



**Curriculum Links**  
**The Sharing Circle, Season 14, Episodes**  
**16/17**

**Voice of the Lake (Part 1 and 2)**

**Suggested Grade Levels:**

Grades 4 – 12	Social Studies
Grades 5 – 12	Science
All Grades	Music

**Curriculum Themes and**

- Adoption
- Environmental Wellbeing
- Health and wellbeing
- Identity
- Manitoba
- Music
- Water

**Summary of Episode:**

For 8000 years Aboriginal people have lived on the shores of Lake Winnipeg. It has been a constant source of fish and fresh drinking water. Some people refer to it as the blood of life, the earth mother's water. In recent years an alarming change has taken place in the lake. Large areas are covered in toxic algae. Though the cause is a subject of great debate, a likely culprit is field runoff of pesticides and animal waste from immense factory farming operations. The pollution rate is so high in Lake Winnipeg that some scientists estimate the lake could die in the next ten years. Clearly this will have a profound impact on Aboriginal People.

### **Vocabulary:**

- Adopted
- Andrew Balfour
- Animals
- Art
- Assiniboine
- Author
- Awareness
- Banff
- Black Island
- Blood
- Camerata Nova
- Chemicals
- Children of the Earth
- Colonization
- Composer/ Director
- Concern
- Cree
- Devil's Lake
- Disconnected
- Diversion
- Drum
- Earth
- Education
- Elder
- Energy
- Enrich
- Environmental Disaster
- Fisher Branch
- Fishing
- Fossil
- 4 million years old
- Gary Raven
- George Simmudson
- Gordon Driscoll
- Great lake
- Harmony
- Heal
- Heartbeat
- History
- Honour
- Humanity
- Hydro Stations
- Identity
- Industry
- James Wolkowski
- John Weir
- Journey
- Kathleen Anderson
- Kim Baryluk
- Lake Winnipeg
- Lake Winnipeg Foundation
- Leaders
- Life
- Listen
- Magnet
- May Louise Campbell
- Migrate
- Mother Earth
- Music
- Musician
- Mysterious Water
- Nature
- 90%
- Ojibwa
- Peace
- Pollution
- Prairie Open Centre
- Pray
- Protection
- Related
- Research
- Reverence
- Rhythm
- Rob Hariapak
- Robin Mather
- Sacred
- Sandy Driscoll
- Science
- Senator Johnson
- Sick
- Sima Chapman
- Species
- Stones
- 10<sup>th</sup> largest in the world
- Tobacco
- Toxic Algae
- Unbalanced
- Vibration
- Vision
- Voice
- Water
- Wetlands

### **Suggested Activities:**

- Go to a concert directed by Andrew Balfour.
- Listen to music from Andrew Balfour and represent emotions felt in art.
- Learn about environmental issues related to Lake Winnipeg.

### **Suggested Activities (Continued):**

- Learn about Devils Lake and impacts.
- Learn about traditional teachings that relate to water.
- Learn about the drum and how vibrations affect us.
- Talk about various family units and discuss adoption.
- What are pros and cons of being adopted?
- Invite speakers in to talk about their life on the lake.
- Research hydro dams and learn how they affect the lake.
- Write about why we are all connected and how urban life disconnects our relationships with the land, water, sky and animals. How do we reconnect? Why is connection so important?
- Make a plan to help protect our environment so that future generations will be healthy.
- Learn about the Web of Life teachings-we are all connected.
- Research sacred places throughout the World. What makes them sacred? What symbols are associated with these?

### **Additional Resources (online):**

- Andrew Balfour and Camerata Nova  
<http://www.cameratanova.com/site/artists.php>
- Lake Winnipeg Foundation  
<http://www.lakewinnipegfoundation.org/>

### **Related Episodes:**

- The Sharing Circle, Season 14, Episode 13
- Empty Nets
- The Sharing Circle, Season 14, Episode 15  
Solomon Carriere- Last of the Voyageurs

