



Annual Report 2022 Year in Review

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Treaty 1 (Spruce Woods)

Our Team

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2022)

Erik Dickson (President)
Alex Man (Vice President)
Ali Marr (Treasurer)
Daria Jorquera-Palmer (Secretary)
Dean Kriellaars (Grants Chair)
Adrian Alphonso
Charles Zant
Colin Joyal
Jeana Manning
Steve Demmings
Tomas Vega
Philip Jenkinson
Dave Ternier
Marc Zurbuchen

STAFF

Tim Coffin (Executive Director)
Janette Crawford (Executive Assistant)

SUMMER EMPLOYEE

Hayley Ward
(Trail Research & Mapping Coordinator)

Land Acknowledgement

The trails in Manitoba are located on the original lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Assiniboine, Dakota and Dene Peoples, and the National Homeland of the Red River Métis.

We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

We encourage all trail users to learn more about the land that they are travelling on.

Message from the President

2022 was another busy and exciting year for Trails Manitoba. There were wonderful 'ups', such as celebrating a second successful year of our Trails Manitoba Grant Program. There were also disappointing 'downs', such as significant flooding that affected many trails, parks, and communities. Through it all, the trails community demonstrated incredible perseverance and remarkable commitment to overcome setbacks and make progress towards our shared goals.

Last year was the second year of our Trails Manitoba Grant Program. Interest in our two grants was again very high with many strong grant applications coming forward for projects across the province. I was delighted to join Minister Wharton and the Rotary Club of Winnipeg-Charleswood to announce our 2022 grant recipients last summer, while my Board colleague Dave Ternier was able to participate in a concurrent announcement with Minister Clarke in Minnedosa. As we move into our third year of providing grants for the development, enhancement, and maintenance of trails in Manitoba we have begun to see many projects completed and can truly appreciate the difference that these grants are making in communities across the province.

As we move into 2023, Trails Manitoba will have even more to celebrate with our 30th Anniversary this year. With this celebration will also come new leadership as I take a step back from being President after four eventful, yet fulfilling years. A lot has changed in four years (and not just from a multi-year global pandemic!). When I first started we were looking at dwindling savings and deficit budgets with an Executive Director vacancy and the reality that if we didn't reverse these trends, we may not even have made it to our 30th Anniversary. Thankfully, that was not the case. Through significant investment by the Province of Manitoba in the

establishment of endowment funds for operational as well as trail development and maintenance programs there is stability and security for our organization and for recreational trails throughout Manitoba.

I am confident that our organization is well-positioned for continued success with a revitalized leadership team of Jeana Manning and Adrian Alphonso, as well as our incredible, dedicated staff Tim Coffin and Janette Crawford and the rest of a very hard-working Board. Together they will guide us towards many great achievements to celebrate. The future of trails in Manitoba is bright.

For one final time, I want to thank all of the volunteers and local trail groups who are out there building, maintaining, and grooming our trails. Thank you to all the funders and partners of Trails Manitoba. Thank you to everyone who has served on the Board with me and a very big thanks to Tim and Janette for all the support and patience you have had with me. It has been an honour to serve as President and I am grateful to have been a part of such a wonderful team.

See you on the trails!

Erik



Message from the Executive Director

I am thrilled to report that Trails Manitoba has successfully completed another year in the business of recreational trails. 2023 marks our organization's 30th anniversary, and it is an achievement that we are immensely proud of.

As we reflect on this milestone, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all of the individuals and organizations who have contributed to our success over the years. Past board members, staff, volunteer, and partners have played a pivotal role in shaping our organization into what it is today. Without their hard work and dedication, we would not be where we are today.

Our core values and mission remain steadfast, and we are committed to providing support and resources that promote the development and use of recreational trails throughout Manitoba. As a small organization, we are proud of our ability to accomplish big things, and this is only possible because of the strength of our team, shared vision, and determination to provide more.

Our collaborations with trail builders, trail user groups, municipalities, and First Nation communities continue to

deepen. We recognize that trails are a means to connect people, communities, and landscapes, and we are excited to be a part of this effort. Through our annual Trails Grant Program, we are delighted to provide funding to help enable this.

To our wonderful volunteers, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your significant contributions to our trail network and community. Your unwavering commitment to our shared mission has not gone unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for all that you do.

As we look forward to the future, we remain committed to enhancing recreational trails in Manitoba. We are confident that with the continued support of our stakeholders, partners, and trail volunteers, we will achieve even greater success in the years to come.

Thank you,
Tim



Treaty 2 (Neepawa - Sandi Knight)



Treaty 3 (Bear Lake)

Strategic Plan 2021-2024

TRAILS MANITOBA STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2024



VISION

Our vision is that people in Manitoba will desire and benefit from a fully integrated and supported trail network, linking communities and people throughout the province.

MISSION

To provide the support and resources necessary to promote the development and use of recreational trail throughout Manitoba, thereby improving the overall well being of our communities.

LEADERSHIP:

Be the provincial leader in recreational trails.

- Be the strong voice and advocate for recreational trails.
- Advance the positive impact of trails through relationship building.
- Champion recreational trails as essential to supporting healthy, active, and connected communities.
- Positively contribute to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.
- Continually improve the province's recreational trail infrastructure.

