

Ontario Trails Council

Established: 1988

Contact: Patrick Connor CAE, Executive Director
Address: 556 O'Connor Dr, Suite 130,
 Kingston, Ontario K7P 1N3
Phone: 1-877-668-7245
Email: admin@ontariotrails.on.ca
Website: www.ontariotrails.on.ca



Goals/Mission/Background

The **Ontario Trails Council** is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the promotion of all recreational trails and to supporting the development and management of The Trillium Trail Network. The Trillium Trail Network is a shared-use, multi-use and single-use, all-seasons trail network that includes the route of the Trans Canada Trail. It will be accessible to all Ontarians, linking together the villages, towns, and cities of our province. This Ontario network of trails will represent the diversity of Ontario and include long distance wilderness pathways, railtrails, waterfront trails, historic colonization roads, and urban greenway connectors.

The **Ontario Trails Council** is an independent, membership/volunteer driven association founded in 1988 to promote the creation, development, preservation, management, and use of recreational trails throughout Ontario. Its mandate is to work with the local trail and community groups, provincial trail user organizations, corporations, and governments to plan and develop the Trillium Trail Network across Ontario.

Events/Activities/Actions (2007)

In 2007, the **Ontario Trails Council** participated in the following activities:

- coordinating a province-wide conference to connect communities through trails, hosted by Niagara Region and the trails groups of Niagara.
- providing guidance through over 6000 enquiries to our office. The **Ontario Trails Council's** Resource Centre at contains over 200 documents on trails, such as master plans, signage guidelines, and videos.
- sponsoring a workshop to address planning and organizational issues in northern Ontario.
- providing 40 in-service trails development meetings to communities in Ontario looking for help to develop their trails.
- revitalizing the **Ontario Trails Council** website, allowing the **Council** to be of greater value to the Ontario public by promoting those organizations and trail groups that support trails in Ontario.
- representing the interests of all trail groups to secure multi-use trails and land access for trails in Ontario.
- providing support to trail organizations across Ontario in their applications for funding and community backing.
- providing representation to the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee.

Future Activities Planned

In 2008 and 2009, the **Ontario Trails Council** plans to:

- support the development and management of the Trillium Trails Network, promoting the Trillium Trail Network business plan for trails sustainability
- coordinate activities with the government through the Ontario Trails Coordinating Committee, a multi-ministerial and non-governmental organization committee arising from the Ontario Trails Strategy to promote projects.
- educate the public about the value of trails.
- coordinate a province-wide conference to connect communities through trails, at Meadowvale Delta Resort June 26, 2008.
- work with the broad trails community on the resolution of urgent and controversial issues, such as insurance and development of trails-friendly landscape.
- Participate in the formation and direction of a National Trails Initiative with funding from the federal government
- build partnerships with organizations that share values of conservation and outdoor activity, especially in northern and rural Ontario.



Trailing On – advancing the development of trails, including the Trillium Trails Network, is a main priority for the **Ontario Trails Network**.

