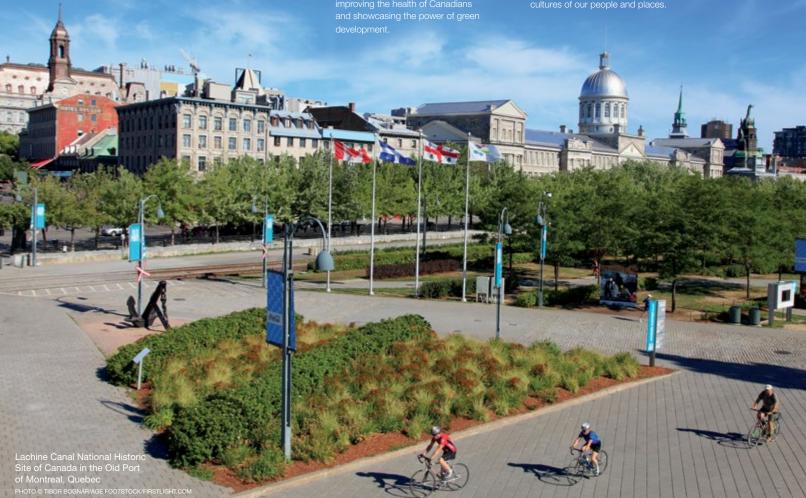


Our Mission

We will promote and assist in the development and use of the Trans Canada Trail by supporting success at the local level in the creation of this national network.

Our Vision

- Create and celebrate the Trans Canada grandest recreational trail in the world.
- Provide a national context for Canadians to explore our history, learn about the and shape our thinking about what it
- · Be recognized as the nation's best for Canadians to participate in safe, healthy, low-cost recreation.
- coast to coast as our national Trail is stewarded for future generations.





















A JOINT MESSAGE FROM TCT CHAIR **PAUL LABARGE**AND TCT PRESIDENT & CEO **DEBORAH APPS**



The logo was designed by Ariana Cuvin, 19, a student of the University of Waterloo in Ontario, winner of the Canada 150 Logo Design Contest. Ariana was chosen from over 300 eligible entries.

The Trail's Inspiring Canadian Journey

Just as we were preparing this year's Annual Report, the Government of Canada announced support for Canada 2017 celebrations through a new Canada 150 Secretariat and logo.

A stylized maple leaf, the emblem for our nation's 150th anniversary of Confederation is composed of a colourful series of diamonds, representing a diverse, but united nation with a rich past and a promising future.

These are concepts that resonate strongly at the Trans Canada Trail, where for over 23 years, we have been working diligently to connect a trail that celebrates our diverse regions and peoples, and which, by dint of linking communities, creates a sense of belonging.

Our Trail is indeed a trail of trails, each one a path through a unique landscape and cultural heritage.

Our national Trail now boasts nearly 19,000 kilometres of multi-purpose trail, 74 per cent of it on land and 26 per cent on water.

In September, we were thrilled to celebrate the full connection of the TCT in Prince Edward Island, thanks to a generous \$1 million donation from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation. It was indeed heart-warming to celebrate this accomplishment in Charlottetown with so many friends and Trail supporters.

As of the end of this year, thanks to the hard work of our Trail partners, builders, donors and government partners across the country, we are delighted to have added 1,291 kilometres to our network, bringing our total Trail connection to 80 per cent.

Our bold national connection goal is rapidly being realized. The TCT now links nearly 1,000 municipalities and over 15,000 communities.

A frank assessment of Canadian demographics combined with research on best practices for cycling infrastructure helped us understand the benefits of employing secondary and rural roads as cycling routes. The result is that we have now identified 3,500 kilometres of possible road cycling route to enhance our network.

We are delighted to announce that Saskatchewan added a significant amount of cycling route to its provincial TCT network. Thanks to the support of 35 municipalities, the province registered 515 new kilometres of route providing cyclists with a scenic way to explore the 'land of the living skies'.

With the growing interest in cycling, we hope that these routes will become as popular as the much-loved Route Verte, part of our TCT network in Quebec.

Similarly, our refocused connection strategy helped us identify new water trails that offer paddlers even more ways to explore our country. Here again, Saskatchewan borrowed the limelight this year with the addition of its first water trail, the 108-km Chief Whitecap Waterway, which runs through the Whitecap Dakota First Nation from the Gardiner Dam to Saskatoon.

This new water trail is an ideal example of how our partners recognized the benefits of developing trail that



respects local heritage and geography. It is our hope that it inspires the next generation to take up paddling, recalling the heritage of Aboriginal people, and promoting healthy outdoor living at the same time.

We are equally thrilled with the continued development of the Lake Superior Water Trail in northern Ontario. Connecting six Aboriginal communities, it will be a lasting homage to the area's First Peoples and a means to promote awareness and understanding. This trail also has the added cachet of being the route that the renowned Group of Seven painters travelled in their quest to interpret Canada's North—an adventure that captured the imagination of Trail explorers and photographers, Gary and Joanie McGuffin, whose story you can read on page 10.

Our national Trail also promotes and supports the work our Trail partners are doing to create and maintain sections designed for horseback riding, walking and hiking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.

As we write this message, Ontario is being swept up in the excitement of the Pan Am Torch Relay and we are reminded of the generous support provided by the Government of Ontario Pan Am/Parapan Am Legacy Fund, which is allowing us to complete over 250 kilometres of shared-use walking and hiking and cycling trail from Ottawa to Huntsville to Windsor.

We extend a profound thank-you to our 13 provincial and territorial partners, and the 477 local Trail groups across the country for their continued commitment to building Canada's Trail. We could not do this without them. You can read more about their accomplishments in this report's regional updates.

As 2017 fast approaches, we have another 4,828 kilometres of Trail gap to bridge, so we invite you to join us in celebrating our partner Trail connection events across the country over the next two years.

We are thankful for the generous support provided by our donors and all levels of government. Last year, TCT donors contributed a record \$8 million, which the Government of Canada supplemented by a further \$4 million through the Parks Canada matching grant. With these funds, TCT approved a record \$8,295,000 in Trail-building grants. For a full list of the projects, please see pages 42 and 43.

This momentum is mirrored in the growing number of well-known Canadians who are voicing their support for the Trail. This year, we were thrilled to welcome 108 new TCT Champions to our growing roster of passionate and patriotic supporters; see the full list on pages 40 and 41.

So, what has inspired our Trail builders, government partners, donors and champions and why does the Trail speak so persuasively to the Canadian spirit?

As we travel across our great country meeting Canadians and talking to them about the value of this bold and iconic project, we are constantly struck by how many of us are new or first-generation Canadians.

Our nation is a land where people come to explore new paths and create new destinies. After all, our nation will only be 150 years old in 2017 so journeying is still fresh in our DNA—we are still, at heart, youthful adventurers!

Our travels have also taught us that we Canadians are curious about one another. We truly love our land, but more than that, we want to *know* it. We want to touch it, see it, hear it and smell it. What better way to do that than on a trail that connects us from coast to coast to coast?

Finally, we are constantly struck by their thoughtfulness. There is something about journeying, especially at 'human speed', that responds to this reflective part of our nature and it is the rationale behind our tagline: *Your Trail, Your Journey*.

