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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Wastewater Treatment Facility exceeding provincial standards**

(Barrie, ON) The City maintains high standards in wastewater treatment to ensure there is minimum effect on Lake Simcoe. Last year, the amount of phosphorous that was discharged by the Wastewater Treatment Facility reached record low amounts.

As part of the Lake Simcoe Reduction Strategy, the province sets the annual phosphorous concentration limit at 0.10 mg/L. In 2016, the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility managed to reduce the annual average phosphorous concentration level to 0.03 mg/L, which was the lowest on record for Barrie.

"The extremely low phosphorous concentration was achieved through a combination of facility advancements, frequent monitoring and process adjustments," said Sandy Coulter, Manager of Wastewater Operations. "These positive results could not have been achieved without the dedication of our staff, and their daily efforts in operations and maintenance of the facility.

Last year the City's Wastewater division was recognized provincially with the Exemplary Biosolids Management Award from the Water Environment Association of Ontario. Barrie's biosolids program was also featured in the fall, 2016 edition of Influent magazine (the official publication of the Water Environment Association of Ontario).

The City has six major pumping stations and one state-of-the-art Wastewater Treatment Facility. Treating wastewater is a process of cleaning it to remove solids, nutrients and other undesirable material before it is pumped to Lake Simcoe. For more information, visit [barrie.ca/Wastewater](http://barrie.ca/Wastewater).

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