

Fall 2006

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Event
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The opinions, ideas and thoughts contained in this publication are not necessarily those of the OTC Board and Staff

*The Official Publication of the
Ontario Trails Council/Conseil
des sentiers de l'Ontario*

OTC Presidents thank Provincial Representatives

Brantford Trail Workshops promote d Provincial Trails Strategy Trans Canada Trail Building, and Provincial Support for Municipal Trails.

"It was great to be here in Brantford with such an enthusiastic group of trail supporters from all over Ontario," said Bev McCarthy during the OTC AGM. "For the last three days we've had a full round of discussions on trails, supporting trails, completing the Trans Canada Trail and working on the Active 2010 recreation program."

It was with great appreciation that the assembly then thanked Bev for all her hard work as OTC President, and over her term the OTC is much stronger for her guidance and leadership. She is staying on in the capacity of Past-President and given she is handing over the daunting job to Jack deWit. "I'm looking forward to working on behalf of all trails, and I'm glad that this event puts the OTC on track for future success," said Jack.

Delegates heard representatives of the Provincial government discuss important government policies and actions affecting trails province wide. Delegates were pleased to learn more about the Ontario Trails Strategy, granting options, reports from various departments working on trail support and funding .

Highlights included:

- Trail Building Issue Resolution, the Friday workshop day was devoted to completing the remaining 1500 kilometres of the Trans Canada Trail in Ontario;
- An examination of the "Active 2010", the provincial government's new comprehensive strategy to increase participation in sport and physical activity throughout Ontario.

"This conference was a significant provincial event we were able to bring to Brantford," said Brantford Director of Parks and Recreation, Maureen Sinclair. Ms. Sinclair also noted that local trail enthusiasts from the Brant Waterways and Grand River Conservation Authority attended – "I believe that having Provincial Government representatives attending, provided a unique value to our conference that other events don't have, and I encourage all trail enthusiasts to attend future Ontario trails conferences."

The Ontario Trails Council welcomed Counsellor Bruce Timms from Niagara region. Niagara will be hosting the 2007 Ontario Trails Conference in the spring next year. The local planning committee is currently hard at work determining a site and dates.

Planning ahead? Niagara 2007 - www.ontariotrails.on.ca/conference2007.htm
2006 Conference Proceedings: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/2006proceedings.htm

President's Message – Trail Directions to 2010

The OTC elected Mr. Jack de Wit as its President at its June 11th annual general meeting. Mr. deWit brings years of service to the trails sector to the position. As a Board member of the Ontario Equestrian Federation and Equine Canada, Jack has had the opportunity to lead trails development in both Ontario and at the national level. For Jack, when he's acting with the OTC he's a horseman working on behalf of all trails and trail users.

"I want to make this clear to everyone, when I'm at the OTC I'm acting in the interests of all trails and trail users, and that's the tone we expect at the OTC. For me its paramount that all trails work cooperatively to solve trail issues, to whomsoever they belong, in that way the OTC occupies a unique role, we're here to help ALL trails , regarding all trail issues."

"The issue of trail development and the management of trails challenges through the leadership and support of the Ontario Trails Council is key to the success of all groups involved in trails in Ontario," says Mr. deWit. "Working collaboratively in support of all trail issues and all trail user groups is the fundamental role I see for myself and the OTC as we move forward to 2010 and beyond."

Bringing the staffs from many trail management organizations to the OTC Board table provides an opportunity for new direction and issue specific management. The involvement of the Executive Directors and Managers of trails systems ensures the OTC will be on top of the needs of these important community resources from all over Ontario. Through the guidance of this team of trail experts the OTC looks forward to the future.

"We are sure that with our knowledge and problem solving capabilities we'll be able to provide a strong lead role to the implementation of the Ontario Trails Strategy and to our member organizations," adds Jack. Its Mr. deWit's purpose to expand the role of the OTC, to support new partners and to strengthen all trail operations in Ontario. "In my experience any member organization is only able to achieve the results members want, based on the strength of that membership. The more support we have the better able all of us will be able to secure a future for our trails.