On a national scope, the TCT is also a tangible record of our collective Canadian journey. As we work to complete it, we are paying homage to the routes that Canada's earliest peoples and settlers forged as they laid the foundation for our nation.

The Trans Canada Trail is a gift.

Created by Canadians for Canadians, the Trail provides accessible recreational infrastructure; it encourages active living, environmental stewardship, economic development and a better understanding of our culture and heritage.

In this way, the Trans Canada Trail belongs to all Canadians.





The Trail is a national treasure for all Canadians. It facilitates the discovery of our landscape and heritage in a healthy way. Building a national Trail also fosters an important sense of community—no matter where you live, all Canadians can do their part to connect our beautiful country from coast to coast to coast.

-LAUREEN HARPER, HONORARY CHAIR OF THE TCT'S CHAPTER 150 CAMPAIGN

In keeping with the Government of Canada's new Canada 150 initiative, we encourage you to think about how you can use the TCT section nearest you as a natural stage for 150th anniversary celebrations in your community.

Once the celebrations are over, our goal is to see Canadians across the country, and visitors from around the world, enjoying the Trail for centuries to come.

Our dream is that the Trans Canada Trail will become as well known around the world as the El Camino in Spain, the Pennine Way in the UK, or the Appalachian Trail in the United States.

As our TCT Foundation Co-Chair, Valerie Pringle, has always said: once the Trail is on the ground, it is sacred.

Ben O'Neill, volunteer Nova Scotia

EMBRACING THE NEXT GENERATION

For 13-year-old TCT volunteer and Trail user Ben O'Neill, volunteering is a family venture. His mother Sally O'Neill—Trail Development Coordinator for Active Pictou County—is passionate about the benefits of the Trail for their community, and has passed this enthusiasm on to Ben. "I like to joke that I started volunteering because my parents made me," says Ben. "They did ask me first, but now I really like working on the Trail."

Ben is an energetic participant in Trail-building events, clearing brush, laying gravel and even building benches for a new section of the Trail. When he is not doing that, his favourite activity is cycling on the TCT's Founders Trail in Trenton Steeltown Park. "Why would I bike on a sidewalk, when I could be exploring in the woods?" says Ben. "Plus, it makes me proud to show my friends what I built."

For Sally, her son Ben is part of a bigger youth movement underway in the province. "We have energetic young people doing good work and trying to build a strong future for Nova Scotia, including working on the TCT in our community," she says. "It's amazing to be a part of such a grand thing."









Mrs. Nancy Baron, donor Prince Edward Island

SLOWING DOWN ON THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL

For TCT donor Mrs. Nancy Baron, the Trans Canada Trail is a place for discovery, fun and contemplation.

Mrs. Baron has a special fondness for the Trail in Prince Edward Island, which is now the second province to boast a fully connected section, in large part thanks to a \$1-million donation by Mrs. Baron, as Trustee of The W. Garfield Weston Foundation.

"Now the Trail in P.E.I. is finished, people from around the world will be able to enjoy this lovely corner of Canada, and most importantly, will be able to enjoy it at a leisurely pace; its beaches, historic sites and other attractions will be just a walk or bike ride away," says Mrs. Baron. "Visitors will return to their homes with smiling faces ... and maybe, tired feet!"

For Mrs. Baron, the TCT offers users the means to slow down in an increasingly fast-paced world. "Discoveries on the Trail will be in what I call 'slow time," an idea that she says is inspired by a line from the poem 'Leisure' by William Henry Davies: A poor life this is if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare.

The TCT celebrated the 100 per cent connection of the Trail in Prince Edward Island in September, 2014. Developed on the province's former railway lines, P.E.I.'s section of the TCT—The Confederation Trail—is 444 kilometres long, running from Tignish in the west to Elmira in the east.











Atlantic Progress

NEW BRUNSWICK
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
NOVA SCOTIA
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

ATLANTIC CANADIANS CONNECTED 650

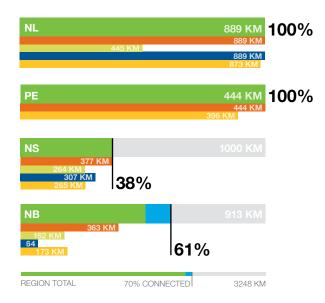
OFFICIAL OPENINGS

On September 12, 2014, as part of the celebrations marking the 150th anniversary of the Charlottetown Conference in P.E.I., Island Trails and the TCT celebrated the full connection of the 444-km Confederation Trail from Tignish to Elmira. P.E.I. is the second province (after Newfoundland and Labrador) to boast 100 per cent Trail connection.

The New Brunswick Trail Council opened 3.5 kilometres of the Sentier de l'Etoile Trail in Dieppe. The Town of Trenton, Nova Scotia, celebrated the extension of the Trenton Steeltown Centennial Park trail (Pictou to New Glasgow) as part of their Frostfest winter festival.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

The Cole Harbour Parks and Trails Association connected a 2-km section of the Forest Hills Trail between Cole Harbour and Dartmouth.



The New Brunswick Trails Council and the Fundy National Park completed the 2-km Fundy National Park (Upper Salmon River Trail) and the Towns of Hampton and Quispamsis completed 7.5 km of TCT to help connect Saint John to Hampton.

The New Brunswick Trails Council completed a 3-km Trail section of the Marshes Trail between Cape Tormentine and Cape Jourimain National Wildlife Area.

On the island of Newfoundland, T'Railway continued its efforts to enhance Trail-user experience by making upgrades in the town of Conception Bay South, where several kilometres were converted into walking and cycling trail. The majority of the T'Railway permits motorized use.

PLANNING

In Nova Scotia, the Oxford and Area Trail Association has finalized plans for a new bridge across the River Philip.

On Cape Breton Island, the Nova Scotia Trails Federation is working with local partners to develop a new water trail section around the Bras d'Or Lake. The Whycocomagh Waterfront Centre is the first access point to be developed along this route. Additional planning is in progress to improve other access points, signage locations and possible trip-planning tools.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, the Town of Conception Bay South is working towards upgrading a 4-km section of the T'Railway that will be designated for walking, hiking and cycling.



COMMUNITIES CONNECTED 3612

TRAIL GROUPS 55



TCT'S PROVINCIAL PARTNERS IN ATLANTIC CANADA

Newfoundland T'Railway trailway.ca

Island Trails

islandtrails.ca

Nova Scotia Trails Federation novascotiatrails.com

New Brunswick Trails Council Inc. sentiernbtrail.com

Celebrating the 100 per cent connection of the TCT in Prince Edward Island on September 14, 2014. (L-R): Stratford Mayor David Dunphy; Charlottetown Mayor Clifford Lee; former Prince Edward Island Premier Robert Ghiz; Catherine Schaap, President of Island Trails; Nancy Baron, Trustee of the W. Garfield Weston Foundation; Valerie Pringle, Co-Chair of Trans Canada Trail Foundation; the Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans; Mrs. Laureen Harper, Honorary TCT Campaign Chair; and Paul LaBarge, Chair of the Trans Canada Trail.

PHOTO: BRIAN L. SIMPSON



*The TCT is a network of many unique trails that altogether promote six preferred activities: walking/hiking, cycling, paddling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling. Designated activities depend on the Trail section; some allow shared-use, while others do not.

