

Report arising from the 2007 Provincial Trails Summit,
Land Use Issues Session

Preamble

This is a synopsis report to the General Membership of the Ontario Trails Council regarding issues, concerns and recommendations to the trails sector including government and planners of trails policy concerning issues related to land use and land planning issues; as discussed during the strategic session on land use and management planning for trails held at the Provincial Trails Summit, May 16th, 2007.

Content

107 members of the Ontario Trails Council, representing trails managers from trail user groups, municipalities, insurance industry, risk management departments and land management offices convened to discuss issues of trail use, land management planning, and land use policy, in relations to liability, regulation and policy reform.

The participants were divided into 8 groups of 10-14 persons and they were asked to respond to the following 3 questions:

- 1) Please identify as best you are able the top three issues in relation to land use, management practice and policy as they relate to land use and trails.
- 2) Given the three issues you have identified, how would you suggest the Ontario Trails Council and the Province of Ontario work to resolve or mitigate these issues?
- 3) If we were to work to resolve these land use and management issues what would you suggest to the Province it could do through policy to resolve your three issues? Locally, Regionally, Nationally?

Responses:

For the purposes of this report there will be two formats. The first will provide a complete listing of group responses by group in response to the questions answered. The second format will be a roll-up of the responses such that a basic interpretation allows for straight forward recommendations. These are the responsibility of the author and are designed to capture the essence and theme described.

Group 1)

Top Three Issues:

1. Trespass
2. Property damage, environmental, and trail
 - a. Funding to develop and maintain the trail
3. Conflicting uses, i.e. multiple uses that are not compatible
4. Hierarchy of needs
 - a. Insurance and liability protection

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Mitigation of issues:

1. Balancing Land use and Management practices
 - a. Fencing
 - b. Signage
 - c. Enforcement
 - d. Designation of permitted uses
 - e. Club formation and use agreements
 - f. Setbacks and buffers from adjacent areas, environmentally sensitive areas.

Policy Recommendations

Locally

2. Public consultation to bring together multiple users

Regionally

3. Develop regional trail networks
4. Best regional practices promotions
5. Pilot projects

Provincially

6. Standards and Practices – for development and maintenance
7. Protect insurers from insurance lawsuits
8. Protect trail owners and property owners from frivolous lawsuits
9. Register Off-Road Vehicles
10. Province set standards, not regions for use of ORV's on roads
11. Tax relief and incentives for private landowners

Group 2)

Top Three Issues: For this group there were 8 not three

1. Insurance – potential liability issues stifles trail development
2. User group conflicts
3. Land acquisition
4. neighbor concerns
5. Financing and funding for insurance, land acquisition, development and maintenance costs
6. Enforcement of trail rules once opened
7. Lack of standardized policies
8. Information gaps – not housed with one org like the OTC

Mitigation of issues:

1. Mutual adoption of plans, including use, monitoring, implementation, etc. Master Plan developed and implementation pathway with full consultation and agreement with majority of stakeholders. (Includes Risk Management)
2. Standardized signs, used where appropriate for each situation
3. Standardized construction specifications
4. Standard values
5. Master Plan is a working document , ongoing review and adjustment

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Policy Recommendations :

Locally

1. Share success and failure, must maintain open communication amongst all parties

Regionally

2. We cannot work in isolation; need a process for communication, partnership, and development of mutual agreement and movement on plans, trail management, etc.

Provincially

3. Liability and Risk management must be dealt with
4. There must be negotiation provincially so working alternatives can be developed
5. How can we make it happen?
6. MONEY!

