



Rideau Trail

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

Issue No. 207



Spring is on it's way?Hopefully and with spring brings:

New By-Laws and the New Blue Trails Challenge and Badge.



27th May 2023 RIDEAU TRAIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**This year it is being held in Perth, Ontario at the
Royal Canadian Legion, 26 Beckwith Street East, Perth, Ontario, Canada. Perth-Upon-Tay Branch.**

**Its in the planning stage and more details will be posted on the Website. It is currently on the
Activity Calendar with a sign up and will be updated as we get more information.**

Cost should be approx. \$20.00 for the Lunch (same as last year)

Items will be for sale and 2 hikes are being planned for after the meeting.

Visit www.Rideautrail.org for details or the Activity calendar at:

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>



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Webmaster: web@rideautrail.org
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Rideau Trail Association: (613) 817-7295, text
Central Club: (613) 267-5756
Kingston Club: (613) 817-7295, text
Ottawa Club: (613) 860-2225

The RTA does not share its mailing list with other organizations.

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**Social Media
Admin. Help
Wanted**



Next Newsletter: **Deadline May 1, 2023**

We want your submissions! If possible, text should be sent electronically with no document formatting. Pictures with good definition and contrast are most welcome.

Send material directly to the Editor, newsletter@rideautrail.org

Kingston Club Executive

Chair: Jim Moss
Vice Chair: * VACANT *
Past Chair: Barry Monaghan
Secretary: Lynn Esau
Treasurer: Marilyn Martin
Landowner Liaison:
Hélène Brillon
Construction: James Lorimer
Maintenance: Stan Huff
Communications and Publicity:
Bill Ottney
Outings Coordinator: * VACANT *
Wednesday Walks Coordinator:
Jennifer Brinkman
Human Resources: Cathy Fanjoy
Special Events:
Jacqueline Pidskalny
Members at Large: Willa Thayer
and Rusty Bassarab

Central Club Executive

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Past Chair: Joyce Davis
Secretary: Mary Robinson
Treasurer: Gayle Truman
Trail Maintenance: David Skinner
Hike Leader Coordinator:
Pat Stranberg
Landowner Liaison:
Carol Richardson
Social Coordinator: Angela Quinn
Communications: Linda Hachmer
Members at large: Donna Glover
Club Rep: Herman Doornbas

Webmasters

Chuck Patterson, Kingston
Laura Cybulski, Kingston

Ottawa Club Executive

Chair: * VACANT *
Vice Chair: Peter Weir
Past Chair and Rep. to Board:
Sandy Freeman
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NCC Liaison: Kathryn Fournier
Activities: Denise Hall and
Kevin Reynolds
Publicity Coordinator:
Adriana Kievit
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Malcolm Sanderson and
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Peter Weir

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Presidents Message

I would like to take this time to wish all our members a Happy New Year. We have had a very challenging last few years as the pandemic restrictions prohibited some of our movements but your Association has not missed a step.

I would like to look back on 2022 and remind our members of some of the progress that has occurred in our Association.

Our Website is being redesigned to make information more accessible to our members as well as the general public. (soon to be completed)

Membership continues to be streamlined to easily join and rejoin annually.

Blue Trails Challenge has been developed to complement the E2E Challenge. Another new Blue Trails Badge to obtain now! The first organized hike will be the Kingston Blue loop on March 25th. The upcoming hikes are on the Activities Calendar.

- Rideau Trail Bylaws are all being reviewed and revised to meet the ONCA law which was proclaimed in October 2021. You will hear more on this later in newsletter from Brian Grant.
- Google Works for "not for profits" is now in place and so we can access and store our files more easily. Google Works offers virtual meetings among other options.
- Trail Signage is almost completed on the entire trail. Mapping is in progress and constantly improving.
- We have a new web master
- We have a new Marketing and Communications Director.
- We have a new Treasurer who will continue with our Book keeper to keep our finances in order.
- Hike leader training , First aid Training and Chain Saw training to keep us a safe hiking club.

All these accomplishments are due to members stepping up and volunteering to help out. We welcome anyone who wishes to volunteer for a vacant position. Many do not want to volunteer long term but wish to help out at a single event so please if you would like to help at your club level feel free to make it know with your club executive.

Hope to see you all at the AGM on Saturday May 27th at the Perth Legion.

Cheers Sharen Yaworski

RTA SUMMER PICNIC (ALL CLUBS)

The Rideau Trail Association is planning a summer picnic on the 8th July (rain day—9th July) to be held at the Rideau Ferry Yacht Club.

Come by Boat or by Car, or better yet.....Hike.

Come on out for some great food, fun and games, water activities and great comradeship.

More to follow on the website and Activity Calendar once the details are confirmed and the ice has all melted.

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>



Member Services

(Who gets your question?)

Whatever the question, just call the RTA for your club (page 3) or email: info@RideauTrail.org

Address Changes / Paper Newsletter

To stop it, or to receive it, call or email:
membership@RideauTrail.org

DIY Option: "Update your Preferences"

This link at the bottom of emails from the Rideau Trail, enables you to verify or change your information/interests.

End to End Badges

Keep track of the details of your hikes, whenever you did them: Date, start and end point of the hike and the leader's name. Send questions or claims to the RTA by phone, or you can email the appropriate club contact.

Getting Involved

Thank you for wanting to help out. Feel free to contact any of those listed (page 3). Your interest might be about event ideas, co-leading hikes, your club's social committee, working on the Trail or whatever. It's a busy organization, and your help would be welcome.

New BLUE BADGE!

As with the End to End badges, it will be awarded to members who hike 12 of the best Blue Loops.

The Blue Trails Challenge starts in March and is posted on the Activities Calendar.



Front Cover was taken by Sue Goff, a hike leader and member of the Kingston Club. Used with Permission

Badge Request Contacts



Entire End to End
(Winter or otherwise)
secretary@rideautrail.org
Rideau Trail Secretary



Kingston Club
jkrinkman59@gmail.com
Jennifer Brinkman,
Kingston Club Volunteer



Central Club
hmrob@storm.ca
Mary Robinson,
Central Club Secretary

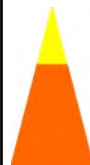


Ottawa Club
cekerfoot20@gmail.com
Carol Kerfoot,
Ottawa Club Secretary



Trail Markers

Rideau Trail heading
north, towards Ottawa



Yellow Tip

Rideau Trail heading
south, towards Kingston



Blue Trail Marker

Side Trail Marker, North
and South Bound

Saturday, May 27, 2023

Annual Meeting Returns to Perth

The business, lunch with friends, the hikes.
Details in this Edition (Page 2)

Association News

Board Highlights by Ruth Oswald, Secretary

Third quarter,
2022-2023

Board News

Proposed RTA Bylaw 4, to comply with the **Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)**, has been approved by the Board and is now being reviewed by Carter's Law Firm. The proposed Bylaw will be provided to RTA Members in advance of the 2023 Annual General Meeting. See page 22-23 for an article by Brian Grant.

