

From: Lake Simcoe (MECP) <LAKESIMCOE@ontario.ca>
Sent: Friday, September 5, 2025 10:42 AM
Subject: Lake Simcoe Program - Call for Project Proposals 2025-26

Dear Lake Simcoe Partners and Stakeholders:

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is pleased to launch its 2025-26 Call for Project Proposals to fund efforts to protect and restore Lake Simcoe. As a dedicated partner in the ongoing work to protect and restore Lake Simcoe, we invite you to submit project proposals for this year's funding.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Eligible projects must be within the Lake Simcoe watershed and be completed by **November 15, 2027**.
2. Eligible projects must include actions that are in support of the advancement of the following Lake Simcoe Protection Plan (Plan) objectives:
 - protect, improve, or restore the elements that contribute to the ecological health of the Lake Simcoe watershed, including, water quality, hydrology, and key hydrologic features and their functions
 - reduce loadings of phosphorus and other nutrients of concern to Lake Simcoe and its tributaries
 - reduce the discharge of pollutants to Lake Simcoe and its tributaries
 - improve the Lake Simcoe watershed's capacity to adapt to climate change
 - provide for ongoing scientific research and monitoring related to the ecological health of the Lake Simcoe watershed
 - improve conditions for environmentally sustainable recreation activities related to Lake Simcoe and to promote those activities
 - promote environmentally sustainable land and water uses, activities and development practices
3. Eligible recipients for funding are:
 - community-based organizations
 - environmental non-profit organizations
 - Indigenous communities
 - academia
 - conservation authorities
 - municipalities
4. Eligible projects fall under one of five categories based on primary approach:
 - Management Actions
 - Influencing Action on the Ground
 - Monitoring
 - Information Management and Sharing
 - Research and Innovation

Applicants are strongly encouraged seek collaboration opportunities with other organizations in their community (e.g., community/youth groups, schools/school boards, small businesses,

including those from underserved or underrepresented communities, etc.) to enhance project outcomes, community engagement and awareness.

To submit your project proposal, please complete the Detailed Project Summary template attached by **October 17, 2025**, and submit it to LakeSimcoe@ontario.ca.

Please note: Prior to the submission deadline date, if you or your team would benefit to discuss potential projects and their alignment with Plan objectives and/or policies with ministry staff, you may contact the LakeSimcoe@ontario.ca, and a meeting will be scheduled.

Thank you for your continued support and efforts to help protect and restore Lake Simcoe.

Regards,

Leo Luong

Director, Great Lakes and Inland Waters Branch