



Media Release

For Immediate Release – November 13, 2023

LOWER THAMES VALLEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION REQUESTS SUPPORT FOR \$1.5 MILLION TOWARDS NEW INDIGENOUS LEARNING CENTRE

Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc, ON – The Lower Thames Valley Conservation FOUNDATION (LTVCF), is embarking on its most significant fundraising campaign yet! A \$1.5 million Campaign has commenced in support of the new “Indigenous Learning Centre and the Revitalization of the Ska-Nah-Doht Museum” - a year long capital project located just minutes west of London. LTVCF is confident it will meet its goal but will need community leaders to step forward to lend their financial support. This new Learning Centre will be nestled in the 155 acres of beautiful Carolinian forest at the Ska-Nah-Doht Museum in Longwoods Road Conservation Area. Did you know Ska-Nah-Doht is now 50 years old?!

A Responsible Track Record of Helping Conservation in our Community!

The LTVCF is very proud of its past community projects and enduring partnerships which have championed our mission over the years. Some of our significant endeavors are highlighted here:

- Through our [Memorial Forest Program](#), over 10,000 memorial trees have been planted at six areas across the lower Thames watershed with annual tree donations dedicated to loved ones.
- Our annual [Student Bursary](#) supports local students in their conservation fields of study.
- We are responsible for the [Sharon Creek Trust Fund](#) – the monies raised by a local Friends of Sharon Creek volunteer group.
- A [Carolinian Arboretum and Trail](#) grows at Longwoods Road Conservation Area, through a \$26,000 donation to LTVCF from Dr. Lewis Carey.
- A [\\$75,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation – Save the Cabins Grant](#) preserved three cabins with significant heritage value at Longwoods Road Conservation Area.
- A [\\$72,000 Seed Grant from The Ontario Trillium Foundation for a Feasibility Study](#) at Longwoods Road Conservation Area.
- A [Capital Grant of \\$94,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for an accessible boardwalk](#) at Longwoods Road Conservation Area.
- And there are many more!

Can We Count on Your Support for This Big Capital Campaign?

Just over \$100,000 has been raised so far! We are looking for leaders in the community to help us fundraise. If you, your family or company would like to help us or to donate towards our \$1.5 million project – the

Indigenous Learning Centre and Revitalization of Ska-Nah-Doht Museum, please view the project details on our website here: <https://lowerthamesfoundation.ca/capital-campaign/our-capital-campaign/>. We are able to accept online donations through our website or alternatively, through CanadaHelps.org here <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/lower-thames-valley-conservation-foundation/>. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

"We are proud of our past and excited for our future! Now we need our community to step up again to create the new Indigenous Learning Centre and revitalize the Ska-Nah-Doht Museum. Contact us today!"

Dan McKillop – President of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

Background about our Foundation

The LTVCF has been in existence as a federally registered charity since 1995, based the Mount Brydges area. We are an independent, not-for-profit, federally registered charity – Number 898198171 RR0001. Tax receipts are issued for all donations. The LTVCF is currently managed by a board of six volunteer directors and several members. Over the past 28 years, this small Foundation has worked very hard raising money to support projects which carry out its *Mission 'to cultivate and enhance all aspects of conservation, providing present and future generations with a safe and healthy environment which includes our natural and cultural heritage resources'*.

Foundation projects:

- promote public education, awareness and participation in conservation;
- help to ensure the continued enjoyment of and interpretation of public conservation lands and cultural heritage sites;
- assist with the acquisition and preservation of environmentally sensitive, geologically unique and endangered natural and cultural heritage resources;
- assist with projects and/or programs supported by the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority;
- and provide support to encourage conservation education, research, and actions which may be for the benefit of the citizens living in the region of the Lower Thames River Valley as defined by the jurisdiction of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority.

Some Ways You Can Connect With and Help Our Foundation Reach Its Goals!

Apply to be a member and join our Campaign by emailing yournature@lowerthamesfoundation.ca
Learn more about us on our website at www.lowerthamesfoundation.ca and follow us and share with friends our www.facebook.com/lvfcf and www.instagram.com/lvfcf/

For more information please contact:

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Lower Thames Valley Conservation Foundation

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Registered Charitable Number 898198171 RR0001