

From: Cheryl [cheryl-@mts.net]

Sent: Saturday, May 05, 2007 5:01 PM

To: Sargeant, Terry (CON); Johnson, Cathy (CON)

Cc: Vic Toews, MP; STEPHEN HARPER; Sam Katz; Agriculture, Minister (LEG); Premier (LEG); minwst@leg.gov.mb.ca; Water Stewardship, Minister (LEG); Intergovernmental Affairs, Minister (LEG); Conservation, Minister (LEG); Marilyn Maki; Margaux Watt; Manitoba Factory Farms; letters wpgsun; La Liberte; Kyle Lamothe; John Bennett Climate Action Network; Hugh Mcfadyen; have your say; gwhelan@web.ca; Finance, Minister (LEG); Glen Koroluk; Gerrard, Jon (Liberal Caucus) (LEG); Gerald Flood; Friends of the earth; Corporate Knights; Family Services, Minister (LEG); CHRIS HENDERSON; Carillon newspaper; Andrew Basham; admin@nrtee-trnee.ca

Subject: CEC Hog Industry Review May 2007

Clean Environment Commission Hog Industry Review - May 2007

Dear Clean Environment Commission, Leaders, fellow Manitobans and Canadians,

The question has been, is the current level of hog production industry sustainable in the province of Manitoba? The collective answer is NO.

I am writing this letter on behalf of those who do not have a voice, like our precious water and natural resource energy, our pigs that are going to slaughter every day, the spirit of these animals and all the eco-systems that are crying out for help, for our elderly and our future generations, as well as the health of every Manitoban and Canadian.

The burden and weight of these responsibilities is almost more than anyone can bear at every level of this hog production review process. This process alone is leaving a wave of sickness, dis-ease, stress, anxiety and negative energy in its path. These are all signs of the unsustainability of the intensified livestock operations and the effects they are having on living in Manitoba.

The **hog pause stays ON** until significant changes and down-sizing has been agreed upon and implemented by all levels concerned.

The harmony, health, environmental, family, individual and animal rights have been severely compromised over the explosive growth in the hog industry here in Manitoba.

If we would of been evaluating and regulating all away along, then the changes that are needed in order to bring back the Natural Laws and Order to the sustainability of the province of Manitoba would not have been such a shock to our Intensive Livestock Operators. Nor would the damages to the Natural and

harmony of the society been so negatively advanced if we would of been pro-active in our actions and intentions.

However, our past actions have lead this province to a point of no return. We can only get better from here on in, we can not environmentally, socially and morally afford to turn our cheeks to this tidal wave of toxic waste and mega-sizing madness that has overwhelmed our provincial harmony, balance, health and well-being for current and future generations.

Nothing is more important to our sustainabilty then a safe and secure water supply at every level, be it our streams, our rivers, our aquifers, our wells and our precious lakes. Intensified Livestock Operations have been having a definite negative accumulative effect on our sacred water resources at every level of water accountability here in Manitoba.

ILO`s and their waste management practises are outdated and are quite simply, killing us slowly.

Our air, land and waterways are overburdened with an agricultural load of toxicity that is strong enough to burn out and destroy all eco-systems that happen to be in its` path. Nine million hogs in the province of Manitoba, 90% exported and 100% of this drug fed genetically modified waste being spread to a tiny tiny area has maxed out the patience, integrity and respect to our Sacred Natural Laws, land, people, spirit and species relationships. Not for one minute does the common person and Mother Earth accept that the hog industry is responsible for only 1% of the pollution of Lake Winnipeg, more like 15% and higher. This ad campaign has only added fuel to the fire and disgrace to our Scientist and Farmers.

Many of the operators have taken to spreading their horrific toxic liquid manure late at night or in the middle of the night in order for their neighbours and nearby communities to not be fully aware of how toxic the air quality really is. Difficult to be fully aware of what is happening around us when we are literally sleeping.

In order to start to look at community and landowner relationships, an area that is grossly underdeveloped, regulated or enforced. We need to look at not allowing any spreading of the manure on weekends and holidays. The intoxicating smell of pig shit on a friday night when you have your friends and family over for a summer barbeque is unbearable, embarrassing and harmful to our health and community relationships. The inability of property owners, parks, recreational facilities, highways, towns, pools, ball games, weddings, funerals to be able to go outside on the weekends and enjoy Manitoba`s great outdoors has been taken away from our core rights and freedom. Our homes and property values are decreasing, our network is less. Our nestegg has been sacrificed. Our childrens` legacy is being devalued and disrespected!