I would like to thank all those who have signed on to assist through committee or Board work for their enthusiasm. I'd also like to thank Bev McCarthy for her tireless effort in moving the OTC to the leadership position it now holds in the trails community.

The Ontario Trails Council through all of its support mechanisms, community outreach, training and development, knowledge sharing and persistence impressed Mr. deWit as a go to organization working to get trails for the future. "In the event that you need the services of the Ontario Trails Council or input on your issues, feel free to call me through the OTC Office."

Regards,

Mr. Jack deWit
President



Rail trails one step closer

September 29, 2006 Sonja Puzic, Windsor Star

City council took its first step toward committing to a rails -to-trails plan that would extend the riverfront park system along vacated rail corridors.

Director of the Ontario Trails Council, Patrick Connor, made a presentation to council in a special meeting Thursday, outlining the organization's vision for the Windsor and Essex region. "I look at what you have now and I see a trail with rails on it," Connor said. "You've already got the greenery around (the rails) and it seems like all you need to do is take the next step."

Council agreed, passing a motion to begin looking into converting abandoned railways into trails that will eventually become part of the larger provincial trail system – the Trillium Trails Network. The city will begin looking into how much funding and manpower is needed, as well the logistics of taking over former CP Rail lands.

Windsor boasts the highest concentration of track per capita of any city in Canada, with 55 kilometres of railway line and 75 rail crossings. "It's a great first step forward," Mayor Eddie Francis said after the meeting. "It's a long-term project—it won't happen overnight. But we are looking forward to this partnership."

Connor said recreational trails would likely boost the region's tourism industry, especially if they connect to those in northern Michigan. "In order for trails to work, we need to have as open of a border as possible," he said. "Trails are important to gateway communities like Windsor." Connor said the region's existing bicycle lanes would not be "swallowed up" by recreational trails, but would be "enhancing" them. "It's both a lifestyle and a transportation initiative," he said.

Currently, there are 64,000 kilometres of multi-use trails in Ontario and more than 80,000 kilometres of municipal park trails. The OTC is the only organization in Ontario that represents all trail users.

Mississauga to expand walking and biking trails

Mississauga will spend \$1.7 million this year to expand and improve its 180 kilometres of pedestrian and bicycle trails. A new trail running along a hydro corridor parallel to the Queensway from Glengarry Rd. to the Toronto border will be built, along with a section parallel to Sheridan Park dr. between Erin Mills Parkway and Winston Churchill Blvd.

Also, the north and south sections of the Culham Trail in the Credit River valley will be connected in the Streetsville area. Minor connections and safety improvements will be made to the Etobicoke Creek Trail between Garnetwood Park and Etobicoke Creek and between Eglinton Ave. and Highway 401.



Executive Director's Report –Patrick Connor

As a member driven organization it's important that the members get a sense, from time to time, of the wide range of issues your provincial trails organization is supporting.

The OTC is currently managing a number of grants with the Trails for Life, Community in Action Fund, Trillium Foundation, FedNor, Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership and Halton Healthy Community Fund such that trails are promoted in various areas of the province.

The OTC received funds from a variety of sources to develop a business case model for trail sustainability. Three sector wide surveys have been circulated to ensure as wide a capture of input into the development of the provincial trail brand, building on the Green/Blue/Gold model of trail infrastructure. In addition we made a serious attempt to get communities involved in a Record Breaking Walk on September 30, there is more information in this newsletter on the outcomes. We are also working on the centralization of the OTC website, making our great website more appealing with stronger visuals, dynamic content and a broader public appeal.

The Ontario Trails Council continues to rely on Ontario Trillium Foundation Funds for the majority of its operational support. We are grateful that these funds continue to allow us to develop the trails sector through the provision of services to trail organizations of all types. In part we have promoted several trails event programs, the **Celebration of Trails** with events links posted to OTC website in support of this initiative; **Trails for Health** – through which we crafted a generic trails brochure and poster series for ongoing use in promotion of local trails events with a health; and **Kicking it Up on the trails** – this program is running for one more semester at present, and we are looking expanding the program into Hamilton and Belleville areas.