Ms Hua Lei, CPA, MBA, was appointed **Director and Treasurer** of the Association at the January 28 Board meeting. See page 8 for an introduction to Hua.

Important Motions

An investment plan was presented by Brian Grant, Past President, to re-invest the RTA's funds in GICs, while keeping 2 years of operating expenses in the Chequing Account. The plan was approved by the Board.

Finance

The **Budget cycle for the 2023-2024 fiscal year** is in progress and the Clubs and Board must send their budget submissions by February 15.

Membership

Total Membership is 1220 as of January 6, 2023 (Kingston 347, Central 153, Ottawa 637, Unaffiliated 83). Membership Director **Evert de Boer** is working closely with the designer for the new RTA website to improve the online "Join" function.

Marketing & Communication

The re-developed RTA website is now live. The project is on schedule and on budget. A webmaster has been identified, and the webmaster and several content volunteers have received training.

Trail Report – see page 19-20 in this newsletter.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 29 in Perth.

Welcome to our New Webmasters, Chuck and Laura



Chuck Paterson

I came to the Kingston area (Amherstview) with my wife, Lucy, two years ago after retiring from Environment and Climate Change Canada in climatology and computers. I cannot say that I'm fully -retired though as I still work for them part-time. I have lived much of my life in Barrie and other Ontario communities, as well as briefly on the west coast and in England. I have two major outdoor passions, hiking and the weather and climate; although we know that the latter is often at odds with the hiking. I was bitten by the hiking bug when I was in Boy Scouts and have been out on the trails over the years with the Bruce Trail Association and otherwise. Since being welcomed into the RTA in 2021, I have more and more learned to appreciate the beauty of this region and the friendliness of its people. I am also starting as a hike leader and in helping with trail maintenance. As a webmaster, this will allow me to apply my computer skills to helping those on the trails.

Laura Cybulski



I was born and raised in Kingston. I currently work at Queen's University in the Department of Chemistry. I was introduced to the Rideau Trail Association during the pandemic. I was brought in to help with all of the technology we needed in order to host our meetings. My goal for this year is to complete the End to End hikes. I look forward to working with Chuck on the website. Please feel free to say hello if you see me out and about on the trails!

The Rideau Trail Association is always looking for volunteers to help out with the clubs, trail maintenance and being part of the Board and Club Executive. If you wish to help out please contact the Rideau Trail and let us know.

All are welcome

Welcome New and Returning Members

Kingston: Wen Bogues, Nicholas Dinh, Stuart Fergusson, Sheri Hogeboom, Valerie Kelly, Nicole Khan, Betty Letendre, Rosemary Lysaght, Asnat Macoosh, Janet Masching, Robert Masching, Laura Michels, Janice Peterson, Jessy Singh, Guy Thorne, Kedar Warriner and Fran Wright.

Central: Ross Baldwin, M.J Barrett, Isobel Boyle, William Eckersley, Tom Ellis, Angela Kalbun, Beverly Leach, Patricia Mertins, Dale Peckett, Myrna Peters, Prashanth Rao, Claire Rothery, and Tim Webley.

Ottawa: Jo-Anne Bacon, Leslee Balsam, Natalie Bayfield, Jo-Anne Beckett, Nebojsa Bjelakovic, Gen Boileau, John Calvert, Dan Cleasby, Rachel Cleasby, Serge Demers, Donald Dooley, Penny Fennell, Michelle Gauthier, Samuel Hem, Carmen Iasenza, Michael Jackson, Virginia Kerry, Josee Laframboise, Dan Langlois, Suzie Larocque, Hua Lei, Helene Leroux, April Macdonald, Gord Mcneil, Cynthia Modjeski, Eilish Parkinson, Natasha Popara, Ursula Reichert, Kayla Robertson, Deborah Rudd, Toby Sanger, David Schmied, Vicki Schmitt, Carmelle Simard, Judy Suchard, Nancy Wiseman, Sue Woods, Rina Young.

No affiliation: Loretta Corbeil

"We don't stop hiking because we grow old, we grow old because we stop hiking."

Membership Renew Rideau Trail Membership Director.

The Rideau Trail Association (RTA) is run solely by volunteers. The RTA will continue to offer great outdoor hiking opportunities in Eastern Ontario. But we cannot do this without your support, therefore please renew your membership.

If your membership expires on March 31, 2023, then you received in February an email with a reminder to renew your subscription. About 200 members have done so – thank you very much. Early renewals are great as it reduces the renewal rush in March. The expiry date of your RTA membership can be found at the bottom of the email with the newsletter notification. If this reads as follows: **"Your membership is valid until 03/31/2023"** then please renew your membership by following this link

<https://www.rideautrail.org/renewal/>

If you receive a printed copy of the RTA Newsletter, and don't know the expiry date of your membership, please contact Evert at

membership@rideautrail.org

Before you go, check the

Trail Alerts

<https://www.rideautrail.org/discover-the-trail/trail-alerts/>



May 18 to 22, 2023

Hiking Trip

Pennsylvania's Allegheny Mountains

RTA Members are welcome to join us for a series of hikes in picturesque Northern Pennsylvania.

View the magnificent "Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania" from the Colton Point rim trail, and hike the extensive Susquehannock Trail System (STS). Cyclists will have the option of exploring the extensive rail trail system in the area. All hikes in this series are rated level 2-3 due to steep terrain and distances varying from 16 km to 20 km.

Our "home base", Susquehannock Lodge and Trail Centre is situated in the heart of the STS trail network with trailhead on the lodge property. Single and shared occupancy is available at Susquehannock Lodge. Rates are all-inclusive including a packed hiking lunch. (susquehannock-lodge.com)

For more information, please contact
Co-ordinator: Bill Ottney
ottech2@gmail.com

NEW RTA TREASURER Ms. Hua Lei

Please welcome RTA Treasurer and newest Director, Ms Hua Lei. Hua lives in Ottawa, and has Board experience as Assistant Treasurer of the Friends of the Ottawa Hospital and now an Accounting Officer with the Ottawa Hospital Auxiliary. She is a CPA, has an MBA from Laurentian University, and has completed the Canadian Securities Course.

Hua says "I regularly hike and hiked last year on several segments of the Rideau Trail. I admire RTA's volunteer work on such a beautiful trail. Being a Treasurer would be an excellent way to contribute to the hiking community."



