

Land Use

There are a lot of factors that should be considered when making informed decisions about land use. Some of these factors are: _____
_____.

Land Use Problem:

The Winnipeg dump is officially full. The city of Winnipeg is looking for new areas to dump the city's garbage. One of the proposed locations is a large open pit mine located in MacGregor, which is 125km west of Winnipeg. The community of MacGregor is considering this proposal, considering a variety of issues. The new state of the art landfill project will provide needed jobs for the community, which is still feeling the effects of the closed mine. The community has recently focused on attracting tourists and new residents based on a clean, quiet environment. Unless this proposed venture is successful, or another industry takes its place, the people who still live in the community will pack up and move elsewhere. Some scientists suspect that the community's drinking supply may be at risk of becoming contaminated because of aquifers located beneath the fissured rocks (rocks containing small cracks) that line the open pit mine.



You and your groups will be given one of the following roles:

1. City official in charge of land disposal.
2. Landfill company representative.
3. Unemployed person living in the community near the proposed landfill site.
4. New community resident.
5. Long term community resident (employed as the tourist official in town).
6. Geologists / Scientists that have studied the open pit mine.
7. Drinking water official that extracts water from a river running through the town.

Part A: Letters to the Editor

As a group you will be writing a letter to the editor regarding the land use issue. Make sure to include reasons for your decision to back the proposal or to voice concerns about it.

Below, jot out your ideas for your side, and what you will say to convince people to agree with you.

Part B: Decision Making

Each group will send up a representative to read their letter to the editor to justify their side on whether they should/should not build the landfill in the town. Each team will share, and then as a group, we will discuss, debate, and conclude on whether the landfill will be built.

Below, jot any thoughts or ideas from other groups that you found interesting to help make your decision.

Final Decision: _____