

**Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority –
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority**

**ASSIMILATIVE CAPACITY STUDIES – PROGRESS REPORT
February 8, 2005**

Several initiatives have been undertaken since the announcement of the study on October 14, 2004.

Meetings

- The start-up meeting for the study's Steering Committee was held on December 16, 2004.
- Three teleconferences, as well as two meetings, have been held with agency staff involved in the studies.
- The Communications Working Group met on January 27, 2005.
- The Steering Committee met on February 3, 2005.

Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for both the Nottawasaga River study and the Lake Simcoe study have been developed and endorsed by all partners.

Work Plan

The workplan for both studies has been completed and approved by the Steering Committee (Feb. 3/05), subject to amendments if the study is expanded to include additional geographic areas.

Communications

A media release was sent out on October 14th, 2004 regarding the studies. There was some limited exposure on the topic and a few follow-up stories.

The Request for Proposals was distributed to seven consultants on December 16 2004, and four proposals were received on January 17, 2005. These proposals were reviewed and ranked by ACS staff. The consultant with the highest ranking was recommended to the ACS Communications Working Group (Jan. 27/05), which made a recommendation to the Steering Committee to approve the commencement of negotiations with the preferred consultant. This recommendation was endorsed by the Steering Committee (Feb. 3/05), and negotiations with the selected consultant have begun.

Technical Work

Requests for Proposals for completion of the stream, lake, and bay studies are being prepared for distribution to several consultants.

The Steering Committee endorsed using the CANWET model to undertake watershed nutrient modeling for the studies. Staff will begin negotiations with Greenland International Consulting Inc. to undertake CANWET modeling for the Lake Simcoe and Nottawasaga River watersheds.