Semantics and the RTA Activities Calendar

Did you know that the term "Teamup" is the name given by Google for their online calendar application? In other words, Teamup is the name of the platform on which the RTA Activities Calendar is built on. Now that our new Website is in place and the RTA Activities Calendar has been operating for some time now, we want to clarify the semantics or terminology to refer to this wonderful tool: the RTA Activities Calendar or simply, the Activities Calendar.

RTA Crest Badge

To help us promote the Rideau Trail Association, the board has approved the free distribution of the RTA Crest Badges to those interested in displaying them on their backpack. We are still working out the logistics on distribution across the board in the most efficient possible way. Stay tuned for more information to come.



Kingston Club Member completes her 28th Frontenac Challenge!

All of us feel proud of ourselves when we have completed the Frontenac Challenge. Audrey Sanger from Kingston has just completed her 28th! WAY TO GO AUDREY!!

Kingston had 16 people who completed it this year (name plus # of times): Sue Goff - 1, Karin McInnis - 2, Louise Langlais - 2, Emily Hammond - 2, Brett Kolankowski - 3, John McNinch - 4, Rusty Bassarab - 4, Jim Moss - 4, Cathy Fanjoy - 5, Pearl Wang - 6, Don Workman - 7, Bill Ottney - 8, Sandra Lopes - 10, Lynn Esau - 10, Robert Tolley - 12, Audrey Sanger - 28

Good job everyone! See you all next Sept 1st to do it all again.

NEW BYLAWS information session (coming soon)

The RTA will be having an Information Session for those interested to learn about the Changes to the RTA Bylaws. These are required by the new Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act (ONCA). The new By-Laws are on the agenda to be approved at the Annual General Meeting Saturday, May 27, 2023, Perth Legion. Some information on the Bylaws is on pages 22-23.

The Date of the information session has yet to be determined, but will be posted on the Website, Activity Calendar or Watch for the email notice in April or May.

The New bylaws (Bylaw #4) will be available electronically before the meeting.

Thank you RTA ONCA Working Group



WINTER END TO END COMPLETION , Gary Waterfeild (Central)

I began my quest to complete my Winter End to End in January 2021. I hiked primarily with good friends Mary Robinson, Bert & Pat Stranberg that winter which provided an opportunity to prepare ourselves physically for the 50 Kilometer Extreme Challenge in August. We hiked mostly in Central and some parts of the Ottawa and Kingston sections.

In the Winter of 2022 I hiked mostly with Dave Audette and a core group of hikers from Westport to Kingston. The stunning scenery of Gould Lake and Frontenac Park were breath taking.

In 2023 I began the year with less than 70 kilometers remaining to hike in the Ottawa section. I hiked the remaining kilometers over 4 separate days. Two days were done solo. I hiked through a very wet Marlborough Forest on Jan. 2nd with Abulah Mostamandi, and Bert Stranberg. Jim Moss led a hearty group of us for a 24 kilometer hike from 16B to 18C on January 7th.

This was an incredible adventure with extremes of weather from getting soaked wet in plus 2 degrees to hiking very quickly in minus 25 degrees! Stunning vistas, the company of fellow enthusiastic hikers and frozen boot laces are vivid memories. I hiked solo from Britannia Park to arrive at Kilometer 0 on Parliament Hill on January 18th. I was very excited brushing the ice/snow off the sign! I asked a passing jogger to take this picture. Now onto earning the Blue Trails Badge! Yes hiking is enjoyable 365 days of the year!

CONGRATULATIONS TO Gary Waterfield

Comfortable Hiking Holidays

Hike an adventure. Rest in comfort.

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October 1 to 13, 2023

- ✓ Hike Japan's Honshu Island, from Tokyo to the slopes of Mt. Fuji, the northern part of the Japanese Alps and Kyoto
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- ✓ Led by two of our best guides - Sheila (Canadian) and Ryoko (Japanese)

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Here I am on January 18th at Kilometer 0 on Parliament Hill having just completed my Winter End to End. I completed my regular End to End of The trail in 2019. Now onto earning my Blue Trails Challenge Badge!



Blue Trail Challenge by JJWN Moss



The Blue Trail Challenge starts on March 1st. Details can also be found on the RTA Website under 'Activities'. Some highlights of the challenge:



- Full details, including Log Sheet, can be found on RTA website under 'Activities'.
- 12 hikes covering 139 km
- This Challenge will be just like the E2E Challenges. Can be completed over multiple years
- Brand new badge is now made and ready for people to earn.
- Start Date is March 1st - there is a Celebratory Hike that day along the Buck Lake Trail. See the Activities Calendar.
- Organized Hikes (11) will be offered on the Activities Calendar starting March 25th. Mostly Saturdays, and a couple of Sundays
- Facebook Page created for RTA Blue Trails Challenge 2023. Private Page - requests to join go to Jim Moss. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/896141568072569>

Questions or suggestions, e-mail jjwnmoss@hotmail.com

Tip of the Toque to Herman Doornbos for all his work in sorting out the Trails.

Tentative dates for the hikes are:

Date	Trail
March 25th	Kingston K&P
April 1st	Chaffey's Lock/Doug Knapp Loop
April 8th	Buck Lake Trail
April 15th	Mackler Side Road Loop
April 22nd	Gould Lake West Side Loop
April 30th (Sunday)	Gould Lake East Side Loop
May 6th	Little Slide Lake Loop
May 13th	Marble Rock Loops
May 20th	Beveridge's Locks Trail
May 20th	Merrickville/Burrit's Rapids Trail
May 28th (Sunday)	Richmond Trail



Reprint from
issue
19_1976_Spring
Lovely poem
from Doug
Knapp, I thought
this was
appropriate for
the time of year
to share again



Falls beside the trail at Glen Tay near Perth — Doug Knapp

REBIRTH

Buds swell
And sparkling cascades
From glistening crystals
Sing their song of joy

Here and there
A tiny fuzzy face
Sniffs the air
And finds a change;
Sweet scent of pine and balsam,
Dogwood bark and willow buds,
Maple sap and steamy soil.

Gone, the icy blasts;
Gentler now, the breeze
And warm the sun —
For Spring has come.

D.J.K.



The Ottawa Club gathered at the site of the memorial to Ruth Hutchinson on November 25.

We were finally able to hold a memorial service to honour Ruth Hutchinson, a long-time member and contributor to the RTA (Ottawa) Club on Fri., Nov. 25th, 2022. The service took place by the tree and plaque installed in Britannia Park near the Rideau Trail. Ruth passed away in Jan, 2018 but due to Covid this tribute to Ruth was delayed. 16 of us braved the wet, rainy weather to gather around the tree and plaque to remember Ruth and share our memories of her. Afterwards some of us went for a stroll on trails through the park and in the Mud Lake region. By noon another group of us, plus a some from the service in the morning, gathered at the "Chances R" restaurant in Ottawa to have lunch, reminisce and toast to Ruth.

