

## MANITOBA ECO-NETWORK

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Immediate Release

Manitoba Eco-Network joins others to launch the "Save Our Water" campaign to raise public awareness on the silica sand mining project proposed in southeastern Manitoba.

**Winnipeg -** The Manitoba Eco-Network (MbEN), along with Our Line in the Sand Manitoba (OLS), Manitoba Energy Justice Coalition (MEJC) and What the Frack Manitoba (WTFMB) launches the "Save Our Water" campaign to raise awareness about Sio Silica's sand mining activities in southeastern Manitoba.

The company has announced its intention to develop the Vivian Sand Facility and Sand Extraction Projects. The groups have serious concerns about the impact on the environment, particularly to the Winnipeg Sandstone and Red River Carbonate aquifers, an extremely important source of water for communities in southeastern Manitoba.

The coalition is launching this campaign to raise awareness of the impacts to our drinking water and to raise financial support so that they can hire independent experts to provide testimony at the Clean Environment Commission (CEC) hearing scheduled to commence this fall.

The CEC hearing will allow participants to review in detail the proponent's Environment Act Proposal in an evidence-based and independent forum and allow for cross examination to determine if the impacts on the aquifers and human health have been adequately considered and addressed.

"Since 2001, it has been standard practice in Manitoba to establish a Participant Fund so that interveners can hire experts to effectively participate in the hearing process. Unfortunately, that practice has been ignored, and coalition members are put in a position to ask for public donations", remarked Glen Koroluk, Executive Director of Manitoba Eco-Network.

Learn more about Save Our Water here: <a href="https://www.organizemanitoba.org/saveourwater">https://www.organizemanitoba.org/saveourwater</a>
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