Bruce Trail CONSERVANCY

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

To whom it may concern,

I am writing today in my role as Chief Executive Officer of the Bruce Trail Conservancy to express my support for Hundred Acre Wood Forest School, which is seeking a new home to continue immersive nature-based programming, fostering future generations of civic-minded, environmentally conscious Ontarians.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) began as a grassroots organization over sixty years ago, founded by people who were concerned about the threats facing vulnerable ecosystems along the Niagara Escarpment. A group of engaged citizens took the initiative to protect nature and help people connect with it by creating what would become Canada's oldest and longest marked footpath. The founders of the Bruce Trail felt that if they created a way for people to establish a relationship with nature, they would work to protect it. Without question, we have found this to be true.

Nature-based education will be imperative in encouraging appreciation of our natural heritage and the responsibility to it that future generations will inherit. The young naturalists who will graduate from Hundred Acre Wood Forest School may be the ones to take up the mantle of stewarding sensitive ecosystems, preserving biodiversity, and protecting access to nature in the face of mounting challenges related to climate change and habitat fragmentation. It is our pleasure to know that Canada's iconic Bruce Trail serves as a living classroom for these bright nature lovers.

We are grateful that institutions like the Hundred Acre Wood Forest School exist to encourage young Ontarians to establish this important connection and understanding of the natural world, and one day share the responsibility of caring for it, continuing our collective legacy of conservation along this irreplaceable landscape.

Respectfully,



Michael McDonald
Chief Executive Officer
Bruce Trail Conservancy