



Meeting: July 28, 2017

Topic: Lake Level Maintenance and Flushing Concept

In Attendance:

Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP)

- Representatives from Public Lands, Hydrology, Wildlife, Fisheries, Water Act Approvals, Liminologist, Aboriginal Consultations

Lac La Nonne Enhancement and Protection Association (LEPA)

- Greg Hall (President), Rod Kause (Vice-President), Shauna Hall (Secretary), Ross Magill (Executive), Jill Brown (Executive), Liesa Miller (Executive), Ashley Niebach (Executive), Steven Tymafichuk, Doug Drozd (Councilor Barrhead County), Wayne Borle (Councilor Lac St Anne County)

Presenters:

- Brendan Ganton, Yvon Cormier

Executive Summary

On behalf of LEPA, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to our advisors, Brendan Ganton and Yvon Cormier. They have worked hard over the past year to prepare a potential water diversion proposal aimed at improving the water quality and water level stabilization of Lac La Nonne.

Several LEPA Executive Board Members attended the meeting with representatives from Minister Shannon Phillips office. Shannon Phillips is the Minister of Environment & Parks as well as the Minister Responsible for the Climate Change Office in Alberta. In attendance for AEP were representatives from each group that would play an integral role in a project of this size, including from Public Lands, Hydrology, Wildlife, Fisheries, Water Act Approvals, Limnologist and Aboriginal Consultations.

Brendan and Yvon were given the opportunity to deliver their presentations and outline the diversion proposal to the groups. The options for the physical path of the diversion proposal are sound, however there were many logistical and ecological issues that were brought forth by the various representatives. Some of the issues are outlined below.

- What is the current water quality situation of the Pembina River?
 - Would diverting from the Pembina be introducing additional nutrients, metals, ions or pesticides cause new complications for Lac La Nonne?
- What is the potential of cross-contamination of river and lake species?
 - Could we be risking adding invasive species into Lac La Nonne



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- What would be the ecological impact to the McDonald Creek wetland area?
 - Does the McDonald wetland area have the ability to bind the additional nutrient load without affecting the ecology of the area?
- What precautions should be considered when raising the water level of Lac La Nonne or lowering the level of the Pembina (in between the diversion points)
 - Will there be considerable erosion to the shoreline? Will it affect shoreline owner's property?
 - What is the potential for indirect effects on wildlife, such as nesting habitats and shifts in shoreline vegetation?
- What is the potential of downstream impact from adding water from a nutrient rich lake to the river?
 - Will there be impacts to Alexander First Nations? They're involvement and participation would be required.

Currently, the AEP is recommending LEPA to develop a Lake Watershed Management Plan to better guide decisions on maintaining the current water quality of Lac La Nonne.

The LEPA Executive Board feel maintaining the current status of the water quality is of utmost importance and will continue to share best lake practices with the LEPA membership, however that is only 10% of the battle. The battle facing Lac La Nonne, and many lakes around Alberta that are in a similar situation, is the internal water nutrient/ion loading which is a proven contributor to blue-green algae. We are going to continue to use AEP as a resource to tackle the bigger problem.

We thank you for your continued support of LEPA. Our commitment is to continue to address these areas of concern. We are committed to Lac La Nonne and its natural environment into it's future.

The LEPA Executive Board

August 3, 2017