Her friend and also long-time member, Joan Evans wrote the poem:

Dedication of Ruth's Tree November 25, 2022

***This tree is a symbol of the life Ruth loved
From the hills and valleys to the sky above***

***As an RTA leader she was calm and kind
But it wasn't easy to read her mind***

***I first met Ruth in two thousand and five
When we did our End to End
She was slow and steady, and always ready
to offer some good advice
Like "put moleskin on feet", "beware of the heat"
And "afternoon tea would be nice".***



***On her hot summer hikes in the city
She would give us a special treat
By bringing a Big Watermelon
For all of us to eat.***

***When we visit this park in the future
Let's spend a moment or two
To pause at Ruth's tree and think of her
As we enjoy this beautiful view.***



Landowner Tribute: William Norman (Bill) Irwin 1947 - 2022

{Saturday March 27 [2004] Don't buy your maple syrup yet! Bill is leading a hike from Lees Rd. to Unity Rd. which includes a visit to an operating maple syrup camp.

Level 1, 8 km, moderate pace. Leader: Bill Murdoch Source: RTA Newsletter Archive, NL 131}

And so began a long partnership between our Kingston Club and the late Bill Irwin and his family.



As stewards of our Rideau Trail, we all understand the importance of maintaining an amicable association with the private landowners through which our trail system passes. Once in a while, through the efforts of our hike leaders, an activity can be planned in partnership with the landowner to transform what would be an ordinary day hike into a very enjoyable annual event.

Such was the case in 2004 when Kingston's Bill Murdoch met with landowner Bill Irwin to plan the very first maple syrup hike through the Irwin farm property which is located along Unity Rd. west of Elginburg.

Timing an outing to coincide with the sap run can be a hit and miss affair so the two Bills decided on the Saturday closest to March 25th as being the most consistent with nature's sap run "clock".

Bill Murdoch comments that hiking conditions were never the same year-to-year. Often, the group had to contend with water, both visible and invisible, wet snow, and the occasional Arctic blast. The barking of the Irwin's dogs would signal to the group that they were nearing the maple syrup camp. Bill Irwin's wife Tracy would be at the ready to welcome the group with hot chocolate and sweets. If the sap was running, as was the case most years, either Bill or one of his sons would explain the process to the group. (Bill Murdoch led the maple syrup hikes for 11 years, handing off this enjoyable task to Stan Huff who led right up to our last hike on March 2020.)



Continuing to the Irwin farm from the sugar camp, hikers were invited to view the livestock housed in the farm buildings. The final event was always the "BYOB" where participants filled the empty juice bottles they had stowed in their packs with fresh maple syrup which they had purchased from the Irwins.

Bill Irwin passed from this life on October 8, 2022 and following Bill's death, we assumed that the social hikes on the Irwin property would come to an end, but we were just informed that Bills' wife Tracy reissued an invitation to Stan Huff to hike on their property. At time of writing it is not known if the syrup evaporator will be in operation. The Rideau Trail Association Kingston Club is grateful to the Irwin family for hosting seventeen maple syrup hikes on their property and hopefully continuing with the hike and syrup production. The Rideau trail association also extends their heartfelt condolences to the Irwin family.



Submitted by William Ottney
Rideau Trail – Kingston Club
with thanks to Bill Murdoch, Stan Huff, and Lynn Esau for their input.



Coming Events - Spring 2023

What to Bring

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water • Lunch or snack • Identification • Footwear (suitable for the outing) • Emergency contact info • List of medications | <p style="text-align: center;">In Season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hat • Sunglasses • Insect repellent / treatment • Sunscreen • Handwarmers • Spare hat • Dry mitts • Lock de-icer (also good for frozen bindings) |
|--|---|

Note

Hiking boots are recommended for hikes rated at Level 2 or higher. A **high level of fitness** is required for Level 3 outings.

Carpooling and Fees

Be at the meeting place at least 15 minutes before the departure time.

Where a gas share is indicated, it is a suggested, voluntary contribution. Fees for parking and entry to parks are shared among the driver and passengers.

Questions?

Contact the leader or the club's activity coordinator.

Activity Calendar

Each club uses email to remind members of hikes and other outings. See for yourself in the Calendar:

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Also from RideauTrail.org in 2023



Participants' Responsibilities

Participants are expected to choose a trip suitable for their physical abilities and their skill level. At the start they should inform their leader of any health problems or potential difficulties with their equipment. Each participant will respect all financial obligations. The volunteer leaders will expect the support and cooperation of each group member. Parents and guardians are expected to supervise their own children. Dogs are not generally permitted.



Valentines / Easter Gift Idea

For that special person? How about a Membership!

1. RTA Website (<https://www.rideautrail.org/>)
2. Join
3. Use the gift receiver's name and address.

Note: if your email address is already registered with RTA for your own membership, then you **must use another email address**.

The gift membership will be valid until 31st of March, 2024. What a gift for only \$26!

Events / Dates

See details in the Calendar or club information

Special Events

The 3 Clubs Annual Meetings in the spring
Rideau Trail Annual meeting: May 27, in Perth
Picnic: July 8

Outings

Regular weekly outings in each club

- Tuesday Trails
- Wednesday Walks/Walkers/Wanderers
- Fridays on the Towpath
- Saturday Skiers

Day hikes at Murphys Point and in Gatineau Park, plus hundreds of other trails along the way. Come out, Lead a hike, or participate on one of the many that will be offered.

Blue Loop hikes in March? (New badge to earn)

Events are added to the Activity Calendar all the time. Check it often, so you're there in time!

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Renewal?

Did you know? Renew now, and your membership will be good until March 2024.

Remembering Dr. Robert Groves

April 22, 1943 - November 7, 2022



The RTA was saddened to learn of the passing of Robert Groves, who died at his home in Lanark Village with his wife by his side after a prolonged battle with ALS, prostate cancer, and Lyme disease. He leaves behind his devoted wife Marianne Lods, who was his rock and selflessly cared for him during his illnesses, son Jude (Mary), and two grandchildren.

Robert was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. After obtaining his Doctorate of Psychology at Carleton University, Robert worked as chief psychologist with Pimm Consultants, which soon evolved into Groves Consultants Ltd. Robert specialized in child and family psychology, working with those needing help to get through life's many challenges. He also supported the development and growth of new clinicians in psychological practice.