The McGuffins, explorers Ontario

RECAPTURING THE BEAUTY OF NORTHERN ONTARIO

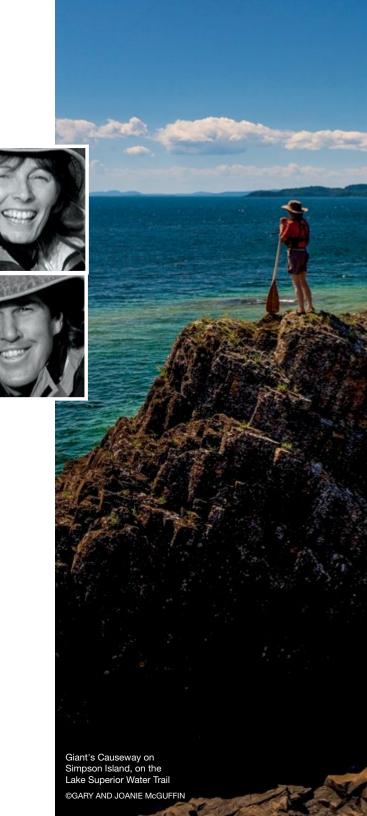
Using lavish colour and simplified forms, painters Lawren Harris, A.Y. Jackson, Arthur Lismer, Frank Johnston, J. E. H. MacDonald, Franklin Carmichael, Fredrick Varley, and A. J. Casson boldly reinterpreted Canada's wilderness in the early 20th century.

The adventures of the Group of Seven have now been revisited through the eyes of conservation photographers Gary and Joanie McGuffin, and art historian Michael Burtch through an investigative arts film, "Painted Land: In Search of the Group of Seven," described as part mystery, part history and part adventure. The film will be released on TVO in the fall of 2015.

The film and upcoming book are the results of the years that the McGuffins spent canoeing and bushwhacking across the Algoma region east of Lake Superior, where the intrepid Canadian painters set up their easels in the midst of black flies and bird song.

With their canvases, they unveiled the rugged beauty of Canada's north to the world—granite, boreal forest, vast lakes—transformed into iconic images, where every brush stroke shimmers.

"The Group of Seven delineated landscapes out of the raw wilderness—they saw lines and light ... these iconic landscapes they painted are real places ... and the Trans Canada Trail, on land and water, can lead you to them," says Gary.









TCT volunteer and avid Trail user Nicole Gagné—who was featured in TCT's volunteer video series—says she's a bit shy about the spotlight. "I'm not someone who enjoys being in front of a camera, but it's good for anyone to get out of their comfort zone once in a while!"

Nicole is most comfortable tending to the horses on her ranch, with her husband Pierre Fiset. They spend a lot of time with other local volunteers involved with the Club des randonneurs équestre de Portneuf (C.R.E.P.) in St-Basile-de-Portneuf, planning Trail development, clearing paths and building new stretches of the Trail.

"I look forward to the day when we equestrians can go anywhere and everywhere," says Nicole. "There's nothing like being out on the Trail on your horse. So that's what we're all working for."

The Cavalier Trail—which is a stone's throw from Nicole's home in St-Basile-de-Portneuf—is multi-use and is popular with horseback riders, snowmobilers and skiers, hikers and cyclists.

"You have to share the space on our Trail section and be aware of your surroundings, and that's what I like about it. There are regulations, making it safe for anyone to use."





COMMUNITIES CONNECTED 7924

CENTRAL CANADIANS CONNECTED

84%

Central Progress

QUEBEC ONTARIO MANITOR

TRAIL GROUPS 253

OFFICIAL OPENINGS

The TCT and its partners celebrated several official openings in Central Canada this year.

In Ontario, the Rainbow Routes
Association opened a 5-km Trail
section in the Lake Laurentian
Conservation Area; the County of
Frontenac opened a 12-km section
from Harrowsmith to Verona; the City
of Thunder Bay celebrated a new
40-metre footbridge in Trowbridge
Falls Park; and Kawartha Trans
Canada Trail officially opened the last
kilometre of its 44-km Trail section.

Trails Manitoba opened a 13-km section of the impressive Border to Beaches Trail, which stretches 370 km from the Ontario border to Lake Winnipeg.

In Quebec, le Club des randonneurs équestres de Portneuf officially opened the Portneuf Trail and le Club équestre la foulée mauricienne officially opened the 42-km Maskinongé-Est Trail, both of which became part of a new horseback riding trail network on the North Shore of the Saint Lawrence River.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

In Ontario, the Path of the Paddle Association completed three sections of their water trail, adding 360 km to the TCT network. The Lake Superior Watershed Conservancy oversaw the development of the 989-km Lake Superior Water Trail between Sault Ste. Marie and the City of Thunder Bay. Work is currently underway to improve amenities for paddlers by upgrading 14 of the trail's 50 access points. Additions will include wayfinding and interpretive signage and amenities such as toilets, picnic tables and lockers.

The Rainbow Routes Association completed four kilometres of the Southview Trail, providing a new cycling route in the Greater Sudbury Area. The Association also registered trail through Mashkinonje Provincial Park. Essex County completed 32 kilometres of the Essex-Chatham Trail and the City of Thunder Bay completed six kilometres of the

TRAIL STATUS BY PROVINCE*





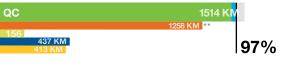








8179 KM







81% CONNECTED

*Please refer to footnote on page 9. **Supplementary Trail

REGION TOTAL

TCT'S PROVINCIAL PARTNERS IN CENTRAL CANADA

Trails Manitoba mrta.mb.ca

TCT Ontario tctontario.ca

Conseil québécois du sentier Transcanadien

Trail leading to Lake Superior. The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority completed 4 kilometres of the Wainfleet Feeder Trail. The TCT was also delighted to welcome the City of Sault Ste. Marie's 22-km John Rowswell Hub Trail to its network.

In the winter of 2015, Trails Manitoba began construction to upgrade the Red River Floodway Crossing near Winnipeg, part of the 192-km Crow Wing Trail.

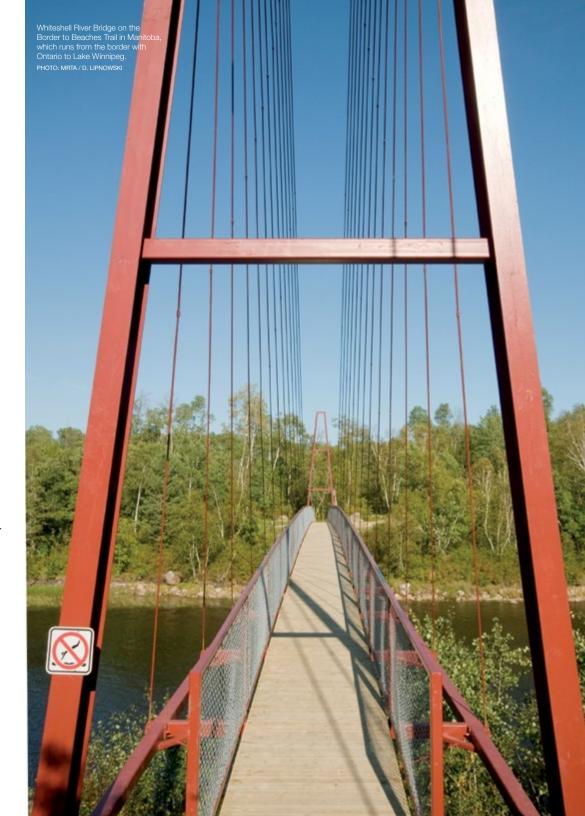
In Quebec, the Ville de Repentigny added 2 kilometres of cycling route.