Group 3)

Top Three Issues: again more than 3

1. Liability
2. Combination of private lands, access and concern of private landowners to liability exposure; incompatibility of motorized versus non-motorized on same trail, need more systems of many use not multi-use; supply of public land to provide many use access to safe to use systems
3. Inconsistent guidelines relative to design
 - a. Ministry Policies
 - i. MTO
 - ii. MHP
 - iii. PIR
 - iv. MMAH
 4. Lack of corporate responsibility – Province should take a leadership role convening joint sessions
 5. Supply of land limited in the south
 6. Maintenance issues in the north – geographic distances
 7. Need better coordination between MTO and MMAH, and between departments, with NGO observation
 8. Need inventory and trail listing
 9. LAND USE
 - a. Accessibility to use
 - i. Private land
 - ii. Liabilities
 - iii. Multi-use – changing product
 - iv. Limited resource in the south, distances in the north
 - b. Consistent Policies
 - i. Minimal guidelines for trail development
 - ii. MTO/MNR/MMAH/NGO'S? What are they doing together?
 - c. Funding
 - i. Securing sufficient land through a land bank - -OTC?
 - ii. What is the land bank inventory in Ontario, anybody got a map of this?
 - iii. Bring in corporate sponsors to support acquisition

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- iv. Use government support for long term operations
- v. Licensing fees for use could sustain
- d. Standards and Practices
 - i. Planning regional trail groups, Niagara RTC for example
 - ii. OFSC model – it works expand it
 - iii. Need a portal to best practices – OTC and its website

Mitigation of issues:

Locally

1. Trail Coordinating Committees, grass roots, multi-user, use OTC and supporting orgs to fulfill

Regionally

2. Linking municipalities (Not trails and trails people) first

Provincially

3. OTC – use it to bring users and these other systems together

Group 4)

Top Three Issues:

1. Liability and Insurance
 - a. Operational Issue – TRAIL OR No TRAIL?
 - b. Fencing – partly resolved by LFA adjusts but not completely
2. Financial – how do we afford one?
3. Provision of Trail – in Crowded southern Ontario (conflicts)
 - a. Lots of room in Northern Ontario – could OTC drive traffic up here?
 - b. Change in traditional uses
 - i. Sometimes to many promises to existing or traditional users, needs to change
4. Conflict between different types of trail users
 - a. Compatibility issues amongst provincial user groups
5. Land Use Planning Context
 - a. Local opposition versus long term benefits
 - b. Coordination across municipalities by bringing in permanent planners and contracted personnel to do the job

Mitigation of issues:

1. Open public consultation as basis for trail development
 - a. Continuous and ongoing
 - b. Have working groups to follow-up, pursue solutions
 - c. Dialogue can lessen conflict
2. Establish Grassroots support network
 - a. Influence local views/political opinions
3. Standards
 - a. Recommendations only, not hard and fast rules
 - b. Uniform signage – yes!

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Policy Recommendations :

Locally

1. Involve public at an early stage
 - a. Include vocal opponents
2. Consider wider corridors
 - a. For flexibility amongst uses, if multi-use layering occurring
3. Apply common sense approach
4. Design specific improvements
 - a. Separate conflicting uses
 - b. Determine appropriate mix of uses
5. Ensure funding for ongoing coordination
 - a. Trail sustainability plan needed

Group 5)

Top Three Issues:

1. Prohibited Use and User responsibility
2. NIMBY
 - a. Loss of privacy
 - b. Noise
 - c. Devaluing of property
3. Multi-use
 - a. Excess demand (not enough trails)
 - b. Diversity of use (not enough trails)

Mitigation of issues:

1. Standards or practices to balance land use access, use
 - a. Targeting user groups to support management practices and policies
 - b. User groups to assist with maintenance
 - c. Need a management committee³ to organize both managers and users
 - d. Develop a joint management plan
2. Start with Provincially established best practices
 - a. Business Plans
 - b. Trail Management Plans
 - c. Aim for sustainability –financially, ecologically and environmentally
 - d. Ensure ongoing communication
 - e. PLAN – Public resource, so signage and education of the public
 - f. Need to develop provincial rules and regulations from the outset

Policy Recommendations :

Locally

1. Land use agreements
2. Policy needs and implementation strategy – by laws to enforce by municipality (with the aide of user groups)
3. Co-ordinate efforts between all levels

