



Conservation Alert E-Blast

2022-11-25

SOUTH LAKE SIMCOE NATURALISTS

BREAKING CONSERVATION NEWS in GEORGINA!

Transport Canada approves Pefferlaw aerodrome

Word has just come that the Canadian federal Liberal government Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra has formerly announced that they have approved the construction of an aerodrome in Pefferlaw!

This, in spite of obvious deficiencies in the suitability of the site, environmental and cultural heritage to formally protected Greenbelt lands in the Town of Georgina (Region of York). Numerous residents and organizations made written submissions, including SLSN, and local media was quick on the issue in site of the terribly flawed federal government process of planning. The Town of Georgina was forced, late in the process to make comment given the huge scope of impact to the Town and residents about the deplorable lack of rigour of the federal process. With no other fulsome meaningful consultation with the community by the federal agency to address substantive problems and constraints of the undertaking raised by many, and identified by our organization, it would seem politician's leadership is the only option left for action.

I expect our new local Council and Town staff resources, and our provincial M.P.P. Caroline Mulroney must be mobilized immediately to address this serious issue in our community and we will be watching to see what action is taken.

Paul Harpley SLSN

See SLSN Proposed Pefferlaw Aerodrome submission to Federal Transport Canada Comments Portal below.

Proposed Pefferlaw Aerodrome

SLSN Comments

SOUTH LAKE SIMCOE NATURALISTS

SLSN is an incorporated not-for-profit Member of Ontario Nature.

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Research Partner with The Zephyr Society of Lake Simcoe (www.zephyrsociety.ca)

2021-12-22

Company Representative: New Aerodrome Ontario 2021

Attention: Mr. Mauro Marchioni

comment@NewAerodromeOntario2021.ca

Dear Sir:

Context:

It is great trepidation I write this letter to you with regard to your proposed Aerodrome project a fast-emerging threat to the natural and cultural heritage of the Town of Georgina, the Ontario Greenbelt and Lake Simcoe. Rather than professionally undertaking a community-based planning process with the local municipality politicians, and our local federal M.P. Scot Davidson, all declared unanimously opposed to your project. The local M.P.P. representing the Province of Ontario appears also not to be involved. The way your planning has been undertaken, and the scale of bad will you have generated with everyone involved, especially the local community people is despicable. We offer just three of many local media references, facebook comments and e-mails etc. regarding your lack of transparency, concerns about fill dumping and obvious lack of this conduct documented for all to see in the Town of Georgina Virtual Council Meeting the evening of 2021-12-15. Previous to this, and according to the local newspaper "the Georgina Post" articles below, a continuing concerning behaviour. Our membership is incredulous in their lack of respect of your actions to this point in this regard.

We provide science and community comments below, but under protest of your above documented actions to this point in this matter, and demonstratable poor planning, and thereby threatening the health of Lake Simcoe! I became aware of your project only recently from conversation and protestation of members of our organization.

Contrary to your stated understanding of your project in the Town of Georgina Virtual Council Meeting 2021-12-15, its implementation in our view at this point regards the fearful destructive fate of a very important natural heritage area and wildlife refugia, water resource stream headwater and groundwater area in the protected countryside of the Ontario Greenbelt. Nothing we have seen or heard to this point from you gives us any confidence otherwise. Given the lack of details (only basic information and a very conceptual map on an

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inconspicuous sign on the north side of Old Homestead Road) that we have not had reference to interrogate, the short community notice and short time to prepare comment, we relate concerns below. They can only be speculative as we have nothing scientific or otherwise to review and comment on from you. They are necessarily basic and provisional for the reasons listed above. Much more and will be said going forward if necessary.

Initial Technical Concerns:

Planning:

We reference the Town of Georgina Official Plan (2016) Section 2.2.3- Natural Environment Guiding Principle, reads as follows: The preservation, protection, enhancement and support of the natural heritage and hydrologic features, functions, attributes and interconnections of the natural environment is essential in order to maintain a sustainable ecosystem, not only to provide a healthy environment. We have seen no substantive reporting or documentation that any of these standards will be met by your proposed project, and therefore cannot support it.

