LWF LAKE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION

107 - 62 Hargrave St | Winnipeg, MB R3C 1N1 | (204) 956-0436 | info@lakewinnipegfoundation.org

April 26, 2023

City Hall
Council Building
510 Main St.
Winnipeg, MB R3B 1B9

I am writing in support of the motion to request that the provincial task force:

a) amend the North End Water Pollution Control Centre (NEWPCC) operating licence to require phosphorus compliance in Phase II; and

b) complete a review of current scientific knowledge to determine whether it is desirable to proceed with the nitrogen removal components of the Phase III project.

Over five decades of peer-reviewed research at the IISD-Experimental Lakes Area has demonstrated conclusively that phosphorus – not nitrogen – is the cause of harmful algal blooms in freshwater ecosystems – including Lake Winnipeg.

Phosphorus reduction is required to protect Lake Winnipeg, and the City of Winnipeg can do its part by accelerating compliance with the 1.0 mg/L phosphorus limit at NEWPCC. Chemical phosphorus reduction has been successful at Winnipeg's south end treatment plant, reducing phosphorus concentrations to as low as 0.11 mg/L. This efficient and cost-effective solution should be integrated into the design of the NEWPCC Phase II Biosolids Facilities Project.

Sincerely,

Alexis Kanu, PhD
Executive Director