

## News Release

**Leadership and Collaboration Equals Action on Phosphorus for Lake Erie**

Guelph, Ontario, February 22, 2018 – Grow Ontario Together (GOT), a collaboration of Ontario agriculture organizations, welcomes the release of the Canada-Ontario Action Plan for Lake Erie.

GOT co-chair Amy Cronin commented, “We welcome the release of the Action Plan. Ontario farmers approached this collaborative effort from our shared commitment to healthy soil, clean air and water, a healthy economy and strong, healthy communities. We appreciate the support of Ontario and Canada in helping us achieve these goals.”

Keith Currie, GOT co-chair added, “The Action Plan reflects the intention of Ontario farmers to continue working in partnership with governments to protect our natural heritage. Together we can make the right investments and use the best research and monitoring to continually improve farm practices.”

Farmers’ livelihoods depend on healthy soil and clean water; protecting the environment we live and work in is one of our core values. Our objective is to approach the issue of phosphorus collaboratively to make a difference and reduce excess phosphorus loading in the Lake.

Protecting Lake Erie from excess phosphorus loading requires a coordinated response from government, stakeholder organizations and individuals. GOT has provided leadership in this collaborative effort.

GOT partnered with the governments of Ontario, Canada and other concerned stakeholders to ensure that there is an actionable plan to reducing phosphorus loading in Lake Erie.

Many factors contribute to phosphorus loading in Lake Erie and the Canada-Ontario Action Plan for Lake Erie reflects this shared responsibility.

Farmers are already working to help reduce phosphorus loading by ensuring that nutrients are properly added to soils at the right time, from the right source, in the right place and in the right amount.

Grow Ontario Together includes: The Grain Farmers of Ontario, Beef Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Sheep Farmers, Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, Ontario Pork, Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers, Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Visit us at [www.growontariotogether.ca](http://www.growontariotogether.ca)

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