

WE LOVE OUR LAKES.

Did our Saskatchewan Government fumble the ball on illegal drainage?



On June 1st 2018, several members of the Saskatchewan Alliance for Water Sustainability (SAWS) met with Saskatchewan's Water Security Agency. For more information about SAWS please go to our website www.lmlsg.ca/SAWS

Our goal for the meeting was to find a path forward, working with the government and interested



parties to find solutions to the drainage challenges facing the Quill Lakes. **We know the Quill Lake flooding issue is still a threat to our beloved lakes.** If unregulated drainage continues, Quill Lake levels will continue to rise, flooding even more farmland as the contaminated water travels downstream into our lakes and our rivers. We can't afford another fumble – we need solutions to be implemented before Fall of this year. For the summary of the meeting minutes please see our Facebook page '*Calling for a Sustainable Quill Lakes Solution*'.

We learned during the meeting that manpower is a problem for WSA. We questioned if WSA would establish a process between various government agencies and crown corporations, particularly SaskPower, SaskEnergy and FCC, to insure proper process is followed. Could these

agencies make sure that the aqua and drainage permits are in place prior to marking lines or lending money? The WSA responded that “it’s possible but at the same time there’s pressure from all quarters and agriculture is important to the province.” We agree however, we also think that wetlands, lakes, ecosystems and respect for the land are also important to the people of our province. This is why we need diversity of voices in the room.



We need your help. Please send an email to WSA Acting Vice President Sam Ferris at Samuel.Ferris@wsask.ca and Honourable Dustin Duncan Minister of Environment at minister.env@gov.sk.ca asking them to stop wetland drainage into the Quill Lakes Basin. New drainage works must be stopped as the first step of the process. We cannot afford to drop the ball - we need SaskEnergy, SaskPower and FCC to work together with WSA and regulate drainage. This work needs to begin now.

Please “help us help you” by donating to “Save Last Mountain/Qu’Appelle Lakes” directly or by going to our GoFundMe page at: <https://www.gofundme.com/savelastmntn-qu-appelle>.