MEMBER SUPPORT & PARTNERSHIPS:

Continue to grow & enhance our recreational trails community.

- Increase membership & continually improve overall benefits.
- Connect our members to one another and engage them in our Association.
- Be visible and relevant to members.
- Build partnerships that emphasize the value and importance of trails in Manitoba.
- Establish/strengthen relationships with other related trail organizations.
- Establish strong government connections.
- Strengthen our commitment to support volunteer trail associations and other volunteers.

ORGANIZATIONAL SUCCESS:

Thrive & be resilient.

- Embrace continuous improvement.
- Be proactive in securing funds.
- Enhance organizational capability through adequate succession planning.
- Inspire and support excellence in staff.
- Foster and recruit diverse Board members.
- Be proactive in legacy planning.

SUSTAINABILITY:

Be an industry leader in environmental & economic development.

- Make trails more desirable to users.
- Enhance signage, print, and online materials to help trail users explore the trail.
- Promote sustainable use of trails.
- Continue to make positive advancements in environmental conservation.
- Strengthen overall support for trails by reinforcing positive economic and social development.

See [www.trailsmanitoba.ca/about/2021-2024 Strategic Plan](http://www.trailsmanitoba.ca/about/2021-2024%20Strategic%20Plan)

Funders & Partners

Canada

Manitoba

THE WINNIPEG FOUNDATION



Winnipeg

The Forks



Parks Canada



BENCHMARK



MANITOBA
CANADA'S HEART IS CALLING



Manitoba Hydro



TRANS CANADA TRAIL
SENTIER TRANSCANADIEN



Assurance | Accounting | Tax | Advisory

Trails Manitoba Grant Program

Trails Manitoba is proud to partner with the Province of Manitoba and The Winnipeg Foundation by offering two recreational trail grants: *Trails Grant for Manitoba* and *Trails Grant for Winnipeg*. These two grant programs represent an investment of \$9 million from the Province of Manitoba, for the development and enhancement of recreational trails throughout Manitoba. These grants assist in making recreational trails attractive and inclusive destinations for Manitobans and visitors alike, in celebration of the peoples, communities and landscapes that this province has to offer.



Trails Grant for Manitoba

The funds for the *Trails Grant for Manitoba* derive from interest from a \$4M endowment, with total annual disbursements estimated between \$180,000 to \$240,000. While this specific funding and grant program will continue in perpetuity, an additional \$2.5M provided by the Province of Manitoba (estimated allocation of \$600,000 per year) has been allocated to the program until 2025. Approved projects are expected to be completed within 2 years. This grant is intended for trail associations, municipalities, or other not-for-profit groups, that have the means to provide continued stewardship of trails. Grant applications solely for trail maintenance may receive greater flexibility with regards to matching requirements. Maintenance Grants will be prioritized based on location (rural vs. urban) and available support (i.e. city-based funding for trail maintenance).

Specific objectives for this grant include:

- * Provide new recreational trail opportunities which includes extending or improving existing trails, developing new trails, and addressing trail gaps and barriers.
- * Improve the quality of the existing recreational trail network or the user's experience including safety improvements, signage, wayfinding, and barriers to access.
- * Maintenance of the recreational trail network, including pruning, repairing holes, trail beautification, normal erosion/drainage repairs, clean-up, usual repairs (signage, barriers, fencing, surfacing) and other maintenance tasks that are undertaken for upkeep of a trail.

Trails Grant for Winnipeg

The Trails Grant for Winnipeg is an annual grant with an estimated allocation of \$500,000 per year. \$2.5M provided by the Province of Manitoba has been allocated to the program until 2025. This grant is largely intended for trail associations, the City of Winnipeg, or other not-for-profit groups, that have the means to provide continued stewardship. Approved projects are expected to be completed within 2 years.

Specific objectives for this grant include:

- * Increase the length of the greenway trail network.
- * Improve the quality of the existing greenway trail network.
- * Improve the user's experience.



Importance of Signage

"The Assiniboine Forest sees in excess of 180,000 visitors a year. There are some 18 kms of groomed trails. It has become very clear given the diversity of the visitors to the forest, that there is a clear need for directional signage to ensure visitors have a safe and relaxing walk through the forest and are able to find their way back to the forest entrance. The Charleswood Rotary Club wants to improve the signage to outline the varieties of fauna and foliage in the forest for added visitor enjoyment. The feedback on the signage work we have completed to date has been very positive."

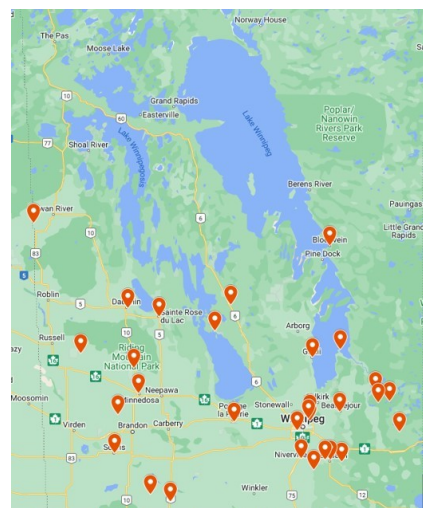
- Jack Wilson (Charleswood Rotary Club)