Regionally

1. Determine need/quality targets/quantity of service between municipalities

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2. Balanced representation
 - a. Communities
 - b. Landowners
 - c. Stakeholders
 - d. Interest groups
 - e. Authorities
 - f. Users of trails

Provincially

1. Limited liability for volunteers
2. Consistent Policy and messaging
3. Provincially developed policies that can be implemented locally
 - a. Province needs to set goals that regions can work towards
 - b. \$'s \$'s for processes that act for change (OTC/RTC)
4. Use models that have been successful locally to develop provincial strategies – work from the local level on up
5. Need to develop the rules and regulations from the outset – (OTC/RTC/TTN)

Group 6)

Top Three Issues:

1. Increasing developmental pressures
 - a. Number of users increasing
 - b. Change in type of users
2. Insurance costs escalating
 - a. Increased landowner fears, whether private or public
3. Space and location
 - a. Availability issue- Greenbelt worrisome as thought of as a developmental moratorium
 - b. Perpetual use by group seemingly a right to some
 - c. Getting started on new ground
 - i. Inventory of available lands
 - ii. Safety Practices
 - iii. \$'s to acquire and maintain
 - iv. Signage where whose?

Mitigation of issues:

1. Trespass
 - d. Problem to maintain trail access and user availability
 - e. Interest groups some interests outweigh others, prevents new access
 - f. Influence prevents access
 - g. Define what universal access is
2. Define
 - h. Planning
 - i. Policy
 - j. Groups
 - k. User issues
3. Practices that strike a balance

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- I. Between local land use and management in areas
- m. Citizens Advisory Groups
 - i. User groups work with regional governments and landowners – establish a dialogue with services (Police etc)
 - ii. Enact save harmless agreements
 - iii. Agreements that detail who does what
 - 1. Who pays for the trails
 - 2. define responsibilities and expectations
- 4. Stabilize a provincial structure
 - n. OTC – must fall under the OTC
 - o. Falls under the Ontario trails Strategy
 - p. Both are frameworks to coordinate managers
 - q. Must be coordinated with one another
- 5. Use of honorary members
 - r. provide information
 - s. Board members – keep landowners as part of the process

Policy Recommendations :

Locally

- 1. Inclusive dialogue process between municipality and groups
- 2. Cooperation amongst groups (outside of government)
- 3. Cooperation of groups (within government)

Regionally

- 1. Delivery mechanism for Provincial policy
- 2. Co-ordination between local and provincial

Provincially

- 1. Enact the OTS, by enabling the OTS with \$'s
- 2. Declare overall standards and practices with NGO leader – OTC
- 3. \$'s

Group 7)

Top Three Issues:

- 1. Insurance
 - a. Policy – individual assumption of risk through use –it's a trail!
- 2. Shared use mentality, or lack thereof
 - a. Control linkage and access points
- 3. Trespass – detail unacceptable uses
 - a. Post private lands
 - b. By-law enforcement
 - c. Education

Mitigation of issues:

- 1. Designated areas of use
 - a. Detail acceptable shared uses
- 2. Codes of Conduct
- 3. Education

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4. User Committees
5. Stewardship of trails by user groups
6. Proper signage, enough posted proper signage

Policy Recommendations:

Local

1. Local stewardship must occur – volunteer involvement a must
2. Group coordination and consensus
3. Principles before personalities
4. Funding – this is a core program needs core funding

Regional

1. Funding – core and core programming
2. Management Committee
3. Coordination of communication with locals

Provincially

1. Funding – core and programming
2. Legislation – that promotes trail development
3. Liability – place on user
4. Enable volunteer expertise and provincial expertise
5. Promote linkages of trails

Group 8)

Top Three Issues:

1. Providing links and resulting ownership issues – i.e. linked trails are also covered by partnership agreements
2. Compatibility of use and consequent parity amongst permitted uses
3. Insurance, Liability and Risk Management

Mitigation of issues:

1. Business Plan/Risk Management Plan
2. Official Plan

Policy Recommendations:

Local

1. Clearly defined organizational structure that is responsible for use or conflict resolution amongst landowners and users
2. System to respond with local experience

Regional

1. Sharing of best practices

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A. Legislation Changes

In 2003 Ian Attridge presented the OTC with ideas regarding legislative changes that would aid the trail community. These are proposed legislated changes designed specifically to reduce the liability facing landowners, trail managers and operators thereby reducing costs related to risk of litigation.