Over the summer, with the assistance of the Trans Canada Trail (our partner in Regional Development initiatives) the OTC participated in meetings held in Essex, Chatham-Kent, London, Oxford, North Bay, Parry Sound, and Windsor. We provided information guidance to Durham and Waterloo-Wellington-Dufferin. In Kingston during meetings in May we formulated a working group that saw the eventual purchase of 15 km of K&P trail, major move forward in completion of 59 km K&P trail, fills partial gap in TCTO trail.

In September, Ken Hoeverman and I spoke at the Rural Ontario Municipalities Conference, on the topic of managing trails better through the development of master planning processes. We broadened it out a bit to talk about trail issues in rural Ontario, counties, forests, crown land, tourism etc. We also spoke in Sudbury at the North Eastern Ontario Recreation Association Conference presenting on a panel with Deb McIntosh from Rainbow Routes. We covered off trails as a recreational asset and the promotion of Active 2010, and reinforced the link between active people and the recreation trails provide.

So it's been a busy productive summer that has turned into a rather wet fall. Fortunately the weather was great on September 30th for the Record Breaking Walk in Belleville. The 200 folks there had a great time. I look forward to seeing you soon as we work on the development of trails and engaging community support!



Ontario Trails Council stands with Sport Ministers



On September 28th in Toronto, many of Canada's provincial and territorial ministers responsible for sport, physical activity and recreation gathered to make a joint request for more federal funding for sport and recreation infrastructure. The ministers recognize the need for a national infrastructure program, called for wiping out what they see as a \$16 billion capital deficit by 2017.

Jack deWit, OTC President was in attendance. "It's important that recreational trails be represented with our recreation partners at these types of meetings. There is a real need for the development of trails in Ontario. That takes money, and our members have been asking for this type of strategic investment for years," he said. "We need a partnership," said Larry Ketcheson, chief executive officer of Parks and Recreation Ontario. "(The federal government) missed the boat not being here. Maybe it isn't on their internal political radar yet."

As Mark Keast reported in the Toronto Sun – "The federal Sport Minister, Michael Chong, wasn't in attendance yesterday, nor was any other federal minister, a grumbling point for some, most notably Ontario's Ministry of Health Promotion, Jim Watson, who led the proceedings. "

Further, "I'm very disappointed," Watson said. "This was a great opportunity for the federal government to sit down with virtually every provincial sport and recreation minister and begin a dialogue on how we can work together to provide facilities and opportunities for our fellow citizens. There's money at the federal level and we have to convince them to sit down and listen to our case."

Chong said yesterday's meeting was a provincial/territorial affair, defending the fed's leadership overall in this area. In the 2006 budget, the government allocated \$16.5 billion in overall infrastructure funding over the next four years. There has been \$240 million invested in sport and recreation infrastructure since April 1, a children's fitness tax credit that kicks in Jan. 1, worth \$160 million, \$143 million pumped into sports funding and over \$550 million put toward the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics.

Provinces like Quebec have shown pro-action in indicating a need to involve sports infrastructure in addressing overall infrastructure needs. Ontario hasn't been as pro-active in this regard, he said. Chong pointed out Ontario's relative absence on the medal podium at the Winter Olympic Games in Turin, Italy, unlike other provinces that have invested more in their sports system. "Clearly other provinces are taking more leadership. Quebec is a model."

Politicking aside, it's widely acknowledged Canadians are getting fatter, and that's taxing our national healthcare system to a serious degree. The Conference Board of Canada said that healthcare spending because of physical inactivity ranges from \$2.1 to \$5.3 billion annually, according to documents handed out yesterday. So the message was this: What's the use in promoting physical fitness if there aren't enough facilities nationwide, with many of the ones in existence in varying states of decrepitude?

It's the OTC opinion that a strategic investment in all forms of trails, involving all forms of outdoor activity can go a long way to reducing these huge health care expenditures – whether you are a motorized or non-motorized trail user, activity leads to better health.

