

## Trail Funding Program – Accessibility and Inclusion in Trails Stream

### Background

Trans Canada Trail's mission is to connect Canadians and visitors through accessible and inclusive outdoor activities. To that end, Trans Canada Trail has a grant stream to support projects and initiatives that increase Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility along the Trail.

### Eligibility

- All applications must meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the in Section 2 of the [2022-2023 Program Framework](#).
- Applications submitted must agree to meeting all applicable standards, codes, bylaws and regulations pertinent to the project and region.
- Applicants must provide valid proof of liability insurance, as it pertains to the section of the Trail where the project is taking place.
- Applicants must complete the eligibility questionnaire at the beginning of the application form, and provide any additional information required.
- Applicants must commit to mapping their trail for accessibility at the end of their project. This can be discussed with Trans Canada Trail. This is done through a partnership between Trans Canada Trail and AccessNow. There is no additional cost to the applicant to complete this mapping, however they will be expected to participate and facilitate its implementation.

### Financial Support – Organizational Planning

Trans Canada Trail may provide financial support for organizational planning, studies or training, up to 35% of the eligible expenses. The maximum contribution for these types of projects is limited to \$20,000.

### Financial Support – Trail Projects and Accessibility Features

Trans Canada Trail may provide financial support for the planning and construction of a trail project, including trail accessibility improvements and the addition of accessibility features. This funding is based on a percentage of eligible expenses. The maximum contribution amounts are limited to:

- 35% of eligible expenses up to \$50,000

## Examples of Eligible Projects

- **Planning, Studies and Training**
  - Trail Accessibility Assessment
  - DEIA plan development
  - Trail system review (e.g., trail names)
  - DEIA facilitated workshop for Board of Directors
- **Trail Projects**
  - **Improving trail accessibility**
    - Widening, resurfacing of trail
    - Replacing access gates
    - Rebuilding boardwalks or bridges to meet accessibility standards
    - Accessible seating, lighting
  - **Accessibility Features**
    - Tactile elements
    - Guide ropes
    - Sensory gardens
    - Installation of accessible mats (e.g., Mobi-mat®)
    - Navigation systems for trail users who are blind or visually impaired, including audio tours
    - Improving digital accessibility of a trail website
    - The establishment of a local program that will help people with disabilities achieve access to and use of the Trail
  - **DEIA Improvements**
    - Projects that remove barriers and encourage an inclusive trail network

**[APPLY FOR FUNDING >>](#)**