Indeed, your proposed project is contrary to, or in conflict with, the Official Plan's Vision statement, the Natural Heritage Guiding Principle, the Rural and Agricultural Areas Guiding Principle, the Agricultural Area designation and Environmental Protection Area designation policies, and the Airports and Aerodrome policies (pointed out in Town of Georgina Report, Interoffice Memorandum, Dec. 3, 2021, Agenda item letter, Town of Georgina Meeting, 2021-12-15). We are of the same opinion as the Town of Georgina in this regard and are fully therefore opposed to your proposed project as minimally presented at this point.

In this same Town of Georgina municipal report, clearly documented is your project's non-compliance to other basic landuse planning directives and standards in this province, as far as we are aware from apparent lack of transparency and fair notice.

"The subject properties are designated a combination of Agricultural Protection Area (APA) and Environmental Protection Area (EPA) in the Town's Official Plan. All of the subject properties are subject to the Greenlands System Overlay (refer to Attachment 6, in the Town of Georgina Meeting Agenda documents). The intent of the APA designation is to protect prime agricultural areas for long-term agricultural use. The intent of the EPA designation is to protect lands that contain environmental features and their buffers. The Greenland System overlay reflects the boundaries of the Natural Heritage System as defined in the GBP. The Greenlands System includes key natural heritage and hydrological features, their buffers, and linkages between features. Schedule 83 - Source Water Protection Areas shows a portion of the Subject Lands is located within a Significant Groundwater Recharge Area, Ecologically Significant Groundwater Recharge Area, and Highly Vulnerable Aquifer (refer to Attachment 7). Schedule C - Natural Hazards shows a portion of the Subject Lands, specifically the areas surrounding the southern watercourse, are hazard lands (refer to Attachment 8). In Section 9.2.6.2-Airports and Aerodrome, it states that "the Town shall not be supportive of airports and aerodrome facilities being located within the Environmental Protection Area designation or in locations that would result in land use conflicts with surrounding uses." (Town of Georgina Report, Interoffice Memorandum, Dec. 3, 2021, Agenda item letter, Town of Georgina Meeting, 2021-12-15).

Natural Environment and Landscape Ecology:

As with everything else about this proposed project there is little or no information of any kind upon which to comment even though your development group indicates you have undertaken consulting work of this kind in your public statements at the Town of Georgina Virtual Council Meeting the evening of 2021-12-15. We have great

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concern for all the myriad areas of natural heritage impact, ecology, conservation, and all species survival, particularly for species at risk at this point. From conversation and initial inquiry we offer a basic list of concerns.

- Proposed Aerodrome location is within a local documented migratory bird zone of flight activity, and breeding bird regular foraging movement area, for various species including but not limited to Sandhill crane, Tundra swan, Canada geese, various Sandpipers including some at risk and significant species (various waterfowl including historically phalarope --- species, and movements in this area of Georgina of other species of concern including Eastern Loggerhead shrike). The ecological relationship of the functional connection of Lake Simcoe, Georgina Island, Duclous Point and the natural wetland and seasonal ponding habitat on this site and others in the area are critical to these species and others and are of concern in relation to your project. All of which may be problematic for an aerodrome facility the size, complexity, and volume of use especially if it is to replace the Buttonville Airport in the G.T.A. as you advised, for the first time to our knowledge at the Town of Georgina Virtual Council Meeting the evening of 2021-12-15.
- The proposed Aerodrome is in what would seem like a most inappropriate geographic site location to undertake the kind of natural area disturbance proposed, being situated at an extensive complex wetland/wet forest and upland forest/ grassland meadow landscape, of important groundwater and riparian source function. The location area includes related noteworthy drumloid, and remnant glacial Lake Algonquin shoreline features, and associated other glaciolacustrine and presumed eolian deposits contributing to the important water resource functions. In particular, the bringing in of massive volumes of fill from off site, and extensive grading change that will be needed for what the purported final site will be like, as in the basic concept drawing on the site sign, is concerning. Aerodrome flight/runway location aside (disputed by other community small airplane experts) there must be numerous much better sites for this kind of facility, that should be the subject of a Provincial/Federal Feasibility study in the G.T.A. to arrive at a rigorously determined location to locate a closing "Buttonville Airport"!
- With regard to hydrogeology, aquifer recharge, and ecological function affected by changes anticipated with this proposed aerodrome, to hydrogeology and surficial hydrology, we have significant concern with the proposed site grading anticipated and the level of science that would need to be presented supporting such proposed development. This is particularly concerning with the

