

HOG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY REVIEW – MARCH 14, 2007

Mr. Chair and Board Representatives

My name is Robert Davy, newly elected Reeve of the R.M. of Lorne.

I make this presentation today because our municipality is concerned about restrictions against the hog industry and the new direction this make take.

We are all very aware of the environmental changes occurring around us. We believe that with government and municipal regulations we will protect our potable water and aquifers for generations to come.

We must educate the public, both urban and rural regarding the changes that have occurred.

We have many producers in the R.M. of Lorne who inject hog manure for odor , better use of fertilizer with no loss of benefit. Some of these producers are not obliged to inject because they are under 300 animal units but pay the extra cost because they feel it is a small price to pay for insurance and prosper from the natural fertilizers.

The Rural Municipality of Lorne is restricted from growing specialty crops such as sunflowers and beans because of a lack of heat units. The main crops grown in the R.M. of Lorne are cereal crops and livestock are necessary to subsidize the farm operations.

New regulations like proposed phosphate rules will hinder many operations in expanding or where they can build especially in the marginal high classes of soils.

Planning Districts are used as controls for land use but let us not forget that the people still own their land and this should not become a dictatorship.

I think it is very hard for a hog farmer to be proud of how they make their living in this province. We in the R.M. of Lorne believe they are good stewards of the land and should be allowed to make their living doing so.

EXHIBIT NUMBER: 514-014
File Name: St. Cloud
Date: MARCH 14 07
Received by: (Commission Secretary)