

Tillsonburg & Area Optimist Club P.O. Box 351 Tillsonburg Ontario N4G 4H8

December 9, 2022

Town of Tillsonburg 10 Lisgar Avenue Tillsonburg, Ontario N4G 5A5

Dear Mayor Deb Gilvesy and fellow Council Members

As you may know, Tillsonburg & Area Optimist Club was charted in May 2015. Since this time we have put on various community focused events and initiatives including but not limited to the Annual Santa Claus Parade, sponsored community swims, Touch-A-Truck and Children's Free Chocolate Bar Bingos. As a Club we have remained devoted to providing positive and often free events for the children and families in our community.

The Tillsonburg & Area Optimist Club has carried on the traditional Santa Claus Parade since 2016 when it was handed over to us from the Tillsonburg Kiwanis Club. Our Club takes great pride in this annual event and the joy that it brings to the Tillsonburg community. Unfortunately during the uncertainty of the global Covid-19 pandemic and health regulations that were in place we were unable to put on a parade (or parade like event) in 2021. The Tillsonburg & Area Optimist Club returned as the Service Organization in the application, insurance and coordinator of the 2022 annual Tillsonburg Santa Claus Parade.

The Tillsonburg & Area Optimist Club is currently coordinating with the Downtown Tillsonburg BIA in accordance with the attached *Memorandum of Understanding*. We are looking forward to growing the holiday spirit in the Town of Tillsonburg in 2023 through the BIA Re-Imagining Christmas Festival including but not limited to our Club decision to move the start time to an annual evening parade.

At this time the special event application has already been submitted to the Town of Tillsonburg regarding the 2023 parade as we remain excited and look forward to this annual event. We welcome your ongoing parade participation in traveling the route again with us in 2023.

If you have any questions about the parade or any of our other events please feel free to reach out to us at tillsonburgoptimistclub@gmail.com.

We thank you for your continued support of our Club and to our community!

Sincerely,

Lindsay Munroe Club Secretary &

Parade Co-Chair

Holly Vallee

Parade Co-Chair

Amie Varga Club President

"By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves."