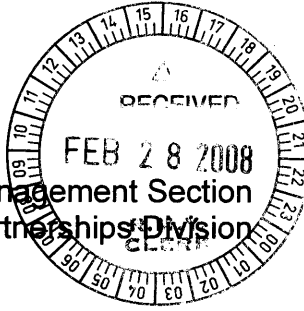




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REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No.

P06
E. Mahony

Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund
Great Lakes Basin and Lakewide Management Section
Ontario, Strategic Integration and Partnerships Division
867 Lakeshore Road
Burlington, Ontario, L7R 4A6

February 25, 2008

Dear Sir/Madam:

Re: Call for Letters of Intent for Lake Simcoe Clean-up Fund

Please find attached a call for Letters of Intent for the Lake Simcoe Clean-up Fund for collaborative projects under the Great Lakes Basin and Lakewide Management Section, Strategic Integration and Partnerships Division of Environment Canada. The first deadline for Letters of Intent is March 17, 2008.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund Program and/or the call for letters of intent, please contact Janette Anderson at (905) 336-6277 or e-mail Janette.Anderson@ec.gc.ca. Please forward this information to anyone who may be interested in taking action to restore, protect and conserve the aquatic ecosystem of Lake Simcoe.

Sincerely,

Janette Anderson
Manager, Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund
Great Lakes Basin and Lakewide Management Section
Ontario, Strategic Integration and Partnerships Division
Environment Canada
867 Lakeshore Road
Burlington, Ontario, L7R 4A6
Tel: 905-336-6277
Fax: 906-336-6272
Email: janette.anderson@ec.gc.ca

Attachments:

Call for Letters of Intent
Sample – Completed Letter of Intent

Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund (LSCUF)
Call for Letters of Intent for
Lake Simcoe Collaborative Projects

February 25, 2008
(submission deadline March 17, 2008)

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1.1 The Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund

The water quality of Lake Simcoe has been negatively impacted by excessive amounts of phosphorus from both urban and rural sources. The Government of Canada announced \$30 million in funding to establish a Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund (LSCUF) (herein called the Fund) to provide financial and technical support to implement high-impact, priority projects aimed at reducing phosphorus inputs, rehabilitate habitats to achieve nutrient reductions, restore the cold-water fishery in Lake Simcoe, and enhance research and monitoring capacity deemed essential for the restoration of Lake Simcoe and its watershed.

Projects involving 'tried and proven' activities will be supported as well as projects demonstrating innovative techniques, technologies and measures to reduce phosphorus input into Lake Simcoe. The Fund will also support studies to fill information gaps to better understand current conditions and track improvements in environmental quality.

The purpose of this call letter is to invite Letters of Intent on projects that will improve the water quality of Lake Simcoe.

1.2 Administration of the Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund

The Lake Simcoe Program Unit of the Great Lakes Basin and Lakewide Management Section, Strategic Integration and Partnerships Division of Environment Canada will administer the Fund.

Environment Canada will be assisted by the Protect and Preserve the Environment of Lake Simcoe Committee (PROPEL), and a Technical Review Committee. The PROPEL Committee members (Appendix 3) were appointed by the Minister of Environment on October 12, 2007 to advise on priority actions and funding recommendations.

The PROPEL Committee has established a goal to help people and groups enhance the quality of Lake Simcoe and its watershed by recommending funding for projects that achieve measurable environmental improvement; improve floral and faunal ecosystems, lake-friendly "recreational" opportunities, urban and rural best management practices through physical remediation.

The strategic priorities for the Fund will be reviewed on an annual basis by EC, PROPEL and the Technical Review Committee.

1.3 Matching requirement and Fund limitations

The Fund targets a federal contribution of one-third, but will provide up to two-thirds of total project cost. An emphasis will be placed on leveraging other funding sources and

collaborative partnerships. In cases where other federal programs are supporting partners in the project, the total federal contribution must **not exceed two thirds** of the total cost of the project.