2022 Approved Projects: *Trails Grant for Manitoba*

Trail Maintenance of Blue Water South Trail	\$5,590	Pinawa Trail Enhancements	\$3,385
Assiniboine Community College Trail	\$75,000	Portage la Prairie Activity Park - Phase 1	\$55,478
Benchmark 2022-2023: Victoria Beach	\$7,500	Railway Park Trail System	\$23,505
Chryplywy Park Trail Enhancement	\$3,934	Riverdale Trail (Phase 1: Trail Master Study)	\$13,400
Connecting our Community Part 2	\$15,000	Rosenthal Trail Project	\$63,043
Construction of Rail Trail & Maintenance Equipment	\$12,820	Rosburn Subdivision Trail Maintenance & Bridge Repair	\$21,320
Crow Wing Trail Maintenance Program	\$6,000	South St. Andrew Walking Trails - Phase 2	\$75,000
Erickson Water Tower Project	\$4,035	Squirrel Hills Trails Park	\$75,000
Extension of Main Street Trail from Parks Creek Drive to RM of St. Andrews Border	\$61,833	Ste. Agathe Baudry Trails Project	\$30,000
Icelandic River Interpretive Trail Expansion	\$26,133	Tetrault Road Trail	\$75,000
Maintenance Enhancement Project	\$7,000	Thunderhill Trail Concept Plan - Phase 2	\$75,000
Marconi Trail Connections	\$36,000	Trail Maintenance Equipment Library	\$500
Mennonite Heritage Village Trail Development	\$10,000	Turtle River Trails and Alternative Plan - Phase 1	\$75,000
Miskwiseepih Trail Building Project	\$20,000	Victoria Park Trail Extension and Stairs	\$10,000
		Zaagaate Trail & Pollinator Meadow	\$33,450

2022 Approved Projects: *Trails Grant for Winnipeg*

Assiniboine Forest Sign and Wayfinding Enhancements	\$50,000
City of Wpg-Trancona Trail Extension	\$275,000



***NOTE** - please refer to our *2022 Trails Manitoba Grant Program: Year in Review* report located on our website for further project details.

<https://www.trailsmanitoba.ca/grants/>

Trails MB Funded Trail Projects

South Whiteshell Blue Highway - In Progress

Skills area, Thunderbird Structure & Parking Lot Development

This project includes a unique mountain bike skills area & family meeting hub that will house an info kiosk, benches, interpretive signage and maps to access hiking & biking on granite outcrops in the pre-Cambrian Shield.

Choose your own adventure: children can play, explore nature, hike a 2.4 km trail/Centennial Trail/TCT/McGillivray Falls, or bike the Blue Highway Route/the beginner skills structure shaped as a Thunderbird (a significant spiritual animal to the Anishinaabe Ride)/ or hike the adjacent 1.3 km Intermediate Skills Loop with fun wood & rock structures.

All components of the project are located less than 1/2 km from the Caddy Lake Campground and Resort area.



Treaty 3 (Blue Highway, Caddy Lake)

North Whiteshell Trail - Complete

Comprehensive Study

This project delivered a comprehensive study of the North Whiteshell Trail system. The study focused on the watershed and movement of water near the trail, with the intent to address areas prone to flooding and marshland protection. In collaboration with Manitoba Parks and other key stakeholders, the project provides recommendations for trail improvement, repair and long-term maintenance.

Additionally, the project delivered an assessment of the trail through the lens of signage, specifically identification of decision points along the trail that may be a source of confusion for users and/or where users may become lost.

Scatliff+Miller+Murray was contracted to lead the study.



Treaty 3 (Nutimik - Samantha Betker)

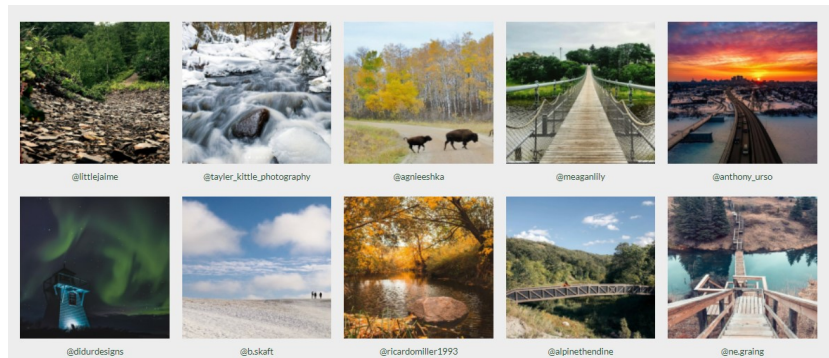


Social Media (Instagram, Facebook)



31.4k Followers

3652 Posts



Trails Manitoba is thrilled to shine a well-deserved spotlight on Jaime Manness, the creative mastermind behind the captivating Trails Manitoba Instagram account. With unwavering professionalism, an insatiable appetite for adventure, and an unyielding passion for sharing trail insights, Jaime has become an invaluable asset to our vibrant Trails Community. Thank you for bringing trails to life with each post!