PLANNING

The Path of the Paddle Association in Ontario completed a feasibility study for Trail development between Manitoba and Ontario.

Trails Manitoba developed plans to complete the province's Border to Beaches Trail, and carried out a feasibility study for Trail running through the Swan Lake First Nations.

Le Conseil québéquois du sentier Transcanadien advanced plans to connect and sign the remaining 55 kilometres of TCT in Quebec.







Marco Marder, explorer Northwest Territories

ANSWERING THE CALL OF THE WILD

"I had nothing at first but the idea," recalls Marco Marder, a 26-year-old from Munich, Germany. In early 2014, while searching for a significant way to mark his transition from university to a career, he made a life-changing decision.

Inspired by Canada's untamed northern landscapes and waterways—and despite the fact he had never been in a canoe—he planned a solo journey along the Trans Canada Trail "to experience life away from people and computers, and to breathe before I started my working life."

His chances of success improved after he met Darin and Jennifer Zandee from Calgary. "They organized a canoe and paddles for me, showed me how to handle them...and much more," he says.

On May 25, 2014, Marco left Fort McMurray to paddle 2,700 kilometres north along the Athabasca River Trail, to Slave River and on to Great Slave Lake, battling waves and fog until the Mackenzie River swept him along. After 54 days, he stepped ashore in Inuvik.

Marco then set out to hike the Dempster Highway 780 kilometres to Dawson City, Yukon. Eleven days and 185 kilometres later, injuries and bad weather forced him to hitch a ride.

"I endured wind, rain, mosquitoes, deerflies and blackflies. I met bears, wolves, moose, caribou, beavers and eagles. I experienced the hospitality of northern people ... I enjoyed wilderness and solitude ... feeling small and insignificant compared to these wide, beautiful and rough northern lands."

Harris Cox, volunteer Yukon

CLEARING A PATH FOR HIS COMMUNITY

For TCT volunteer and Trail user Harris Cox, grooming the local snowmobile trails in and around Whitehorse every winter is about caring for his community.

Harris moved to the Whitehorse area from Nova Scotia when his father was transferred to the Yukon in 1958 for his work with the Royal Canadian Air Force. Harris has been a passionate Yukoner ever since.

"I call it my backyard," says Harris of the Yukon, home to the Whitehorse Copper Trail that serves snowmobilers, skiers and dogsledders in the winter, and hikers and cyclists in the summer.

"The Trail is multi-use, you can walk it, ski it, jog it, and I see parents with strollers, too. It's got something for everyone," Harris says.

Harris tends to roughly 200 kilometres of the TCT every winter, ensuring the Trail is clear of snow and ice by using a groomer hitched to his snowmobile.

In the Land of the Midnight Sun, winter daylight can last as little as 6.5 hours, and temperatures can drop as low as -37 Celsius, but Harris is unfazed: "I love grooming the Trail in the winter, and I'll do it until I can't drive anymore. It can get a little cold, but I can't complain."







Northern Progress

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES YUKON NUNAVUT

TRAIL GROUPS

15

TCT'S PROVINCIAL PARTNERS IN NORTHERN CANADA

Klondike Snowmobile Association ksa.yk.ca

Nunavut Department of the Environment nunavutparks.com

NWT Recreation and Parks Association nwtrpa.org

OFFICIAL OPENINGS

With the Trail's northernmost sections rapidly approaching completion, TCT Honorary Campaign Chair, Mrs. Laureen Harper, and TCT's President & CEO, Deborah Apps visited Whitehorse, Yukon, and Iqaluit, Nunavut, this year. Accompanied by local Trail partners, Toos Omtzigt and Mark Daniels of the Klondike Snowmobile Association, and Cameron DeLong, of Nunavut Parks and Special Places, they saw first-hand the work being done to connect the Trail in the North.

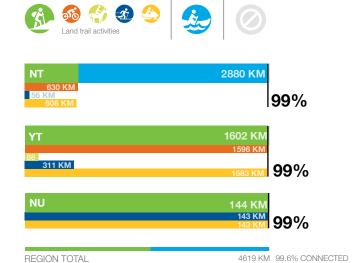
It was an excellent opportunity to draw attention to the challenges and opportunities that local Trail developers face in Nunavut and the Yukon and by extension, in the Northwest Territories.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Nunavut Parks and Special Places, with support from the TCT and the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, identified a new overland route for the Itijjagiaq Trail. Hikers, snowmobilers and other trail users can follow this traditional dogsled route from the south entrance of Katannilik Territorial Park to Iqaluit. The trail skirts the Soper Heritage River for much of the way, but also climbs ancient hills traversing austere scenery. Snowmobilers can travel this 120-km trail in as little as eight hours, a distance that once took up to five days to traverse by dog sled. Unlike routes to the south, this overland trail is defined by the north and south trail head signs that welcome users to the park. Along the way, the trail is marked by wayfinding signage at nine



TRAIL STATUS BY PROVINCE*



emergency warming huts, five along the river and four in the uplands.

Nunavut Parks and Special Places also designed new interpretive signage providing information about the trail's history and environment, including a reference map with global positioning satellite coordinates. Information is provided in Nunavut's four official languages: Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English and French. The TCT is adopting Nunavut's approach to signage as the model for Trail sections in or near First Nations' lands across Canada.

The Klondike Snowmobile Association in the Yukon was also very busy this year with sign installation and identification of Trail routes throughout the territory, including more than 116 kilometres of land trail. This significant push by regional volunteers helped make important connections that will allow for the full connection of the Trail by 2017.

PLANNING

In the Northwest Territories, the Town of Hay River section, home to more than 3,600 residents, advanced the planning and construction of a 3-km Trail section. Once the Town completes the trail, the Hay River Trail section will be the principal recreation link between the community and the attractions on the south shore of Great Slave Lake—the beach, territorial campground, museum, fisherman's wharf and a historic fishing village.

NORTHERN CANADIANS CONNECTED

72%

COMMUNITIES CONNECTED

1 Q O

*Please refer to footnote on page 9.

WESTERN REGION

The Rumbolds, donors Alberta

SUPPORTING A CONNECTED TRAIL

Ever since their daughter Kathryn gifted them three metres of Trail in 1994, Grace and Arnold Rumbold have been ardent supporters of the TCT.

"She introduced us to the concept of a national Trail connecting people and communities across Canada. We just thought it was an excellent idea, one that should be supported," Grace says.