The logo for the ACTIVE2010 campaign, featuring the word "ACTIVE2010" in a bold, sans-serif font, with a stylized graphic element resembling a trail or a path curving around the text.



We want to express our deepest appreciation and thank you to all the communities that aided us in attempting to break the record for most simultaneous walks on trails. As organizers we wish to acknowledge your effort, time and support in the Record Breaking Walk attempt that took place on September 30th, 2006.

We are pleased to announce we had over 50 registered locations across Ontario and we are thrilled at the involvement and positive feedback that was received by everyone. We feel that each of you did an amazing job, especially in getting nearly 2,500 people out at the same time!

We would appreciate any feedback that you may have in order to make this event an even better success next time. We would love to hear any success stories or personal experiences that you had as a part of your event. Thank you to those that sent in photos of their event. Despite the rain across most of the province, a good time was had by all.

Although we were unable to break the world record our efforts have not gone unnoticed. "Trails contribute to Ontario's priorities for better health and a strong economy through economic benefits, tourism development and reduced health care costs," said Health Promotion Minister Jim Watson, who participated in the Ottawa event. "Enhancing physical activity levels and promoting better health is a priority for my ministry and I am pleased to have walked in support of the record breaking attempt."

Thanks to your effort, we have created a fantastic foundation for community recreation events. "It's great communities got together at the same time, doing the same thing, supporting recreation, supporting their community, using trails and getting fit," adds Patrick Connor, of the Ontario Trails Council. "To me this is what being an Ontarian is about, let's do it again!"

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick Connor".

Patrick Connor CAE,
Executive Director,
Ontario Trails Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nina deVaal".

Nina deVaal
President,
Parks and Recreation
Ontario

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Planche".

Michelle Planche
President,
Paradigm Events



A full report on participating groups and the event planning manual are available on line for OTC members to use in planning for future community trails events! Please see:

www.ontariotrails.on.ca/recordbreaking_walk.htm

Trail Blazing

Nestled between two small mountain ranges – the Algonquin Highlands and the Laurentian Mountains and bordered by the Mattawa and Ottawa rivers, the Voyageur Multi-Use trail takes canopies, and across enough stream crossings and muddy areas to satisfy the most experienced rider. For the less adventuresome, smooth scenic trails take hikers and riders to the nearby lakes for swimming, fishing and canoeing.



Enjoyed by more than 3,000 enthusiasts a year, the trails have become a significant tourist attraction for the area, thanks to a local ATV club and the enthusiastic co-operation of the local municipalities. “For the ATV enthusiast this area offers everything one could want but our original trails were really nothing more than overgrown old logging roads, which didn’t meet anyone’s requirements,” recalls Glen Draper, who at one time ran his own tour company offering ATV excursions and is now the full-time general manager of the Voyageur Multi-Use Trail.

When the Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership (representing both the federal and provincial governments) offered the area the chance to take part along with Elliot Lake in a pilot project to develop guidelines for creating an ATV product for communities, it was just the opportunity they were looking for.

“We were more than happy to support the trail,” says Dean Backer, mayor of Mattawa. “All of the local municipalities recognize that we have to look past forestry for new economic development. VMUTS sold each of the local councils on the benefits of a multi-use trail and to give credit to the local councils, each one enthusiastically embraced the concept.”

“The town did give the trail some funding and we also chipped in with in-kind service donations from our public works department to help build crossings across local streets. We even passed a by-law to allow ATVs on our streets so that tourists can go straight from the motels to the trails.” “And the other local municipalities made similar contributions. Individually we are small municipalities and our resources are limited but we know if we share our resources we can go a long way.”

The trails were an instant success. In 2004, Suzuki chose the Voyageur Multi Use Trail to unveil the latest version of its King Quad ATV, a media event that attracted journalists from around the world. In return, Suzuki donated \$10,000 to the trail association, a much-appreciated donation, Draper says, but not nearly as appreciated as the publicity the event provided. Last year of the approximately 3,000 people, who took advantage of the trail system, Draper estimates that eighty percent came from outside the local area.

