



PRESS RELEASE

County of Dufferin
55 Zina Street
Orangeville, ON L9W 1E5

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University researchers want to hear about your flood experiences

Dufferin County, Ont.— University of Waterloo researchers are interested in talking to Dufferin residents about their flood experiences, and how they are preparing for the next flood.

The researchers are conducting a voluntary survey on whether flood experience changes how residents view flood risk and prepare for the next big event. Shawna Peddle, Director for Partners for Action, a flood research group based in the Faculty of Environment, University of Waterloo, notes that, based on their 2016 national survey, "Most Canadians are not aware of their flood risk and don't know what their insurance covers. There is no such thing as flood season any more, we are seeing an increase in flooding at any time of year. We want to know what Dufferin residents would tell their neighbours and the rest of the country about flooding, and what they are doing to get ready for the next one."

Partners for Action is conducting the voluntary on-line survey (available at www.floodsurvey.ca/dufferin) until June 30, in partnership with the Canadian Red Cross and Dufferin County. They are looking to hear from anyone who experienced a flood, even if you they not have any damage to their home. Results of the survey will help the researchers to better understand what people need to prepare for flood, and how this information should be provided to residents. The survey is expected to take approximately 20 minutes to complete and participants can enter to win a \$50 Tim Hortons gift card. Participants can also complete the survey over the phone by calling Dufferin County at 519-941-2816 ext. 2400.

"Property owners deserve to know what a flood could mean for their families and homes to be empowered to act," said Shawna Peddle. "Governments and stakeholders, such as realtors and insurers, must meet homeowner demand for more information. Understanding what Dufferin needs will help us to provide the right information, in the right way, to make our neighbourhoods stronger."

About the University of Waterloo

University of Waterloo is Canada's top innovation university. With more than 36,000 students we are home to the world's largest co-operative education system of its kind. Our unmatched entrepreneurial culture, combined with an intensive focus on research, powers one of the top innovation hubs in the world. Find out more at uwaterloo.ca.

About Partners for Action

Partners for Action is an applied research network advancing flood resiliency in Canada in the face of a changing climate and extreme weather. We collaborate with a diverse set of stakeholders from

academia, business, government and non-governmental organizations to protect Canadians from the risks of flooding in the face of climate change.

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