Letter of Introduction to Common Ground

To the Common Ground Team,  
  
I hope this message finds you aligned in health and purpose.  
  
My name is Dr. David Cawthorpe, and I am writing to explore a potential collaboration that I believe speaks directly to your mission of stewardship, education, and regenerative systems.  
  
For the past twenty-three years, I have developed—and in part implemented—a vision for a living educational trust estate. Rooted on a 6.2-acre historical property in Southwestern Ontario, the project integrates sustainable energy infrastructure, agro-botanical propagation, ecological restoration, and community-focused learning into a single regenerative framework.  
  
The property includes heritage apple trees, walnut and ginkgo stands, extensive fern beds, and two streams running through the land. A geothermal system and a heat-exhaust recovery unit together have reduced heating oil consumption by 36.1%. Alongside this, I’ve prototyped propagation systems capable of producing thousands of ornamental and food-bearing plants per year, created botanical packaging products, and initiated heritage wine and tincture production.  
  
Rather than sell or commercialize this work in a traditional way, I have structured the estate as a Private Educational Trust Association. It operates without corporate ownership and distributes no more than 17% of interest income to sponsors annually—prioritizing reinvestment and mission fidelity.  
  
Though I have attempted to engage family over the years in co-development, I was the sole protector of my disabled brother until his recent passing. Now, I seek partners who can understand, activate, and steward what I have built into the future.  
  
I believe Common Ground may be one of the few organizations with the capacity and philosophical alignment to carry this forward—or to walk beside it in meaningful collaboration.  
  
If this resonates, I would welcome a conversation. You can find my academic and professional background here: https://profiles.ucalgary.ca/david-cawthorpe  
  
Thank you for the work you do, and for considering the legacy I’ve built in memory and vision.  
  
With respect and resolve,  
  
Dr. David Cawthorpe  
Common Ground Educational Estate Trust  
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