Public Notice Erosion Control on Hales Creek within the Lake Winnipeg Basin with Sioux Valley Dakota Nation – Public Comments Invited

January 29, 2021 – Environment and Climate Change Canada must determine whether the proposed project "Erosion Control on Hales Creek within the Lake Winnipeg Basin with Sioux Valley Dakota Nation", located in Sioux Valley Dakota Nation, Manitoba is likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects.

To help inform this determination, Environment and Climate Change Canada is inviting comments from the public respecting that determination. All comments received will be considered public [and may be posted online]. For more information, individuals should consult the Privacy Notice <u>https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/Protection?culture=en-CA</u> on the Registry website.

Written comments must be submitted by February 28, 2021 to:

Environment and Climate Change Canada Dana Hay, Senior Program Officer Winnipeg, Manitoba Telephone: 204-983-7040 Email: <u>dana.hay@canada.ca</u>

The Proposed Project

The Assiniboine West Watershed District is partnering with the Sioux Valley Dakota Nation to undertake an erosion control project on Sioux Valley lands in southwestern Manitoba. The proposed project will prevent further degradation of a site that has experienced extensive erosion during high water and peak flow events in the past. Preventing erosion will reduce nutrient loading to the Assiniboine River and Lake Winnipeg. The erosion control site will be located at the outside bend of a meander on Hales Creek. The construction will take place after spring runoff, once the stream channel is dry so as to avoid any potential negative impacts on water quality and aquatic habitat. Construction will include removal of existing vegetation from the stream bank and reinforcing it with several layers of 1m x 1m x 4m long gabion cages that will be connected together. Filled with 4-inch rock, the gabions will prevent further accelerated erosion of the stream channel, thereby reducing nutrient loading to the creek. The Assiniboine West Watershed District staff have received training and certification in this type of erosion control work, and have built several projects similar to this one in perennial streams.