



**Written submission from the  
Butterfly Gardens of  
Saugeen Shores**

**Mémoire de  
Butterfly Gardens of  
Saugeen Shores**

In the Matter of

À l'égard de

**Bruce Power Inc. – Bruce A and B  
Nuclear Generating Station**

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**Bruce Power Inc. - Centrale nucléaire de  
Bruce A et Bruce B**

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Request for a ten-year renewal of its Nuclear  
Power Reactor Operating Licence for the  
Bruce A and B Nuclear Generating Station

Demande de renouvellement, pour une période  
de dix ans, de son permis d'exploitation d'un  
réacteur nucléaire de puissance à la centrale  
nucléaire de Bruce A et Bruce B

**Commission Public Hearing – Part 2**

**Audience publique de la Commission –  
Partie 2**

**May 28-31, 2018**

**28-31 mai 2018**



## Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores -- Intervention Letter

### **Who we are:**

Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores (BGOSS), is a volunteer community organization whose mandate is to care for and protect Monarch Butterflies and other pollinators. Monarch butterflies are a species of special concern because of habitat loss, misinformation about their host plant; milkweed, deforestation and the extensive use of herbicides throughout Canada and the United States. BGOSS began in 2015 to assist Monarchs by planting native plants in select pods throughout our community.

Our mandate has 3 guiding principles:

- provide a food source for Monarchs and other pollinators
- enhance the visitors experience in Saugeen Shores
- educate people on the plight of Monarch butterflies and native gardening

BGOSS had a vision of creating gardens and increasing awareness to enhance our community by helping a species at risk. We gained early support from the town, a service club and a provincial park friends group. Then, along came Bruce Power who listened to our ideas and shared our common interest in attention to environmental stewardship. The support that BGOSS has received, and the partnership that has been built with Bruce Power, has allowed our organization to fulfill its mandate and accomplish its mandate.

### **What we have accomplished**

#### **2015**

In the spring of 2015, the Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores, with 60 volunteers, planted over 1,400 plants in strategic locations throughout Saugeen Shores. The largest pods are located along the Lake Huron shoreline in the newly created Captain Spence Path in Southampton. Other pods are located at: Saugeen First Nation, MacGregor Point Provincial Park, Perkins Park, and the Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre. All of these pods have been certified and registered as Monarch Way Stations.

In the fall of 2015 BGOSS conducted several Monarch tagging days. These were open events for the community to attend. Bruce Power employees participated in these events and also helped us during our week long planting in the spring.

One of our most exciting successes to date was the discovery that one of our tagged monarchs from the fall of 2015 had been recovered in Mexico. The tagged butterfly left Saugeen Shores and travelled 5,000 km to Mexico over a course of five months. The tagged butterflies are tracked through the organization Monarch Watch, which is an affiliate of the University of Kansas' biological survey program.

Bruce Power's assistance also enabled the creation of social media and marketing materials, which are used to help inform and educate the public about our role protecting the environment. Bruce Power has facilitated our participation in the local school system through Earth Day events. Changing our world starts with young people — we must teach them the importance of native plants and environmental stewardship

## **2016**

Bruce Power once again showed their commitment toward our community and the environment by actively supporting our new plantings, and sponsoring our educational communication materials. BGOSS created 3 new pods along the Saugeen Rail Trail and created professional signage at each pod with an accompanying map on our web site. We developed a model for community engagement by training 35 volunteers to become Pod Squad Ambassadors. Our Pod Squad Ambassadors became land stewards for each of our 17 pods. They planted plants, maintained our pods, educated the public and assisted in the delivery of our programs.

Another highlight was the installation of a mural at Perkins Park in Southampton. This mural, created in partnership with Southampton Rotary and the Southampton Art Centre, depicts the life cycle of the Monarch and its north and south migratory routes. To further promote BGOSS, Bruce Power submitted photos and write-ups on our initiatives for the 2016, 2017 and 2018 Wildlife Habitat Councils' calendar.

## **2017**

2017 marked the third year of BGOSS. We are proud of the fact that we now have 17 certified pods in key tourism locations throughout Saugeen Shores. Our education program added a new dimension with a regular column in our local newspaper that covered helpful topics ranging from, how to create a butterfly garden, how to raise Monarch caterpillars and how to select the best milkweed plant for your garden. Communities also requested us to share our model with them. This was done through a number of presentations to naturalists clubs, horticultural societies, municipalities and to a health organization. BGOSS also hosted its community Monarch tagging days with Bruce Power employees participating. In our 3 years of tagging we have seen the number of tagged Monarchs rise from 80 in years one and two, to 275 in 2017!

In the first three years of operation, our Pod Squad Ambassadors and behind the scene volunteers have collectively amassed over 12,000 volunteer hours, planted in excess of 4,000 native plants, tagged 435 Monarchs and assisted in the creation of a healthy community.

## **2018**

2018 promises to be an exciting year for BGOSS. With assistance from Bruce Power and our various partner groups, we are creating a new exciting program for youth, called 'Caterpillar Corner.' In addition, a nature lending library, a milkweed give-away day, a youth activity book, a monarch migration interpretive sign, and the affiliation of 4 new pods round out the 2018 BGOSS projects, -- all possible through the support of Bruce Power.

### **Value to Community:**

Bruce Power has effectively communicated with BGOSS throughout our 4 years of operation. They genuinely care and they want to know how they can help. We found this approach refreshing. They don't just hand out grant money to worthy community organizations. They have rolled up their sleeves and assisted Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores with maintenance and planting of native plants, they attended our meetings, shared their resources with us and have truly cared about our purpose and its value to the community. They have indeed embraced the concept

of community: working together to create a better place for people to live and work.

We learned early on in our partnership with Bruce Power, that they care about the environment, -- not only locally in Bruce County, but, in our situation, throughout North America, as the plight of the Monarch Butterflies is a continental issue.

With the assistance of Bruce Power, our dedicated volunteers and partners, Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores believes that we are making a difference in the lives of the Monarch butterflies.

Sincerely,

Butterfly Gardens of Saugeen Shores