

"Clean water and a healthy ecosystem within the Pine River Watershed"

October 26th, 2023

To: Township of Huron Kinloss 21 Queen Street, P.O. Box 130, Ripley, ON NOG 2R0

From: Pine River Watershed Initiative Network 86 Huron Street, PO Box 367, Ripley, ON NOG 2R0

Dear Huron Kinloss Council;

The Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN), a not-for-profit organization respectfully requests that council provide their annual financial support for our organization. The Township's 2023 contribution was very generous and assisted us with our office expenses and overhead. However, this year we were unable to secure a provincial grant from ECO-Action, where in the past we have been quite successful. We traditionally counted on that provincial funding to support some of our overhead expenses. This year, we did receive a COA/MOE (Canada Ontario Agreement-with Ministry) grant that is specifically allotted for a crossing, rip rap reconstruction, reforestation and the associated HR expenses.

In 2023, PRWIN continued to invest in projects within the township. We redeveloped berm structures in Huron Township and planted seedlings at four reforestation sites. We completed reforestation projects that saw over 6,000 seedlings planted. PRWIN directors promoted outings at the McLarty Education Study Area for the Ripley Youth Horticultural Club, Ripley 4-H Conservation Club, Ripley Huron Community School and Ripley Wolf Cub Camp. PRWIN provided a 4-H Conservation Club planting day with their members and other community groups: Kinetic Knights, Kincardine 2nd Scouts, Sawjan Samanvay Sanatan Centre, sponsor representatives and PRWIN families.

This spring, we set up personal seedling orders and handed out over 5,000 seedlings and we re-established the PRWIN Potted Tree Ash Replacement Program. PRWIN volunteered with MVCA for a spring planting session. Also, PRWIN attended the Lake Huron Coastal Centre's 25th Anniversary Conference, Healthy Lake Huron meetings, participated in the Lake Huron-Georgian Bay Community - Lake Huron Nearshore - Our Shore Your Shore Webinars, supported the Kincardine Naturalization Project and connected with the Ripley Huron Community School - Green Team to offer support and engagements with their school projects.

PRWIN hosted a Sponsorship Day to recognize our valuable sponsors in our community. Also, we contributed to our community by hosting a Free Tree Raffle, presented our annual Award of Merit for our community members, supported public skating and participated in the fall fair with an educational video. This fall, we planted trees with MVCA at one of our group projects.

We are currently contacting our loyal supporters, including the Township and promoting our legacy fund and sponsorship program to new businesses moving to the area.

In order to ensure the future success of PRWIN in 2024 and the sustainability of us in our community we are asking for funding from the Township of Huron Kinloss for the amount of \$8,000.

David Drat

David Grant, PRWIN Chairperson/Financial Sub-Committee

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