

I have attached a letter from MPP Norm Miller, as well as the attached excerpt from HANSARD (the Legislature reporter). Can you please add this to the Political Action section of our webpage.....

Steve

Dear Mr. Sadler,

Further to my voicemail message to you on September 18th, as mentioned, I did follow-up with Minister Gerretsen's office, however, Mr. Miller has not received a reply as yet.

As Bill 99, Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008, was debated yesterday, Mr. Miller wanted to be sure to raise the Sturgeon Bay issue as you will see from the attached copy of his remarks taken from Hansard.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Miller's office.

Regards,
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

ASSEMBLÉE LÉGISLATIVE DE L'ONTARIO

Monday 22 September 2008 Lundi 22 septembre 2008

ORDERS OF THE DAY

LAKE SIMCOE PROTECTION ACT, 2008 /
LOI DE 2008 SUR LA PROTECTION
DU LAC SIMCOE

Mr. Norm Miller: I'm pleased to add some comments on Bill 99, An Act to protect and restore the ecological health of the Lake Simcoe watershed and to amend the Ontario Water Resources Act. I'd like to, in commenting on the minister's and parliamentary assistant's speech, bring up a related topic to do with some water system in the Parry Sound-Muskoka area, and that is Sturgeon Bay, which is located just north of Pointe au Baril on Georgian Bay. I recently received a letter from the president of the Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association in which he attached an e-mail that he had sent to Minister Gerretsen with regard to a request for assistance with regard to the current resolution to remediate the situation on Sturgeon Bay. The situation on Sturgeon Bay is that they've had problems with blue-green algae blooms that are caused by phosphorus, so sort of similar to some of the challenges on Lake Simcoe. Mr. Stephen Saddler, the president, notes he has heard no response from Mr. Gerretsen.

He goes on in his letter to Minister Gerretsen to do with the blue-green algae. He notes that the association has been working with the Sturgeon Bay Water Quality Action Committee and with the municipality of Archipelago, that they came up with what may be the solution, which is a product called Phoslock, and notes that it was funded on Lake Simcoe to the tune of, according to his letter, \$250,000. So the question is-"We are asking for the same government resolve to assist our situation on Sturgeon Bay. Members of the water quality action committee have long called our bay 'the canary in the coal mine,' a perfect location to test the efficacy of the Phoslock product."

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So basically he's asking for the same treatment for Sturgeon Bay in Parry Sound-Muskoka that is happening on Lake Simcoe.

Mr. Norm Miller: I'm pleased to add some comments on the speech by the member from Eglinton-Lawrence to do with Bill 99. I previously had a chance to relate this back to the riding of Parry Sound-Muskoka. I know this bill is about Lake Simcoe and trying to help clean up Lake Simcoe, largely because of the build-up of development and too much phosphorus in the lake, and I point out that in Parry Sound-Muskoka we have a similar situation north of Parry Sound and Pointe au Baril, on Sturgeon Bay and Georgian Bay. There, they've had problems with blue-green algae blooms. The Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association and the township of the Archipelago have been involved in meeting with the Ministry of the Environment, and they've identified a technology to help improve the situation, which is called Phoslock. I will quote from the letter that I received from the president of the association, where he says:

"Phoslock has recently been used in Lake Simcoe to remediate the watershed and reduce the phosphorus loads of this water body. According to the article in the King City newspaper a few weeks ago, your ministry assisted the Lake Simcoe in the use of Phoslock with a \$250,000 contribution towards the project. Your assistant Kevin Flynn was quoted as saying 'the government support of this project is a sign of how important the protection of Lake Simcoe is.'"

The point that the president is making is that they're asking for the same treatment for Sturgeon Bay: "We are asking for the same government resolve to assist our situation on Sturgeon Bay. Members of the water quality action committee have long called our bay the 'canary in the coal mine,' a perfect location to test the efficacy of the Phoslock product."

So this is what I'm looking for for the area of Sturgeon Bay on Georgian Bay. Thank you.