very large volume of fill expected to be brought to the site revealed at the Town of Georgina Virtual Council Meeting the evening of 2021-12-15.

Surficial and groundwater movement is typical to these local Georgina sand plain areas, sometimes low-lying lacustrine clay lenses or pans particularly at wetlands and streams which is the case here. Drainage and flow lines north-east to south at the extensive wetland/forests through expected significant seeps on the site, could be problematic over time if buried in huge volumes of fill, especially in the future with moisture model protections with climate change modelling for Southern Ontario. Local stream fish and other aquatic life impact is a concern. Again, we have not seen any science research or design information on these potential situational site impacts of the site changes anticipated. Local residents on wells have good reason to be concerned about their wells in the area given these considerations. Impact of significant aquifer recharge areas in the proposed fill and grade areas for an Aerodrome, and roads in the area is a concern to us, in the absence of much more detailed and rigorous science, and public release for review and comment.

Consequently, from past experience in other area OMB Hearings and Mediations we do not have confidence in the impact of the proposed lands works on local existing wells. The project proponent must

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be held responsible for hydrology and hydrogeological impact and must undertake detailed ground water investigations, analysis and long-term monitoring here, none of which have been released for review and comment. The glacial drumloid feature, in the low undulating Lake Simcoe sand plain of the Town of Georgina, has been identified as an important Groundwater Recharge Area

The site area ecologically is extremely strategic to the natural form and function of natural heritage in east Georgina and the Greenbelt. Its north-south landscape connection (corridor linkage) location, is strategic from a landscape ecological perspective linking two critical east-west natural areas corridors across a very fragmented agricultural intermediary zone corridor. The value of the existing life science, natural areas also are very important and integral in terms of wildlife resources and Landscape Ecology (Core and Corridor natural habitat connections) within the Region of York as the central Region of York Greenlands System Vision maintaining connection to Lake Simcoe is significant. Wildlife movement corridors for mammal species like White-tailed deer (including winter congregation), coyote (Brush wolf), Red fox and others.

Further,

In summation regarding natural heritage and other landuse planning criteria, in concurrence with regard to the Town of Georgina's Official Plan, we believe your project is not appropriate on the site property. We refer you to the Town of Georgina narrative in this regard (Town of Georgina Report, Interoffice Memorandum, Dec. 3, 2021, Agenda item letter, Town of Georgina Meeting, 2021-12-15).

"Based on the limited information provided, it would appear that the proposed Aerodrome is of a much larger size and scale such that it would not comply with all of the requirements of Section 28. 4, and hence would not be in compliance with Zoning By-law No. 500. Concluding Comment The Project is proposed to be located in the heart of Georgina's Green/ands System, partially within, and largely surrounded by, provincially significant wetlands and significant woodlands. The site and surrounding area serves a provincially significant hydrological function as a groundwater recharge area and highly vulnerable aquifer, as noted by York Region and as shown on the provided LSRCA mapping. Based upon Provincial, Regional, and local planning policy, and without any detailed information on the Aerodrome proposal, Staff are of the opinion that the Subject Lands are not an appropriate location for the proposed Project, both from an environmental perspective and that of maintaining the rural character and visual landscape in this part of Georgina, which needs to be protected for current residents and future generations".

We concur with this assessment.

Conclusion:

Although you state you do not have to meet any level of Ontario and municipal planning competency in your comment in Town of Georgina Virtual Council Meeting appearance (2021-12-15), and did not present detailed information, and make it available to all, your contention that Canadian federal Aeronautics Act (R.S., 1985, c. A-2) is of concern to our membership. Our organization is concerned and supportive of good planning and public transparency, and this does not appear to be that.

