

INSIDE: MEMBERSHIP SURVEY 2023

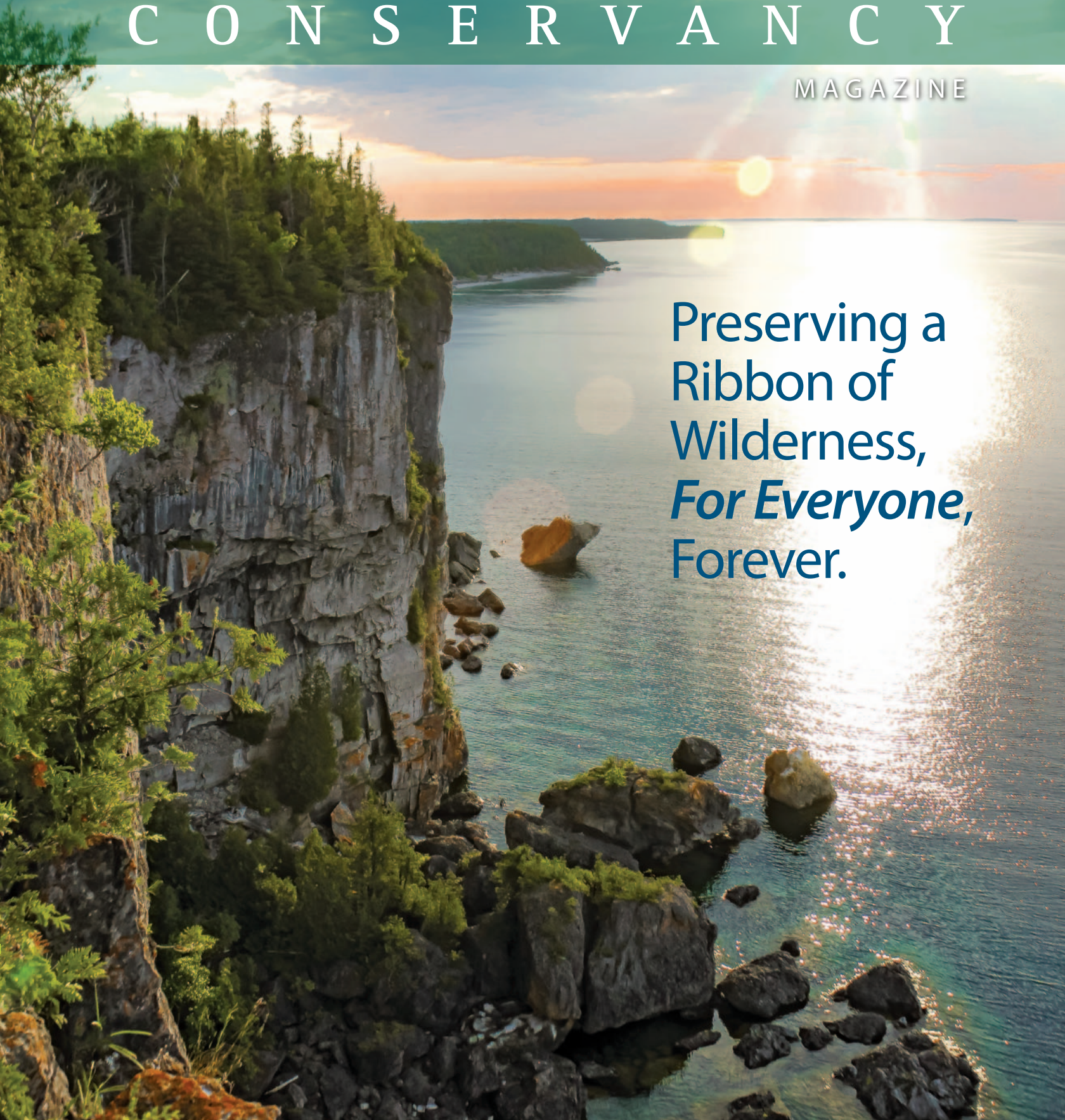
VOL. 60, NO.3, SUMMER 2023

# Bruce Trail

C O N S E R V A N C Y

MAGAZINE

Preserving a  
Ribbon of  
Wilderness,  
*For Everyone,*  
Forever.



Cover photography by:

## CHADIA BAILEY

*Avid Hiker, Outdoors Person and Nature Photographer*

Chadia Bailey first fell in love with hiking on a trek through the Blue Mountains section of the Bruce Trail in 2014. Hiking quickly became her favourite hobby, allowing her to support her mental health and continue developing an appreciation of nature. Since then, she has hiked along the main Bruce Trail and side trails countless times, which always brings her a new reward and positive feeling. Currently five sections through a Bruce Trail end-to-end, Chadia enjoys collecting the various badges, meeting amazing people, discovering new places, and taking pictures every step of the way.

IG: [t.h.e.photography\\_](#) | TikTok: [t.h.e.photography](#)



SPRING 2023

Photo submitted by Camara



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- Call 1-800-665-4453, or
- Email [info@brucetrail.org](mailto:info@brucetrail.org)



Photo: Brooke Henry

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Cover photo: View at Cave Point, Bruce Peninsula National Park, by Chadia Bailey

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# Chief Executive Officer's Message



As the forest wakes up from its peaceful slumber and summer arrives in full force, I am once again filled with a great sense of renewal.

You will sense this energy in this edition of *Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine*. More specifically, you will learn about the organizational energy we are committing to supporting equity, diversity, and inclusion in all aspects of our work.

It is well documented that there is an intersectionality between environmental concerns and social justice issues. While we are all still on a lifelong learning journey, we are proud of the great strides we have taken to make our natural spaces and iconic Bruce Trail more accessible and welcoming to all.

This includes bringing Indigenous voices into the conversation and into our work. Among the many collaborative projects we are working on right now is the planning of two Indigenous Healing Gardens, which will provide a peaceful place to reflect on truth and reconciliation. You can read more about these plans on page 13 of this issue.

Also in this issue, you will meet members of our community who share their passion for the Trail and personal perspectives on fostering diversity and inclusion. Camara Chambers, hike leader and organizer of Let's Hike T.O., candidly shares about the barriers faced by people of colour in accessing nature. In another feature, you will meet Trail Ambassador Rhiannon Carruthers who shares their experiences as a 2SLGBTQ+ member of our community.

We know that healthy ecosystems depend on a variety of species being interconnected in powerful, unique, and often surprising ways. We want our organization to be as diverse as the forests and wetlands we steward, knowing that our community becomes stronger, and our impact greater, when everyone feels like they belong.

Our mission is to preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever. When we say 'everyone', we really mean it. As you enjoy this issue, I encourage you to consider what personal steps you can take to make your invitation to nature more inclusive for all. •

Michael McDonald,  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Photo: Rhiannon Carruthers

### NIAGARA

[niagarabruceclub.org](http://niagarabruceclub.org)

#### Laura Secord Hike – June 10, 2023

Enjoy a part of our Canadian heritage by hiking along the Bruce Trail from Laura Secord's Homestead in Queenston to DeCew House in Thorold. We are sure this 32 km hike was a challenge for Laura in a long dress and no Nikes, but we've never heard any complaints. Follow her lead and rise to the challenge. Registration is \$45 for members, \$55 for non-members. Fee includes bus, checkpoints, light lunch and a badge.

#### Merritthon – November 11, 2023

The Merritthon is a trek approximately 45 km along the first historic route of the Welland Canal, created by William Hamilton Merritt. The hike begins at Port Colborne, follows the Welland Canal and moves onto the Merritt Trail in St Catharines to finish in Port Dalhousie. You can expect to keep pace with giant laker ships, see industrial remnants, murals and enjoy woods and streets along the way. Registration is \$50 for members, \$60 for non-members. Fee includes bus transfers, snacks, water check points and a badge.

### TORONTO

[torontobruceclub.org](http://torontobruceclub.org)

#### Toronto End-to-End – September 9-10, 2023

In our annual self-led End-to-End you can complete the 50 km distance over two days (approximately 28 km on Saturday and 22 km on Sunday) or the entire 50 km on Saturday. Whichever you choose, both hikes will traverse the varied terrain from just south of Hilton Falls to the south entrance of the Cheltenham Badlands. Checkpoint stations will be approximately every 10 km offering snacks, water refill, and assistance.

Content deadline for Blazes for the fall 2023 issue is September 1, 2023.

Send content to: Laura Tuohy, BTC Manager of Community Engagement, at [ltuohy@bruceclub.org](mailto:ltuohy@bruceclub.org)

The 1-Day hike is \$40 for members, \$45 for non-members and includes bus transportation from the meeting point to the hike starting point, refreshments, parking and permit costs, online registration fees, and the official E2E badge. The 2-Day hike is \$50 for members, \$60 for non-members and includes all of the same benefits of the 1-Day and the added cost of a second bus on both days.

Registration opens on June 1, 2023 at 8:00 pm for Bruce Trail Conservancy members at [hikes.bruceclub.org](http://hikes.bruceclub.org) under Saturday, September 9, 2023. If any spots are still available on June 15, 2023 at 8:00 pm, registration will then open for non-members.

Details will be emailed to participants once registration is received. These long hikes are not suitable for beginning hikers. For both events, hikers are expected to maintain an average pace of 4 km/hr (or more). For the 1-Day hike, hikers must reach each checkpoint by a prescribed time in order to continue and ensure everyone is off the trail before dark. Space is limited, hikes go rain or shine, and no dogs are permitted on this event. COVID protocols will be followed and masks will be worn on the buses. For questions, please contact Jacquie Van Dyke at [vdyke0946@gmail.com](mailto:vdyke0946@gmail.com)



### CALEDON HILLS

[caledonbruceclub.ca](http://caledonbruceclub.ca)

#### Fall Colours 3-Day End-to-End – October 7-9, 2023

Registration opens June 30 at 7:00 am on [hikes.bruceclub.org](http://hikes.bruceclub.org), and is limited to 100 hikers for this three-day event over the Thanksgiving weekend. The registration fee of \$50 covers the BTC Hike Schedule Processing Fee, daily bus transportation, light refreshments, and an end-to-end badge upon completion. More information including details about our new badge can be found at: [caledonbruceclub.ca/hiking/hikes/end-to-end-hikes](http://caledonbruceclub.ca/hiking/hikes/end-to-end-hikes). For questions, please contact Sandy Green at [info@caledonbruceclub.org](mailto:info@caledonbruceclub.org).

### DUFFERIN HI-LAND

[dufferinbruceclub.org](http://dufferinbruceclub.org)

#### Dufferin Hi-Land 1-Day End-to-End – June 17, 2023

We regret to report this event has been cancelled due to low enrollment and rising costs.

Visit Club websites for more news, events and hikes.

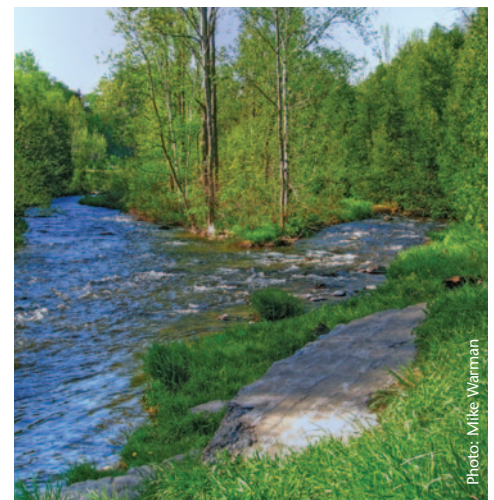


Photo: Mike Weisman

These hikes are challenging and not recommended for new hikers. Instead, check out the wide range of regular group hikes offered by Bruce Trail Clubs throughout the year at [hikes.bruceclub.org](http://hikes.bruceclub.org).



