

## Online / Printed Petition

### Support the Community of Sandy Lake's Local AIS Protective Measures!

May 21 2018

# Recreational Impacts of Zebra Mussels

- **Sharp (smelly) shells litter beaches**
- **Increased maintenance due to incrustation of docks, boats, boat lifts, etc.**
- **Clogged cooling systems of boat motors**
- **Decreased lake-front property values**
- **Reduced sport fishing opportunities**
- **Increased costs/taxes for all property owners**



Source: Manitoba Sustainable Development

Target: Municipality of Harrison Park Council

Website: [www.FriendsofSandyLake.com](http://www.FriendsofSandyLake.com)

There are gaps in the Province of Manitoba's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program. Consequently, our waters are vulnerable to Zebra Mussel Invasion and additional protective measures are required. The community of Sandy Lake is able to implement additional AIS protective measures but, the Municipality of Harrison Park has refused to support the additional protective measures proposed by the Friends of Sandy Lake AIS Committee.

The additional protective measures requested include:

1. Restricting public boat launching to the main dock and possibly one other location.
2. Allow a small building strategically located by the main dock to shelter AIS Inspectors.
3. Assist the Friends of Sandy Lake in applying for funding to pay the wages of summer students that would be hired to be local AIS Inspectors at the main dock.
4. Accept donations and issue tax deductible receipts on behalf of Friends of Sandy Lake.

And, additionally, support the Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve in efforts to establish a local AIS Decontamination Station within a reasonable driving distance of Sandy Lake.

We, the undersigned, request that the Municipality of Harrison Park Council support the additional protective measures outlined above.

<https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/support-the-community-of-sandy-lakes-local-ais-protective-measures.html>

June 26, 2018

## AIS Presentation to Council of Harrison Park

Daryl Kines

Victor Kowall

Jim Irwin

On May 21, 2018, Friends of Sandy Lake started to collect signatures on a petition requesting the Municipality of Harrison Park

*“Support the Community of Sandy Lake’s Proposed Local AIS Protective Measures”.*

### Petition Objectives

1. Create awareness of the Zebra Mussel issue by talking with residents and property owners within the Local Urban District (LUD) and the area surrounding Sandy Lake.
2. Distribute the Zebra Mussel fact sheets and answer questions regarding AIS.
3. Show Council there is support from rate payers for the proposed additional AIS Protective measures.

### Results of the survey

At this point, we have collected 300+ signatures from individuals in our community.

The majority of individuals that signed this petition own property here and pay property taxes to the Municipality of Harrison Park. We made a point of collecting signatures from permanent residents that do not have lake front property. Fewer than 10 individuals did not sign the petition because they felt it would inconvenience them.

### Where are we now?

1. Together we have updated the Provincial AIS Signs at our lakes.
2. The Municipality has printed the “Don’t Move a Mussel” fact sheets and posters which have been placed at various businesses and distributed at a number of events.
3. The Municipality is printing the “Don’t Move a Mussel” posters as part of the property tax assessment information that we will all receive soon.
4. The Municipality has provided space at the Sandy Lake Fire Hall at no cost for the AIS Inspector training course that was given by the Province on June 1, this year.
5. The Friends of Sandy Lake AIS Committee has recruited a few members of the community to conduct voluntary AIS inspections at the main dock. (Doreen and Lloyd both attended this training and we are looking forward to seeing them out there doing inspections with us.)
6. The Friends of Sandy Lake AIS Committee has made arrangements with Candace Parks, the AIS Specialist for the Province, to allow our local AIS Inspectors to send them the necessary information so that a boater with a high risk watercraft can be issued an “legal decontamination order” to have their watercraft decontaminated before launching into a waterway.

June 26, 2018

## **AIS Presentation to Council of Harrison Park**

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### Where are we going?

After the AIS Inspector training was completed, an impromptu meeting occurred. It included individuals from our municipality, other municipalities, members of the Friends of Sandy Lake, the Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve, a guest from Gull Lake, Candace Parks from the Province and others. Open, frank discussions took place and a number of things were clarified.

As a result of this discussion, it became clear to the Friends of Sandy Lake AIS Committee that:

- ❖ The Friends of Sandy Lake AIS Committee needs to start an incorporated, not-for-profit entity in order to apply for grants, accept donations from businesses and hire staff as Local AIS Inspectors at Sandy Lake's main dock.

