



## Dr. Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

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### Conservative Government Committed to Cleaning up Lake Simcoe and South-eastern Georgian Bay

#### News Release

For Immediate Release

**Bradford, ON, April 15, 2014** – The Honourable Peter Van Loan, Leader of the Government in the House of Commons and Member of Parliament for York—Simcoe, and Dr. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of the Environment, were in Bradford, Ontario, today on behalf of the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of the Environment, Minister of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency and Minister for the Arctic Council, to highlight the Government of Canada’s ongoing efforts to clean up Lake Simcoe and South-eastern Georgian Bay. Economic Action Plan 2012 committed \$29 million over five years to continue to support the Lake Simcoe Clean-up Fund and extend it to include South-eastern Georgian Bay. From 2007-2012 the Conservative Government invested \$30 million in the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund.

"Our Government has made it clear that we are committed to ensuring the health of Lake Simcoe for future generations," stated Mr. Van Loan. "Building on the success of the projects completed with the original investment of \$30 million, we know the additional \$29 million investment will mean the continued revitalization of the Lake and watershed—benefitting families who enjoy these waters and the businesses who rely on it."

The Fund is part of the Government’s comprehensive approach to ensure clean water for all Canadians, which includes projects like the clean-up of contaminated sediment in Great Lakes Areas of Concern, and action on pollution in Lake Winnipeg.

"Lake Simcoe and South-eastern Georgian Bay are important natural resources, vital sources of drinking water, and regional economic drivers," stated Dr. Carrie. "Our Government is proud to be contributing to projects that will help ensure the long-term sustainability of Canada’s lake and waterways."

As part of the first round of funding under the renewed and expanded Lake Simcoe/South-eastern Georgian Bay Clean-Up Fund, \$8.6 million will support 26 projects that will help restore and protect the health of Lake Simcoe and South-eastern Georgian Bay.

Among the recipients of Round 1 funding is Ducks Unlimited Canada. The Government of Canada invested \$449,000 to support the Lake Simcoe/Georgian Bay Wetland Collaborative project that will help in the restoration and enhancement of wetlands to reduce phosphorous inputs and improve habitat.

“Ducks Unlimited Canada is very pleased to see Environment Canada support our Lake Simcoe/Georgian Bay Wetland Collaborative project,” stated Lynette Mader, Manager of Provincial Operations, for Ducks Unlimited Canada. “Wetlands are an essential component of a sustainable, healthy ecosystem. This project aims to reduce phosphorus and nutrient inputs into Lake Simcoe through the development of enhanced wetland protection policies and increased wetland restoration activities. We look forward to working with the collaborative partners to ensure healthier and more resilient landscapes in the Lake Simcoe and southeastern Georgian Bay watersheds.”

For more information on this program, please visit:

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/eau-water/default.asp?lang=En&n=EBF944F0-1>

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#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

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