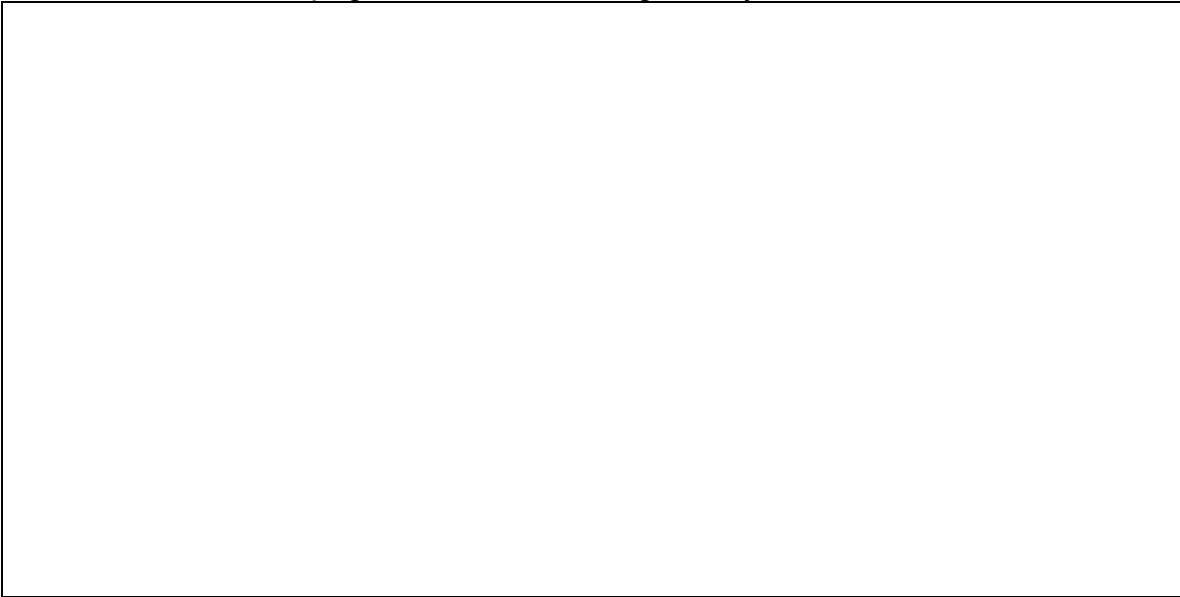
## Activities

What is water? Define what you think it is below. Discuss why we need water and what you know about water.

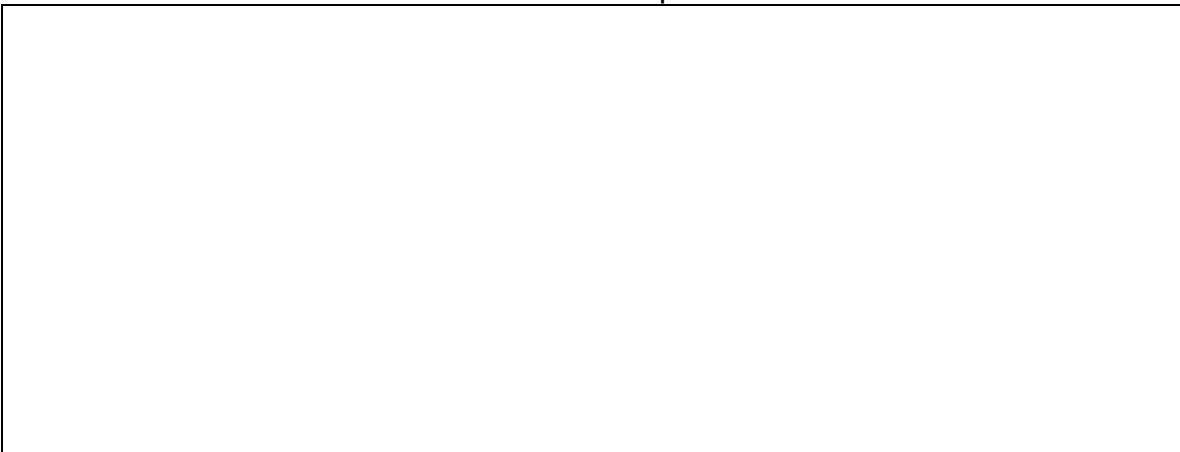
Invite an Aboriginal person in and hear their teachings about water. What are your views of water after hearing others perspectives? Think about your own culture. What are the teachings they offer about water?

## Activities

Describe Lake Winnipeg below. Draw a diagram if you like.



What are some experiences you have had on Lake Winnipeg? What does this lake mean to various First Nations in Manitoba? What changes have you noticed in the lake? What are some of the causes of pollution?



What can we do to help protect the wellbeing of the lake and the environment?

