

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

South
Georgian Bay
Lake Simcoe
Source
Protection
Region

April 4, 2012

The Honourable Jim Bradley
Minister of the Environment
77 Wellesley Street West
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto ON M7A 2T5



REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - P42

Dear Sir:

With the source protection planning process nearing completion one of the most common questions raised by municipalities, and, other designated implementing bodies, concerns the costs related to implementing the approved policies. Understanding that some municipalities are already struggling to provide essential services to their residents they are deeply concerned over having to absorb the additional expenditure needed to implement the source protection plan policies. Recognizing the significant role that municipalities play in the implementation of the plan, the Source Protection Committee wanted to ensure their concerns have been identified and addressed.

Therefore, I am writing on behalf of the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee to respectfully request that the province provide funding to aid municipalities and other implementing bodies to implement the source protection plans. Most important is provision of funding to enable efficient transition into implementation.

The SGBLS Region is arguably one of the largest and complex in the Province, with 52 different municipalities, over 290 municipal wells and 16 surface water intakes. The complexity of the Region will continue to offer challenges for the committee to overcome in the future. Funding support would greatly assist implementing bodies in a smooth transition during this critical phase of the Source Water Protection Program.

We appreciate that the Province has already made significant investment in the Source Water Protection program including funding for stewardship, technical studies and capacity building. However, none of the funding provided to date addresses the concerns of municipalities in regards additional costs of implementation.

On behalf of the Source Protection Committee I would like to thank you and the Province for your direction and continued support in the completion of the Source Water Protection Plans.

Yours truly,

Lynn Dollin, Chair
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

cc Virginia Hackson, Chair, Lakes Simcoe & Couchiching / Black River Source Protection Authority

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Bob Jeffery, Chair, Severn Sound Source Protection Authority

Walter Benotto, Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Authority

Mary Anne Covelli, Director, Source Protection Programs Branch, Ministry of the Environment

Neil Gervais, Liaison Officer, Source Protection Programs Branch, Ministry of the Environment

Municipalities within the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region