litres** of undertreated sewage into the Red River.

The City of Winnipeg has not been in compliance with the provincial guidelines of 1 mg/L of phosphorus since 2005. Notice of alteration by the City of Winnipeg has been repeatedly approved by the Province of Manitoba.

Provincial and Municipal budgets need to include expanded funding for infrastructure upgrades for the combined sewage overflow system and

commitment to expedite North End Water Pollution Control Center's compliance for 1mg/L phosphorous limit. Municipal and Provincial budget decisions are imminent and the recent events of the CSO spill in Fort Garry remind us that advocacy for Lake Winnipeg continues to be necessary.

Concerned Citizens for the health of Lake Winnipeg can email, phone or write to your [City of Winnipeg Councillor](#) and/or your [Member of the Legislature](#) urging the collaboration of our elected officials for:

- ***expanded funding to expedite combined sewer overflow infrastructure for surveillance, repair and reduction of CSO's***
- ***Water and waste compliance/enforcement of 1 mg/L phosphorus limit***

[LWF Sample Letter Nov 2023](#)

Sample Email

Dear (City Councillor and/ MLA),

As your constituent I am writing to you to express my significant concern regarding the health of Lake Winnipeg. The recent raw sewage leak in Fort Garry and the continued noncompliance of the North Water Pollution Control Center implies that elected officials need to review their "long term" commitments and expedite their collaboration for funding and compliance.

The health of Lake Winnipeg has not improved since concerns were brought to government attention in 2005. Continued expanding timelines, licencing alterations that provide leniency to governments for lack of compliance and enforcement is no longer acceptable.

As budgets for the City of Winnipeg and the Provincial Government are reviewed and eventually approved it must include collaboration in 2024-2025.

Your Name

Address and Phone number

Please visit [Lake Winnipeg Foundation](#) for more information

Please share with your community of concerned citizens