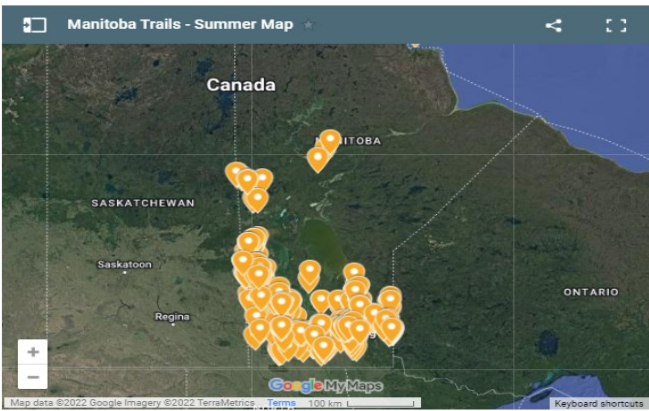
Trails Manitoba
@TrailsManitoba

4.1k Likes

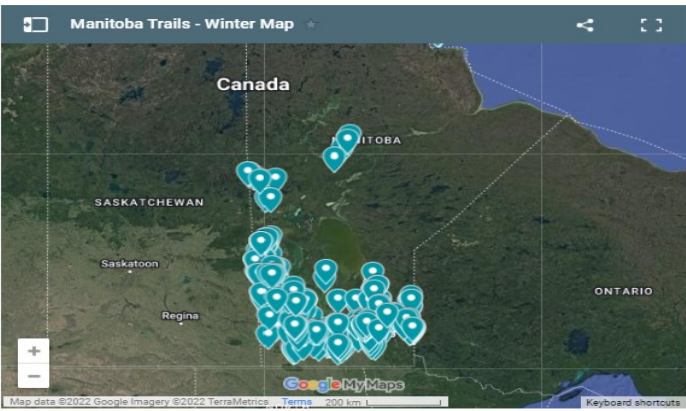
5k Followers

Interactive Online Maps

SUMMER MAP



WINTER MAP



Hiking Trail Difficulty Scale

Hiking Trail Difficulty Scale based on Terrain Navigability



Level	1	2	3	4
May Include:	Paved, boardwalk or prepared surface	Mildly rooted, small loose rock, gravel or uneven grassy surface	Moderately rooted, loose rock, boggy, sandy or medium sized boulders	Heavily rooted, large boulders, or very uneven and gapped surfaces
	Small inclines or declines	Some moderate inclines or declines may be present	Some steep inclines or declines	Large steep inclines or declines
				Requires climbing on rock surfaces



This does not include natural hazards that may have arisen from tree fall, rock fall or flooding

Summer Employee - Hayley Ward

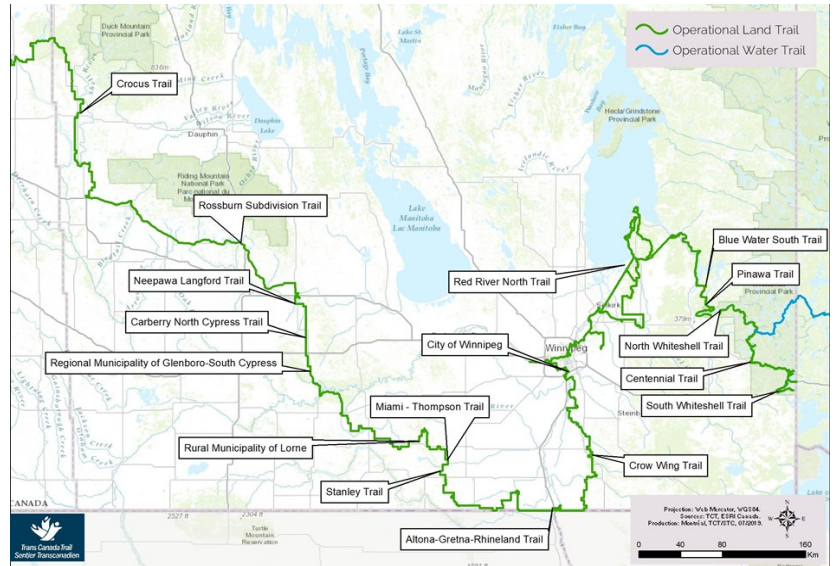
As the *Trail Research & Mapping Coordinator*, Hayley worked closely with the Trails MB Team to help provide a better online experience for trail enthusiasts across Manitoba. Hayley was actively involved in created online resources for trail users and builders, developing online mapping tools, and completed trail audits in the southwestern part of the province. Funding was provided by the Manitoba Municipal Relations Urban / Hometown Green Team Program.

The Trans Canada Trail in Manitoba

The Trans Canada Trail (TCT) connects Canadians to nature and to one another. The TCT is a national legacy, a Canadian asset, and a sustainable gift that fosters unity, collaboration and connectedness.

The TCT is represented by provincial and territorial organizations across the country. These organizations work at the regional and local levels to ensure the Trail is planned and built according to the needs and desires of local communities.

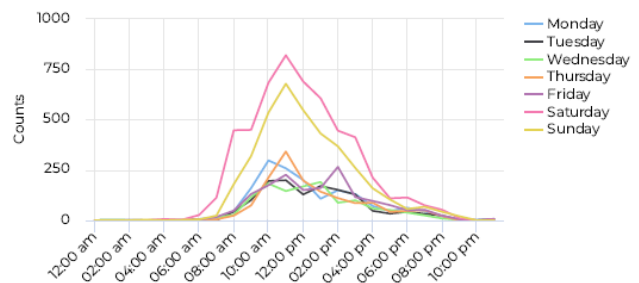
Trails Manitoba is the provincial governing body responsible for the TCT in Manitoba.