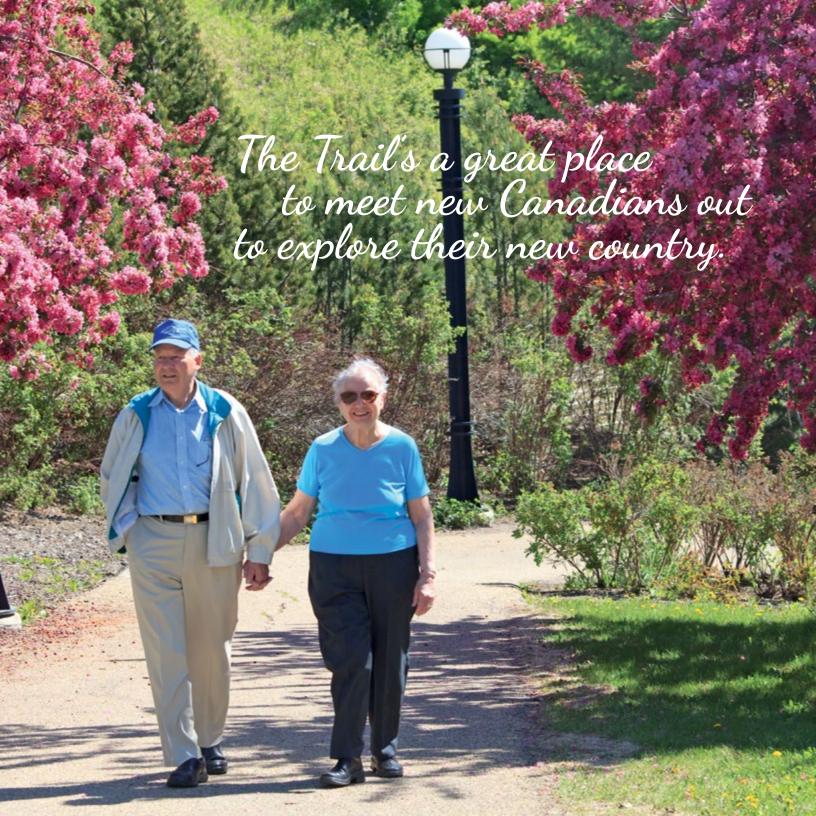
Arnold agrees. "We encourage our family and friends to do the same." Their family members have names inscribed in TCT Pavilions in Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto, and in Burlington, where Kathryn lives with her family.

The Rumbolds have travelled Canada from St. John's to Victoria, and from the Yukon River to Lake Ontario. Wherever they go, they seek out sections of the TCT. Most often, however, during the milder months, they love to stroll the urban Trail section running through Edmonton's North Saskatchewan River valley.

"The Trail's a great place to meet new Canadians out to explore their new country," says Arnold. "Last year, on a footbridge, we met a recently married couple from Libya."

The husband had been in Canada for some time, recalls Grace, but the bride had arrived recently. "We had a delightful chat with them as we shared a moment watching the boats on the river."









Marie Rozitis, donor British Columbia

MAKING A LASTING GIFT

Most days, Marie Rozitis can be seen pedaling her bike along the False Creek section of the Trans Canada Trail to Granville Island Market. After sailing into Halifax Harbour in 1962, direct from France, Marie made the long journey to B.C., where she bought her Vancouver home.

There, in Kitsilano, where she still lives today, she raised a large family, witnessing many changes to the city. Among the changes that concern her most are the loss of historic buildings and the removal of towering, age-old trees. But Marie says she's found something that will endure: "The Trail is something no one can take away. The Trans Canada Trail is something that they can't knock down."

Marie began monthly donations to the TCT in 1997 after reading about it in a natural heritage magazine. "It is more than a great story; it is an amazing accomplishment...that they will connect it all the way across our country for Canada's 150th anniversary."

Marie often cycles on the Trail to the market and around the Sea Wall in Stanley Park. "I never stop enjoying it," she says. "What a gift! Whoever started a trail that will go right across this country had a wonderful idea. When it is all connected I want a copy of the map of the finished Trail."

To celebrate the accomplishment, she intends to place that map beside the photograph of the ship that brought her to Canada more than half a century ago.

Western Progress

BRITISH COLUMBIA

COMMUNITIES CONNECTED

WESTERN CANADIANS CONNECTED

TRAIL GROUPS

TRAIL STATUS BY PROVINCE*







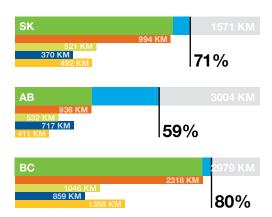




70% CONNECTED



7554 KM



*Please refer to footnote on page 9

REGION TOTAL

OFFICIAL OPENINGS

In the fall of 2014, the Town of Blackfalds, Alberta officially opened a new Trail section running through the town's Abbey Centre, creating the first indoor section of the TCT in the country.

Also in the fall, the Athabasca Landing Trail Steering Committee hosted an official opening for a new Trail section, developed along the Athabasca Landing Trail, near Colinton, north of Edmonton.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

In Saskatchewan, a highlight of this year's progress was the formation of the Chief Whitecap Waterway Committee, which saw the development of the Chief Whitecap Waterway that follows the South Saskatchewan Heritage River from the Gardiner Dam to the City of Saskatoon.

In British Columbia, the B.C. Marine Trails Network Association worked with Recreation Sites and Trails BC, the Squamish Nation, the Government of B.C., the Squamish Lillooet District and the Sunshine Coast Regional District to develop the Sea to Sky Marine Trail, a saltwater section of the TCT on Howe Sound that will encourage multi-day paddling and camping trips from Horseshoe Bay to Squamish.

With support from the Regional District of East Kootenay and Columbia Basin Trust, Trails BC

finished Phase One of the three-year, \$1 million, 42-km Isadore Canyon Rail Trail from Cranbrook to Wardner.

In Saskatchewan, the Canora Trakkers Snow Club continued work on the 31-km Trail section from Canora to Good Spirit Lake. The Meewasin Valley Authority continued developing a 4.5-km section of the Meewasin Trail, north of Saskatoon. Rural municipalities and TCT volunteers also upgraded many of the province's trails in preparation for signage in the spring.

PLANNING

In British Columbia, the Capital Regional District and the Cowichan Valley Regional District conducted feasibility studies for a critical Trail gap between Langford and Shawnigan Lake on Vancouver Island.

In Saskatchewan, the Wakamow Valley Authority finalized plans for a Trail section in the Wakamow Valley in Moose Jaw, and the Meewasin Valley Authority finalized plans for a Trail section from the Meewasin Valley Trail to Chief Whitecap Park. Planning also began for a water trail on the Qu'Appelle River between Lumsden and Pasqua Lake.

