

February 6, 2025

Mayor Don Murray and members of the Council of Huron-Kinloss 21 Queen Street Ripley, Ontario NOG 2R0

Dear Mayor Murray and members of Council:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Board of directors of the Point Clark Beach Association, which will be celebrating its 80th year anniversary in 2026.

On behalf of the PCBA, we want to thank you for our ongoing partnership in projects and the support of events important to the Point Clark community. The garden projects both in and around the Lighthouse and museum, plus the Community Centre, continue to be good examples of working together. Other projects like the painting of garbage cans have also been well received in the community. And the cutouts remain a hit, becoming a fun photo opportunity for those visiting the point.

There are some projects that we have been advocating with staff for the past few years that have not been deemed a priority with the township, and we'd like to request Council provide some guidance as we believe them to be important.

Gazebo at the Point

The roof of the gazebo at Lighthouse Park has been identified as failing for several years – it is our belief it is on its last legs, so to speak. Given the location and heavy winds the gazebo is subjected to, this really does need attention by the Township before it affects the rest of the structure.

Tree Plantings

As an organization, we have worked with the Township on tree plantings at various parks in the community. We would be happy to continue with these projects, normally happening in the fall, but would like some guidance on suggested locations.



Planters and beautification

We believe the Township should invest in planters at the Point. We believe that the area around the lighthouse deserves the same treatment afforded Ripley and Lucknow, particularly given that the area remains the key tourism draw for the Township. As the Township has invested in the tools required for watering, adding Point Clark should not be an issue.

External water at the Museum

It would be beneficial if the Township were to create an external water source at the Lighthouse / museum. Installing an automatic watering system at the museum certainly would be of benefit, but having a connection would eliminate the need to hook hoses over a significant distance from the washrooms.

Parking at the Lighthouse

We strongly recommend that the Township come up with a plan for parking at the Point, one that is fair to the homeowners in the community but ensures those visiting help pay for the needs of that area, including bylaw enforcement. Paid parking can be accomplished through simple apps (Honk Mobile comes to mind) that require a small investment. And ensuring Lighthouse Road is safe both for pedestrians and emergency vehicles should be top of mind for Council.

Working together

Point Clark remains the key tourism focus of Huron-Kinloss. And as an organization, we do a good job fostering a community ready to shape its future, as noted in the Township's mission statement.

Through the events and projects of the PCBA, we can support many things of importance to the Township – and with our success, we annually provide financial support to PRWIN, the Bruce Botanical Gardens, the Huron Coastal Centre, and as of last year, the Kincardine Hospital.

The recommendations we have made should not cost a lot and could easily be found either within the Township's budget or through a minor impact on the rate stabilization reserve.



As always, happy to work together for the benefit of Huron-Kinloss and the Point Clark community,

Sincerely,

ROBERT FOSTER

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cc – PCBA Board, Township of Huron-Kinloss (CAO, Clerk, Mike Fair)