



Fellow elected representatives:

Newmarket, along with other municipalities within the Lake Simcoe watershed, deeply value Lake Simcoe. In addition to its natural beauty, the Lake is a source of drinking water and is an integral part of agriculture, recreation, tourism and other economic activity in our communities.

We recognize and commend the work done to date to enhance and protect Lake Simcoe and the support the Federal Government has provided to enable this work, including the \$65-million Lake Simcoe Clean-up Fund, which ended in 2017 and has not been renewed.

The Government committed \$40 million for Lake Simcoe during the 2019 election and pledged \$1 billion over a decade in the 2021 election to strengthen the Fresh Water Action Plan. In the attached motion you will see that we are asking the Federal government to use some of the funds pledged to increase its funding, over its previous commitments, to continue to restore Lake Simcoe.

The funding will support:

- The mitigation and restoration of the Lake's shoreline, as well as the banks of its tributaries;
- Expand tree cover in the watershed;
- Ameliorate contaminated sites in the watershed;
- Upgrades municipal infrastructure, such as wastewater and storm water facilities; and,
- Conserve forests and wetlands in the watershed.

We hope that you will join us in supporting the protection of Lake Simcoe by endorsing our request for increased Federal funding for restoration activities within the Lake Simcoe Watershed.

Sincerely,

John Taylor, Mayor



Legislative Services

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April 5, 2022

Sent via email

RE: Lake Simcoe Restoration Fund

I am writing to advise you that at the Council meeting held on March 28, 2022, Council adopted the following recommendations regarding the above referenced matter:

Whereas Lake Simcoe is one of Ontario's largest watersheds, home to First Nations since time immemorial, and situated in the growing communities of Simcoe County, York Region, Durham Region, and the cities of Barrie and Orillia; and,

Whereas the watershed faces threats due to eutrophication, largely from phosphorus runoff and other contaminants into the lake and its tributaries; and,

Whereas the lake is a significant source of drinking water, as well as being integral for local recreation, tourism, agriculture and other key economic drivers; and,

Whereas the previous federal government funded a "Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund" of \$65 million over 10 years between 2007-2017, but that fund has not been renewed; and,

Whereas during the 2019 federal election, the Hon. Chrystia Freeland committed \$40 million over 5 years towards Lake Simcoe; and,

Whereas during the 2021 federal election, the Liberal Party of Canada committed to "Implement a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, including an historic investment of \$1 billion over 10 years. This plan will provide essential funding to protect and restore large lakes and river systems, starting with the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System, Lake Simcoe..."; and,

Whereas the Conservative Party of Canada also committed to re-funding the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund in the 2019 and 2021 general elections with an investment of \$30 million over five years; and,

Whereas, further to the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change's mandate letter dated December 16th, 2021, which directs the Minister to "...establish a Canada Water Agency and implement a strengthened Freshwater Action Plan, including a historic investment to provide funding to protect and restore large lakes and river systems, starting with the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System, Lake Simcoe..."

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Town of Newmarket:

1. Supports federal funding for a Lake Simcoe Restoration Fund that represents a significant percentage of the overall Freshwater Action Plan Fund, with funding in excess of previous commitments, beginning in the 2022 budget; and,



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2. Asks that such funding be used to undertake:
 - a. Shoreline mitigation and restoration, including in the tributaries of the Holland River, Maskinonge River, Black River, Pefferlaw River and the Holland Marsh; and,
 - b. The assistance of the federal government to achieve up to or more than 40 percent of watershed high quality tree cover; and,
 - c. Projects to ameliorate contaminated sites in the watershed; and,
 - d. Upgrades to help retrofit municipal infrastructure such as wastewater and stormwater facilities; and,
 - e. Purchasing and conservation of more forests and wetlands under the auspices of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA); and,
3. That a copy of this resolution, along with a letter from the Mayor, be sent to the federal Minister of Finance; the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change; the President of the Treasury Board; the Members of Parliament for York—Simcoe, Newmarket—Aurora, Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte, Barrie—Innisfil, Simcoe North, Haliburton—Kawartha Lakes—Brock, and Durham; and to all Lake Simcoe-region municipalities and the LSRCA, with a request for their endorsement.

Yours sincerely,

Jaclyn Grossi
Acting Deputy Clerk