



February 19, 2020

BY EMAIL: [cityclerks@barrie.ca](mailto:cityclerks@barrie.ca)

Mayor and Council Members  
City of Barrie

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

**Re: Cleaning-Up Lake Simcoe: A Discussion Paper**

I am attaching our new report: [Cleaning-Up Lake Simcoe: A Discussion Paper](#).

The report outlines actions that the Government of Ontario can take to reduce Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution to 44 tonnes per year by 2026.

In 2009 the Government of Ontario released its *Lake Simcoe Protection Plan* which called for our Lake's phosphorus pollution to be reduced to 44 tonnes per year to protect our cold water fishery (e.g., lake trout, whitefish) and to prevent algae blooms and excessive growth of weeds. Unfortunately, the Province has failed to develop a plan and a budget to achieve the 44 tonne per year target.

Even worse, Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution has risen by more than 30% since the *Lake Simcoe Protection Plan* was released in 2009.

We are seeking feedback from the City of Barrie with respect to our report's analysis and proposals. Specifically, we would appreciate receiving your responses to the following questions.

1. Do you support Lake Simcoe Watch's recommendation that the Government of Ontario should develop a plan to reduce Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution to 44 tonnes per year by 2026? If no, do you support the achievement of the 44 tonne per year target by a later date? If yes, please specify the date.
2. Do you support Lake Simcoe Watch's proposed actions to reduce Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution? If no, please explain why not and outline alternative actions that you believe should be taken to reduce Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution.

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[Jack@LakeSimcoeWatch.ca](mailto:Jack@LakeSimcoeWatch.ca) | [www.LakeSimcoeWatch.ca](http://www.LakeSimcoeWatch.ca)

3. Do you agree that the *Development Charges Act* should be amended to permit the Government of Ontario and Lake Simcoe municipalities to levy development charges to recover 100% of their costs of reducing Lake Simcoe's phosphorus pollution? If no, please explain why not and outline how you believe the pollution reductions should be paid for.
4. Please provide any other comments about Lake Simcoe Watch's report: *Cleaning-Up Lake Simcoe: A Discussion Paper*.

You can provide your feedback online by clicking here: [LakeSimcoeWatch.ca/public-questionnaire-2020](https://lakesimcoewatch.ca/public-questionnaire-2020).

The deadline for submissions is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Working together we can develop the best possible plan to clean-up Lake Simcoe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Gibbons". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jack Gibbons  
Chair, Lake Simcoe Watch