



Community-Based Research (CBR) Project Proposal Form

U-Links Administration Only

Project Number *(automatically generated by CBR database):*

Recommended Courses and/or Disciplines *(i.e. GEOG4030Y, FRSC4890Y, IDST3700Y/3710H/3720H, ERSC3160H, PSYCH or Alternatives):*

Recommended Faculty Advisors:

PROJECT TITLE: Haliburton Apples

A – CONTACT INFORMATION

Date: 3 May 2024

Contact person: Dale Leadbeater

Phone: (705) 879-3546

Email: heritage@harcourtpark.ca

B – COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

a) Organization's name and address:

Harcourt Park Incorporated (HPI),

Box 72

Harcourt, ON K0L 1X0

b) Briefly state the organization's purpose and the products or services offered:

Harcourt Park is a privately owned, largely wilderness park consisting of some 6,900 acres in the Haliburton Highlands of the Province of Ontario, Canada, about halfway between the Town of Bancroft and Haliburton Village, and a few miles south of the southernmost extension of Algonquin Park. It is almost entirely within the Township of Harcourt and is part of a municipality called Dysart et al (Wargo, J.A., 2010).

Harcourt Park members (leaseholders) elect a Board of Directors who, on a volunteer basis, run the business of the park governed by Letters Patent, covenants in our leases and By-laws, together with policies and procedures.

c) Has an immediate supervisor or board approved this application?

The Forestry Advisory Committee and the Harcourt Park Board of Directors have reviewed proposed projects summary and have unanimously supported a submission. Copies of applications will be sent to all involved.

C - PROJECT SCOPE

- a) Full year undergraduate CBR projects are allotted 220 hours total, per 1-2 students on a single project. The condensed hours are similar to six weeks of full-time work. Full term students would be working on this project from September to April as part of a course, while balancing work from other courses as well. Half term students will be working on this project from September - December or January to April. Does the scope of your project fit within this timeframe?

Yes • No • Comments:

- b) Select the theme(s) for your project:

• Cultural • Economic • Environmental • Social • Other:

- c) Based on the timeframe and complexity of your project, please indicate the potential project scale:

- Single year project
- Multi-year project (requiring follow up or several parts)
- Ideal for undergraduate students
- Ideal for graduate students (requires specialized knowledge/in-depth consideration of theory)

- d) Is your project appropriate for a single student or a group?

Two or more students for safety reasons given that there are bears and moose in the area and field work is involved

- e) Describe the purpose of the project:

This project is an extension of the Apple Tree Identification Project Haliburton (ATIP) and has potential as an agroforestry project with benefits to biodiversity. There is also potential to contribute to the history of this part of Haliburton through research and field investigation of the homestead.

The farm is located east of the main body of Harcourt Park in Dysart et al (Harcourt Twp.). We know little about the family: only the name, and that there was a homestead and burial ground and an orchard. Recently a variety of apple unique to Haliburton County has been identified and a research project was mounted to identify sites in the County where it may grow. <https://www.appletreeshaliburton.ca/> The Leeson Farm could be one of them as there is a small, old, apple orchard. In addition to being a potential site for Haliburton Apple, the parent project is looking for sites where propagated "Haliburton Apples" could be grown and with management of the encroaching forest, this could be a good agroforestry project.

This is a unique opportunity to maintain a sliver of biodiversity that we are slowly losing as pines and spruce take over the 200-year old pastures. The native blueberries and black raspberries are only a shadow of what they were in 1960 and it has long been an objective to clear away some of the young occupying forest. The potential to recreate the orchard (once a popular spot for black bears) is a unique one and consistent with the HP Forest Management Plan.

- f) How will the project benefit your organization and/or clients?

The project will result in a better understanding of the apple orchard, it's associated settler history, and when implemented, it will protect a unique natural community within Harcourt Park. It is also an

opportunity for members to volunteer in managing the Leeson Farm that contributes to our sense of community.

g) How will the results of this project benefit Haliburton County?

This project would build on the existing ATIP identified as Step 3. The project has obtained the support of Haliburton County Council and the lower-tier municipalities of Highlands East, Dysart et al., Minden Hills and Algonquin Highlands.

h) How did you hear about U-Links Centre for Community Based Research?

Word of Mouth Social Media Newsletter News Article Other: _____

D – RESEARCH DESIGN

a) What are the proposed research questions to be answered?

To identify and describe the Leeson Farm apple trees and determine whether they are part of the Haliburton Apple population.

To develop a restoration plan for the Leeson Farm historical meadow and the potential for orchard establishment, possibly using grafted trees with Leeson scions.

b) What are your ideas on how these questions might be answered (i.e. survey, literature review, field work etc.)?

Literature review to include historical context of the farm and potential age of the trees.