Photo: Jess Pridham

## PENINSULA

[pbtc.ca](http://pbtc.ca)

### Peninsula Hiking Festival Makes a Comeback! – October 13 & 14, 2023

Join the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club (PBTC) for two captivating days where we will highlight the beauty, biodiversity and resilience of the natural environment of the South Saugeen (Bruce) Peninsula, while strengthening interest and support in local conservation efforts.

The festival begins on Friday at the Bluewater Outdoor Education Centre (BOEC), near Wiarton. Friday's program features local fare from Tagwerk Beer, a chance to connect over the campfire, silent auction items to browse, and a moment to experience the wonder of

the Dark Sky Preserve at the E.S. Fox Observatory accompanied by an interpretation by the Bluewater Astronomical Society.

On Saturday you are invited to participate in a variety of hikes with local experts to learn about the culture, geology and forest ecology of this amazing UNESCO Biosphere, and marvel at the spectacular fall foliage on display. Participants have the opportunity to visit pockets of the peninsula such as Cape Croker Park, Hope Bay Provincial Park, Malcolm Bluffs Shores Nature Reserve, Oliphant Fen, Sky Lake, Rural Rootz Nature Reserve, and the vast BOEC property.

In the evening, attend a fabulous three-course dinner prepared by BOEC's Chef

Rob Klunder and take in a keynote presentation by Jackie Randle, Bruce Trail Conservancy Vice President of Operations, and World Trails Network International Chair. Jackie will provide an introduction to the World Trails Network and the International Friendship Trail program. This presentation will embolden you to explore hiking trails around the world, build new connections, increase cultural understanding, and experience the natural beauty of the region.

Tickets are limited. For more information and tickets visit [www.pbtc.ca/peninsulahikingfestival2023](http://www.pbtc.ca/peninsulahikingfestival2023). If you have any questions, or would like to support this event, please email [pbtchikfestival@gmail.com](mailto:pbtchikfestival@gmail.com) •

# Membership Survey 2023

*Share your feedback for a chance to win!*

Please take our short online membership survey and let us know about your experience as a member of the Bruce Trail Conservancy.

Thousands of people like you support the Bruce Trail Conservancy with a membership. We would like to hear from as many as possible to build the best understanding of our supporters.

Your participation will help us improve our membership program and services, and put the Bruce Trail Conservancy in a better position to grow our community.

Complete the survey and you'll be given the option to enter a draw to **win one of five \$100 Bruce Trail Conservancy Store Gift Cards**. The draw entry will be kept separate from your survey responses which will remain anonymous.

Take the survey online by July 16, 2023 at:  
[www.surveymonkey.com/r/btcmember2023](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/btcmember2023)



## Bruce Trail End-to-End List 2022... *continued*

**Congratulations** to these members who received their End-to-End recognition in 2022 but were missing from or spelled incorrectly in our annual listing in the spring 2023 issue of Bruce Trail Conservancy Magazine. We apologize for the error.

- Scott & Jenn Stager Piatkowski (End-to-End #4118)
- Rick Waters (End-to-End #4129)

We celebrate your End-to-End of the entire Bruce Trail – an extraordinary physical and personal journey – and wish you many more great hiking adventures.





# Bruce Trail Day - October 1, 2023

## Let's get ready to welcome everyone to a trail-wide celebration!

Bruce Trail Day is our largest outreach event of the year and a wonderful way to introduce more people to the Bruce Trail Conservancy's work in *preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.*

Free on-Trail events and virtual activities will encourage people to explore the Bruce Trail and learn more about the amazing variety of life along the Niagara Escarpment. Each of the nine Bruce Trail Clubs will host a family-friendly event unique to their section.

### Interested in joining the Bruce Trail Day team?

Hundreds of volunteers make Bruce Trail Day happen. From planning and promotion to leading activities and welcoming participants, there are many ways you can help. Apply today at [brucetrail.org/apply-online-to-volunteer](http://brucetrail.org/apply-online-to-volunteer)

Watch for details at [brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-day-2023](http://brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-day-2023)



## Connect with the Bruce Trail Conservancy at Pride



**Join the Bruce Trail Conservancy at the 2023 Pride Toronto Festival from Friday, June 23 through Sunday, June 25. All weekend long staff and volunteers will be on hand at the Bruce Trail Conservancy booth to share information about the Trail, sell BTC merchandise, celebrate inclusivity, and support 2SLGBTQ+ members of the Bruce Trail community.**

individuals who explore, volunteer for, and support the Trail, whom we welcome exactly as they are.

We look forward to a fun weekend connecting with new and current supporters at Pride!

### Why Pride Toronto?

The Bruce Trail Conservancy's mission is to preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever. Everyone is welcome on the Bruce Trail and in our organization, and should feel safe, supported, and respected for the unique perspectives and experiences they bring to our community. It is important for us to proactively reach out to 2SLGBTQ+ communities and demonstrate that the Bruce Trail and the Bruce Trail Conservancy are safe spaces, welcoming to all.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy supports Pride Toronto's mission to bolster our communities in the pursuit of equal rights, respect, understanding, and acceptance. Just as we celebrate the beauty of our beloved Bruce Trail, we also celebrate the diversity of



# The Power of One



## Hike leader and founder of Let's Hike T.O. Camara Chambers shares her perspective, experiences, and advice for creating an intentionally inclusive community of outdoor explorers.

The Bruce Trail Conservancy and each of our nine Clubs are dedicated to making our organization, our programs, and our Trail more accessible and welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds. While we take steps to foster greater inclusion on an organizational level, it is important to remember that it only takes one person to make someone feel welcome to participate in a new activity or join a community, and that personal connection can have the most powerful impact of all. Camara Chambers has experienced this first-hand; as a newcomer to Canada, she developed her love of hiking because of someone's encouragement.

"A colleague of mine suggested I try hiking," Chambers shared. "I remember stepping off the bus, walking through the forest and marveling at how peaceful it was."

Born and raised in London, England, Chambers moved to Toronto in 2011 at the age of 25, leaving one of the largest cities in Europe and the United Kingdom in search of a change of pace. She found what she was looking for trekking through the verdant woods of the Niagara Escarpment.

"The air was fresh, the environment was so quiet, and the cardio challenge of it left my body feeling great. I was in love!" As it has for many over the last 60 years, this first encounter with our iconic Bruce Trail inspired a new passion for Chambers. Within a year she became a trained hike leader, guiding her own hikes in Toronto and the surrounding areas. Her colleague's encouragement was the gateway to developing her love of hiking, a proactive approach, Chambers says, that is critical for engaging people from diverse communities.

"For folks who don't already know about the trails, how to access them, and what is needed to go hiking, the lack of knowledge and uncertainty that comes with it can be a barrier for newcomers or people who have not grown up hiking, regardless of their race," Chambers said.

Awareness is just one of the obstacles often faced by newcomers to Canada, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and other People Of Colour) communities and young people when getting involved in outdoor activities. Another barrier is prevailing myths and common assumptions about people in these communities, such as whether or not people of colour are interested in outdoor activities, like hiking.

"I've found lots of people of colour enjoy hiking and are keen to get out to explore the trails," Chambers said. "Many BIPOC communities have hiking

as part of their culture - my relatives hike in Jamaica all the time, they just don't call it 'hiking'."

Over her years as a hike leader, Chambers saw opportunities to purposefully engage newcomers, members of BIPOC communities, and young people in the enjoyment and exploration of the Niagara Escarpment. To meet this need, she began building an intentionally inclusive, welcoming, and diverse hiking community called Let's Hike T.O.: a volunteer-run collective of hiking enthusiasts and beginners founded in 2021, and one of the many regional groups that regularly explore the beauty of the Bruce Trail. Since its inception, Let's Hike T.O. has engaged more than 1,300 people on over 100 hikes.

"We are a group that is open to anyone and everyone regardless of how they identify," Chambers explained. "There

*"For me, it all starts with being an ally: someone from outside of a community who is keen to actively include members of that community."*



Camara Chambers on her second hike on the Bruce Trail.



Photo credit: Let's Hike T.O.

have been many ways in which we have been intentional in signaling to people of colour, newcomers, and youth that we are actively trying to include them. ... One example is doing outreach to BIPOC communities, asking questions to find out more about what encourages them to come hiking, and not assuming everyone has access to a car or hiking equipment to get started." This thoughtful approach has yielded great results, Chambers said, ultimately increasing diversity and fostering belonging. What's more, she explained that the visible impact of diversity and inclusion helps bring more of the same. "People often feel safe when they see other people who look like them engaging in an activity."

Now a seasoned hike leader, Chambers continues to find a sense of adventure through the challenge of creating routes, discovering new greenspaces, and sharing moments of wonder as the seasons change and habitats transform,

an opportunity she believes everyone should be encouraged to experience.

"My favourite memory of hiking the Bruce Trail is of a training session I led on the Trail one winter for Let's Hike T.O.," she shared. "We met on a snowy day in the Caledon Hills area and hiked through the Trail. Having been there in the fall, the Trail looked completely different - the glistening white snow made it feel like we were walking through a winter wonderland. The bare trees allowed us to see the landscape more and the ice provided a fun challenge for our crampons as we walked on the rocky paths." Chambers shared that this hike was not only an adventure in a stunning winter landscape, it was also a useful opportunity to teach others how to lead hikes in a way that centres on inclusion and diversity.

"There are so many ways hiking clubs can take small steps to begin to be more inclusive and representative," Chambers said. "For me, it all starts with being an

ally: someone from outside of a community who is keen to actively include members of that community. In practice, this can look like listening when BIPOC people speak about what they need, following through with what they have asked for, and speaking out when I see that they may feel uncomfortable."

Being an ally is one of the powerful ways everyone can contribute to building an inclusive community on and off the Trail, creating a sense of belonging that can be very meaningful and heartening to those from diverse backgrounds. This is something Chambers not only attests to, but puts into practice. Just as her love of hiking began with encouragement from her colleague, Chambers now extends that same support, enthusiasm, and advice to anyone considering their first trek; a living example of the ripple effect one person's encouragement can have, bettering the experiences of many. •



Photo credit: Let's Hike T.O.

# Creating spaces for learning, connection and reconciliation

## The Bruce Trail Conservancy is embarking on a project to create two Indigenous Healing Gardens along the Bruce Trail in a unique collaboration with Plenty Canada, Forests Ontario and Indigenous partners.

Healing Gardens, also known as Healing Places, are intentional, natural outdoor spaces where people can have a meaningful restorative experience in nature. Indigenous Healing Gardens use culturally significant plants to promote this experience while conveying Indigenous knowledge, principles, and connections to the land. These spaces can create a safe place for Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities to learn and reflect, and nurture a healing process of reconciliation. Defined by natural elements and our connections to them, the gardens can be an outdoor classroom and an inspirational space for all who visit.

