

From: NVEcoboosters <nvecoboosters@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 12:12 PM

To: Natasha Salonen <natasha.salonen@wilmot.ca>; Steven Martin <steven.martin@wilmot.ca>; Lillianne Dunstall <lillianne.dunstall@wilmot.ca>; Harvir Sidhu <harvir.sidhu@wilmot.ca>; Kris Wilkinson <kris.wilkinson@wilmot.ca>; Stewart Cressman <stewart.cressman@wilmot.ca>

Cc: Clerks <clerks@wilmot.ca>

Subject: letter re Schneider property severance

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Dear Mayor Salonen and Wilmot Councillors,

Re: The severance application for the Schneider property

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters wholeheartedly supports the donation of the Schneider family property for conservation purposes and its ongoing management by rare Charitable Research Reserve. The land being considered for the donation has been shared by the owners for the enjoyment of community members for decades. The extensive trail network has been used for hiking, cross country skiing and bird watching. The land is important ecologically as it is the home of many plant and animal species. In addition, as part of the Laurel Creek Headwaters, this property has been designated as an Environmentally Sensitive Landscape.

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters' mission statement indicates our commitment to achieving and supporting a long-term healthy environment in our community. Advocating for the protection of natural spaces is key to reaching that goal. A healthy environment is necessary for the well-being of all life on our planet. For these reasons we are absolutely in favour of this donation of land.

We understand that the severance application, which requires approval by Council before the donation can go forward, has been delayed because the township is requesting a parking solution, specifically a parking lot. This is an option that is not agreeable to the Schneider family. We urge the township to explore other options so that this important donation can become a reality sooner rather than later.

The loss of this wonderful piece of property to the protection in perpetuity by the rare Charitable Research Reserve would not only be a major disappointment for the Schneider family but also for the many people in Waterloo Region and beyond who appreciate its critical importance to the health of our environment.

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters urge Wilmot Township to prioritize getting this matter settled as soon as possible so that the necessary severance can be approved and the donation of the Schneider lands can be completed as planned.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Wilson

Communications Team

Nith Valley EcoBoosters

Please note that a signed copy of the letter is attached.

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Nith Valley EcoBoosters

- committed to achieving and supporting
a long-term healthy environment
in Wilmot and Wellesley Townships
through education, action and collaboration.

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