



Gratitude and Hope: A Year-End Message from Save Georgian Bay

December 28, 2023

Dear Supporters of Save Georgian Bay,

As we approach the end of another year, we reflect on the progress we've made together in our mission to protect and preserve the well-being and beauty of Southern Georgian Bay and the Escarpment. We want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your unwavering support throughout the past year.

Your generosity has been the driving force behind our achievements, allowing us to make strides in our efforts to stop the TC Energy Ontario Pumped Storage Project ("the Project"). Whether you've volunteered your time, shared our message, or made a financial contribution, your commitment to our cause has made a real difference. Here's what we've accomplished this year thanks to your support:

1. Over \$15k raised at the 2nd annual "Save the Bay" Polar Dip!

Thank you to the dedicated volunteer committee chaired by Kathy and Bob Baranski, who built on the great foundation built by our inaugural event chair, Freda Ariella Muscovitch. Stay tuned for exciting information about the 3rd Annual "Save the Bay" Polar Dip taking place on February 24, 2024.

2. Call for the Project to be evaluated under a "Competitive Mechanism"

We have highlighted the anti-competitive, sole-sourced, rate-regulated approach to the procurement process for the Project, which is contrary to the Independent Electricity System Operator ("IESO") recommendation for a "competitive mechanism." We must continue to demand that the Project be evaluated under the IESO's Procurement of Long-Term Electricity Reliability Services ("LT1 RFP").

3. Shedding light on a \$4b+ subsidy offer

Our efforts exposed that the Project deal includes the offer to transfer \$4b+ in value (the Project's expected carbon credits and the environmental clean-up and re-building of affected 4th Canadian Division Training Centre infrastructure). We must continue to shed light on the financial incentives behind the Project.



4. Continuing to uncover the Project's environmental risks

Our review of Department of National Defence documents, as well as a study generously conducted by bat biologist Susan L. Holroyd, confirmed our fears that the Project could devastate the wildlife, many of which are Species at Risk or Endangered Species, that call the Project site home. We will continue to work to expose the many environmental risks associated with the Project.

5. Municipal, provincial, and federal political engagement

This fall, Save Georgian Bay met with Hon. Todd Smith, Minister of Energy and Rick Byers, MPP gaining valuable insights that have shaped the focus of our efforts. In 2024 we will continue the dialogue and seek opportunities to meet with Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Canada and Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

The expert investigative skills of our supporters have revealed the political relationships at play behind the scenes of the Project. We must continue to question the influence of TC Energy's primary lobbyists - Rubicon Strategy Inc. and Sussex Strategy Inc. - who are cozy with Minister Smith and Premier Ford.

The fight to protect Georgian Bay from the Project has extended far beyond Meaford. The Township of The Archipelagos, recognizing the irreversible damage to the environment and the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area that the Project could cause, unanimously carried a motion "vehemently" opposing the Project. Then, the Town of the Blue Mountains added its voice in opposition to the project by passing a resolution to support the resolution in principle. We will continue to seek the support of other municipalities in the Georgian Bay Basin and engage with the Municipality of Meaford to encourage their ongoing critical examination of the Project.

6. Retention of Donnelly Law

In anticipation of potential legal battles, we have engaged Donnelly Law, dedicated to environmental advocacy and public interest causes.

7. Media Engagement

We have continued to share our message with local, provincial, and national media who can help to amplify our message. The Narwhal has published two articles about the Project, and we have generated some interest from several other high-profile media outlets as well.



8. Collaboration with Small Change Fund

To support our fundraising efforts, we have collaborated with Small Change Fund, a crowdsourcing platform that will help to expand our reach and amplify our impact. Among the values that the Small Change Fund brings is the ability to issue tax receipts to donors. You can find our “Save the Bay” project on the Small Change Fund website [here](#).

As 2024 approaches, we find ourselves filled with hope and the determination to broaden and strengthen the fight to prevent irreparable harm to the environment and irreversible damage to the unique ecological, cultural, and historical features of the area that the Project could cause.

As you consider your year-end giving we invite you to consider making a year-end donation to Save Georgian Bay. Your continued support will enable us to amplify our efforts. Remember, your donation not only fuels our initiatives but also comes with the added benefit of a tax receipt.

Donate Now: smallchange.fund.ca/project/save-the-bay

In the spirit of the season, let's continue to work hand in hand to protect Georgian Bay and the Escarpment. Together, we can make a lasting impact and leave a legacy of positive change for generations to come.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

With heartfelt thanks,

Tom Buck
for Save Georgian Bay
www.savegeorgianbay.ca

