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May 7, 2026

Re: Support for the Canadian Ecology Centre

The Canadian Ecology Centre (CEC), located within Samuel de Champlain Provincial Park in Mattawa, is a respected, non-profit outdoor environmental education centre that has served students, educators, Indigenous organizations, and industry partners for decades. Now the Centre needs our help.

I first became aware of the CEC's vision nearly thirty years ago while serving as an M.P.P., and I was proud to support the development of this important educational facility. Since then, the Centre has provided unique learning opportunities for schools, post-secondary institutions, Indigenous groups, businesses, and organizations such as the Ontario Provincial Police, which conducted Indigenous awareness training at the site for many years.

For the past 18 years, the CEC has also delivered innovative mining education tours that introduce teachers and qualified students to modern mining operations, trades, safety practices, environmental stewardship, and new technologies. The program's guiding principle, "*seeing is believing*," has earned recognition from both the Ontario Mining Association and the Canadian Institute of Mining.

The devastating storm of June 21, 2025 caused unprecedented damage to the park and forced the CEC to suspend operations for nearly a year. Now, the Canadian Ecology Centre needs support to recover, reopen, and continue its valuable work for future generations.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Harris
Ontario Premier
(1995-2002)