

Editorial

Will Montreal residents be scuba divers in 2065?

"The year is 2065....in just a few years the city of Montreal will cease to exist! What was one of the world's great cities and much of the rest of Canada will be under water."

The average Canadian would find that statement hard to believe but according to Maurice Strong, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program this could very well happen. His explanations do seem logical and it certainly is something to think about.

Mr. Strong says in Wildlife Report published by the Canadian Wildlife Federation that this massive flooding may well become a reality when the polar ice cap melts in less than a century and possibly sooner. His explanation describes an increased demand for water which has already slowed the flow of fresh water into the northern oceans thereby increasing their salinity. Apparently the higher concentration of salt may melt the ice cap in less than a hundred years. He added this could greatly be accelerated as the result of oil spills as one of the world's largest petroleum reserves is exploited here.

The article in the leaflet explains that the polar ice caps have stabilized the earth's temperature during the 10,000 years of their existence; without their buffer, the climate could change wildly.

Mr. Strong is also worried about air pollution as another factor altering climatic conditions. He says five billion tons of pollutants are spewed into the atmosphere each year. Carbon dioxide gas is trapping the sun's heat as it drifts toward the equator. And on the other hand, the particles in the air are spreading to the poles where they are causing cooler temperatures.

How are all these changes going

to affect us in the future? Are they going to affect human life as we know it today with drastic results? It appears that this could very well be so if such cities as Montreal could be under water by 2065.

We begin to wonder if enough direct action is being taken by national governments (particularly Canada and the United States) including international co-operation.

We feel the only way to get positive action is to educate the general public. They must realize the dangers in pollution of all kinds in order for the need protective measures to become a wide scale public campaign. Do people actually realize the seriousness of the pollution problem or at least, is all the publicity being taken seriously? Such proclamations by experts such as Maurice Strong could

perhaps help the cause.

Perhaps people are getting tired of listening to different agencies spouting off about the danger of the massive pollution of Mother Earth, but can we really sit back and have things happen like the loss of Montreal and maybe a large portion of Canada lost to the ocean? After all, do we really know what effects pollution may have for the future generations on this planet?

YEAH... SINCE REGISTRATION.
EVERY TIME HE SEES A PIECE
OF PAPER HE SIGNS IT, EVERY
TIME HE SEES A PROF HE ASKS
FOR A COURSE CHANGE, AND EVERY
TIME HE SEES MORE THAN TWO PEOPLE
HE STANDS IN LINE
BEHIND THEM.



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