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Public Works Department, Environmental Services Division
Forestry & Horticulture
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Hamilton

February 10, 2022

RE: Building capacity to support the 2BT initiative using mini-forests

To the 2BT funding review committee:

The City of Hamilton is excited to support the Green Communities Canada, CanPlant, and Canadian Geographic, collaboration and application to the capacity building stream to support the Federal Government's 2 Billion Tree initiative.

The City of Hamilton's Forestry Section provides tree planting and tree maintenance services throughout the municipality. Tree planting is a major focus that involves funding from several sources, including donations, grants and community partnerships.

A 2018 analysis of Hamilton's urban tree canopy indicated that the canopy coverage has remained relatively consistent at approximately 21% between 2006 and 2017. In an effort to increase the canopy to 30% Forestry is expanding planting programs from traditional large caliper tree plantings, within the municipal right of way, parks and cemeteries to include less traditional methods including the mini-forests initiatives.

Should the team be awarded funding through the program, we understand that the intent will be to work with City of Hamilton's Forestry Section to identify municipal properties for planting mini-forests, develop ecologically appropriate design and planting recommendations, and help to facilitate various aspects of site preparation, tree planting, maintenance, and monitoring.

In-kind and/or financial support that our organization can provide include land for planting, staff time, materials, and other resources; we anticipate that the in-kind contribution cash equivalent would be equal to: \$18,000, and financial support would be equal to: \$12,000.

Additionally, based on our understanding of the project goals, we see this initiative providing co-benefits to other stewardship activities that are undertaken by City of Hamilton such as climate change resilience, community education, and community engagement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robyn Pollard'.

Robyn Pollard
Manager Forestry and Horticulture