



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Treaty Forest

A partnership between the City of Hamilton, Rotary Club of Waterdown and the Mississaugas of the Credit Nation. This letter has been approved by the Chief and Council of the Mississaugas of the Credit.¹

The upcoming Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II is an opportunity to continue honouring Waterdown's relationship with its Treaty partner the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation by centering the Treaty relationship that exists in this territory. Building off previous collaborations (The Souharissen Natural Area & Canoe Garden), **the City of Hamilton, Rotary Club of Waterdown and the Mississaugas of the Credit Nation have partnered to create a Treaty Forest of 70 trees in an already established community park (Joe Sams Community Park).**

Thanks to the work of Councillor Judi Partridge, the *Parks and Cemeteries Department* of the City of Hamilton are providing the following in-kind support to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Treaty Forest at Joe Sams Park:

- 1) Provision of up to 70 native trees;
- 2) On site planting event support;
- 3) Support in development and review of planting plans;
- 4) Review of proposed signage and signage location plans;
- 5) Support in selecting an area designated for ceremonies within the planting area.

The forest itself would be designed by local students at Waterdown District High School working with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Future collaborations with members of the community, as well as our Treaty partner, will be encouraged through this project. As well, the forest would be a place for Indigenous peoples to conduct ceremony and see themselves in the landscape of the community. The area would also serve as an educational space for local students to learn about Treaty and their responsibilities as Treaty partners. As Councillor Partridge said in her letter of support: *"Students from Waterdown District High School as well as volunteers from local organizations across Flamborough will be involved in bringing this project to life, truly Building Community Together with Indigenous brothers and sisters."*

The planting is being targeted for May 2022 and would involve young people, the Mississaugas of the Credit, as well as members of the larger community. As well, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Treaty Forest will be highlighted during the annual Ribfest hosted by the Rotary Club of Waterdown on July 1st, 2022.

¹ The MCFN granted permission for the Chief to sign a letter supporting this project on February 15, 2022.

Contacts for this project include Councillor Erma Farrell (Mississaugas of the Credit), Councillor Judi Partridge (Ward 15, City of Hamilton), Kara Bunn, Manager of Parks and Cemeteries (City of Hamilton), Garry Flood (Waterdown Rotary Club) and Nathan Tidridge (Chair of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Treaty Forest Committee).



Location of the proposed Queen's Platinum Jubilee Treaty Forest at Joe Sams Park, north of Waterdown.