



October 21, 2024

To the Douro-Dummer Council,

Dear Council Members,

On behalf of the Upper Stoney Lake Association (USLA), and our 338 member families, I am writing to express our strong support for the implementation of new bylaws to protect natural shorelines within the Douro-Dummer Township. As stewards of Stoney Lake's fragile ecosystem, we believe these measures are essential for safeguarding the health of the lake, which benefits both residents and visitors alike.

We understand that the Shoreline Conservation Initiative Committee has previously presented to Council and is scheduled to do so again this November. We commend their ongoing efforts to protect the natural shorelines and highlight the crucial role these play in maintaining water quality and ecosystem balance.

The health of our shorelines directly impacts water quality, fish habitats, and the overall biodiversity of the lake. When natural shorelines are eroded or replaced with hardened surfaces, pollutants and nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen flow more easily into the water, resulting in algae blooms, degraded fish habitats, and water quality issues. Conversely, shorelines that are preserved or restored with native plants provide natural filtration, protect against erosion, and support both land-based and aquatic wildlife.

As the pace of redevelopment increases, it becomes more urgent to address the loss of natural shorelines. We encourage the Council to implement strong protections, ensuring that future development is balanced with the preservation of these critical natural areas.

We stand in support of the recommendations presented by the Shoreline Conservation Initiative Committee and urge Council to act promptly in developing and adopting bylaws that prioritize the long-term health of our shared water resources.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Regards,

Jocelyn Wyatt
President
Upper Stoney Lake Association

David Nolan
Environment Committee Leader
Upper Stoney Lake Association