



Camp Kawartha

Outdoor Education Centre • Environment Centre • Summer Camp • Facility Rentals

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December 3, 2021

Mayor Scott McFadden,
Township of Cavan Monaghan

Dear Mayor Scott,

Camp Kawartha is delighted to support the Kawartha Land Trust (KLT) and the Baxter Creek Watershed Alliance's vision to protect the ecologically significant areas of the Old Millbrook Jail Lands.

A recent report on global Biodiversity from the United Nations warns that the Earth is losing an "unprecedented number of species" and the rate of species extinction is only accelerating. According to the UN, the Earth has lost over 50% of its biodiversity over the past 50 years. In other words, if you weighed all of life in 1970 and weighed it once again in 2021- the total weight would be less than half.

Recent research has revealed the health benefits of time spent in nature, from helping to boost our immune systems to improving our mental health. Yet, urban sprawl is on the rise and opportunities to access green spaces is decreasing. That is why protecting and enhancing public green spaces becomes more important than ever. This joint initiative to preserve the Millbrook Jail Lands not only offers a wonderful opportunity to conserve and enhance an ecologically significant natural area, but it will also provide recreational and educational opportunities for the public.

Camp Kawartha, a not-for-profit charity, is excited to work with KLT and the Baxter Creek Watershed Alliance to develop educational programs that foster an understanding of and appreciation for the unique natural systems of this region. With over 90 programs on offer to students of all ages linked to the Ontario Curriculum and qualified teachers on staff, Camp Kawartha is well positioned to assist/guide program development.

We sincerely hope you'll consider supporting this unique project for the benefit of Millbrook residents and those many generations yet to come.

Best wishes,

Jacob Rodenburg (B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.)

Executive Director

Camp Kawartha and the Kawartha Outdoor Education Centre

Instructor Environmental Education Trent University