Robert and Marianne joined the RTA as life members in 1985. Robert volunteered to serve on the RTA Board as Vice-President in 2010, and in less than a year stepped in to become RTA's President.

One of Robert's top priorities during his term as RTA's President was to raise the profile of the RTA at a time when membership was dwindling. He promoted new program initiatives to retain members and attract a broader range of the community, programs involving trail runners, those with disabilities, young families, youth, and fitness enthusiasts. He rekindled RTA participation in Hike Ontario, and spent countless hours recruiting, and eventually hiring, a Marketing and Communications Director, a position Robert saw as crucial to increasing public awareness of the Rideau Trail.

Robert was also committed to establishing a more integrated relationship among the three RTA clubs and increasing member participation in RTA's activities and operations. He set a good example by taking Hike Ontario's Hike Leader course and volunteering as a Hike Leader for the Central Club.

Despite suffering fatigue and pain as a result of contracting Lyme disease during his term as President, Robert continued to serve on the RTA Board until 2018. With determination and patience, Robert eased back into hiking after his Lyme diagnosis. His adventurous spirit and love of travel led him in 2014 to Santiago de Compostela in Northern Spain where he began his pilgrimage, over five years, through France into the Alps and ending near Italy in 2019.

Robert's body was failing but he had a sharp mind right to the very end. Robert believed in living life to the fullest, while having fun doing it, for "no one makes it out alive".

BLISTERS—Take care of your feet

There are three keys to dealing with blisters:

- 1. Know what causes blisters: Pressure, heat and moisture are all culprits.**
- 2. Prevent blisters from forming: Get good-fitting boots; wear a thin liner sock under your hiking socks and take care of any hot spots right away, covering them with a padded blister bandage, Moleskin or tape.**
- 3. Care for blisters before they worsen: Cut a blister-size hole in a piece of blister padding and protect it with that; avoid draining if possible and dress it like a wound if it pops.**

HAPPY FEET, HAPPY HIKER

Benefits of Membership

Rideau Trail Association—committed to preserving and promoting the use of over 400 km of Trail system between Kingston and Ottawa.

Volunteers do the work, but membership fees pay for the upkeep and improvements to the Trail, including construction materials, signage, insurance, mapping, etc.

Benefits include

- Quarterly Newsletter
- News from the clubs
- Retail discounts
- Voting privileges
- The knowledge that you are supporting and protecting this world-class treasure.

Discounts for Members

- 10% off at Ottawa stores Trailhead Paddleshack, Bushtukah, Great Escape Outfitters
- 10% off at Novel Idea in Kingston, and 10% off at Smith Army Surplus
- 10% off Annual Pass purchased at Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area
- Discounted Winter Trail Pass at Gatineau Park



HOMEMADE DEYHDRADED berry / apple / banana FRUIT LEATHER

I have brought this on many hikes and have shared it with many people that ask me how I made it. Well its very easy and I will give you my secret recipe below. Make enough to share (if you don't eat it all yourself first) ..Pete Weir (Ottawa Club) email me if you have questions (pweir2005@gmail.com)

4 medium size apples (any kind work)

2-4 banana, nice yellow banana, but don't let it get to brown.

1 cup blueberries (or any berry will do) strawberries have more water so will be thinner and take longer to dry. (adjust to your taste, more or less of each items, you will just have to adjust drying time)

- **Wash, and de-core apples, wash berries, and peel your bananas, and place it all in a blender.**
- **Blend all until smooth, add a little bit of maple syrup if you need the extra sweetness**
- **Chopped or crushed nuts of any type can be added once blended.**
- **If you have fruit leather trays for your machine, lightly give them a coat of a neutral flavoured oil, I use grapeseed, this will help the dried leather peel off easier.**
- **Spread it about a 1/8 to 1/4 inch max on the sheet and place in the machine (or in oven on lined baking sheet with a raised edge or it will overflow and make a mess (I have made that mistake)**
- **Set the temp to 135 Degrees for 8-12 hours depending on the thickness...check every so often. Once dry remove from trays, and cut in to strip and or keep flat, store between sheets of parchment paper and keep air tight. I vacuum pack mine and it last for at least a year.**
- **conventional oven temp is 140 Degrees and about the same time**

ENJOY AND HEALTHY HIKING

Donations to the Rideau Trail

Thanks to the follow people that have Donated to the Rideau Trail Association:

Catharine Clark, Dora Hunter, Kayla Jones, Janice Ley, Nancy Onlock, Irene and Mark Pierce

Levels of Difficulty (Spring/Summer)

FROM THE RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION GUIDE FOR LEADERS

Hiking

Level 1 Well-defined trails, gentle inclines. Hiking boots not required but trails may be wet. Suitable for beginners. Recommended for newcomers to club activities.

Level 2 Generally on trail. May be hilly with some light off trail and rough spots. Boots recommended.

Level 3 Rough terrain, one or more places with extensive off trail steep sections, long climbs and descents, rock scrambling, beaver dams or other obstacles. Boots and level 2 experience are essential. Long pants and sleeves are recommended.

Speed

Slow: 2-3 km/hr, Moderate: 3-4 km/hr, Fast: 4-5 km/hr, Very fast: 5 km/hr or greater

Cycling

Level 1 Few hills, broad roads or bike paths, little traffic. Participants must have some cycling experience.

Level 2 Some hills, some traffic, participants should be fit and experienced.

Level 3 Long hills and narrow roads. An excellent level of fitness and cycling experience is essential.

Canoeing

Level 1 Slow-moving sheltered water with no portages.

Level 2 Larger expanses of water, level 1 experience required.

Level 3 Canoeing in areas with larger expanses of water and Portages.

The hike levels are based on mainly terrain difficulty or similar criteria, not on distance. Slight adjustment to the level may be made if a trip has exceptional endurance requirements (for example, a very long trip in easy terrain may change from Level 1 to Level 2 for this reason). If a particular trip has special requirements, this should be explained in the event description.

**Refer to Pages 20-21 for a more detailed description of levels
RTA Outings - Categorization Guide**

News and Notes from the Clubs - Spring 2023

Kingston

When attending an outdoor event, be safe; be prepared (page 15). Remember, for the safety of the group, a leader can refuse to accept a participant who is not ready for the outing's challenges.

MEETING PLACE

Unless stated otherwise, the meeting place is the Canadian Tire parking lot, along Bath Road, towards the gas station.

Questions/Contacts

General: kingston@rideautrail.org

Activities: kingston@rideautrail.org

Wednesday Walkers: Contact Jennifer at wednesdaywalks60@gmail.com

Leaders: please send the completed waiver to HR Coordinator, Cathy:
waiver.kingston@rideautrail.org

Calendar of Events:

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Note: We need an organized member to step in to help with activity coordination.

