

**Sent:** September 23, 2025 9:34 AM

**To:** Clerks <Clerks@durham.ca>

**Subject:** September Updates: Celebrating Claire, Federal Funding Fight and Greenbelt Talks

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Hello ,

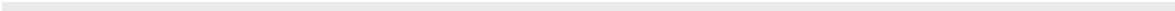
As fall settles in around Lake Simcoe, we continue our work to protect and restore the lake. In this issue, we share recent advocacy and media highlights, and look ahead to important opportunities in the months to come.



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## Celebrating Claire's Service

We gathered this month at a beautiful lakeside cottage to celebrate nearly a decade of service by Claire Malcolmson as our Executive Director. Around the campfire, with good food and laughter, we raised a toast to Claire's leadership and her lasting impact on Lake Simcoe. Also, a big thank you to Dan Parle for the photographs, and for hosting this event.



# Federal Advocacy Success

Our focus has been on defending and strengthening the federal Freshwater Action Fund, which includes Lake Simcoe.

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- We submitted letters to Environment Minister Julie Dabrusin and Finance Minister Francois-Phillipe Champagne, copied to all watershed MPs.
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- All watershed MPs—notably, all Conservatives—then endorsed our position to ensure federal funding remains for Lake Simcoe, and cited our advocacy as the reason for their own letters to government.

This cross-party recognition shows how far our efforts reach and underscores the urgency of safeguarding Lake Simcoe.

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## Media Spotlight

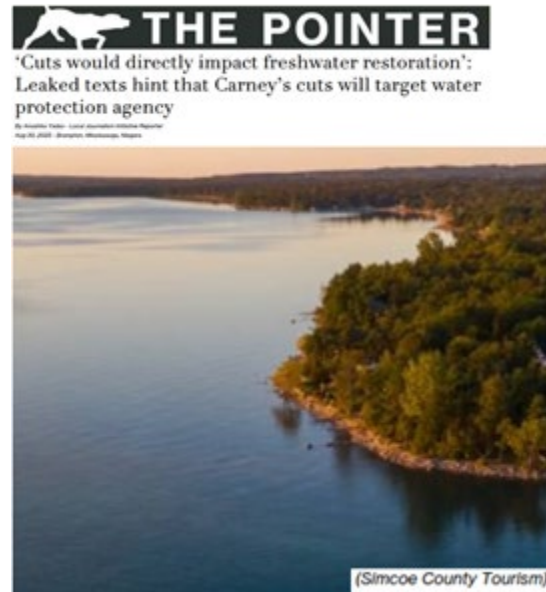
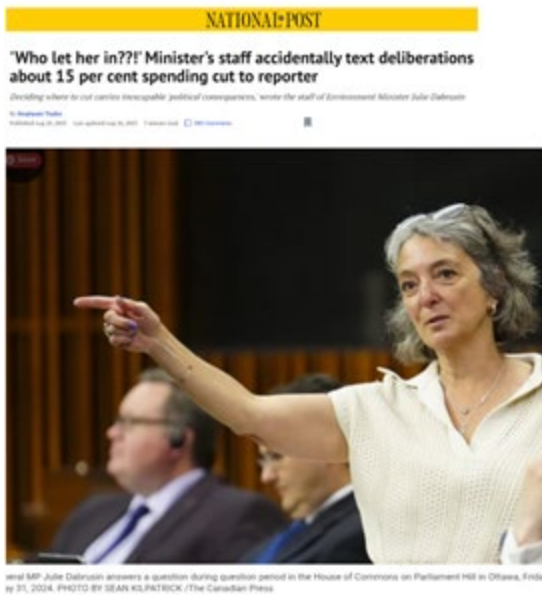
Our advocacy generated national and regional coverage, amplifying RLSC's leadership on Lake Simcoe funding:

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- [National Post - 'Who let her in??!' Minister's staff accidentally text deliberations about 15 per cent spending cut to reporter](#)
- 
- [The Pointer - 'Cuts would directory Impact freshwater restoration' : Leaked texts hint](#)

[that Carney's cuts will target water protection agency](#)

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- [Barrie](#)
- [Today - Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition urges Ottawa to restore freshwater funding](#)
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- [Newmarket](#)
- [Today - Coalition applauds MPs' united stand for Lake Simcoe protection](#)

This coverage confirms our role as the region's leading voice on Lake Simcoe.



Our new executive director, Jonathan Scott, joined our friends at the Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition for their podcast. [Have a listen](#) and get to know Jonathan's background, what got him interested in protecting our environment and the next steps for our organization.

[Listen here!](#)



## Looking Ahead

We continue to advance the case for protecting more natural cover in the watershed, in line with the [Lake Simcoe Protection Plan](#)'s 40% target. This month also included a productive lunch with the Executive Director of the Greenbelt Foundation to discuss the [Greenbelt's upcoming 10-year review](#), ensuring Lake Simcoe's needs remain front and centre in regional conservation planning.

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## Upcoming Events

### 1. Lake Defenders PD Day at Ramara Public Library

**When:** Friday September 26th, 12:30 PM - 2 PM

**Where:** [Ramara Public Library](#), 5482 ON-12, Ramara

**Registration:** [Click here for more info and registration](#)

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### 2. Discover, Protect and Expand the Greenbelt to the Oro Moraine

**Hosts:** Engaged Residents of Oro Medonte and

[Simcoe County Greenbelt](#) Coalition

**When:** Sunday September 28th, 2025; 10 AM - 12 PM

**Where:** [Vicki Tree Yoga and Wellness](#), Oro-Medonte

**Registration:** [RSVP here](#)



# Thank you for your Support

Progress is possible because of you. Your advocacy, donations and volunteer time are building momentum for Lake Simcoe's protection.

[Donate Now](#)

We hope you found this update helpful. Thank you for reading.

*If you found this interesting please share our newsletter with a friend.*

*Do you have a story idea, or a question you want answered in a future newsletter? Let us know!*

Please contact [jono.dw.scott@gmail.com](mailto:jono.dw.scott@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you!

Your Rescue Lake Simcoe Team,

Jonathan Scott, Jennie Ucar, Susan Sheard, Gail White, Michael Duffy.

Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition

[www.RescueLakeSimcoe.org](http://www.RescueLakeSimcoe.org)



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