

From: <Email address removed>
Sent: April 1, 2021 8:21:41 PM
To: [Ministre / Minister \(EC\)](#)
Subject: Holland Marsh Expressway
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Dear Mr. Wilkinson

One of Canada's greatest treasures is the precious mosaic of farmlands and natural areas that form the Holland Marsh. The marsh is Canada's vegetable basket and it is under threat by an expressway approved by Premier Doug Ford's government.

The Ontario government recently announced plans for a new expressway. Called accurately by opponents, the Holland Marsh Expressway, it would be a 16.2 kilometre link between the 400 and 404 expressways. It would pave over 39 hectares of critical wildlife habitat. Some 9.5 hectares of the provincially significant Holland Marsh Wetland Complex, which drains into Lake Simcoe, would be removed.

The expressway would have an intersection and cut across the largest remaining forested wetland in the Holland Marsh. It is a birding hot spot. This swamp woodland is a refuge for numerous raptors that require forested habitats. These include the Red Shouldered Hawk, the Sharp Shinned, and Broad winged Hawks. This woodland is also a home to a number of bird species that require large intact forests. These species include the threatened Wood Thrush, the Scarlet Tanager, the Black and White Warbler, the Veery and Ovenbird.

The expressway would cut through the traditional territory of the Georgian Island First Nation. It has never been consulted although the expressway route would disrupt sacred sites.

Please conduct an environmental assessment of this project.

Thank you for consideration of my request.

Concerned Citizen
Teresa Sinkowski, Waterford ON <Personal information removed>