The 'healing' part of the name can have several meanings. It may reflect the medicinal values of the plants within the garden, the personal healing we experience in nature, the healing of relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, and the healing of the relationship between ourselves and the land.

Healing Gardens take different forms in different locations, unique to the landscape and to the traditions and teachings of that landscape's Indigenous people. The creation of the Healing Gardens along the Bruce Trail will involve collaboration with Indigenous advisors from Saugeen Ojibway Nation, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Six Nations of the Grand River, within whose traditional and treaty territories the Bruce Trail runs, and who have deep and enduring connections to the Niagara Escarpment.

The seed for this project was first planted by Plenty Canada, an Indigenous-led non-profit organization with a focus on environmental stewardship and sustainable activities involving Indigenous peoples. Plenty Canada

approached the Bruce Trail Conservancy with the idea of creating two Healing Gardens along the Bruce Trail - one in the south and one in the north. With extensive experience in creating powerful Indigenous legacy spaces through collaboration, and fostering cross-cultural approaches to conservation, Plenty Canada is well positioned to lead this multi-partner project.

The Bruce Trail Indigenous Healing Gardens project is still in its early stages. Two BTC Nature Reserves have been proposed as locations:

- Smokey Hollow Nature Reserve near Waterdown (Iroquoia section) in the traditional territories of Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Six Nations of the Grand River.
- MapleCross Nature Reserve at Cape Chin near Lion's Head (Peninsula section) in the traditional territory of Saugeen Ojibway Nation.

Both locations offer large open areas, a variety of habitats, evocative Escarpment features and opportunities for gathering.

The process now turns toward assembling appropriate members from the participating organizations (including BTC staff and Club volunteers, Plenty Canada staff and advisors, and Forests Ontario staff) and identifying Indigenous advisors from each region to provide cultural and curatorial guidance. Through this process, conceptual content will be determined, Indigenous plants selected,



The Bruce Trail Conservancy is grateful to Plenty Canada Senior Advisor and BTC Board Director Tim Johnson (l), and Plenty Canada Executive Director Larry McDermott (r) for their guidance and leadership in this project.

designs considered and approved, and resources secured. The spaces will ideally take shape in 2023-24. The long term goal is to have Healing Gardens in each of our nine Bruce Trail Club sections.

Through this creative endeavour, the Bruce Trail Conservancy and our Indigenous neighbors will be getting to know each other better. We'll be working together to foster an 'ethical space' where Indigenous and non-Indigenous knowledge systems are shared and respected, where learning can happen, and important conversations can be had. The result will be an inspirational space that highlights the biological and cultural richness of the Niagara Escarpment, and an important step on the journey toward reconciliation. We look forward to sharing more about this project as it unfolds. •



Woodland Strawberry

# Supporting Gender Diversity on the Trail and Beyond



Photos: Rhiannon Carruthers

**Bruce Trail Conservancy Trail Ambassador, Rhiannon Carruthers, is one of 16 seasonal staff working on the Trail this summer, greeting trail users, promoting responsible hiking, and supporting trail maintenance and land stewardship teams. Returning for their second summer on the Trail Ambassador team, Rhiannon sat down with us to share their experience and perspective on representation and inclusion for 2SLGBTQ+ people on the Bruce Trail and beyond.**

## **What does the experience of being in nature mean to you?**

I have always loved being outdoors, it's a place of joy, discovery, excitement, and wonder. Being in nature is a chance to relax and reconnect with myself. Nature is a space that doesn't discriminate, or judge, and as a 2SLGBTQ+ person, this experience feels freeing. Alone on the trail, my identity doesn't matter, I'm just me.

## **What do you enjoy most about being a BTC Trail Ambassador?**

I love meeting other hikers and talking with them about what they've seen so far on the Trail. I also enjoy taking in the breathtaking views, sharing cool nature facts, and helping to maintain such an important ribbon of wilderness.

## **What are some of the barriers 2SLGBTQ+ people experience exploring the outdoors?**

Unfortunately, while nature doesn't judge based on gender or sexuality, others on the trail may. Rural areas are not always a welcoming place for 2SLGBTQ+ people. Many trans people, myself included, leave their small towns to live in the city, where there is more acceptance and community. There are additional safety concerns and historical trauma for many people in rural spaces. Bracing for the impact of being misgendered, harassed, or assaulted in public is a reality for many 2SLGBTQ+ people, with 59% of 2SLGBTQ+ Canadians having experienced physical assault (StatsCan, 2018\*). During our training we discussed trail safety, going over how to protect ourselves from





bears, snakes, and noxious plants. But as a visibly queer person, the biggest danger I worried about on the Trail was other people who might wish me harm.

2SLGBTQ+ people are often told that we are ‘unnatural’, and this sentiment prevents us from connecting with nature, and seeing ourselves reflected in its incredible diversity. Visibility is another important component of making the trail more welcoming of all genders and sexualities. When you see yourself represented, you can imagine that possibility for yourself.

Navigating gendered spaces, like washrooms, can be another barrier for gender diverse people, who may experience harassment no matter which washroom they use.



### How have you been treated differently because of your gender identity or expression?

I am often the first non-binary person people have met, which sometimes comes with having to explain and justify my existence. I have been verbally harassed and threatened for being visibly queer, which has led me to alter my gender presentation in certain situations, hiding myself for my own safety.

### What can BTC staff, volunteers and members do to be inclusive of different gender identities?

You don't have to understand someone's identity in order to respect them. Some people haven't heard much about gender identities, or have difficulty understanding them, and that's okay. The best way to learn more is to talk to gender diverse people and listen to their experiences.

Try not to make assumptions about a person's gender. By swapping out gendered language for inclusive alternatives we can avoid misgendering people. Instead of saying 'Let's ask those ladies for directions,' try 'Let's ask those people for directions'. Using inclusive language affirms people's identities by referring to them in a way that feels most accurate to them. Making small changes in language can make a huge impact on the people we interact with.

### Why are pronouns important?

We all use pronouns, as a way to identify ourselves. You can't determine someone's pronouns by how they look, and the only way to know if someone should be referred to as "he," "she," "they," or another pronoun is by asking them. Trail Ambassadors now have our



pronouns listed on our name tags so people we meet on the Trail know how to refer to us.

Introducing yourself with your pronouns when you meet a new person normalises the practice, and can make other trail users feel safe around you. It may feel awkward at first, but it is one of the simplest and most important ways to make people feel respected, included, and seen. If you make a mistake and use the wrong pronoun: don't panic, just apologise and move forward.

All photos in this article by Rhiannon Carruthers.



**How can everyone support 2SLGBTQ+ people, especially on the Trail and in our work?**

It isn't difficult to be supportive and respectful of 2SLGBTQ+ trail users, even if you have just started to learn how. Making the Trail a more welcoming



place for everyone begins in our everyday lives, by taking the time to learn about the beautiful diversity of our fellow trail users.

People often spend time in nature as a way to get away from the stresses of everyday life. The belief that conversations around diversity and inclusion are off-limits for trail talk prevents people from talking about important issues and making the Trail more comfortable for everyone.

Advocating for 2SLGBTQ+ friendly policies, and increased representation makes the world safer for everyone.

**In your view, how can we work together to encourage people from different ages, identities and backgrounds to explore, enjoy, and take action to preserve the unique biodiversity of the Niagara Escarpment?**

Everybody belongs on the Trail, yet not everyone feels like they belong. Together, we can change that and create a trail community that is respectful, safe, and uplifting for all. We can do this by educating ourselves and each other, and



supporting 2SLGBTQ+ visibility by listening to and sharing the stories of diverse trail users, so that more people see themselves represented. And we can use more inclusive language in our conversations, making the Trail more accessible to everyone. •

*\*Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces, 2018 <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-002-x/2020001/article/00009-eng.htm>*





# Giving Invasive Species the Boot with Baffin

**On April 21, Bruce Trail Conservancy staff and volunteers joined Canadian outdoor company, Baffin, at their headquarters in Stoney Creek to celebrate the launch of the Trail Conservancy Project, an initiative that will help prevent the spread of invasive plant species along the Bruce Trail through the construction of 100 Boot Brush Stations by 2025.**

To kick off this important program, Baffin hosted an all-day event in their warehouse where 27 of their staff members donated an hour of their time to help construct the first 20 Boot Brush Stations with discounted materials generously provided by Turkstra Lumber. The Baffin team was joined by BTC staff, and volunteers Ken Lawday and Peter Rumble, who provided instruction and support on the construction. Nature and conservation social media influencers Blake Moynes, Natalie Sexton, and Amanda Weldon also stopped by to pitch in and learn more about the importance of preventing the spread of invasive species.

The Trail Conservancy Project is the latest initiative sponsored by Baffin, a company that has passionately supported the BTC's conservation programming for over a decade. With headquarters located just minutes from a trailhead, Baffin has hosted company outings and volunteer trail clean-ups over the years of their



support, in addition to conducting Real-World Testing™ of their products on the Bruce Trail.

“Our ongoing partnership with the Bruce Trail Conservancy has been a passion project for us, connecting our love of exploration and our desire to help protect diverse Canadian environments for the future,” said Mark Hubner, Senior Vice President, Commercial at Baffin.

The Boot Brush Stations, which will gradually be installed at trailheads along the length of the Bruce Trail, not only provide an opportunity for trail users to brush seeds from invasive species off their boots when they enter and exit the trail, they also offer a valuable educational opportunity through special signage that can help visitors identify what those species look like.

“By launching the Trail Conservancy Project and providing these Boot Brush Stations to the Bruce Trail,” Mr. Hubner said, “we are thrilled to take another step toward protecting the Niagara Escarpment, while leaving the invasive species behind.” •



Photos: Julia Palma



Photo: Brooke Henry

# Restoration by Fire

## Prescribed Burn at Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve

**The Bruce Trail Conservancy is restoring one of Canada's most endangered ecosystems through the controlled use of fire.**

On April 12, the Bruce Trail Conservancy conducted a controlled burn at Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve north of Burlington, the first such burn in the organization's 60-year history, as part of ongoing efforts to protect and renew declining tallgrass prairie ecosystems in southern Ontario.

When the Bruce Trail Conservancy purchased the land that became Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve in 2018, BTC ecologists noted that the property provided a variety of ecological restoration opportunities, the most exciting of which was the potential for a tallgrass prairie where there was once an agricultural field.

Tallgrass prairies are one of the most endangered ecosystems in Canada. These

natural grasslands feature a diverse mix of sun-loving native wildflowers and tall grasses, and support a range of wildlife species, including many species at risk. Once covering 1,000 km<sup>2</sup> in southern Ontario, less than three per cent of their original extent remains today, mainly due

to urban development and agriculture. The remaining prairie remnants are under threat from succession to forest, invasive species and climate change.

Tallgrass prairie restoration work at Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve began in 2019 with the plowing of the former



Big Bluestem

Photo: J.C. McEgan



Photo: Brian Popeller

Butterfly Milkweed

agricultural field and seeding it with native wildflowers and grasses, including Big Bluestem, Switchgrass, Black-Eyed Susan, Common Evening Primrose, and more. The area was then closely monitored by staff and volunteers. After just two years, tallgrass plants had



Photo: Brooke Henry

established themselves and flourished in the field. So too, however, did invasive species like Canada Thistle and Common Buckthorn.