The intensified livestock operators have left us with air that we can not even inhale. It makes one shameful and embarrassed, angry and bitter, discouraged and annoyed. Life in the country with our Natural farmers was never ever like that. The smells were not so horrific, the land absorbed the waste as the animals lived outside more and straw was used. These farmers lived in their communities and were at the ball games and funerals and knew better than to start spreading fresh crap on the land. The ILO`s are so out of touch with their communities and their collective sense of pride and respect to other`s rights to fresh air and lifestyle. Our heritage farmers gave/give great respect how they handle their smelly operations, especially on Sundays and holidays and when there is a wedding, a graduation, or a funeral!

At a very minimum NO SPREADING for the intensified livestock operators on weekends and holidays all year long!

Our bodies, minds and spirit, in other words, the health of Manitobans and our visitors just can not take this kind of pollution anymore. These spreading activities are not sustainable for the collective and ongoing health of Manitoba. Open the lid of a bottle of ammonia and have a whiff, then add some old crap into that and have another whiff, now try and eat your supper...or put a bowl of that beside your bed and go to sleep....or make a little potion of this waste, tie it around your neck and try doing your yard work, riding your bike, playing with your children or go for a walk. It can not be done! You will feel sick! We wonder why our country youth is leaving and not coming back.....this is one of the huge reasons. The country stinks! The country`s fresh air has been taken away from them by the mega-sizers.....and it has to stop! New systems, new rules, new enforcement, new technology and getting those poor animals back into their natural environments is the direction we are going towards. We will settle for nothing less.

The buffer zone between barns and people has decreased to a very scary one to two kilometer which definitely has an unsustainable effect to a harmonious society, health safety and common sense.

The Not in my Backyard syndrome of people, neighbourhoods, communities and cities has cried out all over Manitoba. No one wants these mega operations near them including the eco-systems.

Up to now we have turned our cheeks on these ILOs. But as they increasingly creep closer and closer to our families, our homes, our schools, our workplaces, our recreational facilities, our ability to go outside and enjoy fresh air, our ability to safely play in our waterways, to open our windows in our homes and workplaces for fresh air, and the increased traffic pollution has rallied Manitobans all over this province to say NO! We just can not take any more ILO`s and their operations in our own backyards.

No spreading also needs to be done in areas of the province where the water tables sit just below the surface of the land, like around Portage La Prairie and many other areas of the province. We can not afford to mix this toxic manure into our water tables, wells and aquifers. As well, the spreading has to stay out of the flood zones etc. Nor can these ILO's pipe their waste underground out to a few fields to be used as square mile septic fields.

All acts, regulations, policies, laws and enforcement are severely insufficient in order to properly manage this mega unbalanced hog production industry.

The Universal, Natural, Sacred and Traditional Laws have been sacrificed at the expense of the whole society for the financial gain of a few.

The First Nations People have been not properly included or represented in these meetings.

Our faith and trust in farming practices has been destroyed by these mega operations including the disgraceful, disrespectful unnatural practices of the genetically modified breeding, housing and feeding of these sacred animals.

These Hitler style of metal crates removing the right of free movement and natural life to these animals is so beneath our Sacred and Natural Laws that we collectivley hold our Spirit Energy in disgust, embarassement and shame of these inhumane and intolerable practises. The banning of all metal crates is an absolute MUST in order to appease the public's demands and to stop a mass campaign of consumer awareness and boycotting of eating all non-free ranging organic pork. Societies tolerance of these practises has hit the brick wall. The industry will not be able to withstand the CRASH effect of boycotting pork and any industry that supports these inhumane methods. The markets will crash....and the government will have had their hands in this. Ban these stalls, period or pay the huge costs!

Our heritage practises of free ranging, natural environment, family podding, raising of our food production animals is being whipped out by these lazy or shall we call them streamlined inhumane unsustainable mega operations.

Mega-sizing is not a model that scientifically balances nor sustains the Natural World in which we live! We know better!

Mega-sizing animal production systems into tiny spaces with no turn out time in today's 2007 Natural environment is setting up our future generations with an animal food production system and animal weak immune systems that shall wipe out their safe and natural food supply chain that once was one of Manitoba's and Canada's largest strengths and societal's pride and joy. Now, it has become

our provincial and Canadian disgrace and liability for our children and their children to clean up our past actions, sad waterways, polluted air and land, diseased bodies and discouraged souls and community relationships.