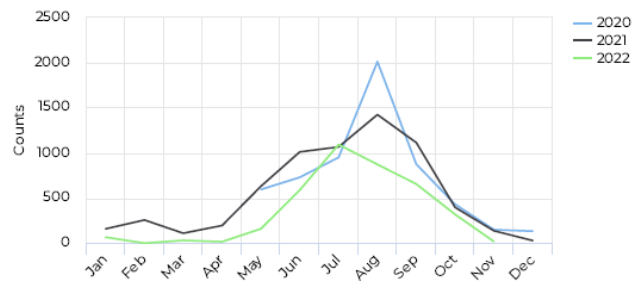
Eco Counters

One of two Trails MB eco-counters is installed along the Blue Highway/Centennial trail to help gauge usage, popular dates & times, as well as mode of passage. This counter has been in place since May, 2020.

'Bike and pedestrian count data is an essential tool to justify investments, capture seasonal trends, plan future pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, communicate with stakeholders and the public, and much more.'



Monthly Comparison - year over year ↗



Member Trail Group Updates

Crow Wing Trail Association / Chemin Saint-Paul Inc.



CWTA took St-Pierre-Jolys Museum up on their offer of free space on the 3rd floor, which is now used for storage, workspace and as a meeting room.

The following are some of the activities completed in 2022:

- Completed replacement of old TCT logos with new. Took pictures and GPS locations and posted them on a Google map for TCT and Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure.
- Continued evaluating how maintenance is done on a diverse 200-km trail which includes an increasing number of greenway sections.
- Saw the completion of Manitoba Hydro's work on a section of the Crow Wing Trail Camino. While new towers were installed nearby, there is now a section of trail for non-motorized use on a municipal road allowance.
- Promoted winter use of trails in communities and in sheltered areas between communities.
- Listened to First Nations partners and provided employment to First Nations individuals.

- Undertook first Green Team project which was quite challenging on such a long trail.
- Met with several local groups who have something in common regarding maintenance and trail improvements.
- Contracted services of a botanist to train interested individuals in identification and awareness of natural plants along the trail.
- Presented to the Canadian Company of Pilgrims – Winnipeg Chapter. Great welcome!



Cargo trailer for bikes



Mowing tall grass after wet spring

FortWhyte Alive

Spring 2022 brought high water levels and trail flooding to low parts of the trail system at FortWhyte Alive; with an abundance of patience, our trail users waited out necessary closures to prevent erosion, and were welcomed back to pristine trails late summer!

A few short months later, access to the South trail system was detoured 150 feet West along McGillivray Boulevard to make way for the long-awaited development of an official southern gateway to FortWhyte Alive: Buffalo Crossing! Opening in 2024, this innovative, multi-purpose facility will highlight the highest standards in climate-resilient architecture, boasting a

stunning walkway and bridge across Muir Lake for guests to immerse themselves in nature.

Accessibility of the trail system at FortWhyte Alive was prioritized in 2022, as a new volunteer role was created to proactively assess trail conditions and report on any accessibility issues to the Visitor Experience team for dissemination to interested trail users.

Starting in 2023, guests can look forward to revitalized wayfinding signage along the trails!

The Transcona Bioreserve trail



The Transcona Bioreserve trail is a 2.3 kilometer loop located at 38 Whiteshell Ave in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This former industrial plant site has been revitalized to feature crushed limestone trails and a thriving big bluestem grass field. In the warmer months the trails are known for the delightful songs of migratory songbirds and the sight of wild flowers and butterflies in the meadows. The trails are accessible to the community year-round and are dog-friendly. FortWhyte Alive is proud to steward these trails for community use.

Member Trail Group Updates

Lac du Bonnet Trail Association

It was a busy year in terms of applying for grants and getting signage and maintenance work done. LDBTA applied for seven grants. Of those, three were for trail maintenance and four were for a trail feasibility study for a new trail project. The three applications for maintenance (one from Trails Manitoba, two from TCT) were approved, providing \$7,442.50 for trail maintenance. The feasibility study was awarded (\$19,000), two were rejected, and one is pending (\$5,000). LDBTA is hopeful the feasibility study will go ahead once all funding is received.

In May, LDBTA started putting new TCT logo decals over the Great Trail signs. With the cooler weather, LDBTA was unable to finish applying the decals, and this work will be completed this spring.

Trail maintenance started in the spring and continued until Nov. 1. The bulk of funds for maintenance was spent on repairing damage caused by motorized vehicles on the Lee River Trail. Clearing overgrowth on the sides of the trail, mowing and brushing took the remaining amount. Some funds were used for

maintaining trails for the winter activities of hiking, snowshoeing, and skiing in the month of December.

In October LDBTA held a “Hike and Hot Dog” afternoon at Blueberry Rock Hiking Trail. There were many visitors out to enjoy the fall weather and a free hot dog, while introducing them to what the trails have to offer and the work that volunteers do. A trail counter was installed on the section of Lee River Trail south of Tower Road on November 1.