Fire was the prescription. Tallgrass prairies have evolved with fire, and most grassland plant species are adapted to or even need periodic fires to flourish. A controlled burn, or prescribed burn, is a deliberately set, carefully-planned fire



Photo: Jacob Toldi

Common Evening-Primrose

that consumes ground-level fuels such as dried leaves, grass, and fallen debris. Returning fire to the landscape in this controlled way can help control invasive and woody plants and allow the fire-adapted native grassland species to regenerate.

After months of planning and under the supervision of the prescribed burn specialists from Lands & Forests Consulting Ltd., the controlled burn at Fisher's Pond was conducted on a sunny, dry, spring day with low winds to ensure optimal burn conditions and minimal smoke. With access to water from the pond, and by using trusted techniques such as backburning, the team was able to safely control the fire and complete the 11-acre burn within approximately one hour.

In the weeks following the burn, Bruce Trail Conservancy staff returned to Fisher's Pond and, with help from volunteers, once again seeded the area with native grass and wildflower species. The intent is to give these native species a chance to take hold while any invasive species are still recovering from the burn.



Switchgrass

Photo: Brian Popeller

Restoring a functioning, healthy tallgrass prairie to Fisher's Pond Nature Reserve will take time. As stewards of this rare Niagara Escarpment ecosystem, the Bruce Trail Conservancy will continue to monitor the restoration area and control invasive species at and near the site. The results will inform when future burns may be beneficial and what further actions are needed to foster the return of this unique ecosystem to the region. •



Photo: Brooke Henry

## Fire and Tallgrass Prairie

- Tallgrass prairie plants have evolved with and adapted to fire. Most native grassland plants have deep root systems and growing points (meristems) that are below ground – features that protect them from low-intensity fires.
- Fire is a key driver in the creation and maintenance of tallgrass prairies. It encourages seed production and prevents the encroachment of woody plants.
- Indigenous Peoples have a long history of purposefully and carefully using deliberate burns for cultural and land management purposes. The practice of fire exclusion in the last century has contributed to the decline of tallgrass prairie.
- Without periodic fires in tallgrass prairies, shrubs, tree saplings and invasive species take over, shading out and eliminating the prairie grass and wildflower species and converting the prairie into a different ecosystem.
- To restore these rare tallgrass prairies, deliberately set and carefully controlled fires – prescribed burns – are increasingly being used as a conservation tool.

# Conservation in Action: New Protected Areas

In recent months the Bruce Trail Conservancy has protected 97 acres of Niagara Escarpment habitats and secured 2.3 km of Bruce Trail in three new BTC protected natural areas.

All three of these conservation successes are immediately next to lands already protected by the Bruce Trail Conservancy. They are great examples of our work to expand protected habitats and enhance the connectivity of our conservation corridor. With their protection we are closer to fulfilling our vision of the entire Bruce Trail on permanently protected natural land.



Vineyard's Edge Nature Reserve – Niagara section

Photo: Joel Swagerman

## **Vineyard's Edge Nature Reserve – Niagara section**

*Ball's Falls, Map 4*

*10.8 acres | 505 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route*

Located in the heart of Niagara's wine region, Vineyard's Edge Nature Reserve features a mixed forest and rocky Escarpment features, tucked beside picturesque grapevines. The Bruce Trail crossed this property under a handshake agreement with the landowners for many years. In purchasing a portion of the property in March, the Bruce Trail Conservancy has secured 505 m of Bruce Trail and created a new 10.8-acre nature reserve.

Vineyard's Edge lies within the Beamsville Escarpment Provincially Significant Life Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), an area of remarkable ecological value and home to a diverse array of plant and animal species, including rare Carolinian forest species.

This new property neighbours not only the beautiful vineyards but also the Bruce Trail Conservancy's Cherry Ridge property, which was successfully secured in 2009 and gives access to the Bruce Trail via Cherry Ridge Road. When combined, these two properties create a corridor for local wildlife as well as an enhanced hiking experience in one of Canada's most biodiverse areas.

## **Honeywood Ridge (expansion) – Dufferin Hi-Land section**

*Honeywood, Map 21*

*5.8 acres | 1.2 km of Bruce Trail Optimum Route*

The BTC's Honeywood Ridge property in the rolling Dufferin Hi-Land section has grown again. A 5.8-acre corridor has been secured, becoming the fourth property to be added to Honeywood Ridge in the past three years. Together, this collection of properties not only safeguards valuable habitat, it also enhances the Bruce Trail experience in this growing area.



Honeywood Ridge (expansion) – Dufferin Hi-Land section



Protecting this latest piece of Honeywood Ridge is a pivotal step to keeping the Bruce Trail off nearby Prince of Wales Road, ensuring a safer hiking experience, and allowing Trail users to connect more fully with nature. This property secures 1.3 km of the Bruce Trail's Optimum Route, and keeps 600 metres of Bruce Trail off road. This latest addition to Honeywood Ridge is a small wooded corridor through agricultural land, providing sweeping views of the picturesque countryside from the Trail.

**Sydenham Escarpment Nature Reserve – Sydenham section**  
*Owen Sound, Map 31*

*80 acres | 503 m of Bruce Trail Optimum Route*

Sydenham Ridge Nature Reserve lies adjacent to BTC's Ferndell property and Sydenham Forest East creating a large, contiguous corridor of habitat that serves as an extremely important local wildlife refuge for forest-dependant species.

A full 70% of forested area on the property is considered interior forest habitat. This valuable habitat plays a significant role in climate change mitigation and is vitally important for the long-term survival of area-sensitive species such as Fishers and Lynx.

Many species of conservation concern are also supported by this nature reserve's habitats including Eastern Meadowlark, Bobolink, Woodthrush, Eastern Pewee, Canada Warbler, Butternut, and American Hart's-tongue Fern. •



Photo: Sonia Chernov



Sydenham Escarpment Nature Reserve – Sydenham section

Photo: John Whitworth

# You can protect 216 acres of near-urban nature at Riverside Woods Nature Reserve

## Donate today and your gift will be matched!

Today, we have a rare opportunity to forever protect 216 acres of irreplaceable Niagara Escarpment land in the rapidly developing Caledon community. **You can help us add a new nature reserve to our ribbon of wilderness, and thanks to a matching contribution from one of our generous donors, your conservation impact will be doubled!**

Located in the Hockley Valley, Riverside Woods Nature Reserve is an exceptional natural sanctuary offering tremendous conservation value and restoration potential.

Along the banks of the Nottawasaga River, a striking and diverse mix of trees cascade upwards through the valley creating a serene, natural oasis of interior forest. Impressive Sugar Maple, Eastern White Cedar, Hemlock, and Trembling Aspen shade a verdant understory and provide an important refuge for local wildlife and forest-dependent species.

Beyond the forest, the property's extensive meadows provide essential habitat for species at risk such as Eastern Meadowlark and Bobolink, and contain a large population of Common Milkweed, a plant vital to the survival of the Monarch butterfly.

At the southern end of the property stands a large conifer plantation composed of mature Eastern White Pine, Red Pine, and White Spruce. These mature trees help sequester large amounts of carbon important for climate change mitigation.

Riverside Woods Nature Reserve lies adjacent to the Bruce Trail Conservancy's Rushing River Nature Reserve and the Dufferin County forest tract. Together they create a connected 239-acre natural corridor, critical for sustaining ecological biodiversity on a local scale.

The property offers excellent opportunities for the Bruce Trail Conservancy to engage in ecological restoration projects to enhance biodiversity, including wetland, meadow, and forest rehabilitation. It will also provide trail users with a more immersive opportunity to connect to our natural world as 1.2 km of Bruce Trail will be routed onto the property, taking it off the nearby road.



SPRING PEEPER



COMMON MILKWEED



EASTERN MEADOWLARK

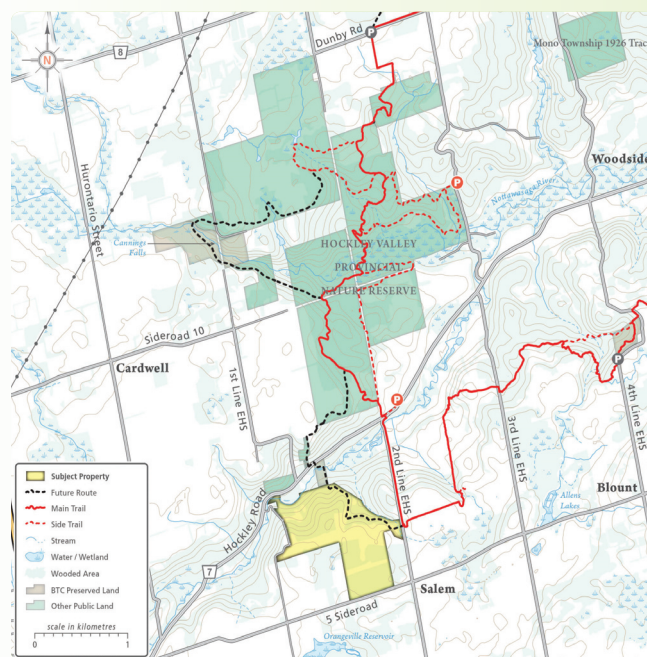
Photos (top to bottom): Brooke Henry, Brian Popelier (x3)

The Riverside Woods Nature Reserve is the largest land securement effort in the Caledon Hills section in the BTC's 60-year history. Creating this nature reserve and adding 216 acres to our growing conservation corridor represents a significant and historic step towards our mission of preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

The cost to preserve Riverside Woods Nature Reserve and steward these lands into the future is \$3.3 million. We are well on our way thanks to the generosity of several lead donors and a contribution from Environment and Climate Change Canada.

**We have just \$1.2 million left to raise! We are thrilled to announce that the Heather and Ross Hamlin Fund will be matching all donations to the Riverside Woods Nature Reserve (up to \$600,000).**

Please consider making your generous donation to help forever protect more Niagara Escarpment natural lands.



### Vital Habitat for Species at Risk

Monarch butterflies, which were once a familiar sight, are now a species of special conservation concern. Threatened by climate change, habitat loss, and fragmentation, Monarchs are at risk of disappearing forever. The abundance of Common Milkweed found on Riverside Woods Nature Reserve is critically important in sustaining a healthy population of Monarchs.



**Right now, your thoughtful gift will have double the impact! Every dollar you give will directly support the creation and care of this new nature reserve AND will be matched, dollar for dollar.**

Photo: Brian Popelier

**Donate today at [brucetrail.org](http://brucetrail.org)**

Or by phone at 1-800-665-4453 or by mailing the form below to Bruce Trail Conservancy, PO Box 857, Hamilton, ON L8N 3N9

**Yes, I want to preserve Riverside Woods Nature Reserve and have my gift matched!**

Enclosed is my:  Monthly Gift:  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ / month  
 Single Gift:  \$250  \$100  \$50  \$ \_\_\_\_\_ other

Payment by:  Cheque (payable to The Bruce Trail Conservancy or marked "Void" if setting up a monthly donation)  Mastercard  Visa

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member# \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Your email is confidential and will not be shared with 3rd parties.*

I am interested in learning more about making a gift to the Bruce Trail Conservancy in my will.  
 I have included the Bruce Trail Conservancy in my will.

