



## **Backgrounder – Credit Valley Conservation a Leadership in Water Innovation**

As part of Ontario's strategy to protect the Great Lakes and create green local jobs for our future, the Provincial Government has invested in Water Innovation to position Ontario as a Leader in Water Technologies.

The Ministry of Environment has recognized Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) and its 40 partners' leadership in water innovation through a \$1 million dollar Showcasing Water Innovations (SWI) grant to be spent over the next 1.5 years; with private and public sector contributions of over \$3 million.

CVC is recognized both nationally and internationally with awards for engaging the community in protecting the environment and development of leading edge guidance on design and construction of innovative water technologies.

Through this funding project, CVC will partner with local innovators such as Aquafor Beech, Imbrium and Uni-lock whose engineering and product services are sold nationally and internationally. It will also acknowledge companies such as IMAX Corporation and communities such as Mississauga, Halton Hills and Caledon who are striving toward sustainable operations and protection of our Great Lakes.

Research from this project will help inform infrastructure requirements within the Credit River Watershed and Ontario to protect our Great Lakes (source of drinking water for more than 80 per cent of Ontario residents), and contribute over \$49 billion dollars in gross domestic product.

This project marks the first of its kind anywhere in Canada, and its success will change the way municipalities balance growth, redevelopment, stormwater infrastructure, and the environment. This project goes "above and beyond" traditional stormwater management approaches to implement, evaluate and monitor the potential of nine innovative infrastructure projects to:

- reduce stormwater runoff and pollution;
- reduce peak water demand;
- increase biodiversity and canopy cover;
- increase carbon sequestration;
- reduce energy use and CO2 emissions; and,
- economic feasibility of these technologies.

The aim of this project is to increase Ontario municipalities' capacity to implement innovative water technologies into existing and future developments; as well as support and engage local green companies to position Ontario as a leader in Water. This will increase their adaptive capacity to future climate change impacts while growing local green jobs and protecting the ecological integrity of our Great Lakes.



Nine demonstration sites in Mississauga, Caledon, and Halton Hills will showcase the use of innovative water technologies on industrial/commercial lands, public lands, residential lands, and road right-of ways.

### **IMAX Corporation**

IMAX Corporation is one of these nine sites that will showcase products from local leaders such as Imbrium and Unilock designed to remove pollutants before they enter waterways. IMAX Corporation is one of the world's leading entertainment technology companies, specializing in immersive motion picture technologies.

Economically this design came out ahead of standard asphalt parking lots due to the extended life of permeable pavement, with the added environmental benefit. IMAX and 89 per cent of Top 500 companies recognize the importance of a water management strategy as an economic necessity and corporate responsibility.

### **Credit Valley Conservation**

CVC is a community-based environmental organization, dedicated to protecting, restoring and managing the natural resources of the Credit River Watershed. Established by the provincial government in 1954, CVC is one of 36 Conservation Authorities in Ontario. As the primary scientific authority for the watershed, CVC works in partnership with municipal governments, schools, businesses and community organizations to deliver locally-based programs.

### **IMAX Theatres**

The worldwide IMAX® theatre network is among the most important and successful theatrical distribution platforms for major event Hollywood films around the globe, with IMAX theatres delivering the world's best cinematic presentations using proprietary IMAX, IMAX® 3D, and IMAX DMR® technology.

Through the IMAX demonstration site water samples will be monitored for various contaminants to see the effectiveness of the innovative technologies in removing contaminant threats from our lake and drinking water supply.

### **Aquafor Beech Limited**

Aquafor Beech is a Canadian company, incorporated in 1990, that provides engineering and environmental services to public and private sector clients. The firm's principal focus is on watershed planning, environmental restoration, fluvial geomorphology, stormwater management (including Low Impact Development), aquatic and terrestrial ecology, environmental assessment and permitting, water resources engineering and municipal infrastructure design.

### **Imbrium Systems**

Imbrium systems in a Canadian owned company that designs and develops stormwater treatment products that protect water resources from harmful pollutants. By developing technologies to address the long-term impact of urban runoff, Imbrium ensures its clients are compliant with government water quality regulations.



Imbrium's flagship product, the Stormceptor® system is the North American leader in engineered stormwater oil and sediment treatment. Stormceptor removes hydrocarbons and sediment and prevents stored contaminants from reaching natural waterways.

### **Uni-Lock**

Uni-Lock a Canadian family-owned and operated business, is North America's most respected manufacturers of concrete paving stones and retaining walls. The company originally introduced the paving stone to North America back in 1972. For more than 30 years, Unilock manufactured, distributed and exported interlocking concrete products solely on demands of the landscape industry. Recently, they have focused on new industry markets, innovation and bringing more new products to the marketplace.

### **Maxxam**

Founded over 40 years ago, Maxxam is the market leader in analytical services and solutions to the energy, environmental, food and DNA industries. Maxxam provides independent analytical data to protect the value of assets, improve the safety and quality of products, and improve the health and safety of people and the environment. Their analytical capabilities in environmental testing services, control and risk mitigation are packaged to meet regulatory approvals and incorporate stringent quality components, regardless of project scope. They are committed to delivering success through science.