

Government Services Building
22 Winookeedaa Road
Curve Lake, Ontario K0L1R0



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www.curvelakefirstnation.ca

March 20, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

As Chief of Curve Lake First Nation, it is my honour to reflect upon and celebrate the 20-year partnership between Curve Lake First Nation and The Land Between Charity. An important milestone that represents not only shared work, but a shared journey in respect, trust, and collaboration.

For two decades, our First Nation Community and The Land Between Charity have walked alongside one another in a relationship grounded in our mutual care for the land, waters, and the wellbeing of our communities, human and non-human alike. What began as a cooperative effort has strengthened into a model of governance partnership, ethical stewardship, and reciprocal learning that stands as an example for others.

Curve Lake First Nation has been represented within the governance structure of The Land Between for many years, with our members participating actively in oversight, strategic planning, and partnership accountability. Through my ten years of council service within this structure, I have witnessed a governance culture defined by thoughtful decision-making, rigorous review, and responsible stewardship of funds, grants, and relationships. These practices have consistently reflected transparency, diligence, and a deep respect for community.

Central to this relationship is Leora Berman, Founder and COO of The Land Between Charity. Over many years, Leora has demonstrated humility, sincerity, and a genuine respect for our Nation and our people. Her integrity, professionalism, and unwavering dedication to reconciliation and ethical leadership have been evident in every thread of this partnership. She has stood as a true ally, in one whose work extends beyond the charity into meaningful support for community-led initiatives, programming within the community, including the development of our cultural centre.

The strength of this 20-year partnership lies not in transactions, but in relationship. It has grown through open dialogue, shared vision, reciprocal care, and the recognition that our responsibilities to the land and to one another are interconnected. This collaboration reflects the spirit of reconciliation, rooted in honesty, mutual respect, and a shared desire to uplift lands, wildlife, and community.

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As we mark this anniversary, Curve Lake First Nation expresses deep gratitude for this longstanding partnership. It stands as an example of what can be achieved when relationships are nurtured with patience, respect, and responsibility. We look forward to continuing this shared journey and to the many good things that will come from the strong foundation we have built together.

Miigwetch to The Land Between, to Leora, and to all those who have contributed to this meaningful and enduring relationship.

Sincerely,

Laurie Hockaday

Chief Laurie Hockaday
Curve Lake First Nation