If donations to the profiled property exceed the required funds, your donation will be used to secure and steward other lands within the Bruce Trail's conservation corridor.

# For Our Members:

## PROPOSED NEW BRUCE TRAIL CONSERVANCY BY-LAWS

**As a practice of good governance, the Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) periodically undertakes a review of our internal By-laws, working collaboratively with our Membership to ensure these By-laws reflect the most current best practices for the effectiveness of our organization.**

The current review of the By-laws was prompted by changes to legislation. Effective October 19, 2021 (the “Proclamation Date”), the new Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010 (the “ONCA”) was proclaimed into force. The ONCA replaced the Ontario Corporations Act, the corporate legislation which previously applied to Ontario corporations without share capital, such as the BTC. The ONCA applies automatically to all Ontario non-share capital corporations (which are now called not-for-profit corporations), including the BTC, as of the Proclamation Date.

The BTC Board undertook a review of our By-laws to ensure that they comply with the ONCA. This review was conducted by the Board’s Governance Committee together with our legal counsel. The Governance Committee

proposed creating new, simpler By-laws rather than making amendments to our current By-laws, which were approved at our September 23, 2017 Annual General Meeting, thereby ensuring that our governance requirements are clearly articulated.

In order to gather Member feedback on the revised By-laws, the BTC held two town hall meetings for Members in February 2023 to discuss proposed revisions to the Articles and the new draft By-laws. BTC staff and members from our Board of Directors, as well as our legal counsel, were available to answer questions and receive input from the members.

Following the town halls, a few minor changes were made, based on the feedback. The new By-laws were then reviewed and approved by the BTC Board’s Governance Committee, which

in turn recommended them to the full Board of Directors for approval. At their meeting on April 15, 2023, the Board unanimously approved that the proposed new By-laws be presented to the Members for approval.

Changes to By-laws require the approval of the Membership by vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will take place online on Saturday, October 14th, 2023 via Zoom. With this in mind, we are pleased to share the revised By-laws with you here for your review in advance of the annual meeting. Further information about the process, the amended Articles, as well as the current and revised By-laws are all available on the BTC website, together with a powerpoint slide deck that was made available to members prior to the town halls at [brucetrail.org/by-law-review-2023](https://brucetrail.org/by-law-review-2023). •



Photo: Glenda Collings



# Bruce Trail Conservancy By-laws

## ARTICLE 1 – GENERAL

### 1.1 Definitions

In these By-laws, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) “**Act**” means the Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010 (Ontario) and, where the context requires, includes the regulations made under it, as amended or re-enacted from time to time;
- (b) “**AGM**” means the annual meeting of the Members;
- (c) “**Articles**” means any instrument that incorporated the BTC or modifies its incorporating instrument, including, without limitation, letters patent, supplementary letters patent and articles of amendment;
- (d) “**Board**” means the board of directors of the BTC;
- (e) “**BTC**” means The Bruce Trail Conservancy, a body corporate governed by the Act;
- (f) “**By-laws**” means these By-laws (including the schedules to these By-laws) and all other By-laws of the BTC as amended and which are, from time to time, in force;
- (g) “**Chair**” means the chair of the Board;
- (h) “**Club**” and “**Clubs**” have the meanings assigned to such terms in subsection 7.4(a);
- (i) “**Director**” means an individual who is a member of the Board;
- (j) “**Member**” means a member of the BTC;
- (k) “**Member in good standing**” means a Member who has paid all amounts owing to the BTC;
- (l) “**Officer**” means an officer of the BTC, including, without limitation, the Chair, the Vice-Chair, if any, and the Chief Executive Officer; and
- (m) “**Special Resolution**” means a resolution that is submitted to a special meeting of the Members duly called for the purpose of considering the resolution and passed at the special meeting, with or without amendment, by at least two-thirds of the votes cast, or a resolution consented to by each Member entitled to vote at a meeting of the Members.

### 1.2 Interpretation

Other than as specified in section 1.1, all terms contained in these By-laws that are defined in the Act shall have the meanings given to such terms in the Act. Any references to the Act or sections of the Act include any changes to the Act or to such sections. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa, and words importing one gender include all genders.

### 1.3 Severability and Precedence

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of these By-laws shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of these By-laws. If any of the provisions contained in these By-laws are inconsistent with those contained in the Act or the Articles, the provisions contained in the Act or the Articles, as the case may be, shall prevail.

### 1.4 Execution of Contracts

Contracts, documents and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the BTC may be signed by any two Directors, one of whom must be an Officer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Directors may from time to time direct the manner in which and the individual or individuals by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed.

### 1.5 Registered Office

The registered office of the BTC shall be in Hamilton. The municipality or geographic township in which the BTC’s registered office is located may be changed to another place in Ontario by Special Resolution. The address of the BTC’s registered office within a municipality or geographic township may be changed by resolution of the Directors from time to time.

## ARTICLE 2 – DIRECTORS

### 2.1 Duties

The Directors shall manage or supervise the management of the activities and affairs of the Corporation.

### 2.2 Number

- (a) There shall be 19 Directors.
- (b) The Members may, by Special Resolution, change the number of Directors from time to time, within the minimum and maximum numbers of Directors set out in the Articles, or, if a Special Resolution of the Members empowers the Directors to determine the number of Directors, the number may be changed by resolution of the Directors.
- (c) A decrease in the number of Directors will not shorten the term of an incumbent Director.

### 2.3 Qualifications

#### A Director:

- (a) must be an individual;
- (b) must be a Member in good standing;
- (c) must be at least eighteen years old;
- (d) must not have been declared incapable by any court in Canada or elsewhere;
- (e) must not have the status of a bankrupt;
- (f) must not have been found under the *Substitute Decisions Act, 1992* or the *Mental Health Act* to be incapable of managing property; and
- (g) must not be an “ineligible individual” under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada).

### 2.4 Election and Term

- (a) A Director’s term of office commences at the conclusion of the meeting at which the Director is elected or appointed and terminates on the later of the conclusion of the third AGM following the election and the date that a successor is elected or appointed.
- (b) Directors who are first elected prior to the 2024 AGM shall be eligible for re-election for up to two additional three year terms, to a maximum consecutive term limit of nine years. Directors who are first elected at the 2024 AGM and thereafter shall be eligible for re-election for one additional three year term, to a maximum consecutive term limit of six years. A Director shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment after an absence of three years from the Board but may not serve for more than a cumulative total of 12 years on the Board. No Director may serve on the Board in excess of the term limit set out in these By-laws except that a Director who holds the position of Chair may be re-elected or re-appointed as a Director beyond such term limit to enable the Director to continue to hold the position of Chair for the maximum term limit set out in section 4.1.

- (c) Each Club shall be entitled to nominate one Director to hold office on the Board at any one time.
- (d) The nomination and election of Directors shall take place in accordance with these By-laws and any BTC nomination and election policy as established by the Directors from time to time and made publicly accessible on the BTC’s website.

### 2.5 Vacancies

The office of a Director shall be vacated immediately:

- (a) if the Director resigns office by written notice to the Chair (or if the Director is the Chair, then by written notice to another Officer), which resignation shall be effective at the time it is received by the Chair (or other Officer, as applicable) or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is later;
- (b) if the Director dies;
- (c) if the Director ceases to meet the qualifications for being a Director set out in section 2.3; or
- (d) if, at a meeting of the Members, a resolution is passed by at least a majority of the votes cast by the Members removing the Director before the expiration of the Director’s term of office.

### 2.6 Filling Vacancies

- (a) A vacancy on the Board shall be filled as follows:
  - (i) if the vacancy occurs as a result of the Members removing a Director, the Members may fill the vacancy by a majority vote but if they fail to do so, then the vacancy may otherwise be filled in accordance with this section 2.6;
  - (ii) if there is not a quorum of Directors in office or there has been a failure to elect the minimum number of Directors set out in the Articles, the Directors in office shall, without delay, call a special meeting of the Members to fill the vacancy and, if they fail to call such a meeting, the meeting may be called by any Member in good standing;
  - (iii) any other vacancy may be filled by a quorum of Directors then in office.
- (b) A Director elected or appointed to fill a vacancy among the Directors pursuant to this section 2.6 shall hold office for the remainder of the predecessor’s term.

### 2.7 Committees

The Directors may establish any committees they determine necessary and delegate powers of the Directors to any such committees, subject to the limitations on delegation set out in subsection 36(2) the Act. The Directors shall determine the composition and terms of reference for any such committees. The Directors may disband any committee and may remove any member of a committee, at any time as they see fit.

### 2.8 Remuneration of Directors

The Directors shall serve as such without remuneration and, subject to section 6.1, no Director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from occupying the position of Director; however, a Director may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred by the Director in the performance of the Director’s duties.

**ARTICLE 3 – DIRECTORS’ MEETINGS**

**3.1 Calling of Meetings**

Meetings of the Directors may be called by the Chair or any three Directors at any time and at any place on such notice as is required by these By-laws.

**3.2 Notice**

- (a) The Chair may fix the time and place of regular Directors’ meetings and shall notify each Director in the manner provided in Article 10 of these By-laws of such regular meetings. No other notice shall be required for any such meetings.
- (b) Notice of the time and place for the holding of other meetings of the Directors shall be given in the manner provided in Article 10 of these By-laws to every Director not less than five days before the date that the meeting is to be held (or on 24 hours’ notice if determined necessary by the Chair).
- (c) Directors’ meetings held immediately following an AGM and a meeting of the Directors at which a Director is appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board may be held without notice to the newly elected or appointed Directors or Director, provided that a quorum of the Directors is present and that all individuals who were nominated, elected or appointed were notified prior to the meeting that such a meeting may be held.

**3.3 Quorum**

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Directors shall be a majority of the number of Directors. Notwithstanding any vacancy among the Directors, a quorum of Directors may exercise all the powers of the Directors. No formal business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Directors if at that time a quorum is not present.

**3.4 Chair**

The Chair shall preside at Directors’ meetings. In the absence of the Chair, the Directors present at a meeting shall choose one of their number to act as the chair of the meeting. If the Chair knows in advance of a Directors’ meeting that they will not be in attendance at the meeting, the Chair shall appoint another Director to act as the chair of the meeting.

**3.5 Voting**

Each Director has one vote. No person shall act for an absent Director at a meeting of Directors. Questions arising at any Directors’ meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes, the matter in question shall be defeated.

**3.6 Participation by Telephone or Other Communications Facilities**

If all of the Directors consent, a Director may participate in a meeting of the Directors or of a committee of Directors by telephonic or electronic means that permit all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A Director participating by such means is deemed to be present at that meeting.

**ARTICLE 4 – OFFICERS**

**4.1 Officers**

At the Directors’ first meeting following an AGM, the Directors shall appoint a Director as the Chair and may appoint a Director as the Vice-Chair, in each case until the Directors’ first meeting following the next AGM. The Directors may employ a Chief Executive Officer who may not be a Director but who shall be an Officer. The Directors may appoint other Officers, who need not be Directors, as they deem necessary and who shall have such authority and shall perform such duties as the Directors may prescribe from time to time. A Director may be re-appointed as an Officer, provided that a

Director may only hold the position of Chair for a maximum of four consecutive years.