Potential sources of matching funds and how collaborations are to be undertaken (cash, in-kind, contributions by the applicant, landowners or others involved in the project, use of equipment, expertise etc) must be described in the Letters of Intent.

Letters verifying the role and support provided by external collaborators will be requested in the detailed project proposal.

2. APPLICATION PROCESS

2.1 Who can apply?

- Landowners
- Environmental groups
- Community groups (e.g. youth and seniors groups, community-based associations, service clubs)
- Small and medium sized business (eg. developers, industries etc.)
- Aboriginal organizations (e.g. First Nations Councils, Métis Associations)
- Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
- Stewardship Networks
- Agriculture Associations
- Educational institutions
- Industry
- Provincial/municipal governments

2.2 Priorities - What projects can be funded?

This call for Letters of Intent is issued to fund collaborative projects with the goal of improving water quality for ecological and recreational uses of Lake Simcoe. All projects must meet the intent of at least one of the priorities below:

1. reducing phosphorus inputs from rural and urban sources;
2. controlling point sources of pollution (including sewage, CSO and storm water);
3. rehabilitating priority habitats to restore the health of the aquatic ecosystem and coldwater fishery in Lake Simcoe (the priority for habitat restoration should be for actions that support nutrient reduction and efforts towards improving the natural cold-water fishery); and
4. enhancing research and monitoring capacity to assist in decision making.

Projects can be multi-year in nature and those that are not accepted can be re-submitted. Examples of eligible projects are described in more detail in Appendix 2.

2.3 What project costs are eligible?

Eligible Costs

- Salaries and benefits;
- Operating expenses such as travel and field costs, training, materials, supplies, production, translation, printing, office rent, and utilities;
- Equipment purchase and lease (e.g. shovels, rentals of trucks/tractors/boats, office equipment, etc);
- Costs for management, professional, technology and other services (eg. accounting, monitoring, communications, evaluation and audit, liability insurance costs, legal fees); and
- Sales tax that is not reimbursable by the Canada Revenue Agency and Provincial Government.

Eligible Projects

- Implementation of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) that reduce urban and/or rural non-point sources of nutrients (eg. surface runoff reduction, erosion control structures, vegetated buffers, phosphorus/nutrient management planning and recovery projects), assessment studies, restoration of aquatic habitat impaired by nutrient pollution, pollution prevention activities (eg. septic system inspections and pump-outs);
- Monitoring, assessment and reporting to aid implementation of stewardship and remedial actions;
- Development and implementation of phosphorus management strategies to achieve and sustain gains in load reductions;
- Development and implementation of innovative technologies, techniques and demonstration projects that reduce nutrient loading from municipal wastewater systems and other point source discharges; and
- Training and outreach to support the delivery of the Programs (e.g. to educate landowners, cottage (residential) associations about environmental principles and practices to support the program).

If it is determined that the proposed project's cost is prohibitive, but has significant merit, program staff may negotiate with the project lead to explore options to reduce project costs.

2.4 What projects and activities CANNOT be funded (ineligible projects)?

- Projects or activities already underway prior to funding approval;
- Projects designed only to beautify an area;
- The purchase or construction of infrastructure (e.g. buildings, roads, and bridges);

- The purchase of land; and
- Capital or operating costs of municipal infrastructure projects (e.g. sewers, sewage treatment plants, stormwater ponds).

Please note this is not a complete list. If you are unsure about any of the examples listed above or the eligibility of your project and activities, please contact us for clarification.

2.5 Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund Proposed Time Table

2008 Winter (1 st Call)	Fall Submission (year 2008-2011)	Winter Submission (year 2009 – 2011)	Activities
February 25th	September 1st	January 5 th	Call for Letters of Intent
March 17th	September 22nd	January 26 th	Deadline for Letters of Intent
March 25th	September 29th	February 2nd	• For approved Letters of Intent - <u>Request for detailed proposal</u> sent to applicants • For Letters of Intent Not Approved - letter of explanation
April 14th	October 27th	February 23rd	Deadline for Detailed Proposals
May 1st	December 1st	April 1st	Funding recommendations

2.6 How can I apply?

The Fund will use a two stage process for funding eligible projects; 1) a call for Letters of Intent, and 2) a request for detailed proposals.

