



GREAT LAKES UNITED

February 22, 1989

Laurie Montour
Assembly of First Nations
300 - 47 Clarence Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1N 9K1

Dear Laurie:

Re: Great Lakes United Annual General Meeting Programme

Thank you for agreeing to speak on our panel on human health concerns on the Great Lakes at Great Lakes United's (GLU) 1989 Annual General Meeting. The meeting will be held at Georgian College in Owen Sound, Ontario, May 5 to 7, 1989. Details about the particulars of the meeting will be sent to you from GLU's Buffalo office once materials are printed.

Your panel will be in the early afternoon of Saturday, May 6th. We hope this panel will give our membership a grasp of the state of our knowledge of human health impacts, directions we should be going in to improve our understanding and the populations which are most at risk.

Dr. Kate Davies of the City of Toronto's Environmental Protection Office will chair the panel. She has done work showing that food is the major exposure pathway to humans and that food growth in Southern Ontario has significant residues of toxic chemicals. She is also on the Health Effects Subcommittee of the Science Advisory Board of the IJC.

Dr. Theo Colborn, an Environmental Health Consultant in Washington, D.C., will speak about the work she has been doing for the last several years surveying all of the data available on human health impacts for a State of the Great Lakes Report that will come out later this year.

As well Ann Sudar co-author of the controversial report "Toxic Chemicals in the Great Lakes Ecosystem" will be speaking in her personal capacity. This report sets out to examine the socio-economic impacts of toxics by reviewing their health impacts.



Your own experience with your fish and wild meat studies on Walpole Island and your struggles to get support for extending these studies to Band members will be valuable examples for other residents of the Lakes. Many other groups are now considering doing their own health studies and talking about the need to convince governments to support these studies. Native populations throughout the basin are one of the most at-risk groups. Because they have to give up their culture to avoid contamination, toxics are doubly poisonous to natives. Your contribution will bring the other scientific panelists studies into their practical applications to our lives. GLU's board appreciates your willingness to participate in this discussion. Our board is meeting early in March to discuss what funds maybe available to cover panelists expenses. I will call you after that meeting to finalize our arrangements.

Yours truly,

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Sarah Miller, Coordinator
Annual Meeting Programme

SM/vp

PS: For the first time this year we are creating a taskforce on human health and will be hoping to create a good set of resolutions from that taskforce which we can then lobby on during the year. Let me know any ideas you have for resolutions. There should certainly be one recommending health studies of natives in the Basin.