To: Manitoba Clean Environment Commission
Attn: Cathy Johnson

Cathy, the milk board has informed me that the provincial government plans to implement more environmental restrictions in future. Cathy, my family has farmed in Manitoba since the late 1800's and our farms have respected the environment long before it became an issue. We know how to manage the manure on our farm and at the cost of fertilizer and fuel, we are extremely careful and do not waste any. The general public causes more environmental damage as they drive to the golf course and on trips. Perhaps these activities should be more clearly regulated. An enquiry should be done on what cottage owners do with their sewage. If the government wants farmers to adhere to draconian regulations, then the government must provide up to 100% of the cost to the farmers as we cannot afford any more additional costs. A recent study shows that...
Manitoba farmers contribute only 1% of the phosphorous in the environment, yet we are unfairly targeted as the main contributors and are expected to pay the price to clean up 99% of the problem. The NDP's government answer was to ban hog expansion. All that the ban did was move the expansion down into the U.S. northern states and have effectively given up any input into the industry while the hogs are still in the same watershed. The hog ban must be removed in order for Manitoba's to participate in the hog industry growth. The additional costs the government wants farmers to absorb is unfair. Other businesses can pass additional costs onto consumers while farmers can not pass the costs on. If the public wants farmers to adhere to these new rules, then the public must be prepared to pay.

Sincerely,
Scott & Debbie Gilmour
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