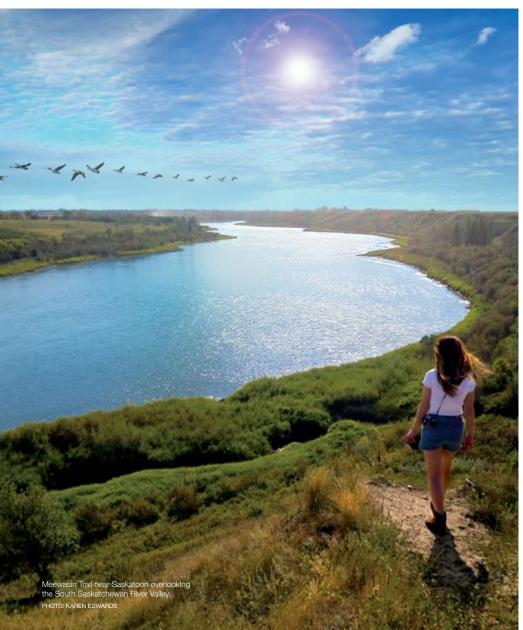
TCT'S PROVINCIAL PARTNERS IN WESTERN CANADA

Trails BC trailsbc.ca

Alberta TrailNet albertatrailnet.com

Saskatchewan Vision 2017 Trail Committee

Right: Their Royal Highnesses The Earl and Countess of Wessex on the Coho Loop Trail in Capilano River Regional Park, Vancouver, British Columbia. PHOTO: BARRY J BRADY PHOTOGRAPHY







I encourage all Canadians to experience the Trans Canada Trail and our national parks and historic sites, and to really appreciate all Canada has to offer in terms of its geographic and cultural diversity.

-ALAN LATOURELLE, CEO. PARKS CANADA

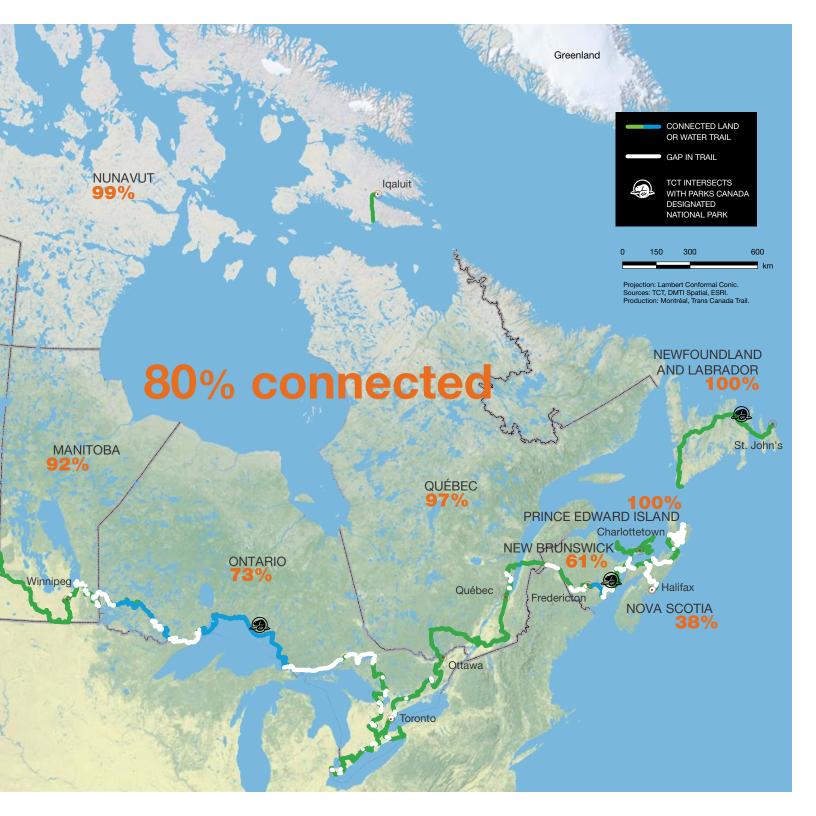
Connecting Canada

Launched in 1992 as a legacy project for Canada's 125th anniversary, the Trail today is a network of recreational trails stretching nearly 19,000 kilometres from coast to coast to coast. It showcases urban, rural and wilderness areas in every province and territory, and offers Canadians and visitors countless opportunities to experience Canada's natural beauty and diversity.

By providing recreational trails for walking/hiking, cycling, paddling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling, the Trans Canada Trail offers something for everyone.

Today, the TCT is 80 per cent connected, with nearly 5,000 kilometres to be built in order to reach its coast-to-coast-to-coast connection goal by 2017, Canada's 150th anniversary. Local Trail groups are hard at work planning routes, negotiating land access, securing permits, raising funds and constructing trail to bridge the remaining gaps. TCT provides financial support to these groups, thanks to generous contributions from all levels of government, businesses, foundations and individual donors.





About the Trans Canada Trail

"This country has so many wonderful points on the map, so many great vistas and landmarks to discover. With that comes the opportunity to be physically active, to explore these points, and that can begin with a simple walk on the Trans Canada Trail."

- HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE DAVID JOHNSTON, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA AND TCT PATRON

A nation's anniversary is a momentous and joyous occasion, and so it is with great enthusiasm that the Trans Canada Trail prepares for 2017, the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

By 2017, the Trans Canada Trail will be nearly 24,000 kilometres long and will traverse the country from coast to coast to coast. It will also be the longest and grandest recreational trail in the world.

At that time, our greatest hope is that Canadians across the country will look to the Trail as a stage for their local celebrations—a natural setting in which they can connect with their land and with one another.

This achievement will be due to the hard work of thousands of donors, volunteers and government partners across the country, managed through two non-profit charitable organizations: the Trans Canada Trail Foundation and the Trans Canada Trail.

The TCT is responsible for the overall direction and design of the Trail. We work with 13 territorial and provincial partner organizations that coordinate regional planning and Trail

development. These partners then work closely with local Trail groups that build and manage trails.

Together, these two organizations provide support for Trail building via three key roles:

- Funding community Trail projects, supporting and engaging territorial and provincial partners, and directing the energy of volunteers and supporters
- Promoting the Trans Canada Trail network by enhancing the Trail's profile, emphasizing the benefits of the Trail, and encouraging Canadians and visitors to enjoy the Trail
- Executing a robust fund development program to raise the funds needed for the construction, signing, promotion and long-term maintenance of the Trail



Right: His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada (centre) hosted the inauguration of a new 1-km section of the TCT on the grounds of Rideau Hall, Ottawa, seen here walking with Boy Scouts of Canada. PHOTO: BLAIR GABLE

REMEMBERING DR. ART DOBSON

TCT was saddened by the passing of Dr. Arthur Dobson on November 20, 2014 in Moncton. Born in 1925, he was an avid hiker. His legacy includes the 60-km Dobson Trail from Riverview to Fundy National Park. Art envisioned this forested footpath in 1959 and led volunteers who, over the next decade, built this vital part of the TCT in New Brunswick.



A Message from TCT Foundation Co-Chairs





VALERIE PRINGLE AND HARTLEY RICHARDSON, CO-CHAIRS OF THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL FOUNDATION

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY TO BUILD A TRAIL

We believe that the Trans Canada Trail is one of the grandest projects in this country: bold, iconic and awe inspiring. It is commensurately difficult and challenging to accomplish. We need all Canadians to pull together to make it happen and they are doing that. Trail Blazers come in all forms: people out there with shovels and signs, people using the TCT and posting photographs and descriptions, and people giving money to see it built.

As Co-Chairs of the Trans Canada Trail Foundation, we are focused on the many wonderful Canadians who generously support Trail building across the country with their donations.

This year, we are delighted to report extraordinary support from our donors. We surpassed our \$8 million fundraising goal, which leveraged a further \$4 million from the Government of Canada, through its \$25-million Parks Canada matching grant.