The OTC has reviewed his recommendations in conjunction with the broader range of issues that arose during the group discussion on Land Access and Use at the 2007 Provincial Trails Summit and is providing these areas that remain for positive change, as well as its own inferences of potential economic benefits to these changes as a sectional summary statement.

1) The Occupiers Liability Act - is amended to clarify certain terms thereby clarifying its intent for judges and litigants. It should:

- Clearly define recreational activity and recreational trail to mean both being on a trail and accessing a trail from nearby lands, related recreational uses such as canoeing or access points, and mixed uses of trails for both recreation and transportation
- Clearly define fee, benefit and payment to ensure that a landowners, occupier's or trail organization's receipt of payment for trail maintenance, administration, membership, insurance premiums, voluntary donations and the like for non-profit purposes cause the occupier to be subject to general duty of care.
- Specify that trail user voluntarily assume all risks when using a trail, regardless of whether or not the person is on the trail
- Specify that no claims for damages may be made by a recreational trail user in respect of property damage or bodily injury resulting from a defect in construction, improvement, signage or maintenance of a trail which meets prescribed or established sector standards (except under current limitations where user fees are charged or living accommodation is provided).
- Delete the reference to reckless disregards, since it is difficult to determine and complicates negligence law with a criminal concept.
- Expand the duty of care to include public parks predominately used for open space purposes, and physical recreation facilities with improvements that require regular maintenance for safe use.
- Expand the higher duty of care to include keeping visitors safe from the presence of non-recreational physical structures or improvements made in areas for visitors.

Economic Benefit to Ontario – these changes in clearer duty of responsibility will enable trail managers to correctly assess the potential liability they face. The likelihood of closure is diminished due to lawsuit or other actions.

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2) The Trespass to Property Act - should be amended to emphasize the seriousness of trespassing as an offence and its impacts on the willingness of private landowners to provide public access. Amendments should include:

- Raising minimum fines and damage claims to \$10,000
- Add authority for the judge who convicts a person under the act to prohibit entry of that person to a specific or class of properties or geographical area, the violation of which would result in contempt of court and other penalties
- Provide that access to private lands adjacent to trails is presumed to be prohibited unless otherwise granted
- Provide that occupiers of lands, which are the subject of trespassing charges, would be permitted to provide the court with a statement as to the impact of the trespassing on the occupier and his or her use of the property.
- Add additional enforcement measures to address the difficulties of identifying and apprehending trespassers.

Economic Benefit to Ontario: ensures a more level playing field when issues of responsibility for acts committed on trail lands are questioned, therefore the likelihood of trail closure is diminished due to diminished sole liability in event of an accident.

3) A New Act – The Ontario Trails Act - A new Ontario Trails Act and complementary amendments should be developed to incorporate elements from other jurisdictions. The Trails Act and amendments should include:

- Designation of trails on public lands, waterways, and on private lands with consent,
- Posting of trail signs,
- Land securement for trails e.g. purchase, donation, and temporary or permanent access agreements
- Protection of scenic and natural features along trail corridors,
- Research and education programs
- Responsibilities and agreements for government leadership, administration and maintenance of trails.
- Regulation and enforcement of trail uses with consideration for traditional use
- Prohibitions against alcohol consumption, creating disturbances or destroying property on or near a trail, with related funding of enforcement and policing mechanisms, outside of the non-profit sector
- Regulation of trail management standards,
- Broad operational enforcement powers.

