**KEY MESSAGES WHEN TALKING TO CANDIDATES**

You may meet candidates throughout the campaign. They may knock on your door and ask for your vote, you may attend a local all-candidates meeting or you might meet them in your community. If and when you do meet them, here are some helpful points to help you talk to them about the importance of supporting TCT’s call for the renewal of their annual federal funding – and of signing the #ISupportTCT pledge.

* Trans Canada Trail (TCT) is requesting all candidates from every party in the federal election to pledge to protect the Trail – the world’s longest network of multi-use recreational trails and a sustainable national asset, by election day
* Millions of Canadians use the trail daily – in fact 75% of Canadians use trails on a regular basis
* Trail use is up close to 50% across Canada according to national surveys done by TCT
* In those surveys, 95% of Canadians said that their increased trail use is prompted by a desire to enhance their mental health – with an equal number saying their physical well-being has driven their increased use
* The Trans Canada Trail is critical for enhancing mental and physical health, and the vitality of our community
* The Trail also helps to protect the environment, preserving greenspace and protecting habitats for local wildlife
* Trails enhance our economy and are a vital tourism attraction that connects visitors to local businesses, and enrich our understanding of Canada’s history
* Local trail associations depend on the funding and support that Trans Canada Trail receives from the federal government to protect, maintain and support the Trail in our community
* Will you support TCT in our call for the renewal of TCT’s federal funding through Parks Canada by signing the #ISupportTCT pledge today?
* Stretching over more than 28,000 km, across every province and territory, the Trans Canada Trail is the world’s longest network of multi-use recreational trails
* The Trail is a showcase of Canada’s diverse landscapes and cultures, and a sustainable national asset that fosters unity, collaboration and connectedness. Our national trail is managed by local Trail groups and partners who work in conjunction with Trans Canada Trail, a registered charity