

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[City, Province, Postal Code]

[Email Address]

[Date]

Hon. Doug Ford, Ontario Premier [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ontario Minister of the Environment, Conservation & Parks [minister.mecp@ontario.ca](mailto:minister.mecp@ontario.ca)

cc. FOCA ([communications@foca.on.ca](mailto:communications@foca.on.ca))

cc. [YOUR LOCAL MPP(S) Name and Email – [find your local MPP\(S\)](#)]

[MPP's Street, City, Province, Postal Code if sent by mail]

Re: **Save the Lake Partner Program!**

Dear Premier Ford and Minister McCarthy,

I am writing in support of the **Lake Partner Program (LPP)**, a valuable long-term partnership between the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). The LPP has been in limbo since the end of March this year, and **the 2025 sampling season is now at risk**. I ask you to ensure this important program continues.

I am... [EXPLAIN IF YOU PERSONALLY ARE A WATERFRONT PROPERTY OWNER or IF YOU ARE A LAKE STEWARD; IDENTIFY YOUR LAKE/WATERBODY NAME; SHARE YOUR LAKE STEWARDSHIP STORY, HOW YOUR COMMUNITY USES THE LPP DATA, AND HOW IT WILL BE DIRECTLY IMPACTED IF THE PROGRAM IS DE-FUNDED.]

In your recent election speech, you asked people to step up and step forward. Lake Stewards do this each year – devoting time and energy in support of a healthy Ontario for future generations. But this value is lost unless the contract is signed to continue the LPP, and the budget for this sampling season is confirmed.

The LPP provides immense value to the public and to Ontario as a whole. For 30 years, it has been one of the largest databases on water quality for freshwater lakes, and its data is essential for research and analysis by universities, government, community groups, and scientists. The water sampling is conducted entirely by volunteers – 629 hundred FOCA Lake Steward volunteers who monitor 546 lakes at 917 sites across the province, providing committed and invaluable assistance to this world-class program.

The Province of Ontario can continue to capitalize on this cost-effective program by continuing its support of the LPP without further delay. Freshwater is one of our most precious and valuable resources—supporting biodiversity, recreation, property values, and local economies. In times of global environmental and economic uncertainty, protecting water quality and preserving long-term datasets like those in the LPP is more important than ever.

On behalf of my family, my lake Association and FOCA, I urge you to continue supporting the LPP of water quality monitoring.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your COTTAGE ASSOCIATION NAME, LOCATION/TOWNSHIP]