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Economic Benefit to Ontario: ensures clearer lines of accountability and steering for trails related issues. Ensures that the insurance industry is aware of the standards of governance and professional steering of the trails industry. This should reduce the level of risk on trails.

4) The Ontario Heritage Act - should be amended to permit not-for-profit charities and other identified organizations to acquire trail access, scenic and conservation agreements over private lands and registers them on title with the landowners consent. Further amendments should streamline and strengthen easement procedures.

Economic Benefit to Ontario: ensures a long-term sustainability of access to the important trail requirement, land. It also ensures that this accessibility is not a burdensome cash flow problem as the likelihood of future low-cost supply is ensured. It also works to benefit landowners looking to provide land to parks or trails.

5) The Provincial Parks Act and the Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks – should be amended by Ontario Parks to designate a new class of Park a “Corridor Class” or “Trails Zone”, that would speak to the unique management of trail, forest and water adjacent to trail right of ways.

Economic Benefit to Ontario: ensures that there is recognition that Trail Economic Zones are valued and declared. Works to ensure that there is a class of park devoted to trails issues within the Provincial Parks system. This will ensure resources of all types; technological, human, financial are supplied to maintain this important park sub-system.

6) Public Lands Act and the Crown Forest Sustainability Act - these acts should elaborate and consolidate provisions for trails. This would require that appropriate planning; safety, environmental, management and public consultation processes are in place during the trail development process.

Economic Benefit to Ontario: ensures that there are planning standards in effect that draw upon known professional expertise in the implementation of any trail system. This will ensure that known standards are enacted that reduces liability and insurance costs.

7) Income Tax Acts – should be amended to permit landowners that donate a trail easement or a long- term trail access agreement to receive a charitable tax credit for the agreements appraised value.

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Economic Benefit to Ontario: encourages the donation of lands, but also acknowledges the act of donation in that if the property were sold it would garner a probable market rate. Landowners should receive fair market value for the donation. This donation would also aid in the equity position of the charity issuing the receipt.

8) Assessment Act, Provincial Land Tax Act, Municipal Act – should be adapted or developed to provide tax relief for landowners, including landowners who permit trails or commit to long term trail, scenic, conservation or other easements on their properties.

Economic Benefit to Ontario: encourages the donation of lands. The Acts should also develop additional equity provisions that allow trail management organizations to benefit from the body of land they are using in trust. This would allow non-profit organizations to benefit from other positive aspects of other legislation, i.e. Environmental Policy, Health Benefits etc; these could accrue to the trail organization to offset operating costs.

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2. Policy Adjustment and Process Enactment

There are a number of significant policies and process changes that could be made that would have profound operational impact on the trails industry. They can be achieved through promotion and enactment of specific strategic planning financial supports.

Since 2002 TWO processes currently exist as promoted by and through the leadership of the OTC –

- Regional Trail Committees or RTC's and the Trillium Trail Network Business Plan.

In light of the Clute Report Recommendations that

- the OTC be viewed as the best place to arbitrate user conflicts,
- given the track record of enablement at the local level through OTC promotion of RTC's,

the province would be way ahead in its ability to implement the recommendations provided by the 2007 Provincial Trails Summit Delegates, as well as the Ontario Trails Strategy if it would:

- adopt a business relationship with the OTC, outside of project grants as trails are the project, and the OTC is trails
- adopt a clear communications policy with the OTC such that individual NGO's would access trails information through the very public and very transparent site provided in the public interest by the OTC;
- problem solving would occur in conjunction with the province and the OTC, not just the province, not just the OTC

These changes would include the policy and process recommendations needed to enact the changes recommended in the Funding Stability, Insurance Control and Legislation sections already discussed. Generally these policy and process changes would fundamentally secure safer trails operations and greater trails efficiencies due to:

- Better early recognition of issues facing trails operators.
- Allow for better planning, maintenance and supervision of trails.
- Utilization of best practices across the trails industry.