“If we assume that the average trail user stays a couple of days and spends about \$200 a day for accommodation and supplies, last year the trail contributed almost \$1 million to the local economy,” says Draper. “And we already have reports that people are buying property to establish cottages up here so they can use the trails year round. The next step is to develop some of our cottage property as well.”

“This is one of the most beautiful trail systems in the country,” says Mayor Backer. “And with the four-laning of Highway 11, we are now only three hours from Toronto. With the price of cottages in Muskoka out of reach for average family, this is the next cottage country. We’re counting on the trail to draw people here.”

“I have a bit of a confession to make,” he says. “Even though I was born and raised in Northern Ontario, I have never really enjoyed hunting or fishing or splashing around on trails but when VMUTS invited me out to see the trail first hand I was blown away by the scenery.” Mayor Backer plans to provide his own personal boost to the local economy. He is going to buy an ATV for himself.



Binational Tourism Alliance - Update

For over two year the Ontario Trails Council has assisted in providing its members with avenues to provide their direct input into an open borders policy. This brought us into contact with the Binational Tourism Alliance, and it's Executive Director Arlene White; who recently wrote to the Speaker of the U.S. house informing him of the BTA position and requesting continued action to keep the borders open.

There are at least 9 such border areas in Ontario. It's the experience of the OTC and its members that open borders promote trail use and a trail economy. Open borders are vital to the sustainability of hinterland trail systems. Ultimately the USA will do what is in its best interest, and we should generally prepare for the eventual passports, or Nexus Cards, or other more restrictive policy as means to travelling through our intercontinental trail systems.

Until that happens though, we do appreciate the efforts of all cross border communities who wish for as open a border as possible. <http://www.btapartners.com/>

An Open letter to: Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert Washington, D.C.

RE: WHTI Provisions – Homeland Security Appropriations Bill 5441

The Binational Tourism Alliance Inc. (BTA) is a registered Not-for-Profit cross-border tourism industry trade organization representing over 100 U.S. and Canadian members from the southern Great Lakes area. Our mission is the elimination of barriers to cross-border tourism destination development through advocacy, communications and training .

We have been actively involved in encouraging changes to the WHTI legislation since it was first announced in 2005, and have gathered support for changes as recommended by Stevens/Leahy in their 2006 amendment. Our position and concerns have been recorded in both the October 2005 ANPRM commentary period as well as the recently closed Air/Sea ruling commentary period.

We are extremely concerned with the current threat to the wording that has been agreed to by the Conference committee in the report approved Monday, September 25, 2006.

On behalf of the 50 U.S. members that make up our organization, as well as more than 50 American organizations and municipalities in the southern Great Lakes region who have provided letters of support for the proposed amendments, we are asking that you support the conference report as agreed to by the conferees, and allow this to move forward for final vote.

These changes are critically important to the current trade and social relationships held between the United States and Canada. While we all understand the need for improved security post 9/11, we must ensure that this need is balanced with ongoing economic and social growth in North America.



New Trail, New Cycle Policy at Lemoine Point

A second accessibility trail has been completed at Lemoine Point Conservation Area and is already in use. “The accessibility trails are about 99 per cent finished at both the north and the south end of the property” says Forestry Technician Rick Knapton of the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority that owns the property.

The north end trail requires minor work to fix an erosion problem where it parallels Collins Bay, says Mr. Knapton. This trail opened last summer. The new, south end trail was completed this year.

Both trails are sufficiently wide and adequately surfaced to accommodate wheelchairs. And there are new gates at the trailheads. “These are designed to allow walkers and the widest types of wheelchairs through,” explains Mr. Knapton. Turning to cycling, he says the CRCA established a new policy on bicycles for the Lemoine Point Conservation Areas. “We are restricting bicycle access to the main service roads on the property,” he explains. “This is because there was too much conflict on trails too narrow or too rough for both cyclists and walkers.”

