



**Date 5 April 2011**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**To: Mayor Canfield & Members of Council**

**Fr: Karen Brown**

**Re: LOTW Water Quality Forum and Related Reports**

### **Recommendation:**

**That** Council hereby receives the report on attendance at the Lake of the Woods 8<sup>th</sup> Annual International Water Quality Forum held March 9<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011, and the Citizens Advisory Group Notes from that group's conference call held February 22, 2011, as provided by Len Compton in his role as Community Liaison on the non-municipal Stakeholders Advisory Group for the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation; and

**That** Council hereby receives the Interim Report of the International Lake of the Woods and Rainy River Watershed Task Force.

### **Background:**

In the fall of 2010, City Council appointed Len Compton as a Community Liaison on the non-municipal Stakeholders Advisory Group for the Lake of the Woods Water Sustainability Foundation. In that role, this individual attended the Lake of the Woods 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Quality Forum, held in International Falls, Minnesota on March 9<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The following page includes a report on his attendance at this forum. Also provided by this individual for Council's information is a copy of the notes from a conference call for the Citizens' Advisory Group held on February 22, 2011 as well as a copy of the interim report of the International Lake of the Woods and Rainy River Watershed Task Force. It is recommended that Council receive these various reports.

### **Budget:**

N/A

### **Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

For information purposes for Council.

## **Report on Attendance at the Water Quality Forum as Submitted by Len Compton:**

I am forwarding a copy of the Interim Report of the International Lake of the Woods and Rainy River Watershed Task Force along with the Report on my attendance at the Water Quality Forum on behalf of the City of Kenora.

The Interim Report of the Task Force was the basis for a number of Presentations and Working Groups. There will be a Public Meeting hosted by the Watershed Task Force in Sioux Narrows on Thursday, April 8, 2011 @ 7PM. in the Sioux Narrows Community Hall in order to get further input from the Public on the contents of the Interim Report.

The Final Report of the Task Force will be presented to the International Joint Commission the middle of the summer with the IJC reporting to the Governments of Canada and the U.S. by the end of December. 2011.

Out of the numerous issues brought forward the top two were 1) Climate change and 2) Dumping of nutrients into the waterways in the Watershed (the extent of the Watershed is shown in the Interim Report).

The City of Kenora was the only Municipality with a representative present at the Forum and Kenora's interest in the health of the Watershed and particularly Lake of the Woods received more than one comment in Kenora's favour.

Respectfully submitted,

**Len Compton**