

**CEC Presentation**  
March 15, 2007 Emerson, MB

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Introduction

1. Lyle Loewen
2. Thank the commission for listening to all parties

History

1. 3<sup>rd</sup> generation farmers
2. Grew up between the lakes. Washow Bay and then Arborg. Never been more than 12 miles away from Lake Winnipeg.
3. My father moved up to north to farm because the government was encouraging settlement and breaking up of land.
4. From as young as I can remember we used the lake for recreation. Swimming lessons, water skiing, windsurfing, camping, family gatherings.
5. Parents always taught respect of the lake because we wanted to use.

Farming Sustainability

1. The old way of farming was mixed. We had livestock (hogs, cattle, chickens, turkeys).
2. The land was not great so we had the livestock so we had manure to spread (no science just knew it worked)
3. The small farm was enough to sustain 2 families.
4. As the economics of farming changed we needed to grow larger to survive (specializing).
5. Because we were able to expand .... We were able to be sustainable.
6. Through all expansion we maintained the balance of livestock to land for manure spreading.
7. I have always been in favor of manure management regulations.....brought science to the practice we had always done.
8. As we specialized we were able to become more knowledgeable and have more resources to put towards manure management. At the point where our systems and protocols are some of the best in the world.

The Future

1. I hope that my family and following generations can continue to farm and use the lake for recreation.
2. Science needs to be the driver in decisions based around farming sustainability.
3. Sustainability in farming will only happen if we can be competitive and that means advancements in protocols, equipment, resources as well as efficient sizing of farming operations. How many trade missions has our premier been on? No one will buy our products if we are not competitive?
4. Put the right regulations in place. Farming is core to our province and way of life.