## County Sustainability Group Offers Bursaries for Organic and Ecological Farmers

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nouncing the 4th year for our Bursary for PEC Ecological & Organic Farmers. Certification not required.) \$1000 will be awarded annually by the end of May to a farmer in

Prince Edward County who best demonstrates the values of ecologically sound, sustainable farm practices which regenerate soil health, protects vital resources such as water and biodiversity, reduces the need for synthetic inputs and prioritizes renewable energy sources.

Our group recognizes the importance of farmers and agriculture to our rural community and province. In particular, we are grateful for sustainable farmers who are doing their utmost to protect the health of the land and all living creatures by implementing best practices. We want this award to demonstrate our gratitude and help their long term success in the very challenging occupation of farming. Farmers feed cities and provide us all with nutritious food that far too often is taken for granted.

We acknowledge, with this bursary, the challenges faced by young farmers just starting out in ecological and organic farming or trying to maintain or expand an existing operation. This is an expensive undertaking and not for the faint of heart. Every little bit can help, perhaps going towards new seeds, greenhouses, equipment, soil revitalization, irrigation, livestock, land leases, renewable energy or any number of important aspects of modern organic farming.

Applicants should demonstrate an understanding of the goals of Ecological Farmers of Ontario (EFAO). Candidates should submit their application letters by the end of April, describing their reasons for being considered for this award to Don Ross

## ecodonross@hotmail.com

A winner will be selected and award money presented by the end of May. If no suitable candidates come forward, the award money will carry forward.

Ongoing funding for our bursary will be generated by proceeds from our annual CSG Rain Barrel & Composter Sale held on the final Saturday of May (see <a href="www.rainbarrel.ca/csgpicton">www.rainbarrel.ca/csgpicton</a>).