Mother Nature, the Animal Kingdom, Spirit Energy and the Health of Manitobans can and will no longer sit quietly and take this kind of abuse!

Only actions, intentions, enforcement, and strict regulations working in harmony with our Natural, Universal, Sacred and Traditional Laws shall slowly bring back the faith of animal farming practises of a sustainable accountability in this province of Manitoba.

As soon as one way of life is sacrificed for the gain of another, we know it is not going to work. Even if humans could take it and kept on eating drug-produced genetically modified meats and crops, the natural world can not sustain these practices. Our human bodies by all accounts of where our health currently is and is heading towards can not sustain this line of fake food either. Our bones are breaking just like the pigs who can not even walk to slaughter. Our obesity weights are through the roof. **Our girls are starting their periods at younger and younger ages due to the hormone fed meats that are in our grocery stores.** Our children have grown tall, weak and huge just like our food production animals. Our fish are becoming unisex. Wake Up, citizens what are we doing to ourselves? We can not sustain this and better yet, why would we want too? The health tax burden on society is already way out of whack and insufficient to the demands placed on it. This fake food production systems are only adding to weight of unsustainability and ill ease that is brewing under the years of accumulative effects.

As well, our Sacred Water is at stake here and our ignorance of the Truth has turned another page, thanks to Mother Nature and the Eco-systems reflecting our short-sighted money driven chemical ways with our dear Lake Winnipeg bearing her soul by showing her deadly blue-green algae for all the world to see.

The weight of responsibility of letting things slide and hey, all in the name of making money wears very very heavily on the hearts, backs, minds and spirit of the people. We are insecure about the healthy future for all Manitobans and Canadians regarding factory farming and their operations.

Everyday we have to look at ourselves in the mirror and ask these heart wrenching questions of sustainability:

Why are we ignoring the Truths - Science of other countries and communities who have had this amount of food production animals in them before?

Why are we ignoring our Truths and Scientific evidence right here in Manitoba, Canada?

Why do we think we are immune to the same destructive cycles of factory farming?

Why do we make it so easy for corporations and mega-sizing operators to come in and rape our natural resources and our natural heritage ways?

Do we think we have only the baby boomers to take care of, that we are not responsible for future generations of healthy living and sustainable life for all?

Why are we allowing our animals to be treated in these ways, to be grown in toxic bubbles, never to know fresh air, the sun and wind on their backs? Why? The Biosphere science experiment failed and failed badly. So, why are we reproducing it here with our animals? We know better.

Why have we allowed these drugfed operations and their waste to weaken the wildlife and our humane bodies and eco-systems? Enough so that even basic anti-biotics will not even work on us, our loved ones and our animals?

Where has our logic and common sense gone?

Why have we let one industry be the destruction of other industries and life, ie. fishing and sustainable fish habitat?

I thank you for your time, patience and understanding in taking a real close look at Manitoba's Truths of the unsustainable intensified livestock production practises, enforcement and vision.

It is time to clean up our ways and it shall take all parties working together in harmony and for the good of the whole to get this mess sorted out and back into sustainable shape. The time is now! Manitoba can not sustain 9 million hogs, period. Mega-sizing and overloading our natural was in our past, it shall not be part of our future.

On behalf of all life forms here in Manitoba, we stand behind all people and parties that have presented to the government this year and over the years telling the real truths of what the hog industry is doing to our harmony and sustainability of living in Manitoba. Time for the people's government to listen and act on the best interests of the whole and not just a few, our children our counting on us.

We can do this, one day at a time, one law at a time, one regulation at a time, one healthy vision of sustainable agriculture practises for all Manitobans to follow that is naturally balanced for all life to flourish!

This is our Canadian birthright and our collective responsibility!

The hog PAUSE.....STAYS ON!

Back to the drawing board, we all go.

Grateful Manitoban,
Cheryl Kennedy Courcelles
Spirit of the Red River
Sociologist

Box 480
St. Adolphe, Manitoba
R5A 1A2
(204) 883-2269
Cheryl-@mts.net

P.S. Please include as part of this official presentation to the Clean Environment Commission, my 8 page report discussing the details of the hog production industry dated January 2007 - scoping meetings. All points are relevant to this review and need to be looked at in order to work towards sustainability.

I trust and thank you for typing both of these reports into the official CEC hog industry review documents.

P.S.S. The libraries and Universities are filled full of the Science to back up every statement I have made...but your heart know all of this to be true anyways. We have to collectively do better, now.

Please refer to the report: Where do we go from here?