**4.2 Removal**

The Chair and the Vice Chair (if any) may be removed from their office by a two-thirds majority vote of those Directors present and voting at a meeting of the Directors. The Directors may remove any other Officers by majority vote of those Directors present and voting at a meeting of the Directors.

**4.3 Duties**

Officers shall have such authority and shall perform such duties as the Directors may prescribe from time to time subject to the limitations on delegation set out in subsection 36(2) of the Act and they may not delegate to others the performance of any or all of such duties.

**ARTICLE 5 – PROTECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**

**5.1 Indemnification**

The BTC shall indemnify the Directors and Officers, and such other persons, as permitted by the Act and in such other circumstances as the law permits or requires. The BTC shall also purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of the Directors and Officers, and such other persons, as permitted by the Act and the law applicable to charities.

**ARTICLE 6 – CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**6.1 Conflict of Interest**

The Directors and Officers shall comply with the conflict of interest requirements of the Act and any conflict of interest policies approved by the Directors from time to time. In particular, and without limitation, no Director shall, directly or indirectly, receive a financial benefit, through a contract or otherwise, from the BTC unless the provisions of the Act (including, without limitation, section 41) and the law applicable to charities are complied with.

**ARTICLE 7 – MEMBERS**

**7.1 Entitlement**

There shall be one class of Members of the BTC comprised of those individuals, households, community organizations and corporations that are interested in furthering the BTC’s purposes and that are admitted in accordance with the BTC’s Membership Policy.

**7.2 Termination**

The interest of a Member in the BTC is not transferable and automatically terminates if the Member resigns, fails to pay any membership dues by the applicable deadline or if the Members’ membership is terminated in accordance with these By-laws and the Act.

**7.3 Disciplinary Act or Termination of Membership for Cause**

- (a) Upon 15 days’ written notice to a Member, the Directors may pass a resolution authorizing disciplinary action with respect to a Member or the termination of the membership of a Member:
  - (i) if the Member has breached any provision of the Articles or By-laws or any written policies of the BTC;
  - (ii) if the Member has engaged in any conduct which the Directors determine is detrimental to the BTC; or
  - (iii) for any other reason that the Directors, in their sole discretion, determine is reasonable having regard to the purposes of the BTC.
- (b) The notice shall set out the reasons for the disciplinary action or termination of the Members’ membership. The Member receiving the notice shall be entitled to give

the Directors a written submission opposing the disciplinary action or termination not less than five days before the end of the 15-day notice period. The Directors shall consider the submission of the Member before making a final decision regarding disciplinary action or termination of the Members’ membership.

- (c) If the Member who is subject to termination is a Director, the termination of the Member’s membership must be approved by the Members at a Members’ meeting.

**7.4 Clubs and Dues**

- (a) The Directors may from time to time establish or terminate clubs of the BTC (individually a “Club” and collectively, the “Clubs”). The Clubs of the BTC shall have such powers and shall be subject to such conditions as are set out in these By-laws or as the Directors may determine from time to time.
- (b) The annual dues levied upon the Members shall be as determined by the Directors. Any dues paid by Members who are members of a Club shall be shared with the Club in such proportion as is determined by the Directors from time to time.

**ARTICLE 8 – MEMBERS’ MEETINGS**

**8.1 Annual Meetings**

- (a) An AGM shall be held not later than 15 months after the holding of the preceding AGM and not later than six months after the end of the BTC’s financial year end.
- (b) At every AGM, the following business shall be conducted:
  - (i) the financial statements approved by the Directors as well as the report of the Auditor shall be presented to the Members;
  - (ii) the Members shall appoint the auditor for the ensuing year; and
  - (iii) the Members shall elect Directors if an election of Directors is required.
- (c) The Members may consider and transact special business at an AGM subject to section 8.4.

**8.2 Special Meetings**

- (a) Special meetings of the Members may be convened by the Chair or by any three Directors at any date and time, including in conjunction with an AGM, to consider any special business.
- (b) The Directors are required to call a Special Meeting within 21 days of receipt by the Corporation of a written requisition of Members carrying at least five percent (5%) of the votes that may be cast at a meeting of Members, except as otherwise provided in the Act.
- (c) If the Directors fail to call a Special Meeting as required by subsection 8.2(b), any Member who has signed such requisition may call the Special Meeting.

**8.3 Place and Time of Meetings**

Meetings of the Members shall be held on such day and at such time and place in Ontario as the Directors may determine.

**8.4 Notice**

Subject to the Act, not less than 10 and not more than 50 days written notice of any Members’ meeting shall be given in the manner specified in the Act to each Member, to each Director and to the auditor. Notice of any meeting where special business will be transacted must state the nature of the business in sufficient detail to permit a Member entitled to vote on such business to form a reasoned judgment on the business and state the text of any Special Resolution(s) to be submitted to the meeting.

## 8.5 Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of the Members is 50 of the Members entitled to vote at the meeting, whether present in person or by proxy. If a quorum is present at the opening of a meeting of the Members, the Members present may proceed with the business of the meeting, even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting.

## 8.6 Chair of Meetings

The Chair shall be the chair of all meetings of the Members. If the Chair or Vice-Chair (if any) is absent, the Members who are present and entitled to vote at the meeting shall choose another Director as chair and if no Director is present or if all of the Directors present decline to act as chair, the Members shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

## 8.7 Authorized Representative

Each Member that is not an individual shall appoint a representative to attend and vote at meetings of Members on its behalf in accordance with the BTC's Membership Policy.

## 8.8 Voting

- Each Member in good standing who has been a Member for at least 50 days shall be entitled to one vote on each question put to the Members at Members' meetings.
- Resolutions proposed at any Members' meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes unless otherwise required by the Act or the By-laws.
- In case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting shall not have a second or casting vote and the resolution shall be deemed to be decided in the negative.

## 8.9 Fundamental Changes

A Special Resolution is required to make any amendment to the Articles to:

- change the BTC's name;
- add, remove or change any restriction upon the activity or activities that the BTC may carry on or upon the powers that the BTC may exercise;
- create a new class of Members;
- change a condition required for being a Member;
- change the designation of any class of Members or add, change or remove any rights or conditions of any such class;
- divide any class of Members into two or more classes and fix the rights and conditions of each class;
- add, change or remove a provision respecting the transfer of a membership;
- subject to section 30 of the Act, increase or decrease the number of, or the minimum or maximum number of, Directors fixed by the Articles;
- change the purposes of the BTC;
- change to whom the property remaining on liquidation after the discharge of any liabilities of the BTC is to be distributed;
- change the manner of giving notice to the Members;
- change the method of voting by the Members not in attendance at a Members' meeting; or
- add, change or remove any other provision that is permitted by the Act to be set out in the Articles.

## 8.10 Proxies

Members may vote by appointing in writing a proxyholder, or one or more alternate proxyholders, to attend and act at the meeting in the manner and to the extent authorized by the proxy and with the authority conferred by it subject to the requirements of the Act.

## 8.11 Voting by Mail or Electronic Means

If the Directors so determine, a vote of the Members may be conducted by mail or by telephonic or electronic means if:

- the votes can be verified as having been made by Members entitled to vote; and
- the BTC is not able to identify how each Member voted.

## 8.12 Electronic Participation and Meetings

If the Directors so determine, a meeting of the Members may be held in whole or in part by means of such telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A person participating in such a meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting.

## ARTICLE 9 – FINANCIAL

### 9.1 Borrowing Power

- The Directors may from time to time:
  - borrow money on the credit of the BTC;
  - issue, reissue, sell or pledge debt obligations of the BTC;
  - give a guarantee on behalf of the BTC to secure performance of an obligation of any person;
  - mortgage, pledge or otherwise create a security interest in all or any property of the BTC, owned or subsequently acquired, to secure any debt obligation; and
  - delegate the powers conferred on the Directors under this subsection to a Director, a committee of Directors or one or more Officers and to such extent and in such manner as the Directors shall determine.
- The powers conferred by this section 9.1 shall be deemed to be in supplement of and not in substitution for any powers to borrow money for the purposes of the BTC possessed by the Directors or Officers independently of these By-laws, including, without limitation, under the ONCA.

### 9.2 Financial Year

The financial year of the BTC shall end on June 30th in each year or on such other date as the Directors may from time to time by resolution determine, subject to approval by the Canada Revenue Agency.

### 9.3 Auditor

- The Members shall at each AGM appoint an auditor who meets the qualifications set out in the Act to hold office until the close of the next AGM.
- The remuneration of the auditor shall be fixed by the Members but, if not so fixed, by the Directors.
- The Members in good standing may, by resolution passed by at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a special meeting of the Members of which notice of intention to pass the resolution has been given, remove any auditor before the expiration of the auditor's term of office and shall by a majority of the votes cast at that meeting appoint another auditor in such auditor's stead for the remainder of the term.
- Any vacancy in the office of the auditor, including a vacancy that is not filled pursuant to subsection (c) of this section 9.3, shall be filled immediately by the Directors.

### 9.4 Financial Statements

- The BTC shall place before the Members at every AGM a copy of the annual financial statements and other documents referred to in subsection 84(1) of the Act.
- The BTC shall, at least 21 days before each AGM, send a copy of the annual financial statements and other documents referred to in subsection 84(1) of the Act to all

Members who have informed the BTC that they wish to receive a copy.

## ARTICLE 10 – NOTICES

### 10.1 Service

Any notice required to be sent to any Member or Director or to the auditor shall be given by prepaid mail, by personal delivery or by electronic means in accordance with the *Electronic Commerce Act, 2000* to any such Member or Director at their latest address as shown in the records of the BTC, and to the auditor at its business address.

### 10.2 Computation of Time

Where a given number of days' notice or notice extending over any period is required to be given, the day of service or posting of the notice shall not, unless it is otherwise provided, be counted in such number of days or other period.

### 10.3 Error or Omission in Giving Notice

All actions taken at a meeting in respect of which a notice has been sent shall be valid even if:

- by accident, notice was not sent to any person;
- notice was not received by any person; or
- there was an error in a notice that did not affect the substance of that notice.

### 10.4 Waiver of Notice

Any person may waive any notice, or waive or abridge the time for the notice, in whole or in part, required to be given under any provision of these By-laws or otherwise and such waiver, whether given before or after the meeting or other event of which notice is required to be given, shall cure any default in giving such notice. In particular, meetings of the Members or Directors may be held at any time without notice if all the persons entitled to notice of the meeting are present and waive notice or if all of the absent persons waive notice before or after the date of such meeting.

## ARTICLE 11 – ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

### 11.1 Amendments to By-laws

- The Directors may by resolution make, amend or repeal any By-law that regulates the activities or affairs of the BTC, except in respect of a matter referred to in subsection 11.1(b). The Directors shall submit the By-law, amendment or repeal to the Members at the next meeting of the Members, and the Members may confirm, reject or amend the by-law, amendment or repeal by resolution passed by at least a majority of the votes cast. The By-law, amendment or repeal is effective from the date of the resolution of the Directors. If the By-law, amendment or repeal is confirmed or confirmed as amended by the Members, it remains effective in the form in which it was confirmed.
- A By-law, amendment to a By-law or repeal of a By-law in respect of a matter referred to in subsection 8.9(g), (k) or (l) of these By-laws requires a special resolution of the Members in order to be effective.