You advise that you have natural heritage consultants on the site working. We would be concerned that any natural heritage consultant would contract to be involved in the project you propose.

To properly and professionally evaluate the site, for your proposed purpose of plan we, and any competent natural heritage organization would need to have access to the site over several seasons to evaluate and make real defensible comment on your Aerodrome proposal.

The “friendly neighbour concept” is not in evidence in your project to this point, and community support is wanting in our opinion. You sir, need to remedy this situation.

In conclusion, and as previously identified there must be numerous much better sites for this kind of facility, that should be the subject of a Provincial/Federal Feasibility study in the G.T.A. to arrive at a rigorously determined location to re-locate a closing “Buttonville Airport”!

Sincerely,



Paul Harpley,

Paul Harpley BSc. (Hons.) M.A.

President, South Lake Simcoe Naturalists, Ontario Nature

Director, The Zephyr Society of Lake Simcoe, Wildlife Research Station

c.c. Scot Davidson M.P. York-Simcoe, Federal Minister of Transportation, Caroline Mulroney M.P.P. York-Simcoe, Mayor and Council, Town of Georgina, Anne Bell, Ontario Nature, The Zephyr society of Lake Simcoe Research Organization.

References: Georgina Post articles

2021-11-15 Georgina Post, <https://georginapost.com/2021/11/15/new-aerodrome-proposal-flies-under-the-radar-in-pefferlaw/>

2021-11-28 Georgina Post, <https://georginapost.com/2021/11/18/pefferlaw-residents-up-in-arms-over-aerodrome/>

2021-12-10 Georgina Post Newspaper (Paper edition), [Pefferlaw aerodrome proposal lacks transparency](#), pp.3.

2022-11-24

Transport Canada approves Pefferlaw aerodrome

Georgina Post

Aerodrome proposal sign at 7818 and 7486 Homestead Rd.

By Mike Anderson

After months of speculation, the Minister of Transport Omar Alghabra has approved the construction of an aerodrome in Pefferlaw.

The aerodrome will be built by Sutton Airport Development Inc., near the intersection of Stoney Batter Rd. and Old Homestead Rd.

However, a construction date has not yet been announced.

According to York-Simcoe MP Scot Davidson, his office only recently found out the aerodrome was approved, after months of demanding an answer from the Minister.

MP Davidson was informed via email that the regulatory review is complete and that construction can commence whenever the proponent is prepared to start.

Moreover, Transport Canada does not require anything further from the proponent.

The federal decision to approve the aerodrome was made after residents raised concerns about the proponents long-standing connections to the waste management industry, and that the aerodrome might be a fill operation in disguise.

“This flawed approval process ignored the significant issues raised by myself and members of the community, including a lack of consultation by the proponents; environmental impacts; limited suitability and capacity for air traffic; and a lack of transparency surrounding the aerodrome’s proponents and objectives,” said Davidson in a media release.

According to the company’s proposal, the privately-funded project will offer year-round services to the recreational, private, charter and business aviation community.

The airport which would feature two paved all-weather runways, a flying clubhouse, and an aircraft hangar, is billed as a potential replacement for Markham’s Buttonville Airport, which is slated for redevelopment.

The Post will have more on this story as it develops...

Read More: <https://georginapost.com/2022/11/17/breaking-feds-approve-pefferlaw-airport/>

The continuing Ford Government Bill 23, Greenbelt “Land Swap” and related Actions

As detailed in our last week Conservation Alert E-Blast (Nov. 6th) the Ontario provincial Conservative government has brought forward a series of controversial proposed Growth Plan Amendments to the previous, recently approved Growth Plan for Ontario that will have grave impacts on the approved Greenbelt and protected countryside. These changes affect many complicated interrelated Policy and detailed design, natural and agricultural landuse, cultural heritage, and areas of long-term past good planning methodology.