Central

When attending an outdoor event, be safe; be prepared (page 15). Remember, for the safety of the group, a leader can refuse to accept a participant who is not ready for the outing's challenges.

MEETING PLACE

Unless otherwise specified, meet at the specified trailhead.

Conlon Farm in Perth. Gore St. southeast through Perth to County Road 10 (Scotch Line), turn right towards Westport, then turn at the 4th street on the right (Conlon Drive) and proceed to the Conlon Farm parking area. GPS: 127 Smith Dr. K7H 0A3

Questions/Contacts

General: central@rideautrail.org

Activities: central@rideautrail.org

Calendar of Events:

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Also from RideauTrail.org in 2023

Be sure to watch for the information sessions concerning the changes to the By-laws and election

Events and Activities

The Club sends regular notices by email. Be sure to check the Activity Calendar for the latest updates.

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Special Events

Spring: Wednesday April 5th 630pm Gord Tompkins Funeral Home, Davis Drive, Kingston.

Mar 05: Stans Sugarbush Hike

May 27: Rideau Trail Annual General Meeting

Regular Activities

(Every week, conditions permitting)

Wednesday Walkers - Ideal for people interested in healthy exercise walking at a comfortable pace with some social interaction. Walks depart every Wednesday at 1:30 pm.

Other Outings

The Kingston Club is active in spring with short outings at Lemoine Point. Other hike events are offered for locations such as Gould Lake, Frontenac or Murphys Point Provincial Parks.

Remember: <https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Events and Activities

Although emailed notices might come from the Club, be sure to check the Activity Calendar for the latest updates.

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Special Events

Spring: The Central Club AGM will be held on the afternoon of Sunday April 23 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM at McMartin House

May 27: Rideau Trail Annual General Meeting

Regular Activities

(Every week, conditions permitting)

Wednesday Wanderers - Shorter, leisurely hikes for those who want a mid-week stretch.

Town or Tow Path: Friday morning walks

Other Outings

The Central Club is active in spring with hike events offered at Murphys Point and a various conservation areas.

Remember: <https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

News and Notes from the Clubs - Spring 2023

Ottawa

When attending an outdoor event, be safe; be prepared (page 15). Remember, for the safety of the group, a leader can refuse to accept a participant who is not ready for the outing's challenges.

Meeting Places

Transit construction can affect access to the meeting places. Check with the Calendar or the leader.

Tunney's Pasture: The government parking lot on the west side of Parkdale Avenue just across from Emerson Avenue.

Fallowfield Park & Ride: The northwest parking lot of the Park & Ride station, off Fallowfield Road west of Woodroffe Avenue. Park near the drop-off area by the bus shelters.

Baseline Park & Ride: The parking lot at the Park & Ride station on Woodroffe Avenue south of Baseline Road. Meet at the south end of the parking lot, farthest from the bus stop.

Questions/Contacts

General: ottawa@rideautrail.org

Activities: rtaleaderottawa@gmail.com

Calendar of Events:

<https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Emergency in Greenbelt or Gatineau Park?

Is it a life threatening emergency? Call 911! As a second step or for any other emergency, call 613-239-5353

Events and Activities

A weekly email from the Club advises of coming events, but be sure to check the Activity Calendar for last minute updates. <https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Special Events

Spring: Ottawa Club annual meeting Tentative the 14 April at St Thomas Church

May 27: Rideau Trail Annual General Meeting

Regular Activities

(Every week, conditions permitting)

Events include a stop for lunch, sometimes **outdoors**.

Tuesday Trails: Impromptu, sometimes rugged Level 2 hike lou_daybreak@hotmail.com

Wednesday Walkers: Impromptu hike - Level 2 or 3. fellwalkerca@gmail.com

Other Outings

Weekend events are also plentiful with various level outings that might visit Marlborough Forest, Hollow Glen, Mer Bleue, Lac Philippe and other locations.

Remember: <https://teamup.com/ks4o7f1oa94o7taugd>

Watch the Activities Calendar for Spring Wildflower Walks / Hikes for all areas

Kingston Club Wednesday Walkers Christmas tree decorating *Jennifer brinkman*



The event was our annual tree decorating Wednesday Walk on December 7th.

We met at the K&P trail on Burbrook Road and walked north to Unity Road and back.

Not far south of Unity Road, we stopped at the tree in the photo, hung a few bulbs and had a group photo taken. We always return in the New Year to remove the bulbs.

RTA Outings - Categorization Guide

There are many factors that influence how difficult/enjoyable a given outing (any kind of RTA activity) may be; and potential participants require information to correctly select those that match their desires. To assist potential participants, the RTA has come up with a **two-part system**, the first is an outing level rating (though primarily geared to hikes, it can be applied to any other RTA activities in whichever season) and the second is a detailed description that is available for each activity. Hike/Activity Leaders can provide greater detail on any concerns or restrictions in the activity description that is posted on the RTA Activities Calendar.

To help provide a consistent definition of outing difficulty and minimize misunderstandings between leaders and participants we classify the effort, technical challenge, and speed of outings as well as providing the approximate distance that will be covered and optionally the speed of travel. The definitions for these classifications are given below in the context of walking, but should be interpreted in light of the activity involved (e.g. breaking trail on level ground while snowshoeing may be equivalent effort to climbing steep hills while hiking, depending on snow conditions).

EFFORT INTENSITY

Low: similar to walking on a fairly level gravel path

Moderate: similar to walking on a hilly forest trail

High: similar to walking on a very hilly forest trail with occasional steep ascents and descents (like 10 minute periods of unbroken brisk stair climbing)

Very High: similar to walking on a very hilly forest trail with frequent steep ascents and descents (like cycles of 10 minutes brisk stair climbing, 5 minutes walking hilly forest trail, 10 minutes stair climbing, etc)

TECHNICAL CHALLENGE

Low: similar to walking on uneven surfaces

Moderate: similar to a creek crossing on dry rocks, or a careful footing requirement on ascents and descents, several occurrences during the outing

High: similar to a creek crossing on wet slippery rocks, or unstable footing on steep ascents and descents, many occurrences during the outing

Very High: use of hands may be required, good balance and strength required, many occurrences during the outing