### 11.2 Repeal of By-laws

All previous By-laws are hereby repealed. The repeal of any By-law shall not affect the previous operation of, or affect the validity of any act done or right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired or incurred under, or the validity of any contract or agreement made pursuant to such By-law prior to its repeal. All Directors, Officers and other persons acting under any By-law repealed in whole or in part shall continue to act as if elected or appointed under the provisions of these By-laws.

# Trail Changes & Notices

MARCH - MAY 2023, POST EDITION 30

FOR THE LATEST TRAIL CHANGE AND NOTICES, VISIT [BRUCETRAIL.ORG/TRAIL\\_CHANGES](http://BRUCETRAIL.ORG/TRAIL_CHANGES)

## Trail Changes & Notices Online

Did you know? Our Trail changes online are up-to-date and searchable. You can search by Map Number, Club Section, Edition of Guide Affected, and even by text in the description. Visit [brucetrail.org/trail\\_changes](http://brucetrail.org/trail_changes)

## The Bruce Trail App Has All Latest Trail Changes

Our Bruce Trail App for iOS and Android devices lets you have the most up-to-date trail data on your phone. Trail reroutes, temporary closures, parking details, and BTC protected areas are updated regularly and are ready when you open your app. Visit [brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app](http://brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app)

## Reservations Required

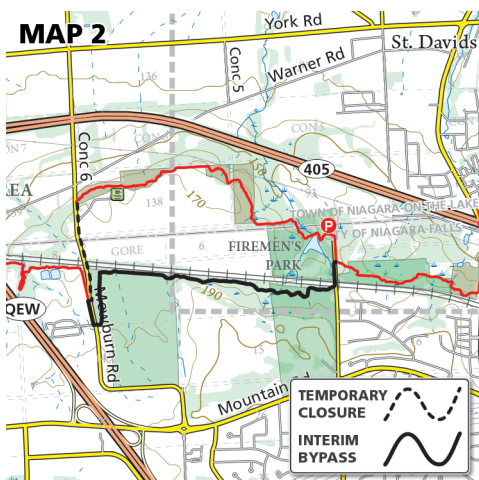
Be prepared to make parking reservations at some parks and conservation areas along the Bruce Trail. Parking reservations are currently required for:

- Conservation Halton ([conservationhalton.ca](http://conservationhalton.ca)): Mount Nemo, Rattlesnake Point, Crawford Lake, Hilton Falls CAs
- Ontario Parks ([reservations.ontarioparks.com](http://reservations.ontarioparks.com)): Forks of the Credit, Mono Cliffs
- Hamilton Conservation Authority ([conservationhamilton.ca](http://conservationhamilton.ca)): Spencer Gorge CA (Webster Falls, Tew Falls, Dundas Peak)
- Credit Valley Conservation ([cvc.ca](http://cvc.ca)): Cheltenham Badlands CA
- Bruce Peninsula National Park ([pc.gc.ca/bruce](http://pc.gc.ca/bruce)): Halfway Dump and at the Grotto / Cyprus Lake
- Lion's Head, McCurdy Drive ([www.northernbruceparking.ca](http://www.northernbruceparking.ca))
- Little Cove Road ([www.northernbruceparking.ca](http://www.northernbruceparking.ca))

## NIAGARA

### Map 2 – Mewburn Rd, Temporary Closure

Concession 6 south through to Mewburn Rd is temporarily closed due to construction. The duration of the closure is expected to span from April 17 to August 31, 2023. From Dorchester Rd, the northerly Bruce Trail route dead-ends upon reaching Concession 6. Hikers must return via the same route. Through-hikers must use the interim bypass.



### Map 3 – Short Hills Provincial Park, Bridge Reopened

The bridge closure on the Main Trail near Swayze Falls in Short Hills Provincial Park (as reported in the the spring 2023 issue) has been lifted as of March 8, 2023.

### Map 4 – New Margaret Reed Side Trail

Once part of a historic track leading to the Village of Campden, this new side trail found on the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority's Cave Springs property provides access to the main Bruce Trail from a parking area with a capacity of 16 cars.

Margaret Reed Side Trail = 360 metres



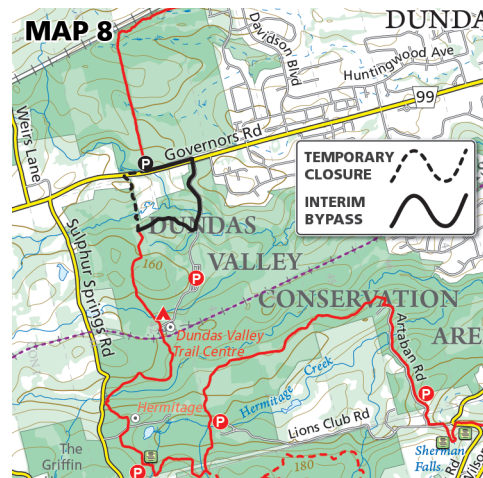
## IROQUOIA

### Map 7 – Scenic Drive, Parking Closure Lifted

Construction is complete at the municipal parking lot at 1180 Scenic Drive as of March 1, 2023. The temporary closure outlined in the spring 2023 issue has been lifted.

### Map 8 – Dundas Valley Conservation Area, Temporary reroute

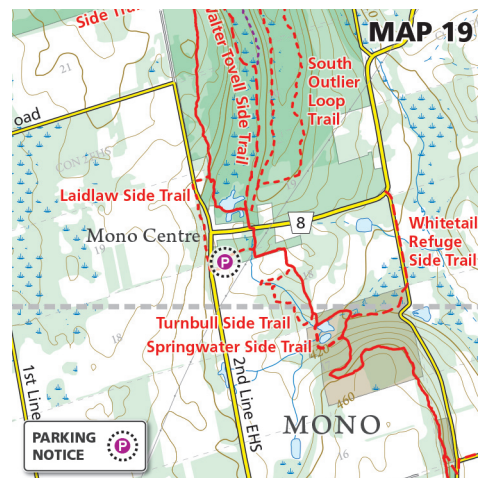
A reroute has been installed to bypass a bridge over a creek that is in need of repair. The illustrated interim bypass is 1.2 km long. The duration of this temporary closure is unknown.



## CALEDON HILLS

### Map 19 – Parking restriction

The Town of Mono has asked that hikers not park at Mono Community Centre on weekends where construction has reduced the capacity of the parking lot.



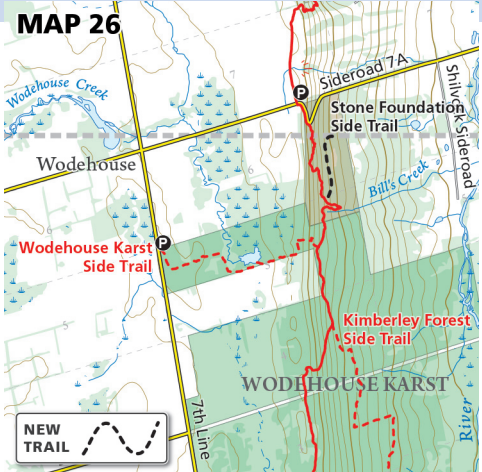
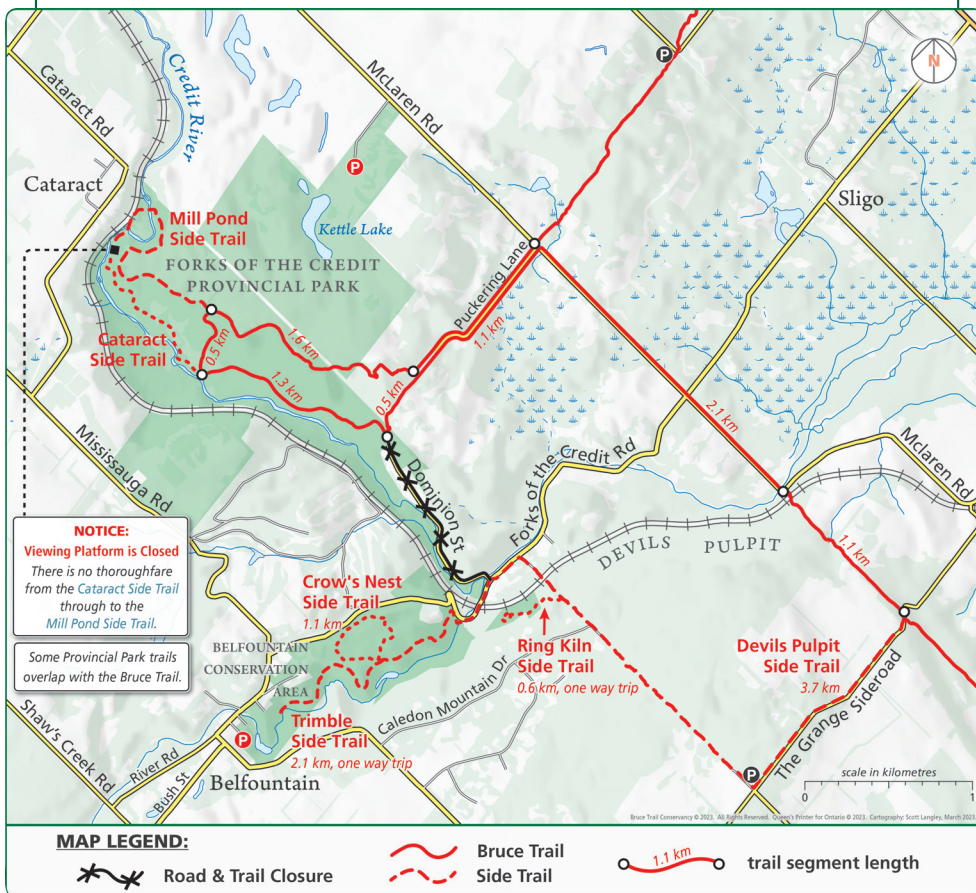
### Map 19 – Whitetail Refuge Side Trail, Temporary Closure

At the request of Ontario Parks, the portion of this side trail within Mono Cliffs Provincial Park is temporarily closed.

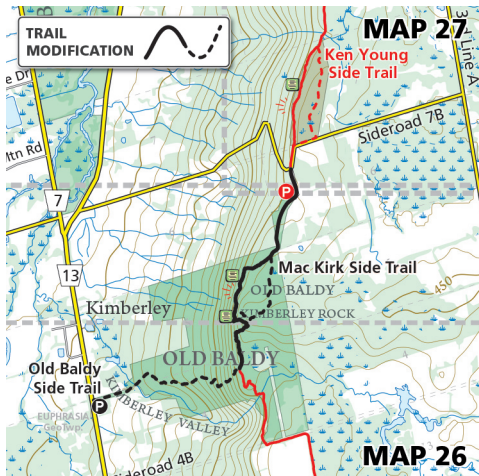
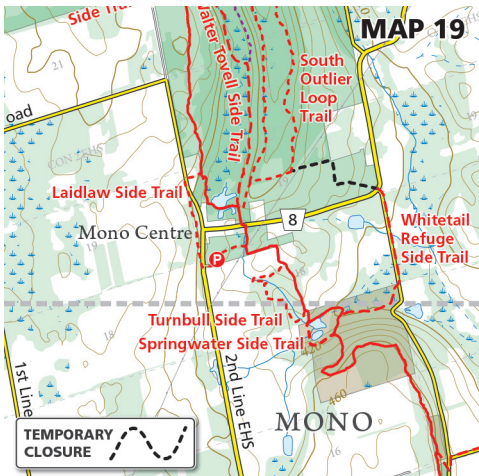
## CALEDON HILLS

### Map 14 – Dominion Street, Temporary Closure and Reroute

The Bruce Trail has been temporarily reconfigured as a result of road construction and the closure of Dominion St. This road closure is estimated to be in place until 2026. The accompanying map illustrates the road closure location along with the current configuration of the Bruce Trail.



