

UNIVERSITY

OF MANITOBA

Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences

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Manitoba Clean Environment Commission Hog Production Industry Review 305-155 Carlton St. Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3H8 E-mail to: cajohnson@gov.mb.ca MAY 0 2 2007

Office of the Dean Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3T 2N2 Fax (204) 474-7525

EXHIBIT NUMBER:

The Name:

Received by:

Commission Secretary)

Written Submission Related to the Hog Production Industry Review

Dear Clean Environment Commission:

The Province and others have indicated that Manitoba's environmental issues surrounding Lake Winnipeg and regional water quality degradation from agricultural operations can be largely resolved through improvements to land and water management practices. Specifically, the issue can be addressed through reduced nutrient and contaminant movement from land to surface and ground water and through better surface and ground water management. Although it is recognized that social constraints exist, these solutions must be based on scientific evidence as they will have long-term impacts on the development of rural Manitoba and the Province as a whole.

The University of Manitoba has expertise that has been contributing to scientific knowledge of the issues and to solutions. In particular, we have excellent capability in animal sciences, soil fertility and nutrient transport, environmental microbiology and environmental toxicology. However, in Manitoba, we need research capacity in the area of nutrient, pathogen and contaminant transport from land to water bodies. This would require knowledge of the distribution, use and circulation or movement of water on agricultural and other lands, commonly referred to as field-scale hydrology. Unfortunately, this area of expertise is scarce in both academia and government in our province. The addition of such expertise will support research that could make a real difference by providing solutions to limit nutrient, pathogen and contaminant runoff from agricultural lands.

We appreciate that the Commission recognizes that there are solutions that will protect the environment while allowing industry to flourish. The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences has received broad support from all stakeholders for its efforts to lead agriculture to a future that is both environmentally and economically sustainable.



This is the basis of government and industry investment into the National Centre for Livestock and the Environment and the University's efforts to support multi-disciplinary research and education in this area. The challenge to the Clean Environment Commission will be for strong recommendations to promote research which will encourage management practices that will make a difference.

Sincerely, Sichael In

Michael Trevan, Ph.D., C.Biol, F.I. Biol.

Dean

cc

Dr. J. Keselman, VP Research, UofM

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