The new policy will eventually be reflected through new signage.” We hope that people will understand our reasons for doing this, it’s to keep the property safe for all users,” he adds. “We plan to install bike racks because we still want cyclists to park their bicycles and lock them and continue on a walk through the property,” says Mr. Knapton.

New path to join Lake Ontario waterfront tracks

It was only a small group of cyclists that travelled along Ontario Street yesterday morning, but many more could follow - all the way from the rim of Lake Ontario. Yesterday morning, the city and several members of the bicycle community unveiled the first of six signs scattered along Kingston’s waterfront, and one of 60 along a route that stretches from Niagara-on-the-lake to Quebec.

The city will get about \$21,000 to add a path through Lake Ontario Park and maintain some existing roadways that make up part of the 740 kilometre Lake Ontario. Organizers say it could bring in more tourists pedalling their way through Kingston. But the sign should pay dividends right away.

“People really look when they’re out for a rider or for a walk that they’re connected to a bigger trail,” said Patrick Connor, Executive Director of the Ontario Trails Council. “That’s why the signage is so important – they need to know the trail is there”.

The Waterfront Trail system runs by five border crossings that meet up with the seaway trail in Upstate New York, which runs back to start of the Canadian trail at the southern point of Lake Ontario. “It seems simple, but it’s a lot of co-operation to connect everybody,” she said. Kingston’s paved trail through Lake Ontario Park will run behind three condominiums along King Street and will link Lake Ontario Park west to Elevator Bay Park. The rest of the trail runs along existing roads or paths, which the city will be responsible for maintaining.

“It’s so nice and popular, I can see in the not-too-distant future where you’re going to have to widen it,” Barron said. The province and Ottawa are giving \$9.2 million to the project and waterfront partners are investing \$22 million. “It’s a great occasion,” said Mayor Harvey Rosen before taking a bicycle ride down Ontario Street to City Hall with the assembled cyclists. “This trail in our community will enhance our appreciation of ... the Great Lakes waters.”

More information about the trail is available at www.waterfronttrail.org



Trail building builds community

[THAMESVILLE] On Saturday, October 21, the Thamesville and Ridgetown Girl Guides were joined by members of the Chatham-Kent Trails Council and Fairfield Museum board, and even some municipal election candidates for a few hours of lopping branches, clearing debris and spreading wood chips on a new section of the Trans-Canada Trail along the Thames River between Fairfield Museum and the Tecumseh monument.

The girls bivouacked on the Fairfield Museum grounds, and turned out to be not only enthusiastic campers but energetic trail-builders. They were interested ones, as well, asking good questions of C-K Trails president Rick Gray after his short presentation designed to give them an idea of the scope of the project (sea to sea to sea) in which they were involved. An example: "How long does it take to walk the whole trail?"

Mayoral candidate, Randy Hope, and Ward 3 council hopefuls Steve Pinsonneault and Hans Vanderdoe along with some family members were welcome additions to the work crew. The organizers were pleased with the turnout and volume of work accomplished. Trail-builders of all ages (the range was approximately age four to eighty) commented they had fun. And five groups of Chatham-Kent citizens know a little more about each other after a day on the trail.



An energetic and capable crew of trail-builders pauses for a photo before getting back to work on the Trans-Canada Trail between Fairfield Museum and the Tecumseh Monument on Saturday. Pictured are the Thamesville and Ridgetown Girl Guides with their leaders and parents, Fairfield Museum board members, and Chatham-Kent Trails Council members with C-K Trails president Rick Gray, mayoral candidate Randy Hope, and Ward 3 candidates Steve Pinsonneault and Hans Vanderdoe.

Chatham-Kent, Oxford County Trails Updates

We are pleased to report that there are significant things happening in and around the southwestern region of Ontario. Just two weeks ago the Chatham-Kent trails Committee received Trillium Foundation Funds to pursue trails organization development. Congratulations .

