



GREAT LAKES UNITED

February 23, 1989

Dr. Kate Davies
Director
Environmental Protection Office
City of Toronto
12 Shuter Street
Suite 301
Toronto, Ontario
M5B 1A1

Dear Kate:

Re: Great Lakes United Annual General Meeting Programme

Thank you for agreeing to chair our panel on human health concerns in 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 would like the discussion to give our members an understanding of the state of our knowledge of human health impacts, reasons why our understanding isn't better, suggestions of how to reform our epidemiological data collection, work going on now that should add to our understanding, and suggestions for follow up and new studies which should be undertaken. If you can, I would like you to talk about your findings about food as the major pathway of human exposure. Perhaps you will be able to announce the plans which the Science Advisory Board's, Health Effects Committee, has for public hearings.

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 the toxics by reviewing their health impacts.

Dr. Theo Colborn will talk about her work for the Conservation Foundation. She will be able to reveal more later about the content of her remarks but she did mention that she would like to talk about anti-fouling agents among other things.



The other panel member is Laurie Montour, now working for the Assembly of First Nations. Laurie worked on fish and wild meat studies on Walpole Island and tried to win support to verify her findings in human health studies of the Walpole Band. I hope her story will bring out the serious threat toxics pose to native bands, the difficulties with communities undertaking their own health studies and the resistance of public health agencies to undertaking health studies.

On behalf of GLU's Board, thank you for taking out the time from your demanding schedule to contribute to our meeting. We are all looking forward to seeing you again.

Yours truly,

GREAT LAKES UNITED



Sarah Miller, Coordinator
Annual Meeting Programme

SM/vp