



PROMOTING pathways

FOR WALKING AND CYCLING IN NORFOLK

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of Norfolk Pathways for People, this letter is in support of the Nature Conservancy of Canada's application for support from Mountain Equipment Co-op to create a trail that connects the newly acquired DeMaere 2 and Soenen 2 properties to existing trails on the Backus Woods property.

Backus Woods is an outstanding example of mature Carolinian forest with old growth characteristics that offers hiking and nature viewing opportunities year round. The woods and adjoining properties support a diversity of species not found in typical woodlots and forests across southern Ontario. If supported by Mountain Equipment Co-op, the creation of a trail linked to Backus Woods would encourage and allow visitors to enjoy additional unique and diverse habitats and longer trails while ensuring sensitive habitats are protected.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide support to this worthwhile project. Norfolk Pathways for People has three main objectives:

- Advocating for new and improved trails and pathways in Norfolk County.
- Building a healthier, accessible and connected community.
- Promoting the safe use of local trails and pathways.

I hope that you will consider this grant application valuable and one that supports the goals of the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Mountain Equipment Co-op, and community members dedicated to enjoying healthy and active lifestyles, while helping to build a stronger environmental community in Southwestern Ontario.

Sincerely,

Joyce Flexman

Chair, Norfolk Pathways for People

www.norfolkpathways.ca