Also over in Oxford County, with the strong local support of the Health Unit and Regional Tourism several meetings have been held over the past year. With the support of key local trail groups and the assistance of the RMC facilitator Kirsten Spence, the Oxford Trails Committee is well on it's way to establishing a terms of reference and incorporation. For more information on Regional Management Committees contact the Ontario Trails Council at: 877 -668-7245

Editor's Note

This page is dedicated to our members and their upcoming events. Please contact us with your information so that it can be included. Email information to admin@ontariotrails.on.ca

Make sure there is enough lead time to allow the event to be published before it happens. Deadline for next issue:

January 2007

Upcoming Events – compiled by OTC Members

Waterfront Trail: for a complete itinerary of events in the various communities that support the Lake Ontario Waterfront trails go to: www.waterfronttrail.org/trail-events.html

Northumberland County: for an overview of trail events taking place in at least five areas of Northumberland County got to: www.looptrail.com/northumberland.asp

Ontario Equestrian Federation: Equestrian training events abound in the summer, see this link - <http://www.horse.on.ca/news/clinics.html>

Ontario Volkssport – the social walking organization is at it again hosting many community walking groups: <http://www.ncf.carleton.ca/~ao877/events.htm>

Ontario Competitive Trail Riders Association: feel like taking to the trails for a little safe riding, go to: <http://www.octra.on.ca/events/sched.php> for the next horse ride.

Ontario Federation of All-Terrain Vehicles: get out and ride your ATV in these areas - <http://www.ofatv.org/index.cfm?action=calendar&calCatID=1&CalendarDate=11-Jul-05>

Hike Ontario: walking areas abound – see: <http://www.hikeontario.com/>

Rainbow Routes: Sudbury cycling and walking tours allow you see the area: www.rainbowroutes.com

Outdoor Adventures: plan a trail adventure, visit the Ontario Tourism Website and make a booking: <http://www.ontariooutdoor.com/index.php?sec=1>

National Capital Region: visit the new horse trails, as a companion to existing hiking and biking trails: http://www.canadacapital.gc.ca/biking/index_e.asp

Conservation Ontario: check out a trail adventure in your own backyard, <http://conservation-ontario.on.ca/resources/guide/index.html>



The OTC used Trillium Funds in the design of its publications.

NEW OTC MEMBERS - WELCOME TO ALL!

South Dundas
Timiskiming Health Unit

If you know of an organization in need of trail issue support e-mail them about the OTC – www.ontariotrails.on.ca

OTC fully engaged in the Provincial Trails Strategy - News

- For full information on the recent Provincial Cabinet shuffle please go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/cabinet.pdf
- For reports on how the provincial budget affects recreation go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/budget.pdf
- For recent letters of support from Association of Municipalities of Ontario go to: www.ontariotrials.on.ca/amo.pdf
- For full Ontario Trails Council Trails Strategy reports contact the OTC office and we'll e-mail you a copy! For detail posted by the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation go to: http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envision/env_reg/ebr/english
- For other important landowner issues and Greenbelt information go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/whatsnews.htm
- For information on OTC initiatives related to trails funding go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/sample.htm
- For information on how to become a member in order to fully participate and support the OTC in its efforts to support and build trails in Ontario go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/otc_feestructure.htm
- For information on trails organizations in the province go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/trail_links_groups.htm
- For information on trail insurance go to: www.ontariotrails.on.ca/otc-orec2.htm
- For other OTC information or services please e-mail us at admin@ontariotrails.on.ca

OTC Board of Directors – as of November 2006

Jack de Wit – OTC President
Ontario Equestrian Federation
cnhrsman@bellnet.ca

Bev McCarthy – Past President
beverley_mccarthy_9@sympatico.ca

Tim West – Vice-President
Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs
twest@ofsc.on.ca

Bonnie Simpson – OTC Secretary, from
OEF Rec trails Committee
horsetrails@sympatico.ca

Ken Hoeverman - Treasurer
Ontario Federation of Trail Riders
Ken.hoeverman@rogers.com

