



# Trail Sector Research with Trans Canada Trail

April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Michael Goodyear, Director Policy and Stakeholder Relations



# Land Acknowledgement

The Trans Canada Trail (TCT) is situated on the traditional territory of First Nation, Inuit and Métis peoples from coast to coast to coast. Trans Canada Trail acknowledges that the Trail includes land and water routes that were created and used, both historically and presently, by Indigenous peoples as seasonal travel and trade routes.



# Today's presentation

Who we are  
What is the Trans Canada Trail?  
Trail tools  
Research and Reports  
Lessons to share  
Q & A



# Our Story



## ...2017

As **momentum grew**, dedicated volunteers, generous donors, devoted Trail groups, communities and all levels of government lent their support. Day by day, metre by metre, the TCT was created, leading to its historic **connection milestone** in 2017.

## 1992...

Two visionaries, Bill Pratt and Pierre Camu, were inspired to showcase Canada's rich history, diverse culture and magnificent landscapes by creating a national Trail – a **continuous thread that would connect Canadians from coast to coast to coast.**





# World's longest trail network

over  
**28,000**  
kilometres



# The Trans Canada Trail

- Longest recreational trail in the world:  
over 17,400 miles (28,000 km)
- 4 out of 5 Canadians live within 30  
minutes of the Trail
- The Trail connects 15,000 communities  
across every province and territory
- We act as stewards with 500+ local  
partners

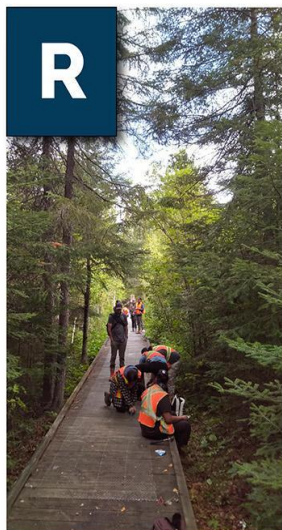




# Long Term Vision: Six Strategies for Success



**Trail excellence  
for all**



**Resilient trail  
sector**



**Amazing  
experiences**



**International and  
domestic tourism**



**Live-to-digital  
experiences**



**Supporters at  
the centre**



# Funding Programs

## Trail Funding Program

- Trail Infrastructure and Major Repairs
- Trail Signage
- Trail Destination Development
- Accessibility and Inclusion in Trails
- Indigenous Communities

## Youth Employment Funding Program

## Trail Care Grant Program



## Tools

### Planning and development:

- *Development Checklists*

### Fundings and financing:

- *Trail Costing Calculator*

### Maintenance and repairs:

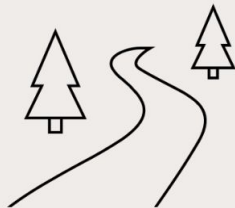
- *Maintenance & Lifecycle Costing Calculator*

### National Classification for Multi-use Trails:

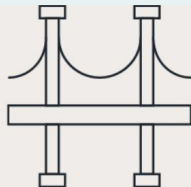
- *Guidelines and Tool*

# Development Checklists

## General Trail Implementation Checklist

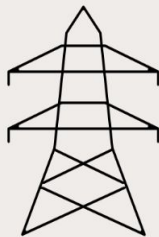


## Pedestrian Bridge Implementation Checklist



Building pedestrian bridges requires various studies and consultation with local, Regional, Provincial and Federal agencies. This checklist summarizes the minimum considerations when implementing these structures.

## Overhead Power Utility Corridor Checklist



### DETAIL DESIGN

- ☐ Establish a **summary of design criteria/components** – trail width, clear zones, surfacing materials, railing materials (if needed), signage, applicable standards, etc. This will act as your 'toolbox' for design and should be confirmed early in the design process.
- ☐ Develop **design drawings\*** at 30% (if a feasibility study is not completed), 60%, 90% and 100%.
- ☐ Consider **leveraging standard design details** and a field fit approach to minimize the need for topographic survey and design costs. This is only applicable to low-risk projects.
- ☐ Complete **project cost estimates** and secure funding/volunteer resources to implement.
- ☐ Complete **additional supportive studies** that must be completed in conjunction with design, the following may be required:
  - Stage 1 archaeological assessment
  - Stage 2 or greater archaeological assessment
  - Ecological screening – desktop or seasonal field surveys
  - Screening Activity Report (SAR)
  - Geotechnical study
  - Arboricultural Report
- ☐ Identify and execute **meaningful engagement** to inform the design and foster good will towards the project. Support equity in the voices that are influencing the process, understanding that you may need to lend more weight to those who have less influence. Trails are community wide assets, and a balance should be sought between localized and community asks/concerns.
- ☐ Consider **field staking** the alignment prior to finalizing the design – utility for public engagement and field-truthing the design.
- ☐ Be sure to "Call before you Dig" to ensure that all utilities have been located and designs adjusted as necessary.