Applicants are required to send:

- An original, signed, unbound paper copy of the Letter of Intent, and
- An electronic copy by email

to:

Janette Anderson
 Lake Simcoe Program Unit
 Great Lakes Basin and Lakewide Management Section
 Ontario, Strategic Integration and Partnerships Division
 Environment Canada
 867 Lakeshore Road
 Burlington, Ontario, L7R 4A6
 Tel: 905-336-6277
 Fax: 906-336-6272
 Email: janette.anderson@ec.gc.ca

2.7 Review Process

All Letters of Intent submitted will be reviewed by Environment Canada against the funding priorities, eligibility requirements, and program goals and objectives of the Fund.

Once a Letter of Intent is deemed eligible by Environment Canada, the successful applicant will be invited to submit a detailed proposal.

Proposals will then undergo a technical review and an environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) as required. Projects will be evaluated by Environment Canada, PROPEL and the Technical Review Committee against the project selection criteria as stated in Section 2.8 of this document.

PROPEL will then review all technical comments and make funding recommendations to the Minister of Environment.

2.8 Project Selection Criteria

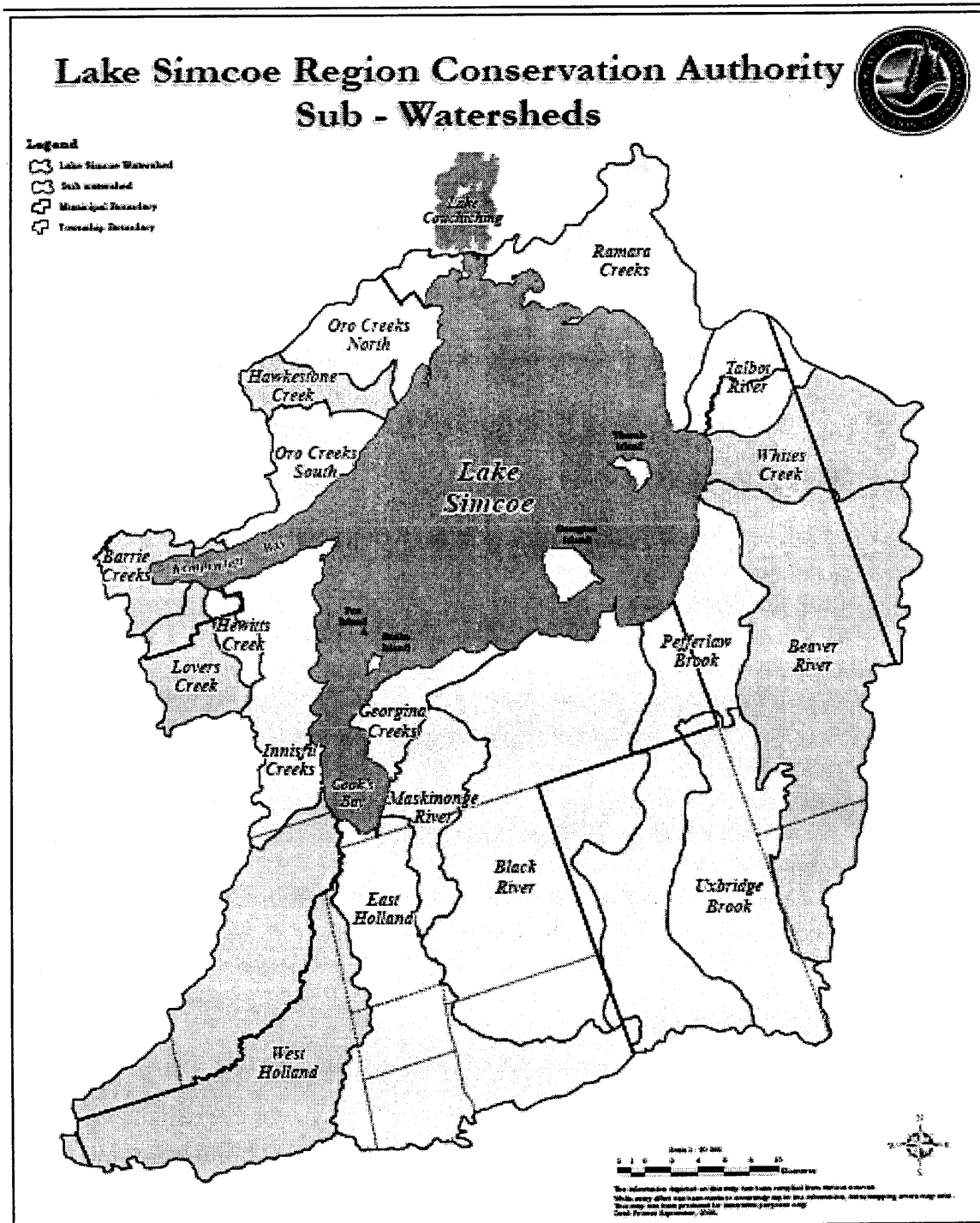
The following criteria may be used in the assessment of projects:

- Amount of leveraged funding;
- Extent of project collaboration;
- Project location is within a priority watershed known to be significant source of phosphorus loading to L. Simcoe;
- Project addresses funding priorities ;
- Measurable environmental benefits derived from the project (e.g. expected phosphorus reduction);
- technical feasibility;
- Potential for co-benefits of project implementation;
- Clarity and scope of objectives;
- New and innovative technologies for storm water and nutrient management, cost-saving control technologies and rehabilitation methods;
- Value for money; and
- opportunities for technology and/or knowledge transfer to other parts of the Lake Simcoe and other watersheds.

2.9 Reference Materials

Project proponents are advised to refer to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority website for further information on the restoration and protection of the environmental health and quality of Lake Simcoe and its watershed (<http://www.lsrca.on.ca/>).

Figure 1. Lake Simcoe Watershed



Appendix 1: LSCUF – Contents of Letter of Intent (should not exceed two pages)

Section Name	Required Information
Project Title	Name of project.
Project Team	Name of the project lead/project manager for the project, their organization, mailing address, telephone, email and fax number. If the primary contact is different from the project lead, enter it here.
Project Description	Please include a description of the project's overall objective (what, where, when, why, size and scope); methods utilized; expected benefits and measures of success (reduction in P loading, innovative programs/technologies, etc.)
Additional Contributions (cash, in-kind)	Enter the name(s) of tentative or confirmed contributors and their involvement in the project.
Project Budget	Enter estimated total project budget including maximum indirect costs (overhead). For matching funding, indicate whether the funds are cash or in-kind, and whether the funding is requested or confirmed. Clearly identify total funding requested from the LSCUF and the matching funds provided by other contributors.
Timeframe/Project Duration	Enter expected start date and completion date. Clearly identify if the project has phases over more than one fiscal year (April 1st to March 31st).
Project Location	Enter location of the project by watershed and county name.
Relationship of Project to LSCUF funding priorities	Identify which LSCUF funding priority the proposed project supports and why.
MP's and Ridings.	Enter MP names and riding.