We extend a profound thankyou to all of our donors and to the Government of Canada, whose combined contributions fund the dedicated work of Trail builders across the country.

Our fundraising success this year puts us in a strong position to reach our \$50 million goal, which supports both our 2017 connection strategy as well as the creation of an endowment fund to maintain the Trail for future generations.

Last year, we were thrilled to add another 1,291 kilometres of Trail to our network. In particular, a generous donation from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation in 2013-14 allowed us to bridge the remaining gap on Prince Edward Island and fully connect that province's section of the TCT.

With the ongoing support of our donors, we are on track to completing the remaining 4,828 kilometres of the TCT, and to creating the longest and grandest recreational trail in the world.

We know this country would be a healthier place if more Canadians spent time on the Trail! As Nietzsche wrote, "only those thoughts that come from walking have any value."

The TCT is a gift from Canadians to Canadians, which your support makes possible.

HONORARY PATRONS

Their Excellencies the Right Honourable David Johnston, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D. Governor General of Canada and Mrs. Sharon Johnston, C.C.

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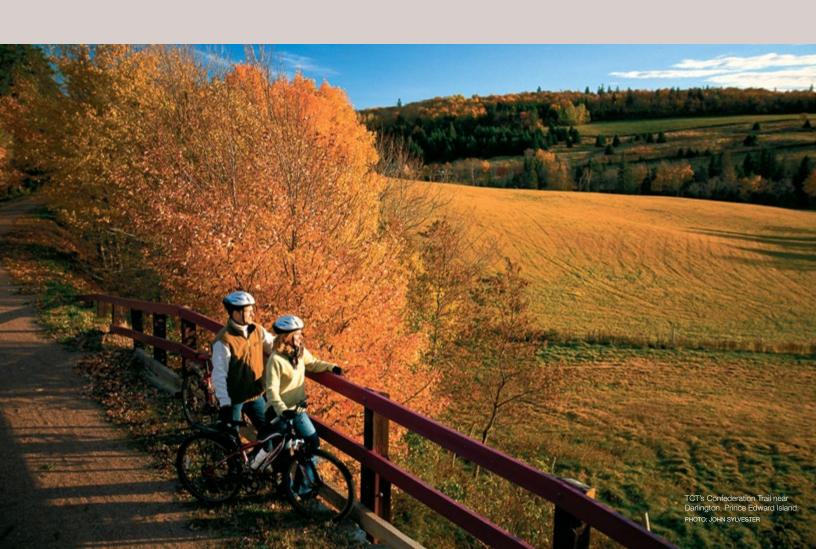
TCT EXTENDS A SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO OUR NEW CHAPTER 150 LEADERSHIP DONORS



- **David Bissett** supported further development of the TCT in Alberta.
- The Ontario Trillium Foundation and TD Bank supported the development of the Lake Superior Water Trail and the Lake Huron North Shore Cycling Route in Northern Ontario.
- Inter Pipeline Ltd. supported the completion of the Strathcona County Trail through Sherwood Park in Alberta.
- The RBC Foundation supported the development of water trails across the country, specifically: Sea to Sky Marine Trail in British Columbia, Chief Whitecap Waterway in Saskatchewan and the Bras d'Or Lake Water Trail in Nova Scotia.
- Scotia Bank supported Trail development in the Atlantic region.

"The Trans Canada Trail is truly covered in the footprints of hundreds of thousands of Canadians who are volunteers, users and donors, and are, therefore, trailblazers. What better accolade could there be than to be called a trail blazer? To be able to say, 'I helped build a Trail across Canada from coast to coast to coast.'"

-Valerie Pringle and Hartley Richardson



Spreading the Word

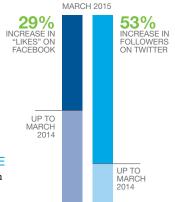
As this is our home and native land—yours and mine!...I feel privileged to be a part of the TCT.

-TOM JACKSON, TCT CHAMPION



MY CANADIAN JOURNEY

In March, the TCT launched a new series of stories recounting the varied experiences Trail explorers are having on Canada's national Trail. From Reverend Elizabeth Brown, who walked the Trail as a spiritual pilgrimage, to business professor Rick Long, who set the audacious goal of traversing all seven of British Columbia's mountain ranges, "My Canadian Journey" stories emphasize that our spirit of adventure is alive and well. These stories are shared on our website, via our e-newsletter (Trail Talk), and on our social media platforms.



SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

TCT continues to steward an increasingly engaged online community. Over 340,000 unique users saw our Facebook content this past year, and we welcomed an average of four new Twitter followers daily.

Our success is due in large part to the implementation of a streamlined promotional strategy. Our efforts led to exponential growth: our Facebook posts are up by nearly 500 per cent, and tweets up by close to 700 per cent, versus last year.

FACEBOOK POSTS UP 500%



TWEETS UP 700%







THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Thanks to the ongoing generous support of The Globe and Mail, the TCT continues to promote the Trail to a national audience.

Last year, the TCT published its fourth annual Globe and Mail special report on Canada Day Weekend. Under the theme of "Our Canadian Journey," this eight-page insert showcased historic communities along the TCT, such as those founded by travellers of the Underground Railroad, Ukrainian pioneers, gold-rush stampeders and the first Chinese-Canadians. This report celebrated the fact that in all corners of Canada, when people travel the Trans Canada Trail, they walk in the diverse footsteps of our nation builders, from Jacques Cartier to Laura Secord.

TCT also continues to place monthly quarterpage ads celebrating the contributions of our *Chapter 150* donors.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to the generosity of Shaw Media, TCT benefitted from two 30-second TV spots this past year. The first aired from September to December and featured three TCT National Champions, former P.E.I. Premier Robert Ghiz, President & CEO of TransCanada Corp and TCT Chapter 150 Leadership Donor Russ Girling, and Astronaut and Director of the Montreal Science Centre, Julie Payette. The second PSA focused specifically on the TCT in Alberta, and featured Albertan TCT Champions Cassie Campbell, Kyle Shewfelt and Tom Jackson, and aired on Shaw channels in Alberta from January to April, 2015.



Shaw crew members with TCT President & CEO Deborah Apps (second from left) and TCT Champion Tom Jackson (third from right) in Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park during the filming of our Alberta-focused Shaw PSA in November 2014

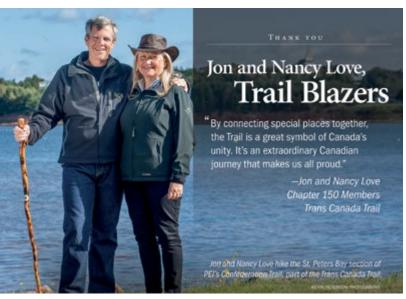


WOODS DREAM JOB ON THE TCT

In March 2015, TCT officially announced its involvement in an innovative marketing and social media program steered by outdoor gear retailer Woods Canada, which will see four Canadians exploring sections of the Trans Canada Trail across the country for five months starting in May 2015. Along the way, they will recount their experiences via social media, using blogs, videos and photos. TCT will be actively promoting the adventures of the Woods Dream Job Explorers on our social media platforms.



Chapter 150



...Every new kilometre of the Trail represents more communities and families... linked together by this incredible part of our shared national heritage.

