



Memphrémagog
Conservation inc.

MEMPHRÉMAGOG CONSERVATION INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attention Publicity directors

POURING CONCRETE IN THE LAKE IN 2012! ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE!

Austin, October 1st 2012 : Pouring concrete in the lake in 2012! ‘Environmentally and socially unacceptable!’ That’s the opinion of Memphremagog Conservation Inc., who are stunned, even scandalized that the pouring of concrete can still be carried out in Lake Memphremagog in 2012.

The work was carried out in front of two properties in the municipalities of Stanstead Township and Magog. In two places, approximately 10 permanent concrete pilings, from 10 to 15 feet in height (3 to 5 metres) were poured directly in the lake with the aid of an immense barge equipped with a winch. The pilings were put in place to permit the installation of privately owned, fixed docks and boat lifts. According to information that we have received, these projects were carried out legally, with all the required permits issued by the municipalities concerned and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Wildlife.

The President of MCI, Gisèle Lacasse Benoit, is of the opinion that : ‘It’s a serious assault on the ecosystem of the lake’ and is very surprised to learn that the rules and regulations in place today allow this type of work, which can have repercussions on the environment of the lake. ‘This needs to be rectified quickly’.

What is also a surprise to MCI is the fact that the Memphremagog MRC’s development plan and municipal regulations still permit the pouring of concrete on the banks and shorelines of the lake. But what is even more stunning here in 2012 is that we do not take into consideration the fragility of the ecosystem of the lake and the preservation of the quality of its water before allowing this type of work. Consider that the lake is a common good, a drinking water reservoir which benefits a large population and whose integrity must be ensured. Also, what message does the approval of this type of project send to the citizens and shoreline residents who are already making an effort to preserve the lake.

In light of this, MCI would ask the lakeside municipalities to quickly modify their regulations in order to forbid this type of work (pouring concrete in the lake and installing permanent pilings for fixed docks) and asks the Memphregagog MRC to quickly modify their development plan in order to better protect Lake Memphremagog from this type of abuse for the benefit of all citizens.

About MCI : **Memphrémagog Conservation inc. (MCI)** is a non profit organisation formed of volunteers, working since 1967 for the protection of the environmental health and natural beauty of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed. With the strength of its membership, it works to ensure that all residents of the region, permanent and seasonal, waterfront or not, can benefit from and enjoy a healthy lake, for today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

Source: Memphremagog Conservation Inc. Gisèle Lacasse Benoit, President (819) 868-1369 or (819) 571-2005