Proposed changes to municipalities, regional governments, conservation authorities, provincial ministries, public boards and commissions, will have impacts on responsibilities and value of decision capability, environmental policy, regulation, and planning. Below is updated information and links for action. P.H.

York Media

'The math is tricky': Newmarket mayor warns province's housing targets for town look impossible

Newmarket expected to build 12,000 homes by 2031

[Lisa Queen](#)

Newmarket Era

Monday, November 14, 2022

The province's aggressive housing targets for Newmarket appear impossible to achieve, Mayor John Taylor warns.

As part of the government's plan to build 1.5 million homes by 2031 to address Ontario's housing shortage, Queen's Park has dictated the number of housing units certain municipalities are expected to achieve.

For Newmarket, it's 12,000 homes.

And that has left Taylor scratching his head.

There are a number of factors to take into consideration, he said.

For example, after many years, the province has finally made a decision that will see wastewater from Newmarket's future growth go to the Duffin Creek sewage facility on Lake Ontario in Pickering, rather than to Lake Simcoe. Growth can't occur without a wastewater solution.

However, putting the infrastructure in place to handle wastewater at Duffin Creek will take six years, said Taylor, adding the province won't reimburse the region for the \$100 million it spent on the Lake Simcoe option, ordered by a previous provincial government.

Newmarket has enough wastewater allocation until that happens to accommodate 2,000 more homes.

So, 2,000 homes can be built over six years between now and when Duffin Creek is ready, leaving 5,000 homes to be built in each of the following two years or so to meet the province's 2031 target.

About 300 homes are built annually in Newmarket currently.

Meanwhile, the province has indicated it will remove 7,400 acres of land in 15 areas of the Greenbelt for housing, adding 9,400 acres elsewhere...

Read More: https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/10758383--the-math-is-tricky-newmarket-mayor-warns-province-s-housing-targets-for-town-look-impossible/?s=n1?source=newsletter&utm_content=a02&utm_source=ml_nl&utm_medium=email&utm_email=6EA0E815B8FE40A55C58C2297DE34C8&utm_campaign=yrha_139197

2022-11-21

York Media

OPINION

An open letter to Caroline Mulroney regarding Bill 23

To York-Simcoe MPP Caroline Mulroney, The Greenbelt Act was created to preserve environmentally sensitive lands in the Greater Toronto Area, protecting them from urban development. I am concerned the Ontario government's More Homes Built Faster plan proposes to allow construction of low-density housing on parts of these protected lands, trading them away for land that's less ecologically significant, less desirable and less valuable. The housing crisis is the purported justification for the short-sighted surrender of the Greenbelt lands, because of their proximity to areas already...

Read More: https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/10760671--cutting-an-onion-with-a-chainsaw-york-region-slams-ontario-s-bill-23/?li_source=LI&li_medium=you%20might%20be%20interested%20in&li_pl=47&li_tr=you%20might%20be%20interested%20in

South Lake Simcoe Area Actions against Bill 23 and 'Greenbelt Lands Swaps'

2022-11-18

Barrie Today

Groups set to protest Bill 23 at several upcoming rallies

Demonstrations scheduled for Barrie, Stayner, Orillia, Midland, Alliston and Holland Landing and in York Region.

Barrie Today News



Editor's note: Please note the following story has been updated from its original version to correct the date of the demonstration at MPP Khanjin's constituency office. BarrieToday apologizes for the error.

Residents right across Simcoe County will be taking part in pop-up rallies to protest the provincial government's *More Homes Faster Act* — otherwise known as Bill 23 — and what they are calling "Greenbelt land grabs."

The province has said the purpose of Bill 23 is to increase the housing supply throughout Ontario and to achieve the province's goal of building 1.5 million homes within the next 10 years.

However, some local groups are concerned the proposed legislation won't provide the affordable housing needed in the province, but rather will "rip up the Greenbelt, pave over wetlands and encourage sprawl around our communities," according to the Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition.

