Dear Friends,

Some of the best moments at *rare's* Eden Mills trails are the ones we almost take for granted.

A walk through the woods, the changing colours of the seasons or that moment when you cross one of the wooden bridges and stop to look at the water below. These are simple pleasures, and I think we need places like these in our lives now more than ever.

That's why I'm writing to you today with a very specific request.



This is Bridge 2 – it needs taller railings.

Two of the bridges along the Edgewood trails (former Edgewood Camp) need repairs and we need a little help from the community to get the work done.

An engineering assessment found that Bridge 3 needs new structural supports, deck boards and the handrail. Bridge 2 also needs new deck boards and a higher handrail. These repairs are important to make sure visitors can continue to enjoy Edgewood's trails safely.

The total cost is estimated at $37,000. Thanks to the generosity of people who care about Edgewood, we've already raised $22,700. We're now working to raise the final approximately $14,300 by December 31.

Would you consider helping us get there with a special gift of $25, $50, $100 or whatever amount feels right for you?

One thing I've learned over my almost 13 years at ***rare*** is that protecting land is really just the beginning of our responsibility. Once a place is protected, we make a promise to look after it, year after year, so that the plants and wildlife that depend on it can thrive and people can continue to enjoy everything it has to offer.



This is Bridge 3 – while charming, it is hanging in by a thread.

And sometimes, keeping that promise means replacing a bridge!

We're fortunate to have a wonderful group of volunteers at Edgewood who give their time to help care for the property. Some of you have also helped build an endowment that supports its long-term stewardship and we were able to direct some of the interest revenue from it towards the project.

I'm deeply grateful for that commitment. But major repairs like these require additional resources, and we want to make sure we can complete the work properly while continuing to care for the rest of the property.

That's where your gift can make a real difference.

I hope you'll consider what Edgewood means to you.

Perhaps it's a favourite place for a weekend walk or somewhere you go when you need to clear your head.

Maybe you've enjoyed watching it change through the seasons or introduced someone else to its trails for the first time.

For me, personally, I love seeing the abundant wildlife there when I visit, including our Canadian icon, the friendly neighborhood beaver.

Whatever brings you here, I want Edgewood to remain a place you can return to, knowing that it is being cared for.

Your gift will help us repair these two bridges and keep this wonderful place welcoming for the people who enjoy it today and those who will discover it in the years ahead.

Please consider making your contribution before December 31 **using this link** or QR code.

Thank you for being part of the Edgewood community and for helping us look after a place that means so much to so many.

With gratitude,



Stephanie
Executive Director, ***rare***
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PS: We're so close! With $22,700 already raised toward the $37,000 bridge repairs, we need your help to close the remaining funding gap by December 31. Every gift brings us closer to getting the work done so Edgewood can continue welcoming you on your next walk.