
County trails corporation elects 2008 directors

With its initial organizational year now under its belt, the Lanark County Municipal Trails Corporation held its first annual general meeting and elected its 2008 board of directors on Wednesday night.

The LCMTTC is a not-for-profit organization with a mandate to develop, maintain, promote and market county -owned trails and to support local trail organizations with a view to developing a network of area trails. It was officially incorporated in January 2007 after work by the Lanark County Trails Sub -committee and the county's community development committee.

Dan Sisty, 2007 LCMTTC president, says since its incorporation the board of directors has worked hard to lay the groundwork for the future and to work with other trails organizations. He thanked county council and staff for their ongoing support and resources to help the board meet its objectives.

"As reflected in this annual report, LCMTTC is well on its way towards developing a comprehensive trails system that will benefit both residents and visitors. We hope to encourage healthy lifestyles and showcase our beautiful county with its many natural features," he said.

In 2007 the new organization met with interested trail users , continued work to link the Trans Canada Trail through Lanark County (in time for the 2010 Olympic torch run) , introduced the Baird Trail, proceeded with an accessible trail from the Lanark Lodge long-term care home in Perth to the nearby Tay River and attended various seminars, meetings and conferences. The group is currently developing various policies and a business plan, and is seeking registered charitable status to enable it to pursue new funding sources.

The board is made up by representatives from various stakeholder groups and candidates submitted qualifications to the county's striking committee for confirmation prior to the annual general meeting. Some positions were acclaimed, and elections were held for local municipal, public and adjacent landowner representatives.

The 2008 board of directors is as follows:

Lanark County councillors: Susan Freeman and Bruce Horlin

Local municipal councillors: Val Wilkinson (a Mississippi Mills councillor who is a horse rider and a member of the Madawaska Trail) and Dennis Burn (a Carleton Place councillor who is a trail user and a past member of Ottawa -Carleton Trailway Committee)

Public: Janet-Noyes Brown (owns horses, belongs to a riding club, maintains low-impact trails for recreation, walks and cross-country skis), Dan Sisty (county resident for more than 30 years, retired police officer, has training in safety, risk management and emergency preparedness), David Percival (own and operates Woody's Cycles, is a member of Bytown Motorcycle Association and is extensively involved with trail user -group issues), Les Humphreys (member of Almonte Bicycle Club, various cycling committees and the Canadian Kilometre Achiever Program Board) and Paul Frigon (cross-country skier and member of Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists and board of directors for Intelligent Transportation Society-Canada)

County CAO or designate: Steve Allan, Director of Public Works

Adjacent landowner: Morley Wark (lives beside K&P Trail no. 1, worked for the county's public works department for 20 years and developed and maintained trails for more than 30 years)

Health unit: Lois Dewey

Warden Bob Fletcher thanked all candidates and volunteers on behalf of county council for contributing their time to the trails organization.

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