



NEWS RELEASE

Students examine a lake in crisis

Conference tackles Lake Winnipeg's many challenges

Jan. 14, 2015—Sisler High School is hosting a science and sustainability conference **tomorrow, Jan. 15**, on the current status of Lake Winnipeg—a body of water that earned the title of “the most threatened lake in the world” in 2013. Approximately 90 Sisler students will take part in the event, **starting at 10:30 a.m. at the school.**

The conference, entitled *What's Happening with Lake Winnipeg*, is the result of a partnership between Lake Winnipeg Foundation, Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium, and Sisler High School. Through Sisler's live online video conferencing program, SoapBoxED, schools from Thompson, The Pas and Nashville, Tennessee will also be participating in the event, along with other schools in Winnipeg School Division. A group of 20 students from Elmwood High School will be attending the event in person.

“Sisler is known for and dedicated to becoming one of the most sustainable schools in the province, and this conference is one of the biggest and best ways to do sustainable education outreach,” said Sisler teacher Matthew Robak. “Lake Winnipeg was specifically chosen as it is one of the least studied lakes, yet it's one of the largest watersheds impacted by Canadians and Americans.”

Special guests at the conference include Dr. Karen Scott, ecologist and education program director of the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium, and Marlo Campbell, communications director with the Lake Winnipeg Foundation.

Dr. Scott will show students how Lake Winnipeg functions, as well as discussing the latest research. In addition, Dr. Scott will discuss research techniques and strategies, including a look at the massive research vessel used to study the lake. Ms. Campbell will focus on current Lake Winnipeg action plans that tackle issues such as phosphorous counts, algae blooms and invasive species.

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