



## Riding the Wave!

Dear Supporters of Georgian Bay,

As we roll into summer the wave of support for our fight against TC Energy's proposed pumped storage project in Meaford swells. We have some great news to share—and some opportunities for you to ride the wave with us.

### What an honour!

Save Georgian Bay has received **Ontario Nature's** 2024 Corporate Award for demonstrating outstanding leadership and sound action in the environmental field. The prestigious award was presented at Ontario Nature's annual Conservation Awards gala at the Evergreen Resort on the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula on Saturday, June 1st.



“We are honoured to be among the many organizations who work every day to protect our environment from harm,” said Tom Buck, a director of Save Georgian Bay Association, who accepted the award along with treasurer Louise Green. “This award recognizes the many people, like you, who support and participate in Save Georgian Bay’s efforts. Whether you made calls and wrote letters to political leaders, donated, held up a sign at a protest, attended a council meeting, made a deputation, shared your expertise, analysed the project’s engineering shortcomings, published studies, or gathered many thousands of signatures on petitions, each of you is vital to the efforts to stop TC Energy’s pumped storage proposal. This award reflects the extraordinary efforts of every tireless volunteer and dedicated supporter who perseveres because it’s the right thing to do.”

Reflecting on the achievement, Buck noted, “We’ve had a chance to work next to some great organizations in this effort, such as the Georgian Bay Association and the Ontario Clean Air Alliance. At the conference, we met many other organizations making a terrific impact on preserving the environment. We are in awe of the accomplishments of our fellow Ontario Nature 2024 award winners and are grateful to be included among these heroes working to preserve Ontario’s environment. We greatly appreciate the work of Ontario Nature and the recognition this award offers Save Georgian Bay.”

Ontario Nature - dedicated to protecting wild species and wild spaces through conservation, education, and public engagement - represents more than 30,000 members and supporters and 150 member groups across Ontario. You can learn more about Ontario Nature’s mission and work at [ontarionature.org](https://ontarionature.org).



## Wishing Meaford a Happy 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

Our Polar Dip mascot, Chilly Snowpaws joined Save Georgian Bay volunteers at Meaford's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> with high fives all around!



Our parade float, shouldered by dedicated volunteers, was called Moving Waters and conceived by local artist and Save Georgian Bay volunteer Caryn Colman, who described it as part art piece and part protest against TC Energy's environmentally devastating proposal. "The float represents the symbiotic relationship between Meaford and Georgian Bay and is a plea to Meaford to care for and protect Georgian Bay for the next 150 years," Caryn said. "I couldn't have executed my vision without the support of my fellow Save Georgian Bay volunteers Amanda Greenfield and Patrick Ellard who were instrumental to the float construction," she added.

Save Georgian Bay volunteers were also on hand for the festivities later at Meaford Harbour to offer face-painting and opportunities for our youngest supporters to colour a selection of endangered species that are at risk because of the project. "Save Georgian Bay volunteers are so happy to support our community by participating in the Meaford Sesquicentennial festivities," said organizer Louise Buccella. Added organizer Amanda Greenfield, "It was important to us to engage with the younger members of our community, encouraging them to appreciate and protect Georgian Bay." A special note of appreciation to our face painters, talented local artists Judy Shield and Betty Merrifield and enthusiastic grade eight volunteers Eilis, McKeira, Ashlynn, Olivia, and Kestrel. Thanks to C. Thunder Martel for capturing the day in photos!



*Here's to Meaford's 150th—and helping to protect its environmental blessings for another 150 years!*



## **Another resolution opposing TC Energy's proposed pumped storage project—and another call to support!**

Paula Hope, a councillor with Town of the Blue Mountains, has put forward notice of an important resolution that would strengthen the municipality's opposition to TC Energy's proposed pumped storage project if passed on June 24. The resolution was prompted by Councillor Hope's concern for local drinking water that could be threatened once the construction of TC Energy's pumped storage project disturbs the contaminated soil on its proposed site, the Defence Department's 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division Training Centre in Meaford, an active military base. There, eight decades of live-fire weapons practice has left the property littered with toxic chemicals, which could drain into Georgian Bay and contaminate local drinking water. "It's a risk we cannot afford to take," she says.

The Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act—enacted after the Walkerton tainted-water tragedy which left seven people dead and 2,500 severely ill—includes a statutory standard of care provision for individuals who have decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems or who oversee the operating authority of the system. The act spells out legal consequences for those who do not act as required by the standard of care, including possible fines or imprisonment. As Councillor Hope underlined, she takes her duty to fulfill that standard of care "very seriously."

Councillor Hope's resolution, to be brought forward at the town's June 24<sup>th</sup> council meeting, reads:

*"WHEREAS the pristine, clean, clear, sparkling waters and pine-strewn shoreline of Georgian Bay are critical to the health, well-being and economic welfare of the residents and visitors to the Town of the Blue Mountains,*

*WHEREAS the Town of the Blue Mountains is an unwilling host and will not risk its unique ecosystem for a project that may create unintended consequences,*

*BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of the Blue Mountains is OPPOSED to the TCE Pumped Storage Project."*

At the meeting, Save Georgian Bay director Tom Buck will make a deputation in support of Councillor Hope's resolution. But so will representatives from TC Energy.

### **What You Can Do:**

**Please join us outside the Town of Blue Mountains Council Chambers in Thornbury on June 24<sup>th</sup> in a show of support for Councillor Hope's resolution.**

**When: Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.** Arrive early to snag a good parking spot, collect your new lawn sign, and show our solidarity.

**Where: Town of Blue Mountains Council Chambers, 32 Mill Street, Thornbury.**

Ahead of the meeting, let's make a show of our opposition to TC Energy's proposed pumped storage project by blanketing Thornbury with Save Georgian Bay lawn signs! E-mail [Patrick.Ellard@SaveGeorgianBay.ca](mailto:Patrick.Ellard@SaveGeorgianBay.ca) to get your sign today! Donations, which are gratefully accepted at your discretion, will go towards sign printing costs.



## Save the Date for an enchanted summer evening to Save the Bay!

Join us with like-minded neighbours and friends on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 P.M. for an evening at a private venue on the escarpment to support the ongoing work of Save Georgian Bay. The outdoor fundraiser event will feature panoramic views, international food stations, and live music. Sip on local wine, beer, and cider while you bid on spectacular pieces of art created by local artists.

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets on the Save Georgian Bay website.

JOIN US FOR AN ENCHANTED EVENING  
ON TOP OF THE ESCARPMENT IN SUPPORT OF  
SAVE GEORGIAN BAY

*Enchanted  
Evening &*  
**FUNDRAISER**

SATURDAY 5:00 P.M.  
AUGUST 10, 2024

EXPERIENCE:

- Panoramic views
- International food stations
- Local wine, beer, cider
- Live music
- Silent art auction reflecting local talent

SECURE YOUR SPOT, VISIT  
[savegeorgianbay.ca/fundraiser](http://savegeorgianbay.ca/fundraiser)  
Donations welcome & eligible for tax receipts

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## Let's Save the Bay!

We invite you to stand with Save Georgian Bay  
in opposition TC Energy's proposed pumped storage project.

*Please click below to donate to our Save the Bay campaign!*