Valley Side Trail; and, Hogg's Falls Lower Side Trail is now Uplands Meadow Side Trail. New Side Trails:  
 South Boardwalk Side Trail = 80 metres  
 East Back Line Side Trail = 100 metres



## BEAVER VALLEY

### Map 26-27 – Old Baldy, Reroute

An exciting new trail configuration has taken place at Old Baldy for the main Bruce Trail, Mac Kirk Side Trail and Old Baldy Side Trail. Roughly 3 km of Bruce Trail has been removed from Sideroad 7b and Grey Road 13.

Mac Kirk Side Trail = 630 m  
 Old Baldy Side Trail = 1.2 km  
 Main Trail (illustrated in black) = 1.9 km

**Map 26 – Stone Foundation Side Trail**  
 This dead-end side trail leads to a well preserved barn foundation built by a pioneer family that settled in the Kimberley area in the late 1800s.  
 Stone Foundation Side Trail = 1 km return trip

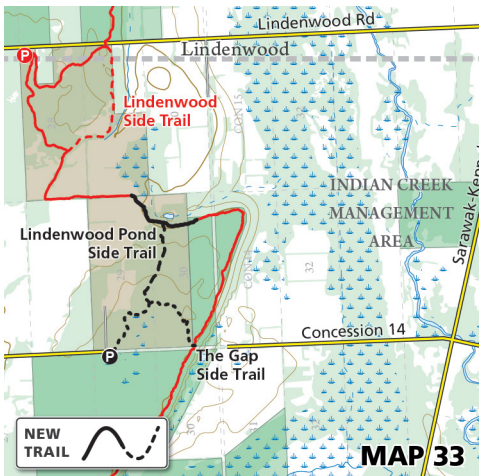
**Map 26 – Hogg's Falls**  
 An exciting new trail configuration has taken place at Hogg's Falls, as shown in the accompanying map.  
 Side Trail name changes: Hogg's Falls Upper Side Trail is now Upper Beaver

## SYDENHAM

### Map 33 – Lindenwood Pond

A new trail configuration has been installed on BTC-preserved Lindenwood Pond Nature Reserve.

Valley Crossover Side Trail (south portion) = 1.5 km  
 Kimberly Side Trail = 2.5 km  
 Please note: This new Gap Side Trail is not to be confused with the abandoned Gap Side Trail which ran to and along Concession 14 and was decommissioned in October 2022.



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We are grateful to all 1,037 donors who chose to support the Bruce Trail Conservancy with a gift between January 1 and March 31, 2023.

**Special thanks to the following donors who made a gift of \$10,000 or more during this time:**

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[willpower.ca/bruce-trail-conservancy](http://willpower.ca/bruce-trail-conservancy)

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 13 Anonymous Donors

JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 2023

# TRIBUTE GIFTS

Gifts were received to honour these special people:

## Birthday

Leigh Butler  
 Marlene Goldman  
 Lovely (50th)  
 Phyllis A. Paterson (90th)  
 Kerstin Ring  
 Ian Spears  
 Rob Stevens

## Career Achievement

Peter Albert

## Christmas

Stewart Ash

## Congratulations

Margaret Corner

## Thank You

Robin Barfoot  
 Adam Brylowski  
 Mary-ellen Cole  
 Sarah Gritzfeldt  
 Ryan Harrison

## In Honour

Corry Boyd  
 Marlis Butcher  
 Phil Casavant  
 The Daniel Family  
 Micahel Decter  
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 Shawn Ool  
 Nancy Petch  
 Bonni Titgemeyer  
 Karen & Lorne Woods

## Trail Angels

Blue Mountains Trail Angels  
 - Rob & Dave  
 Dufferin Hi-Land Trail Angels - Carl  
 Niagara BTC Trail Angels

Gifts were received in memory of:

James M. Abbey  
 Cheung Lim Ahn  
 Beni Arban  
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 Glen Baker  
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 Grant Woodall

# Bruce Trail Conservancy General Store

See our full selection of products and shop online at [brucetrail.org](http://brucetrail.org)



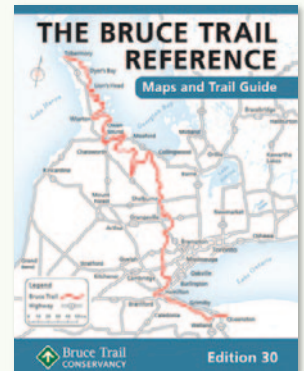
## Bruce Trail Poster Map

Printed on heavy stock this beautiful, newly redesign poster map is perfect for hanging at home or at the cottage – maybe it will inspire your next Bruce Trail adventure! Poster Size: 23.94" x 35.94" **\$8.85**

## Bruce Trail Reference Maps and Trail Guide

**Edition 30** – 42 maps & trail descriptions in a sturdy 6-ring binder. Features trail changes over past 3 years. New section on Indigenous culture and revised introduction. Laminated flora, fauna & fossil field guide included.

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## Bruce Trail Reference Guide Insert

**Edition 30** – All the same great content as the Bruce Trail Reference but without the binder or vinyl sleeve. Best suited for those who have binder from a previous edition. **Members \$24.95, Non-Members \$29.95.**

## Bruce Trail App

For iOS & Android devices. Plan, track and log your hikes on the Bruce Trail with the most up-to-date route information in the official Bruce Trail App. Download on the App Store or Google Play with a FREE 7-day trial.

Details at [brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app](http://brucetrail.org/bruce-trail-app)  
**\$2.99/mth or \$28.99/yr subscription**

## VINTAGE LOGO BTC HAT

Featuring the original Bruce Trail logo from 1963. 100% Cotton. Velcro strap. Khaki green with a weathered look. **Members: \$20, Non-Members: \$25**



**NEW**

## BTC WATER BOTTLE

Easy-to-clean, dishwasher-safe. Tritan Renew copolyester. BPA-, BPS- and phthalate-free. **Members: \$20.00, Non-Members: \$25.00**



## TRAIL SCENE BUFF

New design featuring a graphic of the Bruce Trail in olive green, khaki, black and white. **Members \$25.00, Non-Members \$28.00**

**NEW**

## STICKERS

One for **\$3.00** or Set of five for **\$10.00**



## BRUCE TRAIL CAMP SOCKS

30% wool, 60% acrylic, 10% polyamide. One size. **Members \$16.00, Non-Members \$18.00**



## QUARTER-ZIP FLEECE

Navy blue with white logo on left front. 100% polyester fleece. **Members \$45.00, Non-Members \$50.00**



## CONTEST DESIGN T-SHIRT

Features design by Hannah Lebedyk, winner of the BTC Youth Council's t-shirt design contest. 100% polyester, Ladies and Unisex cuts. Sizes XS to XXL. **Members \$20.00, Non-Members \$22.00**

**Coming Soon**

## BTC JIGSAW PUZZLE - A PLETHORA OF BADGES

1008 piece puzzle, 19"x27" **\$35.00**



## BTC DOG LEASH

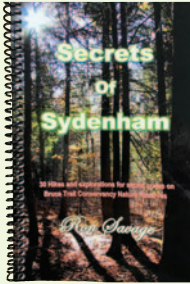
For our canine Bruce Trail fans. 6 ft woven leash. **\$19.95**

# FREE SHIPPING NOW AVAILABLE

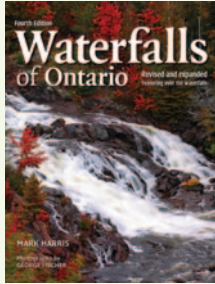
on all orders over \$100 within Canada (over \$150 for US orders; over \$200 for international orders).

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To order from our extensive collection of books please call 905-529-6821 or visit [brucetrail.org](http://brucetrail.org)

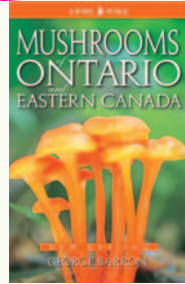


SECRETS OF SYDENHAM  
\$20.00



WATERFALLS OF ONTARIO, 4TH ED  
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NEW



MUSHROOMS OF ONTARIO AND EASTERN CANADA  
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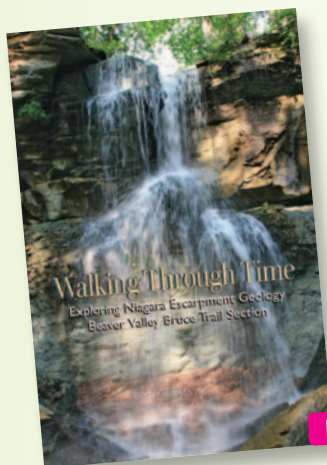
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TRAIL TO THE BRUCE  
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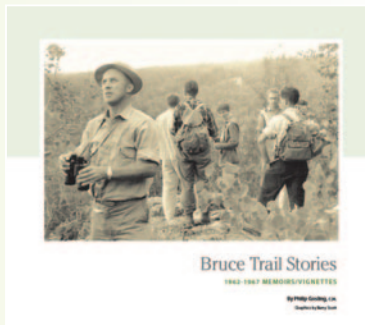


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NEW

WALKING THROUGH TIME  
Members \$25, Non-Members \$27



BRUCE TRAIL STORIES:  
1962-1967 MEMOIRS/VIGNETTES  
by BTC Co-founder and Honorary President, Philip R. Gosling  
\$19.95

## END-TO-END Badge Package

10 badges. 1 purchase.

End-to-Enders can now receive their Bruce Trail End-to-End badge and certificate PLUS each of the 9 Club End-to-End badges in one package. Submit your hike logs to the BTC once you've completed the entire Trail and request this package. Those wishing to collect badges as they complete sections will still need to reach out to individual Clubs. The BTC does not sell the Club badges individually. But, if you can wait until the end, you can get all 10 badges at once. Please note: the set includes only the "Hike on Your Own" badges.

\$90.00 *Not available online.*



Learn more about all our badges at [brucetrail.org/badges](http://brucetrail.org/badges)

# Riverside Woods Nature Reserve

*A rare opportunity to preserve  
216 acres of near-urban nature*

**A large natural sanctuary in the rapidly developing Caledon area, Riverside Woods offers an important opportunity to forever protect irreplaceable Niagara Escarpment habitats.**

This nature reserve is the largest land securement effort in the Caledon Hills section in the Bruce Trail Conservancy's 60-year history. We invite you to be part of this historic moment.

Together we can protect this remarkable gem, care for it in perpetuity, and ensure generations to come can explore near-urban nature along the Bruce Trail.

## **2X THE IMPACT**

Your donation in support of Riverside Woods Nature Reserve will be **DOUBLED** thanks to a generous matching contribution from the Heather and Ross Hamlin Fund.

Learn more about Riverside Woods Nature Reserve and this matching opportunity inside on page 22.



**Bruce Trail  
CONSERVANCY**