Read More: https://www.barrietoday.com/local-news/groups-set-to-protest-bill-23-at-several-weekend-rallies-6114371?utm_source=barrietoday+--+daily+headlines&utm_campaign=c08787ed19-dailybar&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c8859d4fc8-c08787ed19-323665374

A rally event is also set to take place at York-Simcoe MPP Caroline Mulroney's office, 45 Grist Mill Road in Holland Landing on Sunday, Nov. 27 from 1:30-3 p.m.

SLSN member Sheila Maxwell is participating in this rally this Sunday and members can phone her at 905-806-5261 to connect.



Ontario Nature Action Steps

A [joint submission on the Greenbelt changes](#) - please sign on **by Monday November 28 at noon**.

We also have a [new action alert on the proposed Greenbelt removals](#) that groups and individuals can sign and share.

Our first [action alert on Bill 23](#) already has more than 8,900 signatures and is still open for signing. Great work and please continue to share!

The Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition Action suggests these actions as others have in our e-newsletter last week.

WHAT YOU CAN DO...

[Step 1: Contact your MPP](#), [Step 2: Attend a rally](#), [Step 3: Write to ERO](#), [Step 4: Sign a petition](#)

The North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance advises,

On Friday, the Doug Ford Government announced that it is **planning to turn over 7,400 acres of Ontario's Greenbelt to developers after repeatedly promising not to do so**. If this proposal proceeds, it will create a dangerous precedent for opening up the Greenbelt's North Gwillimbury Forest to development.

To make matters even worse, the Ford Government is proposing to direct the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) to identify their conservation lands that **"could support housing development."** This is a serious threat to the LSRCA's new 890-acre nature reserve in the North Gwillimbury Forest.

But there is no need to sacrifice the North Gwillimbury Forest and Ontario's Greenbelt to build more homes. There are thousands of acres of land in the Greater Toronto Area that are already available for development.

As the report from the [Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force](#) noted last February, "[A] shortage of land isn't the cause of the problem. Land is available, both inside the existing built-up areas and on undeveloped land outside greenbelts," adding "Greenbelts and other environmentally sensitive areas must be protected, and farms provide food and food security. Relying too heavily on undeveloped land would whittle away too much of the already small share of land devoted to agriculture."



We need your help now to save the North Gwillimbury Forest

Please contact [Caroline Mulroney](#) and tell her that you are counting on her to respect the promises that she and the Premier have made to protect the Greenbelt. Please remind her that in 2020 Doug Ford told the Ontario Legislature: "I have not touched the Greenbelt, we won't touch the Greenbelt, we won't build on the Greenbelt."

International U.N. Environmental Conferences and Meetings on Climate Change and Biodiversity Challenges

COP 27 - Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

2022-11-16

New Scientist Daily

COP27 negotiations

A stream of newly arrived delegates injected a fresh buzz into COP27 during the second week of climate talks in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, but behind-the-scenes negotiations are in disarray, with talks running well behind schedule. Discussions on key areas, such as loss and damage – payments from the most polluting nations to those dealing with the worst effects of climate change – and strengthening emissions cuts, reached a political impasse on 14 November, but ministers aren't due to intervene to force progress until several days later. Meanwhile, talks on the cover text – a political agreement traditionally struck at the end of a UN climate conference – are in the very early stages.

Read More: https://www.newscientist.com/article/2346927-climate-negotiations-are-in-disarray-as-cop27-enters-its-second-week/?utm_source=nsday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nsday_161122&utm_term=Newsletter%20NSDAY_Daily#:~:text=Sign%20up%20to,15%20November%202022

Climate negotiations are in disarray as COP27 in its second week

Talks in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, are running well behind schedule, with discussions on key areas such as loss and damage at a political impasse

ENVIRONMENT 15 November 2022

By [Madeleine Cuff](#)

Read more: [COP27: How the world is doing on climate targets and what to expect](#)

2022-11-21

The Guardian

Environment / World still ‘on brink of climate catastrophe’ after Cop27 deal

Experts say biggest economies must pledge more cuts to carbon emissions but hail agreement to set up loss and damage fund

Our planet “still in the emergency room”: Mixed results for climate and nature at COP27

Rhiannon Niven, Global Climate Policy Coordinator and BirdLife International COP27 delegation coordinator COP27 – this year’s annual Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – finally wrapped up on Sunday, two days late. Held on African soil, in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, it was marketed as ‘the implementation COP’, with a focus on Africa and the most...

