

- committed to achieving and supporting a long-term healthy environment in Wilmot and Wellesley Townships through education, action and collaboration.

<http://nvecoboosters.com>

December 1, 2020

Jeremy Fredrickson
Senior Policy Advisor
Municipal Programs and Analytics Branch
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
777 Bay Street, 16th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Re: NDMP Intake – Sanitary Backwater Valve Program, Town of New Hamburg, Ontario

Dear Mr. Fredrickson,

The Nith Valley EcoBoosters is writing this letter in support of the Township of Wilmot's application to the National Damage Mitigation Program (NDMP) intake to implement a sanitary backwater valve program for residences and businesses located in the floodplain in New Hamburg.

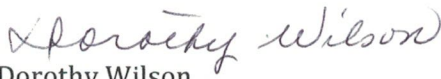
In November 2018, our group hosted a community educational event featuring Dr. Blair Feltmate from the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation at University of Waterloo. Dr. Feltmate's presentation, "Warmer, Wetter and Wilder – What Homeowners and Communities Can Expect under a Changing Climate - and How They Can Prepare" had a very good attendance, at least in part because of the fact that our community has a history of dealing with floods.

Since the event with Dr. Feltmate, the Nith Valley EcoBoosters has continued to investigate ways to effectively convert home flood risk reduction ideas and strategies into action in Wilmot Township. To do this, we have met with a number of Township staff, community business owners, and home flood protection experts. In November 2018 and January 2019, NVE members and a Wilmot Twp council member met with the owner of New Hamburg Home Hardware; the purpose was to determine what products were presently sold to reduce flood risk and to increase the availability of products for homeowners and contractors. In May 2020, members met with Wilmot Township staff and council representatives to encourage the Township to become more proactive in its flood prevention and mitigation actions.

Most Nith Valley EcoBoosters members live in the Nith River watershed and as such have been directly affected by or know individuals who personally experienced the destructive effects of flooding in New Hamburg. The EcoBoosters are committed to supporting and achieving best practices toward a long-term healthy environment and have encouraged Wilmot Township to do the same.

The NDMP program will support Wilmot Township by mitigating the effects of flooding for the residents and businesses of New Hamburg most likely to be affected. The Nith Valley EcoBoosters applauds Wilmot Township for taking these steps and wholeheartedly supports this application.

Yours truly,


Dorothy Wilson
Communications Officer
Nith Valley EcoBoosters