



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Conservation Halton completes \$1M green infrastructure and restoration project at Drumquin Park, Milton**

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On Wednesday, July 24, Conservation Halton celebrated the restoration of Sixteen Mile Creek at Drumquin Park in Milton with project partners, Town of Milton and Enbridge.

The project objectives were to restore the natural functions of the creek, improve the quality of fish habitat, remove stream barriers, and increase biodiversity in the floodplain, all of which enhances the health of the Sixteen Mile Creek watershed.

Historically, Sixteen Mile Creek meandered gently through Drumquin Park, with narrow creek banks, but the creek has changed dramatically during the last 60 years. During that time, a weir (i.e. a small dam) was constructed in the creek. The weir created a barrier to fish trying to swim upstream and created a pond upstream of the weir. In addition to the weir being built, part of the creek upstream of this weir was dug out to be wider and straighter. These changes resulted in slower water flow and reduced creek function, compared to unaltered parts of Sixteen Mile Creek downstream from Drumquin Park.

In 2018 and 2019, the weir was removed, 200 metres of the creek were restored and more than 7,000 trees and shrubs, as well as wildflowers and grasses, were planted in the area around the creek.

This restoration made use of natural materials from the surrounding area, which reduced the "carbon footprint" of the project and created a number of small wetlands to provide habitat and capture runoff. As a result, this project will improve water quality, support fish and other wildlife and reduce erosion in Sixteen Mile Creek.

"For decades, we have wanted to remove the weir from Sixteen Mile Creek, but these projects cost money, so we put it on a list of priority projects," said Nigel Finney, Project Manager, Conservation Halton. "Then, in 2016, Enbridge came to us looking for a project that would be of benefit to Silver Shiner, which is a species at risk, here in Milton, and this project was selected."

"Restoration projects like Drumquin Park benefit our environment and create value for our communities by supporting climate change resilience and sustainability," said Hassaan Basit, Chief Administrative Officer, Conservation Halton. "This project, like so many others, demonstrates the capacity of Conservation Halton to deliver end-to-end services, from long term environmental monitoring that identifies trends, to identifying the most beneficial areas for improvement, then assembling the financial resources, developing the engineered design and finally undertaking the actual works."

"I want to commend Conservation Halton on the work that they have done here, with Enbridge as one of their partners," said Milton Mayor, Gordon Krantz. "This project is a testament to how well these kinds of partnerships work. A year from now, and even ten years from now, we'll look back and say what a great move we made back in 2016, when planning for this project started."

Conservation Halton is working designs for Phase II of the project involving the removal of a secondary small weir on a small creek at Drumquin Park. The authority is looking for partners to make this phase of the project a reality.

**More information:**

[www.conservationhalton.ca/drumquin-park-restoration](http://www.conservationhalton.ca/drumquin-park-restoration)

**Media:**

Mid-Construction Drone Video: <https://vimeo.com/342022340>

Project Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/eoDhyK9UKCTEnybX9>

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