– DON LINDSAY, TCT *CHAPTER 150* MEMBER, PRESIDENT AND CEO, TECK RESOURCES LIMITED



It began with the generosity of one of Canada's most enduring and respected family businesses, James Richardson & Sons, Limited, which made the inaugural \$1-million gift to the Trans Canada Trail's *Chapter 150* Campaign in 2011.

Now, the TCT's *Chapter 150* fundraising campaign is led by a national cabinet of proud and influential Canadians helping to honour the commitment of TCT's thousands of volunteer Trail builders.

There is still much work to be done to fully connect the Trail in every province and territory, requiring \$50 million in funding from the TCT. It is through *Chapter 150* contributions, accompanied by support from all levels of government and from thousands of Canadians, that the Trail will be connected by 2017, the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation.

On that auspicious occasion, our magnificent national Trail will connect Canadians, serving as the natural stage for our nation's celebrations.

When fully connected, the Trail will be a lasting gift from Canadians to Canadians; the *Chapter 150*

campaign gives Canada's business and philanthropic leaders the means to support this national legacy project.

In appreciation of TCT's Chapter 150 donors' "Active Support," the TCT has been publishing an ongoing series of ads capturing Chapter 150 members in action on the Trail. This series is made possible with the continued support of The Globe and Mail. This past year, our ads featured donors Jon and Nancy Love, Pierre Lassonde and family, Rob and Cheryl McEwen, and Ross Beaty.





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Nancy Baron, Trustee, The W. Garfield Weston Foundation

The Ross Beaty Family

David Bissett

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And all those wishing to remain anonymous





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Cassie Campbell-Pascall

Joseph Boyden

Premier Brian Gallant

Deepa Mehta

George Stroumboulopoulos

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Projects funded

The pace of Trail development is increasing as we approach 2017, and our years of careful planning are coming to fruition. In 2014–15, TCT approved nearly 50 per cent more grants than our high of \$5.5 million the preceding year.

Specifically, TCT approved over \$8 million in Trail development grants to 58 Trail-building organizations and municipalities across the country, including \$910,000 from funds provided by the Ontario government for the completion of the Trail in southern Ontario as a Pan Am/Parapan Am Games legacy project.

The grants will see more than 2,000 kilometres of muti-purpose trail added to the TCT network. Funding for the grants comes from a combination of private and public funds.

TCT immediately disbursed \$3.6 million of the \$8 million approved. The balance will be transferred to Trail groups and municipalities as required over the next 18 months.

ATLANTIC REGION

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	
Confederation trail	\$908,000
NOVA SCOTIA	
Bealach Breagh Lake Ainslie trail	\$29,000
Bras D'or Lake water trail	\$25,000
Chezzetcook Musquodoit trail	\$15,000
Guysborough to Mulgrave water trail	\$25,000
New Brunswick border to Oxford link	\$100,000
Pictou to New Glasgow link	\$41,000
Stellarton to Plymouth link	\$22,000

NEW BRUNSWICK	
Fundy Footpath	\$7,000
Saint John to Hampton link	\$40,000
Sentier de l'Étoile	\$40,000
Grand Falls link	\$192,000
The Marshes trail	\$82,000

We are thankful for the generous support provided by our dedicated donors and all levels of government, who are making it possible for our Trail builders to fully connect the TCT by 2017, providing Canadians with a majestic natural stage for nationwide celebrations.

-DEBORAH APPS, PRESIDENT & CEO, TRANS CANADA TRAIL

CENTRAL REGION

QUEBEC	
Lien Pégasse et Portneuf	\$1,000
Sentier Louise-Gasnier	\$54,000
La TransTerrebonne	\$460,000

ONTARIO	
Path of the Paddle	\$19,000
Barrie trail	\$24,000
City of Thunder Bay trail	\$3,000
Commanda to Callander trail	\$30,000
Durham Region Trans Canada Trail	\$128,000
Elora to Kissing Bridge trailway	\$439,000
Greater Sudbury Trail East	\$18,000
Kawartha Trans Canada Trail	\$41,000
Lake Superior water trail	\$5,000
Pan Am Path, Toronto East	\$555,000
Peterborough Trans Canada Trail	\$179,000
Ramara Rail trail	\$15,000
Lake Superior water trail	\$10,000
Greater Sudbury trail East	\$36,000
Southern Ontario trail signage assessment	\$10,000

MANITOBA	
Blue Water South Trail	\$67,000
Crocus Trail	\$9,000

NORTHERN REGION

NUNAVUT	
Itijjagiaq trail	\$6,000

WESTERN REGION

SASKATCHEWAN	
Chief Whitecap Waterway	\$75,000
Good Spirit Lake trail	\$13,000
Meewasin Valley trail	\$409,000
Mount Pleasant trail	\$123,000
Northern trails of Saskatchewan cycling route	\$233,000
Regina to White Butte link	\$9,000
Regina Trans Canada Trail	\$60,000

ALBERTA	
Athabasca Landing trail	\$325,000
Spring Brook to Red Deer link	\$35,000
Strathcona County trail	\$1,500,000
West Bragg Creek trail	\$125,000

BRITISH COLUMBIA	
Dawson Creek trail	\$44,000
Castlegar to Trail link	\$85,000
City of Victoria trail	\$1,402,000
Isidore Canyon trail to Fernie link	\$210,000
Sea to Sky trail	\$12,000

TOTAL, FUNDED PROJECTS

\$8,295,000

Our goal is to see Canadians across the country, and visitors from around the world, enjoying the Trail for centuries to come.

-PAUL LABARGE, CHAIR, TRANS CANADA TRAIL

Trans Canada Trail financial highlights

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS

	2015	2014
Revenues	\$	\$
Government grants	7,256,825	7,228,546
Donations	6,083,183	2,856,042
Investment income	111,145	42,502
Miscellaneous income	5,358	4,309
	13,456,511	10,131,399
Expenses		
Trail construction	8,390,836	2,385,557
Trail promotion and education	905,432	505,089
Fundraising	1,400,664	685,348
General and administrative	964,892	916,842
Amortization of equipment	60,676	79,576
Loss on disposal of equipment	5,517	
	11,728,017	4,572,412
Excess of revenue (expenses)	1,728,494	5,558,987
Net assets at beginning of year	7,560,947	2,001,960
Net assets at end of year	9,289,441	7,560,947

The above information has been extracted and summarized from the Trans Canada Trail Consolidated Financial Statements audited by Richter S.E.N.C.R.L./LLP. The complete set of statements may be requested from Trans Canada Trail.

BALANCE SHEET

	2015	2014
Assets	\$	\$
Cash	11,546,775	3,012,832
Marketable securities	52,654	452,654
Accounts receivable	1,332,121	7,176,770
Prepaid expenses	129,154	71,339
Equipment	151,427	189,354
Total assets	13,212,131	10,902,949
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	859,725	496,704
Deferred contributions	2,719,773	2,066,807
Deferred revenue - government grants	343,192	778,491
Total liabilities	3,922,690	3,342,002
Net assets		
Invested in equipment	44,859	37,116
Endowment fund	52,654	52,654
Unrestricted	9,191,928	7,471,177
Total net assets	9,289,441	7,560,947
Total liabilities and net assets	13,212,131	10,902,949

