

# Friends of McFarlane Lake Stewardship Group

**Blue-green  
Algae:  
Presenting an  
Action Plan to  
Preserve  
McFarlane Lake**



# McFarlane Lake Newsletter



# Min. of Environment identified blue-green algae blooms in MacFarlane Lake in October





# Health Advisory: No drinking, bathing, washing, swimming

Picture of  
a mass of  
Cyanobacteria  
(blue-green  
algae). This  
bloom  
occurred in  
1981 in  
Scotland.



# Public Information Meeting: Blue Green Algae



# Public Information Meeting: Blue Green Algae

## ■ Mr. Brad Bowman

- Lives on Lake McFarlane
- Member of McFarlane Lk. Stewardship Group
- Geo Scientist With N.A.R. Environmental
- overview of phosphorus levels in McFarlane Lake (1975-2007), study strategy

## ■ Dr. Charles Ramcharan

- Professor of Biology at Laurentian University
- profile of McFarlane Lake
- nature & causes of blue-green algae

## ■ Mr. Al McDougall

- from Sudbury & District Health Unit
- testing methods used by the MOE
- facts about the blue green algae.



# *Friends of McFarlane Lake Stewardship Action Plan:*

1. McFarlane Lake to be categorized as a unique 'Study Lake'
2. Non-Use of Cosmetic Fertilizers for Lawn Care – Formal Resolution to City Council
3. Septic System – Testing, maintenance & inspection
4. Assertive Shoreline Education Visitations and Stronger Advisory Panel Leadership
5. Clean Water Protection Act –More effective inclusion of private water intake from lakes

# 1. McFarlane Lake to be categorized as a unique 'Study Lake'

A Monitoring Program or Study be formed as follows

- \* Establish a Monitoring Working Group composed of Master Students (Laurentian University / Biology) and a team of student volunteers and resident lake volunteers

- \* To determine whether the water is safe to drink: kitchen tap samples should be regularly tested by the Sudbury & District Health Unit

- \* Bi-Weekly assessments of the Phytoplankton community taken from the lake

Both of these sampling programs will require direct measurement of toxicants by a laboratory



## 2. Non Use of Cosmetic Fertilizers for Lawn Care – Formal Resolution to City Council

- Municipalities can not make their own bylaws banning pesticides/fertilizers
- City council can ask for provincial legislation.

**Whereas** the use of cosmetic fertilizers has a deleterious effect on our watershed, and

**Whereas** over 4% of people in the region of Sudbury take household water directly through private intake, and

**Whereas** the use of cosmetic fertilizers has the potential to encourage the growth of toxic blue-green algae and other negative organisms in the waterways where these private intakes are located

**Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury request to the Minister of the Environment to make a regulation under the Pesticide Act regulating or prohibiting the sale or use of cosmetic fertilizers in the upcoming provincial regulations dealing with cosmetic pesticides.**

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### 3. Septic Systems – Testing, Maintenance & Inspection

a) the **Sudbury & District Health Unit** have

-stronger education programs on septic system maintenance

( eg. information tables at Southridge Mall, South End Library)

- direct campaign of door-to-door brochures from the Health Unit concerning septic systems

b) the **City of Greater Sudbury**

-reintroduce the monetary rebate to encourage people to have their septic holding tanks emptied at the least every two years

## 4. Assertive Shoreline Education Visitations and Stronger Advisory Panel Leadership

- A more aggressive home shoreline visit program
- Re-evaluate role of the **Greater Sudbury Lake Advisory Panel.**

Its mandate is to serve as a watchdog on behalf of all citizens in the community and actively promote and protect the ecological health of the lakes through: social and scientific research, public education, policy advocacy, community partnerships, and strategic community initiatives.

## 5. Clean Water Protection Act: More effective inclusion of private water intake from lakes

The city and the Nickel District Conservation Authority request the provincial government to emphasize the inclusion of “private water intake” under the acts and regulations pertaining to the Drinking Water Source Protection.



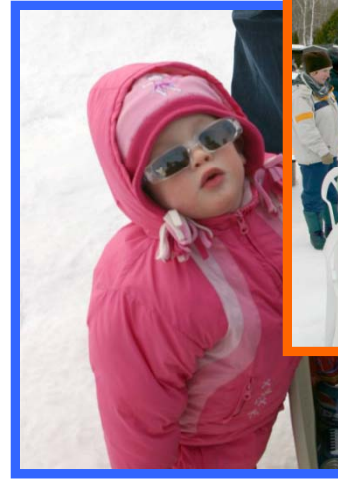
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**McFarlane FAMILY FUN DAY  
March 2007**

Resource People who were Guest Speakers at the Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Public Meeting

**Mr. Brad Bowman**

- Lake McFarlane resident
- Member of McFarlane Lk. Stewardship Group
- Geo Scientist ,N.A.R. Environmental
- phosphorus levels in McFarlane Lake (1975-2007), study strategy

**Dr. Charles Ramcharan**

- Biology Professor Laurentian University
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Also, we gratefully acknowledge discussions with **Stephen Monet**, Manager of Environmental Planning Initiatives for Greater Sudbury and city solicitor **Ron Swiddle** in preparation for this presentation.