

## Covent Garden Market 130 King Street London, Ontario N6A 1C5

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May 6, 2019

To: Councillor P. Squire, Chair and Members of the Civic Works Committee

CC: Cathy Saunders, City Clerk

From: Martha Powell, President & CEO, London Community Foundation

Greg Playford, Board Chair, London Community Foundation

Fred Galloway, Chair BTTR, Community Mobilization Committee, London

**Community Foundation** 

## RE: Back to the River (BTTR)

London Community Foundation (LCF) wishes to thank the City and the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority for their continued partnership and commitment to Back to the River.

We believe this is a unique opportunity to work together with citizens to continue the momentum of downtown revitalization (Dundas Street Place, Budweiser Gardens, Fanshawe College, Covent Garden Market, and Central Library) and create a community space for everyone to enjoy.

We are pleased to see the scientific and technical report of the One River Environmental Assessment presented at the May 14<sup>th</sup> Civic Works Committee meeting. From the very beginning this project has been about caring for our local environment, the health of our community and the river's role in that. We are proud to see this key milestone of the project finally come to fruition.

Through our extensive research we have learned that riverfront developments have the power to breathe new life into communities. While the economic benefits are tremendous, it's also about environmental stewardship and honouring our river and its important role in our community.

The support we've received over the past four years has demonstrated the importance of this project to our community. From families, to entrepreneurs, businesses, environmentalists, neighbourhood associations, ethnocultural groups and our Indigenous communities, the message is clear – Back to the River is a project that will benefit our entire community on many levels.



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We sincerely value our partnership with the City of London and Upper Thames River Conservation authority and look forward to continuing this journey together.

Respectfully submitted,

Marchas Power

Greg Playford, Board Chair

Martha Powell, President & CEO

Fred Galloway, Chair BTTR,

**Community Mobilization Committee**