The OTC and its government partners have accomplished most of the groundwork. These included 3 significant policy decisions:

1. Streamline Relationships: A 'one stop shop' idea in-which the provincial government assist in the creation of an organization for trails development, maintenance and operations legitimacy where resources can be found to research and resolve problems, issues and barriers to efficient and effective trail networking.

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Proposed Action: Financially support the Ontario Trails Council to move forward with the government as its 'One stop shop' partner.

2. Enhance the Lead Ministry: The Province of Ontario adequately supports and funds the lead Ministry to work with the Ontario Trails Council to deal with all trails matters, from capitalization to operations, and from standards to safety.

Proposed Action: The OTC would specify that the ministerial group deal with one umbrella organization partner from the trails sector – OTC. This would help the government capture its goals of recommendation 6 of the Workshop: The provincial government recognize and use the resources of the wide spectrum of trails NGO's for a variety of planning, environmental scanning, trail management and development issues.

3. Develop a Trails Institute: Or a so named Institute of Ontario Trails is established as soon as is practicable.

Proposed Action: Funding a strategic planning process that includes, as its mandate the development of a trail institute would begin this process.

3) Control Insurance Costs for Ontario

This problem would be addressed immediately by instituting a financial rebate mechanism similar to the one offered to customers of Ontario Power Corporation.

In the event that a not-for-profit or trails agency has suffered a three times or greater insurance cost increase in a period of 18-24 months the government would provide a yearly cost recovery of 75% of the total cost of the new premium.

This would allow for the not-for-profit organization to continue working within its existing structures to enact economies for insurance, while reducing the crisis environment that currently exists.

The rebate would allow for immediate sector stabilization ensuring that recreational activities and recreational trail earning continue to accrue, while allowing the sector to engage in best practices and other options to reduce costs or create funding sources for insurance.

This would also allow the motorized trails community the opportunity to educate the other sectors on positions and practices it may need to enact in order to prepare for the future.

Enacting such a process would also prepare structures and mechanisms within government in the event that the insurance crisis spills into the non-motorized and municipal communities.

Insurance, Liability and Legal Reform – 2007 Provincial Trails Summit

Attending Participants:

Dayle Abrams		Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance
Carol-Anne Albertson		Min. of Natural Resources, Land Information
Steve Alcock		Park to Park Trail Association
David Alexander	Councillor	
Dan Andrews	Manager, TCTO	Trans Canada Trail
Ian Attridge	Lawyer	
Darcy Baker		Niagara Peninsula Cons. Auth.
Marcia Barrett	Executive Director	Ontario Equestrian Federation
Brian Baty	Chairman	Regional Niagara Bicycling Com.
Tom Beaton		Chatham Kent Rec. & community services
Paula Berketo		
Martin Berzins		Niagara Falls Trails & Bikeway Com.
Lorna Boratto	Nurse	Oxford Health Unit
Mr. Boratto		
Peter Boyce		City of Welland
John Broderick	President	OFATV
Al Buck		OFTR
Jan Smith-Bull		Town of Caledon
Cindy Cassidy	Executive Director	Eastern Ontario Trails Alliance
David Clark		
Marie Clarke		Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit
Jeff Claydon		City of Niagara
Dan Cousins	Manager, Parks & Rec	Prince Edward County
Patrick Connor	Executive Director	OTC

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Diane Czapla		Town of Midland
Wayne Daub	Executive Director	OFATV
Philip Davies		Lake Simcoe Cons. Auth
Graeme Davis		County of Simcoe
Jack deWit	President	OEF
William Donohue		Bluewater Trails
Frances Edmonds		Delhi Rail Trail
Mary Edmonds		Delhi Rail Trail
Gayda Errett		Friends of Ont. Rec. Trails
Mike Farr		OFSC
Ken Forgeron		Niagara Planning & Dev. Dept
Susan Freeman	Councillor	Lanark County
Lional Gadoury		Context Creative
Rick Gray		Chatham Kent Trails Council
Stuart Green	City of StCatherines	Rec. & community services
John Gregoire		Timberline
Marc Guindon	President	OFTR
David Hahn		Township of South Frontenac
Signe Hansen		Town of Fort Erie
Michael Harding	Mayor	County of Oxford
Warren Harris		Town of Halton Hills
Jim Hayes		County of Oxford
Brad Hertner		Upper Thames River Cons. Auth.
Wendy & Heinz Hoernig		Hike Ontario
Ken Hoeverman	Executive Director	Ontario Federation of Trail Riders

