

Presentation to Council of Harrison Park
Protecting Sandy Lake from Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)
November 21, 2017

Friends of Sandy Lake has formed a committee to investigate, make recommendations, and to go forward with implementing appropriate measures to protect Sandy Lake from being invaded by Zebra Mussels. At its meeting of September 3, 2017, recommendations were presented and approved for implementation before the boating season begins in 2018.

It is important to note that, although our ongoing activities are focused on protecting Sandy Lake, the Province is interested in what levels of protections can be established through the will and participation of local players to protect their lakes. The awareness of AIS threats and the high level of concern has created a unique situation at Sandy Lake where the Province, our local community, municipal government and individuals are working together to explore to what extent Sandy Lake can be protected from our new Zebra Mussel and other invasive species threats that are on the horizon. From the perspective the Province and the Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve, it is hoped that we can not only protect Sandy Lake but that guidelines can be established that other concerned communities can implement.

This proposal is to create an AIS Decontamination Station at Sandy Lake. Boaters would be able to have their watercraft decontaminated by provincially trained AIS Decontamination Volunteers without having to travel to the nearest Provincial Station which is about 3 hours away. This station would benefit all lakes in the Municipality of Harrison Park.

Based on the Province of Manitoba's experience, we anticipate having to decontaminate about 100 watercraft in the 2018 boating season. The decontamination process involves killing the AIS using hot water.

Friends of Sandy Lake is asking the Municipality of Harrison Park to provide the following:

1. A location to house the Decontamination Station. The garage on Railway Street opposite the elevator has been investigated and is suitable.
2. Upgrade the electrical service at that location from 100A to 200A.
3. Allow the Friends of Sandy Lake to use an area next the municipal garage to perform decontaminations. This area would be prepared by Friends of Sandy Lake to recover the water used in the decontamination process. The recovered water would be processed and reused as per directions from the Province of Manitoba.
4. Provide electricity and water to operate the decontamination unit.
5. Allow Sandy Lake AIS Decontamination volunteers to access the decontamination unit as needed.

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The Friends of Sandy Lake will raise \$40,000 to cover the startup costs as follows:

- Purchase and install a decontamination station as per specifications provided by the Province of Manitoba.
- Install a wash area to recover the water used in the decontaminate process.
- Training of Sandy Lake AIS Decontamination volunteers (done by the Province of Manitoba).

List of individuals that may speak to council:

- Daryl Kines
- Victor Kowall
- Mark Wahoski
- Jim Irwin
- Jeff Long (to be available to answer questions)

Suggested Motions:

1. Council approves allowing an AIS Decontamination Station to be housed and operated at the municipal garage located on Railway Street at Sandy Lake.
2. Council approves upgrading the electrical service from 100A to 200A.
3. Council approves allowing the Friends of Sandy Lake to use an area next the municipal garage to perform decontaminations.
4. Council approves covering the cost of electricity and water used in the decontamination process.
5. Council approves allowing Sandy Lake AIS Decontamination volunteers to access the decontamination unit as needed.