\* Ensure to drawing adhere to relevant by-laws, building codes and appropriate standards

### CONSTRUCTION

- ☐ **Engage the public, stakeholders and Indigenous Communities** again prior to construction.
- ☐ Carry a contingency allowance for additional **construction costs** such as the need for poor soils, additional culverts, restoration costs for expanded staging areas, address privacy complaints, etc.
- ☐ Set **realistic expectations** for the construction schedule. Spring and Fall construction is highly weather dependent.

### TRAIL TENDER AND CONSTRUCTION

- ☐ Permitting, agreements and permissions to enter can take time, thus allow for 2-3 months between contract award and desired on-site mobilization.
- ☐ There may be equipment size restrictions for the work area. Clearly identify these during the procurement process.
- ☐ Keep the utility owners informed of process, coordinating inspections as needed.

### LAND USER / CROSSING AGREEMENTS

If an agency or municipality is implementing a trail on property that is not owned by them, the following legal agreements or easements are required to secure long-term permission to use and to clearly outline the rights and responsibilities of both parties, including risk liability and maintenance responsibilities:

- ☐ Land use agreement and/or easement.
- ☐ Utility crossing agreements



# Trail Implementation & Maintenance Costing Tools

## Estimated Trail Cost?



**\$306 000,00**

excluding tax

## Estimated Other Cost



**\$0,00**

excluding tax

## Additional Study Cost



**\$0,00**

excluding tax

## Estimated Crossing Cost



**\$0,00**

excluding tax

## Estimated Amenity Cost



**\$111 500,00**

excluding tax

## Estimated Trail Cost?



**\$0,00**

excluding tax

## General Information

	Information Input	Price / Percentage
Project Status	Select from drop down	0%
Trail Length (m)	Input Value	
Travel Surface Width (m)	Input Value	
Boardwalk Length (m)	Input Value	\$0.00
Tread Surface Type (\$ per m <sup>2</sup> )	Select from drop down	\$0.00
Site Preparation (\$ per m <sup>2</sup> )	Select from drop down	\$0.00
	Estimated Cost per Square Metre	\$0.00
	Estimated Trail Cost:	\$0.00

## Infrastructure Costs

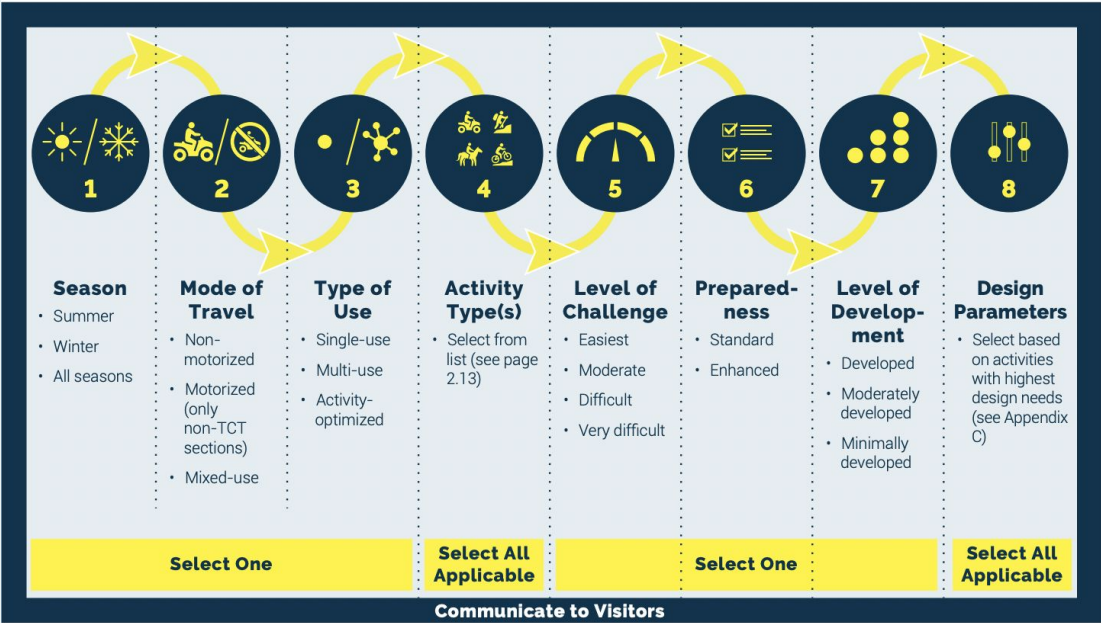
	Information Input	Price
Infrastructure Status	Select from drop down	100%
Total Accessible Parking Spaces	Input Value	
Total Standard Parking Spaces	Input Value	
Parking Material - Includes accessible and standard parking spaces	Select from drop down	\$0.00
Retaining Wall Type	Select from drop down	
Retaining Wall (Square Face Meter) - height x length (m)	Input Value	\$0.00
Ditches Drainage (m)	Input Value	\$0.00
Culvert Drainage (m)	Input Value	\$0.00
Ramps Elevation Difference (m)	Input Value	\$0.00
Stairs Elevation Difference (m)	Input Value	\$0.00



# NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR CLASSIFYING MULTI-USE TRAILS IN CANADA

Classification of Trails, Trail Experiences & Trail Tourism Readiness

December 2021



# Resources and Research

**All Persons  
Trails  
Guidelines**

**Trail Visitation  
Reports**

**Economic  
impacts report**

**Economic  
impacts  
methodology  
report**



# Accessibility



PLANNING YOUR TRAIL



FACILITIES & AMENITIES



TRAIL NAVIGATION



TACTILE ELEMENTS & SENSORY GARDENS



LIVED EXPERIENCE & TRAIL TESTERS



## ALL PERSONS TRAILS

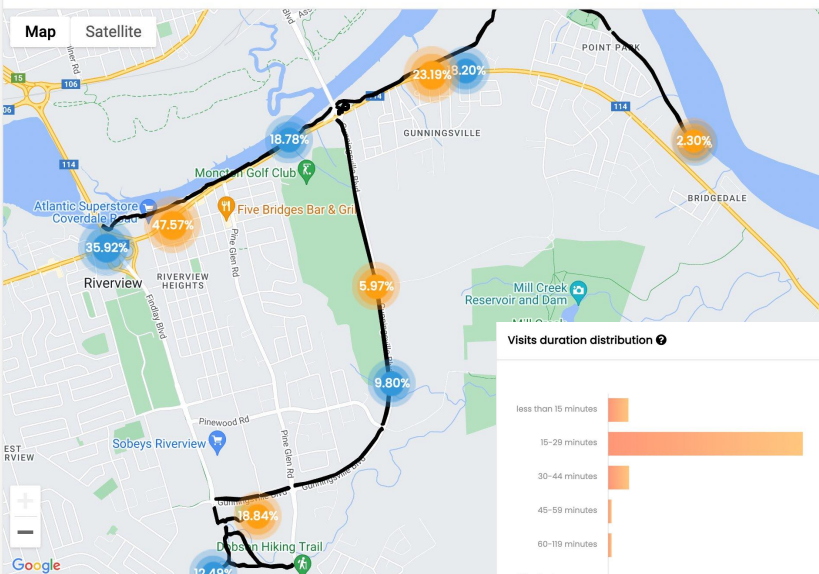
Guidelines for Planning and Designing All Persons Trails



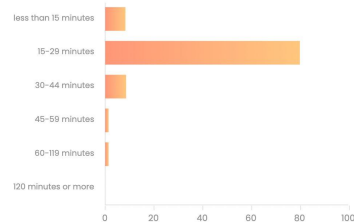
# Trail Visitation Reports with Propulso