Headingley Grand Trunk Trail Association

Three prairie tours, led by John Morgan, and the annual Trails Day Celebration resumed in 2022 with a Perimeter to Prairie family bike ride. Support from the RM of Headingley and the TCT Seasonal Grant allowed portions of the trail to be cleared for the third year, creating winter access.

The development of the nature trail and playground continued. Progress was made on the installation of a boardwalk through the wetlands and the nature playground is being installed. Prairie interpretive panels have been developed. In 2023, the prairie will undergo a controlled burn and reseeding. Ten families participated in the “Adopt a Bluebird Box Project” in 2022. Participants monitored the 27 boxes along the trail. The project will continue in 2023.

In partnership with the Harte Trail, an application was approved by Infrastructure Canada Active Transportation Fund for a feasibility study to explore a safe, direct passage across the Perimeter Highway. An overpass/underpass would allow for safe travel between the Headingley Grand Trunk Trail and the Harte Trail creating a connection with active transportation routes throughout the city.

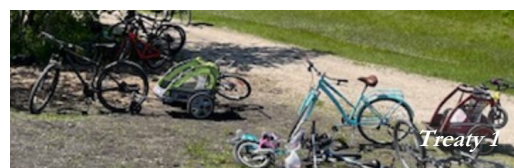
HGTT would like to extend thanks and appreciation to Trails Manitoba for their ongoing encouragement and support!



Prairie Restoration, Nature Trail and Playground



Boardwalk through the wetlands and the Nature Playground.



Perimeter to Prairie family bike ride.

Member Trail Group Updates

Rossburn Subdivision Trail Association



RSTA have been busy maintaining and adding amenities to the trail in 2022. Several benches were added, discovery panels replaced and in Erickson a resting stop and outlook was built on an old water tower foundation. This is still work in progress. Interpretive signs telling the history of the area and the trail will be added at a later date.

The biggest achievement this year was the completion of the Flying Eagle Link Trail in late fall. The trail runs from Rossburn, where an opening ceremony was held, about 8 km along the main Rossburn Subdivision Trail and then turns off to join the Riding Mountain National Park trail system about 22 km later.

It runs in good part on less travelled back country

gravel roads, but also includes close to 400 m of board walk. Interpretive signs along the trail are telling the stories of settlers and indigenous people alike.

RSTA is immensely thankful for the support of Trails Manitoba, Trans Canada Trail, the Province of Manitoba, Fusion Credit Union and Twin Valley Coop for their financial contribution. Scott and his crew from Reynolds Re/New went over and above to build boardwalk and trailhead kiosks being creative and flexible.



Flying Eagle Link Trailhead



Interpretive signs along the trail



400 m of Board Walk.

Stanley Trail Association

Stanley Trail Association (STA) activity focused on trail maintenance, trail development, signage, promotion, youth involvement, and growing Municipal, Provincial and Federal partnerships.

STA directed support toward winter trail grooming activities and the Snow Dog Winter Trail Groomer was used to maintain fat bike, snowshoe and winter hiking trail.

STA have a number of active business donors, including Parkside Lumber in Winkler that has provided ongoing support through donation of building material. Donations approached \$2,000.00 and were much appreciated. Parkside has been very supportive of various projects.

The RM of Stanley encourages trail development and has provided an annual \$2,500.00 grant for recreational trail development in the RM.

The 2021-22 Project Learning Tree 50/50 matching Grant Youth Employment Program was successful in providing consistent ongoing trail maintenance throughout the growth

season. Two youths were employed for the bulk of the season, who worked alongside and at direction of a group of volunteers. The Stanley Community Pathway, located in the Municipality of Stanley, and linking the communities of Winkler and Morden, is a significant trail development project, and is actively in process. STA has submitted a proposal to TCT to add the existing Minnewasta trail to the Stanley Trail. The submission is under review and we are anticipating a response in spring of 2023.



Treaty 1 (Stanley Trail - Jeff Scott)

Member Trail Group Updates



South Whiteshell Trail Association

2022 Accomplishments

- SWTA became a CRA Registered Charity.
- Mountain Bike Trail Development, Sabe Skills Loop is fully functional.
- Blue Highway/Centennial Trail Parking Lot expanded.
- Washroom for Caddy Lake Parking lot - All building materials & concrete tank purchased by SWTA.
- New approach / Arrival Plaza.
- Kiosk / Trail maps:
 - * Benches
 - * Repair Station
- Interpretive Signage:
 - * Welcome to the Area
 - * Blue Highway Route
 - * Centennial Trail
- \$1000 TCT Spring Maintenance Grant was used to purchase gravel and clean up ruts from heavy spring rains.
- \$1000 TCT Fall Maintenance Grant was used to clear blind corners on South Shore Trail.
- Kids Hikes were organized on the Falcon Creek Trail, the Top of the World Trail & the McGillivray Falls Trail.
- Building Sustainable Communities Tractor Purchase.
- Continued Trail Map Advertising Program.



Wild Outside Work Party



TCT Border Pavilion Sign

Trail Association of the North Whiteshell

The North Whiteshell Trail is part of the TransCanada Trail; it runs from Rennie at the south end to Seven Sisters at the north, connecting major lakes, trails and recreation areas.

The Trail Association of the North Whiteshell started the summer season evacuated due to flooding in many areas of the 105km trail. For many portions of the trail, the water receded by Aug/Sept so many of the identified projects were deferred and will be tackled in 2023. Thanks to Manitoba Parks and volunteers for clearing up some drier sections of the trail system so everyone could enjoy a hike.

