

An aerial photograph of Lake Winnipeg, showing extensive green algal blooms covering large portions of the water surface. The blooms are a vibrant green color, contrasting with the darker blue-green of the water. The shoreline is visible, with some land areas and smaller bodies of water. The overall scene illustrates the problem of eutrophication in the lake.

An Intractable Challenge: Lake Winnipeg Eutrophication

WIL Global 2020
November 5, 2020

Group Members:

Richard Farthing-Nichol, Oscar Javier Baron Ruiz, Emma Pham, [REDACTED] Cordelia
Eldridge McCrillis, Rennie Jordan, Natalia Garcia, Abdallatif Abdalrhman, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



**The many faces of
Lake Winnipeg...**



The Challenge

An environmental problem...

The most eutrophic lake among the world's ten largest lakes

In the last 30 years, enrichment of the lake's surface water has increased dramatically with large loads of N and P.

The alteration of natural land covers:

*Large reservoir in Saskatchewan River

*50% of the wetlands in Red River have been drained.

*Riparian areas of the Winnipeg River have been transformed

...with complex social and political dimensions

The basin spans numerous jurisdictions and levels of government, including parts of four provinces, four U.S. states, and over 100 Indigenous Nations

Farmers' Interests: Much of the land in the watershed is used for agricultural production

Overlapping of Provincial, Federal and International Policies for the Lake Winnipeg's watershed management

What is being done?

Federal Efforts

- Lake Winnipeg Basin Program
- Environmental Farm Plan & Environmental Stewardship Incentive

Provincial Efforts

- Conservation Trust
- Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW) program
- Nutrient Management Regulation
- Manure Management Plan

Nongovernmental Efforts

- Lake Winnipeg Foundation
- Lake Friendly

The Bottom Line:

**Despite these efforts and millions invested over decades,
nonpoint source nutrient loading has not been meaningfully addressed**

Thank You

