



Wilmot Township Council

Township of Wilmot, Administrative Complex
60 Snyder's Road West
Baden, ON N3A 1A1

30th March 2023

For your consideration,

We are sending this letter of correspondence to the Wilmot Township Council in hopes of making further progress on our mutual priorities of Equity, Inclusion, Diversity and Belonging within our community.

Specifically, we are requesting that the Wilmot Township Council either waive or discount the Special Event Fee presently required for **The Schmidty** (our annual cross-country running event scheduled for Friday, September 22, 2023 at the Wilmot Recreation Complex).

The Schmidty is primarily focused on promoting inclusivity and positive engagement through the elimination of barriers that hinder youth participation in running. In fact, our efforts are to specifically involve athletes with varying physical and learning abilities (such as those in our schools' Dev. Ed and Life Skills classes). We believe that encouraging this activity in a person's teenage years will lead to a long-lasting and healthy relationship with physical activity and mental well-being, as well as the township's facilities, outdoor spaces, and trail systems.

However, one obstacle that student-athletes and their families face from participating in **The Schmidty** is a financial one. Despite being a not-for-profit endeavour, our goal is to eliminate admission fees as part of equitable principles. Your help with addressing the current fee structure in place to host this event would go a long way toward overcoming this barrier.

Furthermore, we would gladly reciprocate this support in kind. As we have in 2022, we would not only direct our 500+ attendees to visit the WRC concession stand, but we could advertise Wilmot Township within our marketing channels (such as our t-shirts, signage, social media channels, etc.).

Thank you for your time and consideration. For additional information, you can contact Michael Kolodziej via email: michael_kolodziej@wrdsb.ca or by mobile phone: 519.277.3850. You can also visit the event's website: theschmidty.weebly.com.

We would also be quite willing to attend an upcoming Council meeting if this would further facilitate a collegial relationship that benefits all youth in our region.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Michael Kolodziej, Kirk Bergey, Angela Swartz and Jason Erb

