

# #ISupportTCT



## LETTER TO CANDIDATES FROM TRANS CANADA TRAIL

Dear Candidate,

On behalf of Trans Canada Trail (TCT), I congratulate you on your candidacy in the Canadian General Election. Today we are requesting your pledge to protect the Trans Canada Trail – a national ribbon that connects us to nature and to one another across the world’s longest network of multi-use trails.

The Trans Canada Trail stretches more than 28,000 km across every province and territory, and connects 15,000 rural, urban and Indigenous communities from coast to coast to coast. It showcases Canada’s diverse landscapes and cultures, and it is a sustainable national asset that fosters unity, collaboration and connection.

Ensuring the sustainability of the Trans Canada Trail is crucial to enhancing the physical and mental health of Canadians. Human-powered mobility increases physical activity, enhances transportation choices and improves the liveability of our neighbourhoods. According to national Léger surveys commissioned by TCT in 2020, 75% of Canadians use trails on a regular basis. And trail use is up since the onset of the pandemic with nearly 50% of Canadians in all age groups stating that their trail use has increased and 95% stating they use the trail to enhance their mental health.

The Trans Canada Trail also plays a vital role in conserving the environment, preserving greenspace and protecting habitats for local wildlife. This stewardship is critical to protecting our natural environment for generations to come.

Trails enhance our economy and are a vital tourism attraction that connects visitors to local businesses. Our Leger survey found that 76% of Canadians strongly agree that trails contribute to economic development and 77% of Canadians strongly agree that the Trail builds our tourism economy. TCT also enriches our understanding of Canada’s history, including our relationship with Indigenous communities.

The Trans Canada Trail plays such a vital role in our communities – but we can’t continue to grow and enhance the Trail, and its potential, without the federal support that we receive. When it comes to investing in the development and maintenance of trails, according to our Leger survey, 89% of Canadians agree that the government has an important role to play.

We would like you to support us in our call for the renewal of TCT's federal funding through Parks Canada, so that we can continue to enhance mental and physical health, support local Trail groups, and invest in infrastructure projects to create local jobs, in support of tourism and economic development.

**How you can help:**

- Join us by signing the [#ISupportTCT pledge today](#)
- After you have signed, proudly share it for your own supporters to see! Share the news by posting a video. Here's a [sample video script](#).
- You can print the [#ISupportTCT certificate](#) and display it in your campaign office.
- You can print the [#ISupportTCT poster](#) and take a photo showing your commitment to protecting the Trans Canada Trail.
- You can also share your commitment on your social media channels while tagging @TCTrail and #ISupportTCT. Here's some [sample posts](#).

We will post your support on our website and share our pledge signatories with our supporters -- thousands of Canadians who support the Trans Canada Trail in communities across Canada. For any questions regarding Trans Canada Trail contact us via email at [OurTCT@tctrail.ca](mailto:OurTCT@tctrail.ca) and we will respond promptly.

Thank you for your support – and thank you for joining our national campaign #ISupportTCT

Eleanor McMahon, President & CEO, Trans Canada Trail



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