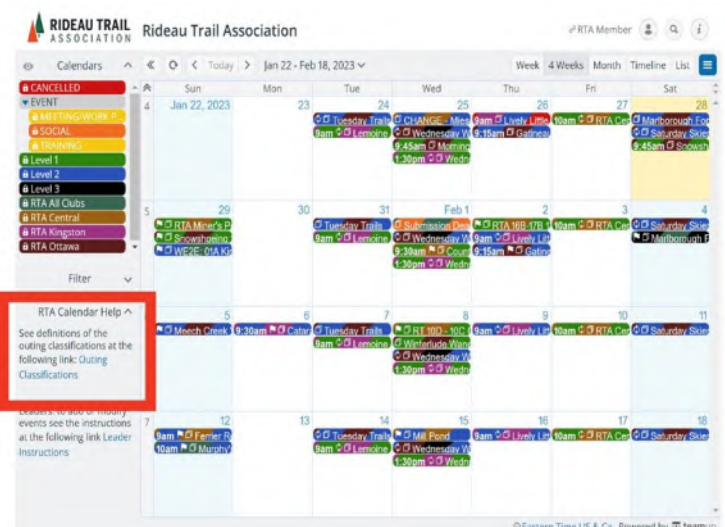
PACE INTENSITY

Low: pace is relaxed and adapted to the participants

Moderate: pace is steady with periodic breaks and allowance for unplanned breaks

High: pace is fast with breaks only at pre-planned destinations determined by the leader

In addition to these classifications, an overall outing level is provided as a general indication of how difficult the outing will be. This outing level will usually be based on the classifications of the characteristics above, using the guideline below. In some cases, hike leaders may adjust the overall level somewhat based on other factors outside the norm like exceptionally long or short distances, very fast or very slow speeds, expected weather, remoteness, etc.



Level 1: All parameters are "Low" or up to one parameter may be moderate. The least difficult type of outing.

Level 2: At least 2 parameters are "Moderate" and no more than one parameter is "High". An outing with mid-range difficulty.

Level 3: At least 2 parameters are "High" or at least 1 parameter is "Very High". The most difficult type of outing.

Note that you can also find the latest, detailed guide to the Hike Classifications by going to the RTA Calendar Help (see red box in the image below) and click on "Outing Classifications". Hike Leaders can gain further assistance on completing the Hike Description portion by clicking on the "Leader Instructions" link in the area immediately under that.

TRAIL INFORMATION, BY RUSTY BASSARAB

General

Some good news is that we have not received any new withdrawals of permission for land usage, nor any new forced reroute areas; and good progress is being made on the pre-existing issues (more details in the next section).

On the other hand, increasing weather extremes, particularly strong windstorms, have increased the efforts required to maintain our trails in the optimum conditions that we would all prefer. In addition to deadfall, trail maintainers have to deal with (and, obviously, so do all trail users) more signs down, more flooded areas and greater wear and tear on trail structures. In some cases, there are fairly simple solutions, but in many there are not. To facilitate the reporting of trail issues the ability for any trail user to file a trail report has been built into the new website. This can be found at the bottom of the Trail Alerts page, or the direct link to it at the top of that page.

[\(https://www.rideautrail.org/discover-the-trail/trail-alerts/\)](https://www.rideautrail.org/discover-the-trail/trail-alerts/)

The other important aspect is that more volunteer effort is required in order to remedy, or at least reduce the impacts of, the many weather extremes. Please consider volunteering to assist, whether it be for occasional work parties or on a more permanent basis.

Reroutes and Trail Improvements

Kingston Sector. The City of Kingston work on a new sewer trunk line is currently about 50% complete. The temporary reroute inside the city will therefore most likely continue until late fall. Once construction is complete then we will go back to using the normal route, some of which will be improved due to an all-weather, tarmac type base.

Central Sector. Thanks to Central Club staff, considerable progress has been made in obtaining permissions for a new route between 11A and 11B; with general details endorsed by the Township and the full Agreement documentation work in progress. As soon as formal approval is reached, and weather conditions permit, the remaining work will be done to make the new route usable.

Ottawa Sector. The reroute between RT 14B and RT14C was put into use last year. A new shelter for trail users was built and is now available for use. This shelter is known as Jason's Palace and trail users should look for it approximately 1 km SW of RT 13C. Club representatives have spent much time liaising with City of Ottawa, NCC, various Townships and Gatineau Park representatives in order to continue to maintain and facilitate trail use options. An updated agreement with the City of Ottawa for the continued use of trails through the Marlborough Forest will hopefully have been signed by the time this article is published.

Signs

All Waypoint signs for the Kingston sector have been erected into place. The ones in the southern portion of Central section have been erected. The remainder will be produced and erected as soon as the reroute east of Perth has been finalized. The Waypoint signs for the Ottawa sector have been produced and most have been erected in place. We are still waiting for permission from the NCC to put up those signs within their property areas.

RTA Trail Structures

It is known that a long section of boardwalk at the Marble Rock blue trails will need to be repaired soon. This will be a large undertaking as it is a long section of boardwalk in a swampy area, but planning has commenced and an appropriate time to do the work is being sought.

Part of the spring routine is for trail maintainers to review the condition of all RTA structures and determine if repair or replacement is required. This is another area where Club Maintenance Coordinators could use some assistance from volunteers and/or reports by appropriately briefed trail users.

GIS/Maps/Expanded Trail Information

We have been fortunate to gain the volunteer services of a student from Queen's University. He has already greatly assisted us by building a base map for the ArcGIS program that greatly facilitates the rapid creation of new RTA maps whenever a route change takes place.

Efforts continue to provide expanded trail information to everyone. This work is currently being progressed using Google Earth software, but may be available in different formats. The intent is to put a priority on parking information. For any potential parking location it is helpful to know: the gps coordinates or map location, whether the parking area belongs to any particular business or organization, the maximum capacity of the parking area, how busy/how many other people / groups utilize the parking as well, any specific restrictions, whether it is an all weather surface or not, and if the parking area is ploughed or otherwise cleared after snowfalls. It is easy to put all of that information into Google Earth, or into a table that could be part of the maps page. The slow-down so far has been the lack of information. The efforts will go much faster if people record that information and send it to the Trail Coordinator. If you don't have all of the information then send what is known and the rest will be worked on. Although detailed information requirements are different, the same concept applies to water supplies, washroom or toilet facilities, camping areas, etc.

Margaret Angus Award—Douglas Knapp

"Quoted from Facebook:Frontenac Heritage Foundation"

Another evening celebrating Heritage Conservation Awards! Some amazing projects. But first, the Margaret Angus Award went to Douglas Knapp. Doug initiated the idea of the Rideau Trail in 1971 at a Field Naturalist's Meeting, joined up with a like-minded group in Ottawa; they got a grant, and in a matter of months, the Rideau Trail was created.

This was followed by advocacy for the Cataraqui Trail, and then the K. & P. Trail. Many, meetings with local councils to make this all work! Really, a lifetime of advocating for a regional trail network which draws all sorts of people to this area.