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Julia Hogan		Discovery Routes Trails Organization
Don Holmes		County of Brant
Marjory & Richard Hotte		
Robert Howse	Councillor	Town of Niagara- On-The-Lake
David Hunt		Cycle Ontario Alliance
Lori Ingriselli		Park to Park Trail Association
Suzanne Jelley		OTC
Thom Jenkins		Ministry of Health Promotion
Dan Jones		Upper Thames River Cons. Auth.
Georgia Kapelos		Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration
Tarra Kelly		Context Creative Lake Simcoe Cons. Auth
Brian Kemp		
Deborah Kidd		City of Niagara
Mike King	Insurance Broker	Capri Insurance Ministry of Health Promotion
Mark Kiteley		
Richard Knobbs		Fontasy
Rod Lafontaine	Trail Coordinator	Menesetung Bridge Association
Rob Lang	Treasurer	OFTR
Al Leach		Saugeen Valley Cons. Auth.
Bill Leask		County of Brant
Terry LeRoux	President	Hike Ontario
Al MacPherson		
Dan Major		City of Woodstock, Parks Dept.
John Marsh		Trent University
Bev. McCarthy	Past president	city of Brampton

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Jennifer McCourt		Discovery Routes Trails Organization
Marilyn McCrea		Orange group
Rob Mcdonald		City of Niagara
Jim McGrath	Ontario Realty Corp.	Public Infrastructure Renewal
David McLaughlin		
Margaret Misk-Evans		County of Oxford Ausable Bayfield Cons. Auth.
Kate Monk		
Heather Morrison		County of Grey
Jeff Muzzi		County of Renfrew
George Nicholson	Director	Niagara Regional Planning Dept Ministry of Health Promotion
Carol Oitment	Policy Advisor	
Kevin Okimi		
James O'Neil		Town of Pelham
Patrick O'Reilly		City of Kawartha Lakes
Dennis Paris	for president's dinner only	Niagara Timber-Line riders
Judy Pease		Town of Lincoln Ontario Fed. Of Anglers & Hunters
Robert Pineo		
Frank Prospero	Executive Director	Get Active Now
Ron Purchase		Ontario Federation of Snowmobile clubs
Kathy Purchase		
Marjorie Rosetto	Insurance Claims Analyst	Municipality of Niagara Niagara Parks Commission
Robert Ritchie	Parks Naturalist	
Cynthia Roberts		City of Niagara Kestrel Forestry Consulting
James Rogers		

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Janie Romoff		Ministry of Health Promotion
Nancy Rosset		FedNor
Harold Sellers		Hike Ontario
Bonnie Simpson	Physically Challenged trail advisor	
Tanya Southwick		OFSC
Kirsten Spence		Trans Canada Trail Niagara Bruce Trail Club
Barb Skelton		
Mark Schmidt	Director	IMBA Ministry of Health Promotion
Craig Stewart		Park to Park Trail Association
Tom Sutclift		
John Swart		Niagara Freewheelers bicycle touring club
Barb Szychta		Cowan Insurance
Warren Thaxter		OFTR
Leslie Thatcher		Independent
Bruce Timms	Councillor	Regional Municipality of Niagara
Eugene Todd	Director, Parks & Rec	Municipality of Port Hope
Russ Vamplew		Bluewater trails
Marion Watkins		
Tim West		OFSC
Chris White		Upper Thames River Cons. Auth. Park to Park Trail Association
Tyana Wilson		
Peter Wood		OF4WD
Tim Wood		Credit Valley Cons. Auth.