Harold Sellers – Hike Ontario
execdir@orta.on.ca

Deb McIntosh – Rainbow Routes, Sudbury
Regional Rep. Deb.mcintosh@sudbury.ca

Eugene Todd – Northumberland County –
etodd@northumberland_county.on.ca

John Broderick – OFATV
info@ofatv.org

Patrick Connor – OTC Exec.Dir.
execdir@ontariotrails.on.ca

Wayne Daub South-Western Region Rep.
w-daub@rogers.com

Peter Wood – OF4WD
peter.wood@of4wd.com

Gayda Errett — Lanark
Friends of Recreational Trail
gerrett@perth.iqs.net

Karen Hoover – Acting Rep HHTTN
info@trailsandtours.com

WE moved – as of November 2, 2006 our new address is:

Ontario Trails Council
Sea Venture Building, Suite 130
556 O'Connor Dr. K7P 1N3
Landlord/Building Central number: 613-389-9038 Sharon Maynes Landlord/Central Reception
OTC direct: 1-877-668-7245 see www.ontariotrails.on.ca/contact_us.htm for more and map!

OTC Organizational Members – June 2006

User Groups

1. Bluewater Trails
2. Brant Waterways Foundation
3. Bruce-Grey Trail Network
4. Cataraqui Trail
5. Cycling Alliance of Ontario
6. Discovery Routes
7. Guelph Off-Road Bicycling Association
8. Haliburton Highlands Trails & Tours Network
9. Hike Ontario
10. Huronia Trails and Greenways
11. International Mountain Bicycling Association
12. Iootuq Society of Artic Adventures
13. La Cloche Trails Association
14. Menesetung Bridge Association
15. Nastawgan Trails Inc.
16. Northern Lights
17. The Ontario Federation of 4WD
18. North Simcoe Rail Trail
19. Ontario Accommodation Association
20. Ontario Competitive Trail Riding Association
21. Ontario Equestrian Federation Inc.
22. Ontario Federation of All Terrain Vehicles
23. Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs
24. Ontario Federation of Trail Riders
25. Ontario Trail Riders Association
26. Ontario Recreational Canoeing Association Inc.
27. Pine Tree Pathways
28. Red Deer Village Trail Association
29. Saugeen Rail Trail Association
30. Trans Canada Trail – Ontario
31. Trent University
32. Uthoff Trail Committee
33. Upper Grand Trailway Association
34. Volkssport (Canada)
35. Voyageur Multi Use Trail System
36. Voyageur Trail Association
37. Waterfront Regeneration Trust

Health Units

38. Durham Region Health Department
39. Leeds, Grenville & Lanark Health Unit
40. Middlesex-London Health Unit
41. Lambton County Health Unit
42. Halton Health Unit
43. Prince Edward Health Unit
44. Niagara Regional Health Unit
45. Kingston District Health Unit

Municipal

46. City of Orillia (Trails for Life)
47. Township of South Stormont
48. Township of Madawaska Valley
49. Town of Petrolia (Petrolia Discovery Trail)
50. Town of Orangeville
51. Town of Halton Hills
52. Town of East Gwillimbury
53. Town of Collingwood
54. Town of Caledon
55. Town of Bracebridge
56. Regional Municipality of Niagara
57. Prescott-Russell Recreational Trail Corp.
58. Oxford County
59. County of Renfrew
60. Corporation of Town of Petawawa
61. Corporation of the Town of Kearney
62. Corporation of the Town of Gravenhurst
63. Corporation of the County of Prince Edward
64. Corporation of the County of Lanark
65. Corporation of the County of Northumberland
66. Corporation of the County of Bruce
67. Corporation of the City of Brampton
68. Corporation of the City of Mississauga
69. Corporation of the City of Brantford
70. City of Vaughan
71. Corporation of Port Hope
72. City of Port Colborne
73. City of Niagara Falls
74. City of Dryden
75. Chatham Kent Trail Council

Conservation Authorities

76. Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
77. Credit Valley Conservation Authority
78. Essex Region Conservation Authority
79. Grand River Conservation Authority
80. Halton Region Conservation Authority
81. Hamilton Region Conservation Authority
82. Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority

Trail Management Groups

83. Rainbow Routes Association
84. Park to Park Trails
85. Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance
86. National Capital Commission