

Waldhof Recreation Committee

c/o Box 70, Waldhof, ON P0V 2X0

Ph: 807 529-4397

waldhofhall@gmail.com

Mr. Greg Rickford
Constituency Office
Unit 2 – 439 Government St.
Dryden, ON P8N 2P4

Dear Mr. Rickford,

This letter is a follow up letter to the one you received in the fall of 2024 in regards to the Waldhof Hall in the Hamlet of Mutrie and Keewatin Patricia District School Board.

Members of the Waldhof Recreation Committee met with representatives from KPDSB, Christy Radbourne and Richard Finley on October 9th, 2024. We were told by Christy that the Ministry of Education had listed our Hall as surplus and then de-listed it in which our group was unaware that it even was ever listed. We were also told that the Waldhof Hall has been quite the conversation around the board table. Which is nice to know we have been noticed.

However we have still not made any progress for the Hall to be turned over to the Community of Waldhof to be sole owners of the property and to be able to do with it as we wish.

When we met with the KPDSB in the fall and they commented about wanting us to sign an agreement stating that we can use the building as is without being able to do any upgrades or renovations, or repairs to the building, which is totally unacceptable. They said that they would like to be notified if some repairs needed to be done and they would consider it. So in October a tree came down on the property and it damaged the roof. An email was sent to KPDSB in October with regards to the roof. To date we have not had any reply from KPDSB.

For our Committee to be able to successfully rent the facility and make it self-sustaining, it needs to have money put into it for upgrades which the owners of the building (KPDSB) has not done in more than 30 years. Any renovations or upgrades that has been done was done by donations and fundraising from the community of Waldhof/Mutrie and surrounding area with the Waldhof Ladies Guild being the overseers and paying the contractors.

In the past 10 years, from 2014–2024 the Waldhof Ladies Guild has paid more than \$22,000 for renovations and upgrades to the Hall (receipts can be provided) with no contributions from KPDSB.

We feel that we have proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that the community has the will and ambition to keep this landmark a prominent part of our Hamlet to be used and loved like it has been for the last 98 years. So the Waldhof Rec. Committee with your help is asking on behalf of the community for the KPDSB to turn ownership of the hall and property over in a fair way to the Waldhof Ladies Guild operating as the Waldhof Rec. Committee.

We would like a response by May 4th. If we don't hear a response by then we will have to proceed in another direction.

Sincerely,

Laurie Huffman

On behalf of the Waldhof Rec. Committee

Cc: Christy Radbourne, Director of Education, KPDSB