



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Barrie seeks public input on lands for new Conservation Trust

Barrie, ON –The City of Barrie is inviting residents to help shape the future of local environmental protection by providing input on which municipally owned lands should be included in a new Conservation Trust.

Announced on Earth Day (April 22, 2025), the Conservation Trust is a major initiative led by Mayor Alex Nuttall to preserve environmentally sensitive areas in and around Barrie—starting with the Little Lake area and expanding to other natural spaces such as Ardagh Bluffs and Sunnidale Forest.

“By creating a conservation trust, we’re making a long-term, concrete commitment to the future of our natural environment, ensuring these lands remain undeveloped for future generations to enjoy,” said Mayor Nuttall.

The Trust will operate as an independent board, with initial members including Mayor Nuttall, Deputy Mayor Thomson, Councillors Kungl, Nigussie, and Harvey. City staff have also been directed to explore the inclusion of the Mayor of Springwater and members of the public on the board.

Mayor Nuttall is inviting residents to suggest lands they believe should be protected. Eligible lands must be municipally owned and not currently designated as active parks. Feedback will help staff prioritize areas for long-term environmental protection, with a full framework and operating authority expected by 2026.

To submit your suggestions or learn more, visit buildingbarrie.ca/conservation-trust

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For more information, please contact:

Scott LaMantia
Manager of Marketing & Communications
scott.lamantia@barrie.ca
705-794-0517