propulso

## Visitors entry and exit points



## Visits duration distribution

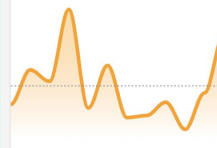


## Summary

visits summary

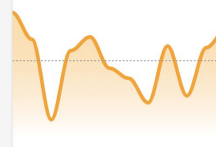
324 152

Daily total visits



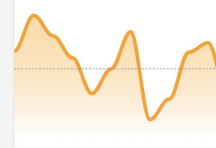
139 141

Unique visitors for this period



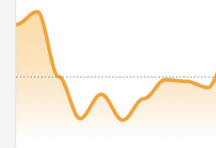
23 minutes

Average visit duration



15.4 km/h

Average speed



## Number of visits

Per period

52

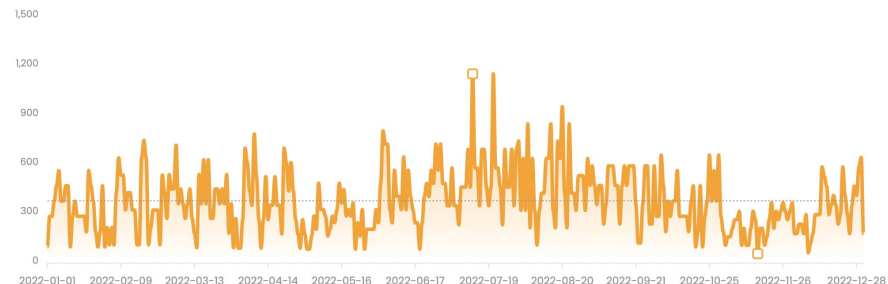
Daily Minimum visits

1148

Daily Maximum visits

374

Daily Average visits





# ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS



## THE BENEFITS OF CONNECTING CANADIANS

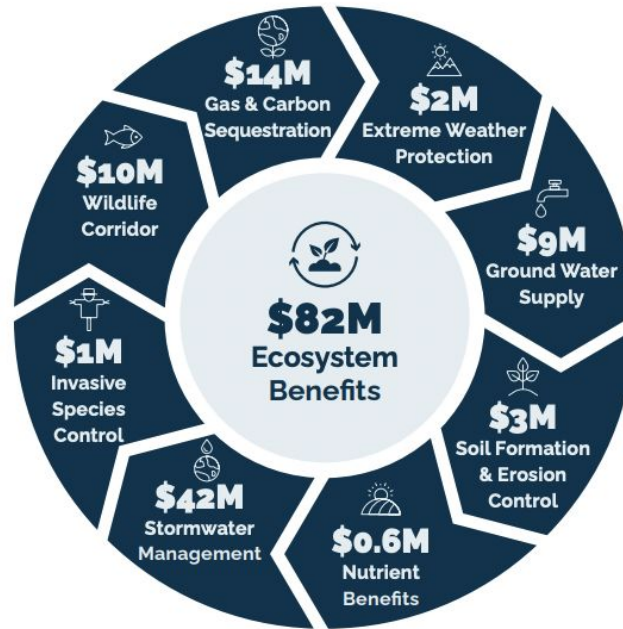
The Economic, Environmental and Public Health Impacts  
of the Trans Canada Trail

November 2023

Read the  
full  
report



## Ecosystem Benefits by Type of Service



Source: Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2023).



## THOUSAND ADULTS

regularly use the Trail  
for mental health purposes,  
resulting in **\$63 million** in  
reduced mental healthcare  
costs.

Econsult Solutions, Inc. (2023).





# THE BENEFITS OF THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL

The World's Longest Network of Recreational Multi-use Trails

 Environmental  Economic  Health

## Northwest Territories

 \$2M

## Yukon

 \$0.2M

## British Columbia

 \$5M  \$3,237M  \$306M

## Alberta

 \$10M  \$2,931M  \$306M

## Saskatchewan

 \$4M  \$360M  \$36M

## Manitoba

 \$19M  \$448M  \$44M

## Nunavut

Sections of the Trans Canada Trail within the territory did not have calculable economic or public health benefits because of unavailable data.

## Quebec

 \$8M  \$5,265M  \$609M

## Newfoundland and Labrador

 \$7M  \$197M  \$20M


## Prince Edward Island

 \$0.3M  \$69M  \$7M

## Nova Scotia

 \$3M  \$456M  \$44M

## New Brunswick

 \$6M  \$294M  \$29M

## Ontario

 \$17M  \$9,844M  \$957M



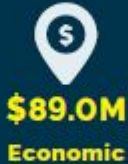
# Great Lakes Waterfront Trail City of Windsor, Ontario



## Growing the Cycling Community

In 2004, Adriano Ciotoli saw an opportunity to grow the local food scene by starting WindsorEats, originally an online restaurant and menu guide for the Windsor-Essex region. Upon discovering an untapped community interest in local wine and beer-themed cycling tours, he created the WindsorEats' Wine Trail Ride. An instant success upon its launch in 2007, the Wine Trail Ride quickly doubled in size and increased in frequency, running every weekend from May to October. This award-winning cycling tour connects both locals and tourists to regional boutique wineries in the greater Windsor area through a leisurely 30-km ride, in part, on the Trans Canada Trail's Chrysler Canada Greenway. The Greenway's route through the Essex wine region makes the cycling tour accessible to less seasoned riders, keeping them off county roads and separated from vehicular traffic. With safety in mind, Adriano sees routing the tour on the Greenway as playing a major role in creating a successful and safe tour experience.

## Impacts and Benefits



Learn more  
about the  
report  
methodology

## Resources and Research

**Signage  
guidelines**

**Webinar  
Series**

**Leger  
survey  
results**

**Trail Sector  
survey  
results**



# New Data





# North American Trail Sector Survey 2024

## Trans Canada Trail and American Trails are collaborating!

- Collect the state of the trail sector in North America
  - Organizational capacity
  - Employment and volunteers
  - State of trail Infrastructure
  - Financial capacity and challenges
  - Information on equity and inclusion
  - Climate change and conservation



**Scan and take the survey!**

Join us  
September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 3<sup>rd</sup>

# WORLD TRAILS CONFERENCE 2024 OTTAWA, CANADA



TRANS CANADA TRAIL  
SENTIER TRANSCANADIEN



**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**



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