

**Appendix VIII
Funding Request for Bruce Trail Conservancy
Project Proposal, November 2025, Town of Caledon, Ward 4**

Greenlands Securement Program Background

Greenlands Securement Program

The Greenlands Securement Program (“Program”) is a Council-approved land acquisition funding program which allows The Regional Municipality of Peel to engage in long-term sustainability planning by improving the community’s health and well-being through preservation, protection and enhancement of the natural environment in Peel Region.

Council Resolutions Approving Contributions Towards Land Securement

Pursuant to Regional Council Resolution 2005-1394, a Greenlands Securement Reserve and Land Securement Capital Project was established to help support the greenland securement strategies of the Conservation Authorities. An initial \$500,000 was transferred from Peel Region’s Conservation Reserve into a newly created Greenlands Securement Reserve. Annual contributions of \$500,000 continued until 2011, which is when Peel Council raised the annual contribution to \$750,000 through the annual budgeting process, as approved in Peel Region Council Resolution 2010-810. Since 2005, the total budget contributions to the Greenlands Securement Reserve equals \$14.25 million. This reserve accumulated interest over the lifetime of the Program. Since the Program’s inception to September 2025, thirty-four (34) properties have been secured resulting in the protection of 739.32 hectares (1829.16 acres) of conservation lands. A total of ~\$13 million has been funded by Peel Region for these projects with Program partners leveraging an estimated additional contribution of approximately \$11.3 million (amount includes \$3,434,250 in donation value).

Formal Agreements Outline Roles and Responsibilities

Peel Region has formal Greenlands Securement Agreements with Conservation Partners that include; Credit Valley Conservation, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust, Bruce Trail Conservancy, City of Brampton, City of Mississauga, and Town of Caledon (collectively, “Partner(s)”). Program Partners are eligible to receive funding in accordance with their agreements in place and the Program Implementation Guidelines (“Guidelines”).

Implementation Guidelines Facilitate Project Review and Approvals

The Program follows the Guidelines approved by Peel Region Council Resolution 2018-604, June 28, 2018, and 2024-385, May 23, 2024. The Guidelines outline roles and responsibilities of all Partners and requirements for the processing of funding applications including setting out funding eligibility criteria, eligible costs, project evaluation and approval requirements and processes. The Guidelines are in place to ensure that due diligence is followed by staff when implementing the Program. Funding for an acquisition project is determined in accordance with the Greenlands Securement Program Appraisal Procedures, Standards and Practices. Appraisal review is in place to ensure that project acquisitions are appraised and funded at fair market value in accordance with the Guidelines.

As a result of legislative changes implemented through Bill 23, *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022, Peel is now a Regional Municipality without planning authority, and the Regional Official

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Plan has become a Plan of the local municipalities. This will result in a need to consult with local municipalities to review the eligibility criteria of the Program to reflect appropriate land use

designations in the updated local municipal Official Plans and a subsequent report will be brought before Regional Council recommending changes to the Guidelines.

Regional Cost Share Revised in 2024

In accordance with the Guidelines, Peel Region contributes up to seventy percent (70 percent) toward the funding of securement projects, with the intention that funds will leverage or match other provincial, federal, or private funding sources. This funding formula was revised from fifty percent (50 percent) through Regional Council Resolution 2024-385, May 23, 2024 after a successful six year pilot project at seventy percent (70 percent).

Regional Council and CAO Delegated Approval Bodies

In accordance with the Guidelines funding approval is granted by Peel Region Council for all requests greater than \$250,000. Peel Region Council Resolution 2018-604 and Resolution 2016-497 delegated approval to the CAO for funding requests less than or equal to \$250,000.