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From: Norah Toth, Chair, Stewardship Grey Bruce and Jo-Anne Harbinson, Saugeen Conservation

Subject: Grey Bruce Envirothon Cancelled – May 6, 2020 was to be held at Bruce County Museum

2020 Grey Bruce Envirothon Cancelled

Grey Bruce Envirothon has been cancelled for the 2020 season in light of the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. This “Reach for the Top” style environmental competition for high school students was to have been held on May 6, 2020 at the Bruce County Museum and Archives in Southampton. While we recognize and celebrate the impact of this program and its hand-on format, public health and safety remain paramount.

A program of Forests Ontario(www.forestsontario.ca), Envirothon provides a team-based competition for students who love the out-of-doors. It can be considered a preparation for the environmental leaders of the future as each team is challenged to use critical thinking, problem solving and teamwork to demonstrate their understanding of forests, soils, wildlife and aquatic ecosystems.

Locally, Craig Todd, recently retired from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, has overseen this program for over 20 years. His commitment to local youth has resulted in partnerships with many local businesses as well as a strong bank of volunteers. Together they have contributed to make this competition one of the best in Ontario.

Teams from Grey Bruce have moved onto the Nationals and have also competed internationally in the past.

Stewardship Grey Bruce (formerly the Bruce Resource Stewardship Network) has partnered with Craig Todd and Envirothon since the inception of the Regional Grey Bruce Envirothon competition. Following Craig’s retirement, Stewardship Grey Bruce in partnership with Saugeen Valley and Grey Sauble conservation authorities are coordinating this event.

Forests Ontario and their partners are continuing to monitor the situation and considering how this will impact the provincial competition. At this time, they are considering alternative delivery formats. We encourage teams that wish to continue, to enter the on-line Ontario Envirothon Presentation Challenge part of consideration for the Provincial Competition.

Please email stewardshipgreybruce@gmail.com if you have questions or require additional information or go to Stewardship Grey Bruce’s website: stewardshipgreybruce.org

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