Field Work: To describe the field and forest community; locate the trees and cultural evidence of occupation.

Consultation: Hold a workshop with HPI members to develop a framework for restoration of the Farm.

Reporting: Integration of background review and field data to identify gaps, identify goals and objectives for a restoration project and an implementation plan.

c) Do you have knowledge of or expertise with these types of research methods?

There are HPI members with knowledge of the history although it is scattered and not verified. We have members with professional expertise in ecological land classification and restoration planning. There are also enthusiastic volunteers who can offer logistical support if necessary.

E - SCREENING AND/OR TRAINING

a) Do the students require any specific screening or training? (e.g. police checks, confidentiality agreements, CPR, WHMIS):

Yes No

Comments: Routine safety precautions regarding working in the field and in a somewhat remote site. A health and safety plan should be developed.

EXAMPLES: Projects involving vulnerable populations may require police checks. Some types of field work may involve WHMIS or other safety related training. Students and hosts working on boats need to understand and follow the U-Links Boat Safety Guidelines.

F – RESEARCH ETHICS

a) Does the research involve human subjects? (i.e. surveys, interviews)

Yes No

NOTE: If yes, the students may be required to submit an application for ethical review of the research. This process may take several weeks and will need to be taken into consideration when creating project timelines.

b) If your project involves collecting human subject data (i.e. interview transcripts), would you like access to that “raw” data at the end of the project, in addition to receiving the “summary” of data in the final report?

Yes No

c) Does the organization/employer have policies about research ethics approval?

Yes No

If yes, please explain:

G – PROJECT TASKS AND TIMELINE *(This section should be completed by the final draft)*

a) Please outline the major tasks and timelines involved in completing the project.

These tasks include important information to be gathered, key stakeholders who should be involved relevant dates for your organization, and critical meetings for the student to attend. Your Coordinator can help you complete this section.

Task: *Project Orientation*

Objective: *Meet with hosts, confirm project outcomes and requirements, transfer of relevant documents*

Date: **Fall 2024**

Task: *Finalize detailed project outline/project agreement*

Objective: *Finalize project details, responsibilities, logistics, etc.*

Date: **Fall 2024**

Task: *Background Review Summary*

Objective: *Establish a landscape and lake specific context for the study*

Date: **Fall-winter 2024**

Task: *Field visit.*

Objective: *Data Collection, Management and Identification as applicable*

Date: **Fall – winter of 2024-2025**

Task: *Reporting*

Objective: *To summarize findings, present a restoration plan with mapping and an implementation plan.*

Date: Fall/Winter 2024-2025

b) Indicate important start and end dates for the project, if applicable:
Fall 2024 to Spring 2025

H – RESOURCES

NOTE: All known and needed resources should be listed in this section (e.g. for project coordination, data collection and analysis, software, hardware, photocopying, office supplies, workspace, travel expenses, food and refreshments, training, etc.). Students' travel expenses are reimbursed by U-Links at the end of the term.

a) **What resources are needed to support the research – financial or otherwise? Please indicate what, if any, resources your organization might be able to provide.**

HPI will provide volunteers and logistical as required.
Expenses to be discussed and paid by Harcourt Park.

b) **Do you anticipate needing funding or other types of resources? If so, please explain (including any ideas on where resourcing may be obtained):**

No

I – KNOWLEDGE SHARING

NOTE: Please note the researcher(s) will own the copyright for all work completed as part of his/her involvement, but the lead organization/group/employer may use all project outputs in whole or in part, as it sees fit as long as the researcher(s) is duly credited as the author. If work is completed collaboratively, copyright will be decided by all project participants.

a) **How are the project results to be circulated and made useful to the broader community? Please indicate all that applies from the list below:**

To be discussed but the following are possible:

- Academic article
- Conference/forum
- Manual
- Marketing, promotional, newsletter, outreach materials
- Policy brief
- Report
- Roundtable
- Video – may cost more but a great idea
- Workshop
- Presentation to the host organization and to ATIP

- Not sure of the above, let's talk some more

b) If there are special circumstances where results might not be made public, please explain:

J - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

a) Are you able to credit U-Links when utilizing project results for the development of new programs, funding applications, policy, and other community endeavors? *(Suggestions: cite U-Links and display our logo in your organization's printed matter and on your website, credit U-Links when speaking about your project in public and in the press, social media etc.)*

Yes No Possibly HPI would ask that U-Links reciprocate.

b) Following successful completion of the research project, with results beneficial to the goals of your organization, would you consider a financial contribution to U-Links?

Yes No Possibly

c) Can we highlight your project on our website and in social media?

Yes No

K – PROJECT PROMOTION



Photograph 1: Apple Tree encroachment



Photograph 2: South Meadow with White Pine/White Birch encroachment – a threat to biodiversity