

## Fact Sheet:

# Port Granby Nature Reserve Proposal

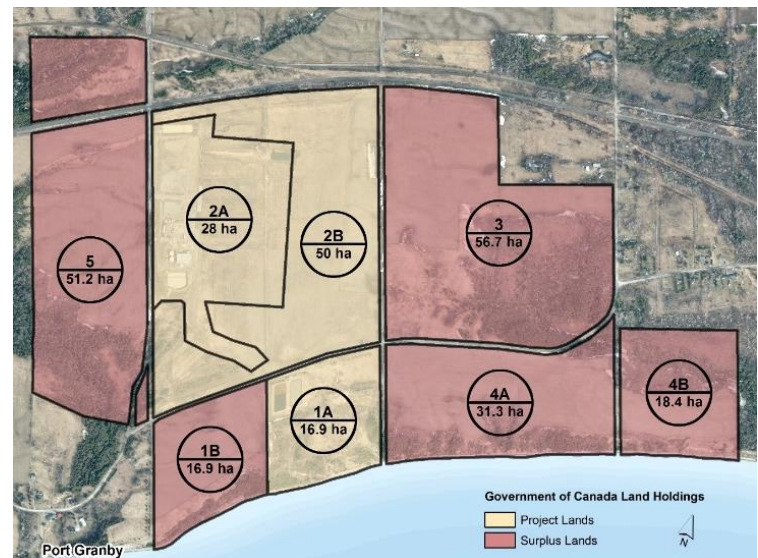


*This document is available in alternative formats upon request.  
Please contact Amy Burke at 905-623-3379.*

The Port Granby Nature Reserve is a collaborative vision and strategy by the Municipality of Clarington, Municipality of Port Hope, Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) and the community. It is a proposal to the Government of Canada to transfer ownership of federally owned lands surplus to the Port Granby Project to local agencies for ecological restoration and preservation.

## The Port Granby Project

The Port Granby Project is a federal government undertaking for the safe, long-term management of historic low-level radioactive waste situated in the Port Granby, Ontario area. This area is comprised of 270 hectares of federally owned land in the southeastern corner of Clarington and extends into the Municipality of Port Hope. The project will relocate approximately 450,000 m<sup>3</sup> of low-level radioactive waste and contaminated soils from an existing waste management facility (Parcel 1A), to a new, engineered aboveground mound to be built 1km north of the current site (parcel 2A). Only 95 hectares of the 270 hectares owned by the federal government are under Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission licence for the Port Granby Project. The remaining 175 hectares of federally owned lands are considered surplus. To date, the federal government has not provided a clear indication of what will happen with the surplus lands in the future, other than the potential disposal after the project is complete.

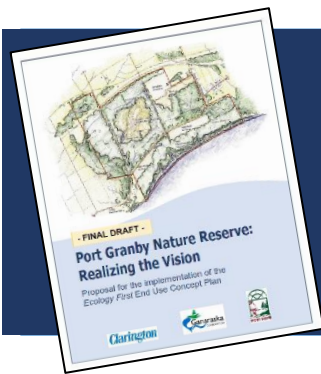


## An 'Ecology First' Vision

In 2010, an End Use Advisory Committee working on land use options for the Port Granby Project lands recommended an ecological restoration and conservation landscape concept be adopted for the entire 270 hectares. This "Ecology First Full Concept Vision" is to have the greatest potential to create a variety of habitats, environmental linkages and other compatible uses on the Port Granby lands. In 2012, a Working Group was formed to develop the Full Concept vision. The resulting

Stewardship Plan, ownership and governance structure, budget and communications plan provides a proposed framework for the implementation of the Ecology First Full Concept Vision.





## Port Granby Nature Reserve Objectives:

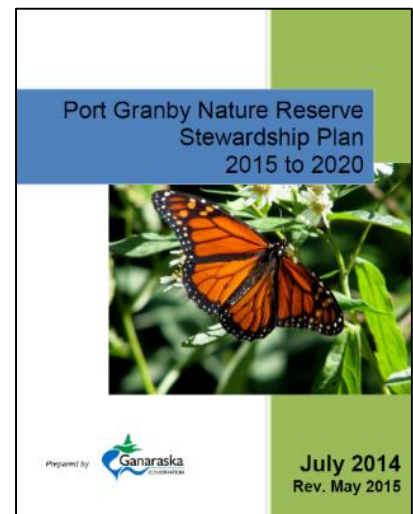
To protect and restore the natural heritage of the subject lands, to raise awareness of their important ecological and environmental functions, and to provide low environmental impact educational, research and passive recreational opportunities to present and future generations.

## Proposed Ownership & Governance

The Municipalities of Clarington and Port Hope would lease/own the surplus lands in their respective boundaries. The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority would be the lead agency for the planting and management of the nature reserve lands, implemented through a partnership agreement and governance structure. The governance structure would include an Advisory Committee to be responsible for overseeing the management of the Port Granby Nature Reserve. This will allow government agencies, first nations, non-governmental groups and the public to participate.

## Stewardship Plan

A Stewardship Plan for the nature reserve has been created. This involved collecting information on the existing conditions of the Full Concept lands, as well as issues to be addressed, and was used to help establish a baseline which will allow changes and ecosystem health to be tracked over time. The Stewardship Plan describes how parcels will be managed over a five year timeframe, provides detailed site and planting plans, and budget forecasting.



## Key Opportunities & Benefits

- ❖ Creating a lasting legacy from the Port Granby Project
- ❖ Restoring and enhancing native ecosystems, wildlife and linkages
- ❖ Enhancing Waterfront Trail and passive recreation opportunities
- ❖ Taking action on climate change mitigation
- ❖ Controlling and eradicating invasive species
- ❖ Providing an opportunity for environmental education and research

## Next Steps

With support received from the Municipal Councils and GRCA Board, the Port Granby Nature Reserve Proposal will be submitted to Natural Resources Canada and further discussions will be initiated.

## For more information:

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