A trail audit has been completed, and the results will help guide trail activities within Treaty 3 territory and ongoing maintenance. The TAONW continue to work closely with Trails Manitoba, TCT, MB Parks and other trail associations in the Whiteshell to create a sustainable and enjoyable trail system.



Gravel tread between the Park Office and Otter Falls



Floating boardwalk just south of Otter Falls

Member Trail Group Updates

Crocus Trail Association

The 2022 year focused on obtaining a study of the Bear Creek section of Crocus Trail in the Inglis area. A study of the area was completed and identified recommendations for this section as well as other sections of the trail adjacent to the Asessippi ski area. The board discussed the recommendations and decided to look at the route past Lennard and the Orthodox churches as the preferred option. Crocus Trail will need to confirm this route with Manitoba Highways and the Municipality of Riding Mountain West. If approvals are received, the trail will need to be signed. Other recommendations listed in the study will be deferred to a later date.

Trail signs were updated and trail conditions audited along the easily accessed (drivable) parts of the trail. There are still pockets where old signage exists but could not be changed due to sign shortage, difficulty removing the aged signs or posts requiring replacement. Some newer signs still need the updated decal or replacement as they have been damaged. GPS coordinates have been captured for many locations.

A walking audit was done of Asessippi North as it enters the park

off 166W north of the valley through to where the trail meets Highway 83. We have a report of a flooded area on a multi-use portion of trail in the Duck Mountain forest where the trail enters Manitoba. Due to the high moisture levels in the spring and the quick melt, we need to determine if it was a temporary issue or if lasting damage occurred. The excess moisture also increased the growth rate of grass; seeking mowing options on the more remote areas was an issue.

Maintenance was mainly in mowing and removal of fallen trees as well as signage updates. Work plan for 2023 is in progress.



Overlooking Lake of the Prairies

Valley Life Recreation (VLR)

VLR formally began construction on the Squirrel Hills Trail Park. In addition to this, incredible fundraising milestones were met along with the opening of our first formal trails for winter use.

On August 23, we welcomed D.I.G. Trail Design, the professional trail building company from Rossland, BC that won a spring tender process. What followed was 10 weeks of construction in the Squirrel Hills Recreation Area, digging, cutting and shaping what is to become Manitoba's next professionally designed and built trail park. Approximately 70% of the trail building was completed. In 2023 the remaining work will be completed.

Trail park fundraising goals reached new heights as we went from having raised \$250,000 (at the end of 2021) to ending 2022 with \$555,000 raised. This represents approximately 75% of the most recently revised trail park budget. Some of the funders VLR would like to acknowledge include Saputo (\$25k), Richardson International Limited (\$50k), Building Sustainable Communities fund (\$75k), Canada Healthy Communities Initiative (\$25k), Hydro Flask Parks For All (\$20k), Minnedosa Rotary Club (\$5k), Stewart Lewis (\$5k) and Trails Manitoba (\$75k).

From a trail-use perspective, one of the most exciting moments was the start of winter use for the newly constructed trails. VLR has undertaken various educational campaigns related to "groomed winter trail use etiquette" (#thinkbeforeyousink) along with dedicated grooming of the trail and reporting on those updates to the public. The winter trail use has been extraordinary with many first-time users reporting how thrilled they are to have discovered a new love of trails.

Two members of the VLR Board will be attending the International Trails Summit in Reno, Nevada in April and look forward to bringing back many new ideas and perspectives.

A focus on fundraising and construction of the trailhead, along with completion of the newly built trails, will ensure Minnedosa's Squirrel Hills Trail Park continues to become the project we all envision it to be.



Get Involved

DONATE

Manitoba Recreational Trails Association Inc. o/a Trails Manitoba/Sentiers Manitoba is a Registered Charitable organization. Help support our mission to promote the construction, maintenance and use of recreational trail throughout the Province of Manitoba. A healthy and robust trail network benefits the economy, the environment, and overall human well-being. To donate online visit our website www.trailsmanitoba.ca/Get Involved/Donate.



PayPal Giving Fund Canada

VOLUNTEER

Trails Manitoba is a non-profit volunteer-based organization, that relies heavily on the support of like-minded people. We have a wide variety of volunteer opportunities, for all types of abilities and interests.

If you like to :

- * Be outdoors and explore the vast provincial trail network?
- * Help improve/enhance current trail infrastructure, and amenities?
- * Capture beautiful images through nature photography?
- * Tell stories through imagery, videography, or print?
- * Bring people & communities together through trail experiences?

Then Trails Manitoba needs your help!

Go to www.trailsmanitoba.ca/Get Involved/Volunteer to fill out a form.

MEMBERSHIP

Trails Manitoba is an organization created with a community mindset, connecting people and groups through trails. We rely heavily on our membership to provide organizational guidance and to help realize our mission. Membership is open to organizations and individuals who support our objectives.

Go to www.trailsmanitoba.ca/Get Involved/Membership to sign up.



The Leave No Trace Principles.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ⇒ Plan Ahead and Prepare | ⇒ Minimize Campfire Impacts |
| ⇒ Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces | ⇒ Respect Wildlife |
| ⇒ Dispose of Waste Properly | ⇒ Be Considerate of Other Visitors |
| ⇒ Leave What You Find | |

If you pack it in ➡ You pack it out!



