



May 27, 2022

Ms. Lynette Mader
Manager of Provincial Operations, Ducks Unlimited - Ontario
92 Caplan Ave, Barrie, ON L4N 0Z7

Sent by Email: s_rootham@ducks.ca

Re: Open Letter to the Leaders of Ontario's Major Political Parties - Wetland Conservation

Dear Ms. Lynette Mader,

Thank you for taking the time to write to the Ontario Progressive Conservative campaign with your important question regarding a strategy for Ontario's Wetlands.

The Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario knows that our province can lead Canada's economic recovery while also protecting our environment. That is why in December 2020, our government, under the leadership of Doug Ford was proud to announce our new Wetlands Conservation Partnership Program. This made-in-Ontario program provides a historic [\\$30 million investment](#) and focuses on restoration projects in the Great Lakes watersheds and supports municipalities with stormwater management. to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, including our wetlands.

In the first year of the five-year program, our government had the pleasure to partner with Ducks Unlimited Canada. As an internationally recognized wetlands restoration organization, your expertise was invaluable and we are proud of our work to conserve and restore natural ecosystems across the province.

In Spring of this year, our government, as part of the second phase of the Wetlands Conservation Partner Program, invested [\\$6.7 million](#) in the restoration and enhancement of nearly 150 wetland projects across the province. This funding will help six conservation partners restore more than 750 hectares of wetlands and improve water quality, preserve and increase habitats for endangered species, help prevent flooding and build climate change resiliency in the Great Lakes watershed and connecting waterways.

As our Wetlands Conservation Partner Program is a five-year program, if re-elected, our party looks forward to building on the largest investment in wetlands restoration in Ontario's history and will continue to work with additional conservation organizations on restoration projects and wetland creation in other Great Lakes watersheds and inland waterways. These partnerships will also allow us to continue to fulfill commitments in several agreements and plans, including the Environment Plan, Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, Canada-Ontario Agreement on Great Lakes Water Quality and Ecosystem Health, and the Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan, for four more years.

Thank you once again for your letter. Please do not hesitate to reach out again in the future should you have any further questions.



Sincerely,

Ontario PC Campaign