

# Trust Charter: Common Ground Educational Estate Trust

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## 1. Name and Purpose

This Trust shall be known as the Common Ground Educational Estate Trust. Its purpose is to steward the 6.2-acre agro-botanical and historical property located in Southwestern Ontario for the purposes of education, ecological sustainability, and community enrichment.

## 2. Statement of Intent

The Trust aligns itself with the values of CommonGround.org and commits to land stewardship, regenerative agriculture, public access to education, and environmental justice.

## 3. Definitions

'Beneficiaries' are the educational and community programs operated through the Trust. 'Sponsors' are individuals or organizations contributing funds or resources in exchange for benefits defined annually. 'Stewards' are the volunteer or appointed members who maintain the operations of the Trust.

## 4. Assets and Ownership

All land, buildings, and biological assets (plants, trees, seeds, systems) are held collectively by the Trust. No individual may hold deeded ownership of any portion of the estate.

## 5. Revenue and Use of Funds

All income generated by the Trust through plant sales, education, or products is to be reinvested into the maintenance, staffing, programming, and development of the Trust. No more than 17% of interest earned on Trust capital may be returned to sponsors as annual benefit.

## 6. Trust Governance

The Trust shall be overseen by a Council of Stewards, comprised of no fewer than five and no more than twelve individuals, selected by invitation and community recommendation.

## **7. Amendments and Dissolution**

This Charter may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Council of Stewards. In the event of dissolution, all physical and financial assets will be donated to an educational nonprofit or equivalent body aligned with the Trust's vision.