Appendix 2: Examples of projects which might be funded through the LSCUF

LSCUF FUNDING PRIORITY	POTENTIAL PROJECTS
1. Reduction of rural and urban non-point source (NPS) pollution	Projects that improve local surface water and groundwater quality and reduce soil erosion. Examples of projects include: promotion of conservation tillage; creation of stream buffers, tree plantings, livestock fencing to restrict cattle access to streams; land securement to protect stream corridors; septic system upgrades; proper manure storage projects such as manure and milkhouse waste management projects; creating erosion control structures.
2. Controlling point sources of pollution	- Cost effectively improve the efficiency and effluent quality of municipal sewage treatment plants (STPs) . - Cost effective stormwater management and control techniques. (Note: Does not include capital infrastructure cost)
3. Fish habitat rehabilitation and stewardship	Support the development and implementation of fish habitat rehabilitation projects (e.g. marsh restoration, underwater fish habitat creation in river mouths and shallow waters, fish barrier removal, riparian plantings etc). Habitat enhancement projects that reduce inputs of phosphorus to tributary streams and the lake.
4. Improving information and monitoring for decision – making.	- Enhanced modelling of phosphorus sediment and nutrient loadings for the Lake and each sub-watershed. - Augmentation of the Lake Simcoe Community Monitoring Program. - Enhanced monitoring and reporting capacity. - Science (research) and monitoring to fill information gaps and aid in decision making - Support development of models to predict climate change scenarios, impacts and adaptation.

Appendix 3: PROPEL Committee Members
(The Protect and Preserve the Environment of Lake Simcoe Committee)

Richard Simpson – Chair

Annabel Slaight

Robert Matthews

Paul Harpley

Jessica Richmond

Susan Self

George Taylor

Neil Roe

Robert Bowles

David Edwards

Sample - Completed Letter of Intent

Section Name	Required Information
Project Title	Brandon Creek Water Quality Improvement Project
Project Team	Joe Smith, Project Manager Friends of the Brandon Creek 4905 Dufferin Street Downsview, Ontario M3H 5T4 Tel: (416) 739-5878; Fax: (416) 739-4342 e-mail: Joe.Smith@brandoncreek.com Additional Contributors: LSRCA, landowners
Project Description	Brandon Creek drains into L. Simcoe and according to MOE's monitoring data (provide reference) it is responsible for releasing approximately 25 Kg of phosphorus/year. The Brandon Creek is a very productive and diversified agricultural area. In areas of intensive livestock and crop production, there are serious stream bank erosion and water quality problems. The goal of the project is to improve water quality of the Brandon Creek that drains into L. Simcoe by installing 5 km of exclusion fencing, 10 alternate watering systems for cattle, building 5 stream crossings, establishing buffer strips (plant 20,000 trees), stabilizing 5 stream banks to reduce nutrient and sediment loadings. The project once approved will take place in the Brandon Creek watershed over the next 3 years. Expected benefits include: Reduced nutrient loading to Brandon Creek. It is estimated that the proposed activities will reduce 12 kg of phosphorus/year from being released to Brandon Creek (provide reference).
Prospective Stakeholder Partners	Lake Simcoe Region CA (cash funding) Landowners of Brandon Creek – will provide in-kind labour and assistance as required.
Project Budget	See tables below.
Timeframe/Project Duration	Expected start date: June 1, 2008 Expected Completion date: March 31, 2010.
Project Location	Brandon Creek, County X
Relationship of Project to LSCUF funding priorities	Reduction of rural and urban non-point source of phosphorus pollution
MP's and Ridings.	MP name: Minister X; Riding: X

Budget Tables

Project	# of projects	Estimated cost/project (\$)	Total Estimated Cost (\$)
Exclusion Fencing	5 Km	10,000/km (10/metre)	50,000
Alternate Watering System	10	2,000	20,000
Stream Crossing	5	5,000	25,000
Buffer Strip tree planting	20,000 trees	1/tree	20,000
Stream bank stabilization	5	10,000	50,000
Total Cost of Projects			165,000

Total Estimated Cost of the Projects for Brandon Creek Watershed (\$)	Funds requested from LSCUF (\$)	Other Funding Sources	
		In-Kind (\$) (confirmed or requested)	Cash (\$) (confirmed or requested)
165,000	80,000	Landowners: 5,000 (requested)	LSRCA – Clean Water Program 80,000 (requested)