Read More: <https://www.birdlife.org/news/2022/11/21/our-planet-still-in-the-emergency-room-mixed-results-for-climate-and-nature-at-cop27/>

2022-11-25

Canadian Geographic

A light at the end of the summit: Historic climate deal sealed at COP27

Though a “landmark” climate fund for poor nations is being hailed as a major step forward in fighting the climate emergency, critics say the global conference did little to address the root cause of the crisis

By Samantha Pope

Read More:

<https://canadiangeographic.ca/articles/a-light-at-the-end-of-the-summit-historic-climate-deal-sealed-at-cop27/>

2022-11-21

Cop27

World still ‘on brink of climate catastrophe’ after Cop27 deal

Experts say biggest economies must pledge more cuts to carbon emissions but hail agreement to set up loss and damage fund

- **A deal on loss and damage, but a blow to 1.5C – what will be Cop27’s legacy?**



More than 33 million people in Pakistan have been affected by this year's floods, according to the country's climate change minister. Photograph: Nadeem Khawar/EPA

[Fiona Harvey](#) in *Sharm el-Sheikh*

Sun 20 Nov 2022 20.43 GMT

The world still stands “on the brink of climate catastrophe” after [the deal reached at the Cop27 UN climate summit](#) on Sunday, and the biggest economies must make fresh commitments to cut greenhouse gas emissions, climate experts and campaigners have warned.

The agreement reached in Sharm el-Sheikh early on Sunday morning, after a marathon final negotiating session that [ran 40 hours beyond its deadline](#), was hailed for providing poor countries for the first time with financial assistance known as [loss and damage](#). A [fund will be set up by rich governments](#) for the rescue and rebuilding of vulnerable areas stricken by climate disaster, a key demand of developing nations for the last 30 years of climate talks.

Read More: https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/nov/20/world-still-on-brink-of-climate-catastrophe-after-cop27deal?utm_term=637b765432dca98693664c05d6291a58&utm_campaign=GuardianTodayUS&utm_source=esp&utm_medium=Email&CMP=GTUS_email

UN Biodiversity Conference – Montreal, Canada. December

2022-11-18

CBC News

Science

Biodiversity needs same protection as climate, say scientists, activists at COP27

UN Biodiversity Conference is scheduled for next month in Montreal to work on global framework

[Sarah Lawrynuik](#) · CBC News · Posted: Nov 17, 2022 9:00 AM ET | Last Updated: November 17



Woodland caribou are one of many species in Canada threatened by habitat degradation and loss — with climate change also having an impact. Next month, in Montreal, world leaders are meeting for the UN Biodiversity Conference to work on a global framework to protect biodiversity. (Mike Bedell/CPAWS/The Canadian Press)

Civil society groups, Indigenous activists and scientists are standing together at the COP27 climate conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, and demanding firm action be taken next month at the UN Biodiversity Conference that will be hosted in Montreal.

The conference aims to get governments to agree on a framework to "bring about a transformation in society's relationship with biodiversity," which is in rapid decline worldwide due to climate change and other factors.

The moment is seen as critical for biodiversity loss, as the world warms to a level that could soon trigger tipping points in the natural world that could have cascading and catastrophic effects not yet fully understood, but which experts say would be, in all likelihood, irreversible.

"The climate and biodiversity crises are deeply interconnected and must be addressed simultaneously," said Lucy Almond, chair of the Nature 4 Climate Coalition, a united group of 20 organizations, including the World Wildlife Fund and World Resources Institute, dedicated to elevating nature as a climate solution.

"In three weeks' time, ministers will arrive in Montreal for the Convention on Biological Diversity, COP15, with the aim of giving biodiversity and ecosystems the same international protection as climate," Almond said...

Read More: https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/biodiversity-montreal-cop27-1.6654447?cmp=newsletter_Evening%20Headlines%20from%20CBC%20News_1617_768084
