

Public Works Department Roads Division

Samantha Lawson Chief Administrative Officer Grand River Conservation Authority 400 Clyde Road, PO Box 729 Cambridge ON, N1R 5W6

March 6, 2025

Dear Ms. Lawson,

## **RE: Support of the Perth County Stewardship Program**

We are writing on behalf of the Perth County Stewardship Program to express our gratitude for your unwavering support and collaboration in our shared mission to enhance and protect the natural environment of Perth County.

The success of our program in its initial two application intakes is a testament to the direct and indirect support provided by the Conservation Authority. Your commitment to offering technical expertise and partnership has been instrumental in empowering local landowners to invest in vital stewardship projects such as windbreaks, shelterbelts, and living snow fences. These initiatives are pivotal in enhancing the resilience of our natural assets and agricultural lands, and in contributing to the mitigation and adaptation efforts needed to combat the challenges posed by a changing climate.

Without your support, knowledge, and the collaborative spirit of your organization, our achievements would not have been possible. Together, we have achieved the following:

- Supported the planting of 18,766 trees and shrubs in Perth County;
- Establishing 27.6 kilometers of new windbreaks;
- Reforesting 26.8 acres of marginal lands or sub-quality forests;
- Adding 52,769 kilograms of annual carbon sequestration power to our landscape.

Attached is a one-page infographic highlighting the success of the program since its official launch in November 2023. As we continue to adaptively manage the Stewardship Program, we are excited about the prospect of expanding our grant streams. We are confident that, together, we will continue to 'walk hand in hand down the same trail', striving toward our common goals and ensuring a sustainable future for Perth County.

Once again, thank you for your invaluable support. We look forward to our continued partnership and to achieving even greater successes together. Please circulate copies of this letter as correspondence to your General Manager and Board of Directors. Thank you.

Warm regards,

Hannah Cann Resilience & Stewardship Coordinator Perth County Stewardship Program 4 Napier Street Mitchell ON, NOK 1N0 hcann@perthcounty.ca

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