This means that we are no longer requesting item #3 of the petition.

- ❖ Jim Irwin, Chair of the Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve, has approached a number of Municipalities within the Biosphere to establish one or more decontamination stations where the costs would be shared between municipalities and hopefully the Province of Manitoba.

As per this petition, we are asking the Municipality of Harrison Park to support the efforts of the Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve to establish an AIS Decontamination Station within a reasonable driving distance of Sandy Lake.

## What do we need from the Municipality now?

1. "Restricting boat launching to the main dock and possibly one other location."

We request council:

- a. Approve the installation of additional Provincial StopAIS signs around Sandy Lake where car top and trailered watercraft could launch. (as per Council's Motion 143/2017)
  - b. Pay for and have the prescriptive sign (attached) below the provincial StopAIS sign. (as per Council's Motion 143/2017)
  - c. Schedule a special meeting with council, the LUD of Sandy Lake and the Friends of Sandy Lake AIS Committee to discuss how best to proceed with restricting boat launching locations.
2. "Allow a small building strategically located by the main dock to shelter AIS Inspectors"

We request council grant this request.

We have met with the LUD of Sandy Lake and they have approved this request. The LUD will determine the location of the building and the building would be able to be removed from the site if necessary as it would be on skids.



The building shown above is used by RMNP for their Clear Lake AIS Inspectors.

Friends of Sandy Lake would raise funds for a building similar to this. This building is expected to cost \$2,500.

We need this building to shelter the Sandy Lake AIS Inspectors and to house a wireless Internet connection. The Internet connection is necessary in order to send information to the Province if our AIS Inspectors encounter a high risk boat that must be decontaminated before launching.

Friends of Sandy Lake would also cover the costs of connecting the building to power and the Internet. This has also been discussed with the LUD of Sandy Lake and they have approved it.

The only cost that we are asking the Municipality to cover is the cost of electricity to power the small building. This is estimated to be less than \$200 per season. This was also discussed with the LUD and they have approved this as well.

**The total cost to the Municipality for this item is \$200 per year.** If necessary, Friends of Sandy

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Lake will raise this amount each year.

3. "Assist the Friends of Sandy Lake in applying for funding to pay the wages of summer students that would be hired to be local AIS Inspectors at the main dock."

As mentioned earlier in this document, we are no longer requesting this item.

4. "Accept donations and issue tax deductible receipts on behalf of Friends of Sandy Lake."

We request council grant this request.

When we incorporate, we will not have "Charitable" status, therefore will not be able to issue tax deductible receipts. We will be able to give receipts for funds received and this is acceptable to businesses as it is an expense for them.

**This concludes the items requested in the petition.**

# Can I launch my boat here?

(This includes canoes, kayaks, inflatables, trailered watercraft and water related equipment)

1. If your watercraft was **stored in the cold over winter** and this is the first launch of the open water season, you can launch.
2. **If this is the only water body** you have used your watercraft in this season, you can launch.
3. If your watercraft has been **launched in** a provincially-designated control zone (waters such as **the Red River or Lake Winnipeg**, that are invaded with zebra mussels or other AIS) **you MUST decontaminate your watercraft** before placing it into any other water body. It is the law.  
**DO NOT LAUNCH** until you decontaminate your watercraft.
4. If you have followed the provincial AIS cleaning requirements when you took your boat out of the water the last time (**Clean+Drain+Dry+Dispose**, and if necessary, **Decontaminate** as required by law as described on the provincial STOP AIS signs), you can launch.

**If you are not sure, please, do not launch!**

For more information visit: [Manitoba.ca/StopAIS](http://Manitoba.ca/StopAIS)

**SPREAD** THE WORD, **NO** THE MUSSELS

**“CLEAN+DRAIN+DRY+DISPOSE, and if necessary, DECONTAMINATE as required by law”**

This is essential if we are to protect the waters we love!

[rmbr.ca/SpreadTheWordNotTheMussels](http://rmbr.ca/SpreadTheWordNotTheMussels)



**Riding Mountain UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve**  
*“Working Together for the Prosperity and Posterity of Our Communities”*