Hawkestone

Connections & Learning



Every 2nd Friday

Endorsed by Our Community

Letters of support

Hawkestone Community Hall

3 Allen Street, Hawkestone, ON
hawkestonehall@gmail.com

October 20, 2026

L.E.A.F. Grant Review Committee
The Commonwell Mutual Insurance Group

Re: Board Endorsement – Hawkestone Community Connections and Learning Program

Dear L.E.A.F. Grant Review Committee,

The Board of Directors of Hawkestone Community Hall is pleased to endorse the Hall's application to the Learning and Engagement Accelerator Fund (L.E.A.F.) for the proposed Hawkestone Community Connections and Learning Program.

The Board is a 12 member volunteer body responsible for the Hall's operations and fiscal management, operating under the auspices of the Township of Oro-Medonte.

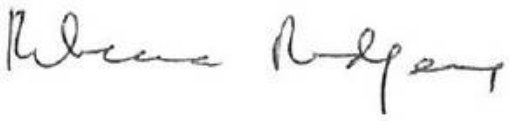
The program would bring monthly second Friday community gatherings to the Hall, built around a shared meal and a short practical learning session. It responds to a need our community members have identified for more evening engagement close to home. It builds directly on the restoration of the Hall's kitchen and lower level following the 2025 ice storms, and on the Hall's established volunteer network and its track record of delivering community events, from the Canada Day barbecue to the annual Santa celebration.

The Board supports the funding request of $15,306.76 for durable equipment and 24 months of internet service that will strengthen the Hall's capacity to deliver indoor and outdoor gatherings for years to come.

As a Board we strongly recognize the value of the Hall's established volunteer network and its experience in organising community events. The program draws on this strong voluntarism; what is missing is the equipment, and providing it is the heart and purpose of this grant. Without labeling anyone, the Board expects the program to address social isolation and food insecurity in the community.

We believe this initiative offers a meaningful opportunity to strengthen community connections and make practical learning more accessible to Hawkestone residents.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Rodgers
President
For and on behalf of the Board of Directors
Hawkestone Community Hall

Township of Oro-Medonte
Proud Heritage, Exciting Future

October 16, 2026

L.E.A.F. Grant Review Committee
The Commonwell Mutual Insurance Group

Re: Letter of Support: Hawkestone Community Connections and Learning Program

Dear L.E.A.F. Grant Review Committee,

On behalf of the Township of Oro-Medonte, I am pleased to offer this letter in support of Hawkestone Community Hall's application to the Learning and Engagement Accelerator Fund (L.E.A.F.) for the proposed Hawkestone Community Connections and Learning Program.

Hawkestone Community Hall is an important community gathering place, providing opportunities for residents to participate in recreational, social and community activities. The Hall's volunteer network plays a valuable role in bringing residents together through events such as Canada Day celebrations, seasonal gatherings and other community initiatives.

Following the severe ice storm of 2025, the Hall's kitchen and lower level required significant restoration. The efforts of volunteers, together with Township support, helped restore these spaces and preserve the Hall's ability to serve the community.

The proposed project represents an opportunity to build on that investment by equipping the Hall to offer more regular community gatherings and accessible learning opportunities. The Hawkestone Community Connections and Learning Program proposes second Friday community gatherings each month, combining shared meals, short practical learning sessions and opportunities for residents to connect. During the colder months, these gatherings would take the form of Chili Nights, with outdoor potlucks and barbecues, local music and invitations to seasonal food vendors during the summer.

The proposed durable equipment, kitchen and serving equipment, shade canopies and an outdoor sound system, would strengthen the Hall's capacity to host these activities, support local talent and provide opportunities for residents of different generations to share knowledge and participate in community life. The emphasis on short, practical learning sessions offers an accessible way for residents to explore new interests without committing to a formal course.

The Township recognizes the value of community spaces that encourage participation, learning and connection. We commend the volunteers who continue to contribute their time and effort to the Hall and the wider Hawkestone community.

The Township of Oro-Medonte owns the Hall facility and confirms its approval of the proposed improvements and programming at the Hall, subject to applicable Township requirements. We wish Hawkestone Community Hall success with its L.E.A.F. application.

Yours sincerely,



Randy Greenlaw
Mayor
Township of Oro-Medonte