Treaty 3

Centennial Trail



Trails Manitoba
Sentiers Manitoba



Financials



Tel.: 204 956 7200
Fax.: 833 888 1678
Toll Free: 800 268 3337
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP
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Report of the Independent Auditor's Report on the Summary Consolidated Financial Statements

To the Board of Directors of Manitoba Recreational Trails Association Inc.

Opinion

The summary consolidated financial statements, which comprise the summary consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2022, the summary consolidated statement of changes in net assets, and summary consolidated statement of operations, for the year then ended, and related note, are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Manitoba Recreational Trail Association Inc. (the "Association") for the year ended December 31, 2022.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary consolidated financial statements are a fair summary of the audited consolidated financial statements, on the basis described in the note to the summary consolidated financial statements.

Summary Consolidated Financial Statements

The summary consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the organization's audited consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed a qualified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated April 25, 2023. The basis for our qualified audit opinion is from the possible effects of the following matter.

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Association derives revenue from donations and other fundraising activities, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Association. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donation revenue, excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2022, current assets as at December 31, 2021 and 2022, and net assets as at January 1 and December 31 for both the 2021 and 2022 years. Our audit opinion on the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary consolidated financial statements on the basis described in the note to the summary consolidated financial statements.

Financials



Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary consolidated financial statements are a fair summary of the audited consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba
April 25, 2023

Financials

MANITOBA RECREATIONAL TRAILS ASSOCIATION INC. Summary Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31	2022	2021
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and bank	\$ 1,027,219	\$ 524,806
Restricted Cash	-	96,224
Accounts receivable	3,622	15,101
	<u>1,030,841</u>	<u>636,131</u>
Capital assets	-	-
	<u>\$ 1,030,841</u>	<u>\$ 636,131</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 14,076	\$ 15,373
Due to eligible recipients	713,278	201,091
Deferred revenue	75,042	136,574
	<u>802,396</u>	<u>353,038</u>
Net Assets		
Local Trail Groups Fund	-	67,358
General Fund	228,445	215,735
	<u>228,445</u>	<u>283,093</u>
	<u>\$ 1,030,841</u>	<u>\$ 636,131</u>

MANITOBA RECREATIONAL TRAILS ASSOCIATION INC. Summary Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended December 31	2022			2021
	MRTA and RTB	Local Trail Groups	Total	Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 215,735	\$ 67,358	\$ 283,093	\$ 351,582
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	14,209	(1,499)	12,710	(68,489)
Distribution to Local Trail Groups	-	(67,358)	(67,358)	-
Fund transfer	(1,499)	1,499	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 228,445	\$ -	\$ 228,445	\$ 283,093

Financials

MANITOBA RECREATIONAL TRAILS ASSOCIATION INC. Summary Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31	2022		2021	
	MRTA and RTB	Local Trail Groups	Total	Total
Revenue				
Administrative fee	\$ 158,436	\$ -	\$ 158,436	\$ 79,508
Donations	19,643	-	19,643	55,393
Grants				
Trans Canada Trail	46,452	-	46,452	47,486
Province of Manitoba	3,972	-	3,972	12,641
Interest income	2,651	-	2,651	803
Memberships	1,671	-	1,671	3,403
Other income	-	-	-	3,045
	232,825	-	232,825	202,279
Expenses				
Administrative fees	-	-	-	9,193
Bank charges and interest	1,041	-	1,041	1,087
Donations disbursed	24,499	-	24,499	2,771
Insurance	2,357	-	2,357	2,406
Licences and memberships	685	-	685	554
Marketing	3,367	-	3,367	5,724
Meetings	79	-	79	404
Millennium Fund expenses	-	-	-	1,000
Office	10,858	-	10,858	6,875
Local trail groups	33,296	-	33,296	-
Professional fees	14,381	-	14,381	16,528
Property taxes	721	-	721	727
Rent	5,382	-	5,382	8,496
Salaries and benefits	113,402	-	113,402	111,481
Telephone and communications	1,329	-	1,329	1,849
Trail construction	3,352	1,499	4,851	98,920
Travel	3,817	-	3,817	2,554
Workshop	50	-	50	199
	218,616	1,499	220,115	270,768
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ 14,209	\$ (1,499)	\$ 12,710	\$ (68,489)

Note for Basis of Presentation

The summary presented includes only the summary consolidated statement of financial position, the summary consolidated net assets, and summary consolidated statement of operations. It does not include consolidated statement of cash flows, and notes to the financial statements. The summary consolidated statements of financial position, changes net assets, and operations are presented in the same detail as the audited consolidated financial statements except the note referencing has been removed.

Copies of the December 31, 2022 audited financial statements are available on demand by email info@trailsmanitoba.ca.

As we close out another successful year, Trails Manitoba would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated volunteers who have made significant contributions to our trail network and community. Your continued efforts in growing and maintaining our trails have not gone unnoticed, and we are truly grateful for your unwavering commitment to our shared mission.

Thanks to your efforts, we can look forward to a bright future for recreational trails in Manitoba. Your contributions have enabled us to foster a trail system that will not only benefit us now, but for generations to come.



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