**Congratulations to
Doug Knapp**



Margaret Angus Award Winner
Douglas Knapp
Rideau Trail 1971 - Kingston to Ottawa

Volunteer Notice Board (Updated: March 1, 2023)

Opportunity	Basic tasks	Commitment	Contact
Board Members			
Trail Coordinator	Manage RTA trails, develop trails policies, trail improvements, land owner liaison	4 to 5 hours per week, Board meetings, club events	President@RideauTrail.org Sharen trailcoordinator@rideautrail.org Rusty
Vice-President	Assist with managing the association, learn tasks of president	4 to 6 hours per week plus attendance at RTA functions	President@RideauTrail.org Sharen Pastpresident@RideauTrail.org Brian
Board Committees and Projects			
Chair and vice chair -Organizational Review working group	Lead a working group to look at RTA organizational, structure, make recommendations for change	2 to 4 hours per week for 6 months	Pastpresident@RideauTrail.org Brian Secretary@RideauTrail.org Ruth
Volunteer coordinator	Recruit volunteers for the Board and Clubs	2 to 3 hours per week	Pastpresident@RideauTrail.org Brian
Ottawa Club			
Vice-chair, Ottawa Club	Works with the Chair to manage the club; organize annual meeting and other tasks	2 to 3 hours per week	Pastpresident@RideauTrail.org Brian Ottawa@RideauTrail.org Sandy
Kingston Club			
Outings Coordinator	Coordinates hikes and other activities	2-3 hours per week	kingston@rideautrail.org
Vice-chair	Works with the Chair to manage the club	2 hours per week	kingston@rideautrail.org
Central Club			
Vice-chair	Works with the Chair to manage the club	2 hours per week	central@rideautrail.org

Christian Thomas, now 14 years old

If you need inspiration to get outside to put your fears behind you and venture onto the trails. Have a read of this you lads amazing feats. If you think you can't do it, and its to long of a hike, look at what he has accomplished in his short life so far. A great inspiration for us all.

Youngest Appalachian Trail Hiker, 2013, 5 Years Old

Youngest Pacific Crest Trail Hiker, 2014, 6 Years Old

and many more

<https://www.buddybackpacker.com/>

Corporate Shake-up at Rideau Trail

The twitter verse is buzzing with reports of changes to the corporate structure of the Rideau Trail Association (RTA). Inside sources say that a long rumoured change to the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act, known as ONCA, has forced the hand of the venerable RTA to take swift action (as measured in legal time) to change how they operate.

A spokesperson for the Association, Brian A. Grant assures us that these changes will only improve things. His colleague, Roger Reens, with a lengthy legal background, concurs that the changes will make the association stronger and more effective in these turbulent times. The third member of the change team, with extensive IT and trail association management experience, Ruth Oswald, stated she was ready to address any concerns this might raise within the Not-for-profit world. The team has been working flat out to meet the 2024 deadline for the changes.

We were advised that while the work is behind the scenes now, Association members will have their say on the changes at their Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 27 at the Perth Legion. The meeting results will be covered by our reporters.

Board Members

The ONCA team proposes a dramatic reduction in the size of the Board from 16 to 11 members. Our research showed there was no attempt to reduce the number of elected Board members so eight Board members will be elected at the annual meeting, ensuring that the RTA membership is responsible for the Board. To achieve reductions, five ex-officio board member positions will be eliminated.

The proposed Board will only have one representative from each club, rather than two, and the newsletter editors will no longer be members. The change will heighten the importance of the Club Representatives, hopefully making these positions more attractive to members. Clubs will decide how they want to select their representatives. Relieving the Newsletter editors from Board responsibilities will give them more time to focus on their tasks. They may, however, attend Board meetings to stay current on the latest news.

A spokesperson for the ONCA team stated that the reduced size of the Board should make it more efficient. However, there will be a need for more volunteers to take on special tasks to support the work of the RTA.

Elect Board Members, Not Position Holders

Extensive research by our reporters discovered that the RTA is planning to change how the duties of Board members are determined. As in the past, Board members will either be elected, or appointed (ex-officio) to manage the Association's business. Board members must always have the Association's best interests top-of-mind, not their other responsibilities – they represent the members.

However, the specific duties they take on will be confirmed at the first Board meeting held after the Annual General Meeting. These assignments of responsibility will make the Board members Officers of the Corporation. We were assured that the person recruited by the nominating committee as Trail Coordinator would not be assigned the role of Treasurer, only that in special circumstance, reassignment of roles could be done by the Board, without the need for a General Meeting of members. Currently, if the role of a Board member needs to be changed, they must resign from the Board and then someone else can take on their duties. With the new bylaw, the Board can make the change more efficiently.

Continued on next page.....

Continued

Execution of contracts

The amendments will allow the Board to appoint members (directors, officers, committee members, general members) to sign contracts binding the Board. While this was already being done in an informal way, the change will ensure that a proper approval process is in place for who can sign on behalf of the Association.

Voting by proxy

Voting by proxy will no longer be an option for members at the Annual Meeting. In the collective memory of the Board, no one has voted by proxy. Voting by proxy can be very demanding on resources and is not required under ONCA.

Bylaw #4

The changes to the bylaws will be known collectively as Bylaw #4 (the 4th set of bylaws for the Association). Our analysis of the changes indicated they will result in increased efficiency for the Board. There are a many other changes that are required under ONCA, but these will not have an impact on how the Association operates.

More information

We have scooped the RTA, releasing these proposed changes to you in advance of their adoption at the annual meeting. However, members of the ONCA team have indicated there will be an information session about the changes closer to the time of the annual meeting. The information session will be advertised through a general email distribution so be ready in April or May.

Notes

Ex-officio members hold their Board positions was a result of other positions they hold in the organization, for example, the Past-president and Club Chairs.

For more information on ONCA, see <https://nonprofitlaw.cleo.on.ca/>



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RIDEAU TRAIL ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 15

KINGSTON ON K7L 4V6

VOLUNTEERING

*We kindly ask from our members that we are
always in need of volunteers to help with Trail
Maintenance and to be hike leaders.*

*The trail is in constant need to be maintenance
as the grass never stop growing and the tree
always fall across the paths. If you can spare
1 hour, 1 day, or help out anyway you can.*



WE NEED YOUR HELP

SALOMON

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– Explore More**

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www.bushtukah.com

  /bushtukah



Inside Spring Edition. EDITED BY PETER WEIR (OTTAWA)



AGM info	2	Blue Trails Challenge	10	Remembering Dr. Robert Groves	14
Directors / Executives	3	Memorial to Ruth Hutchinson	11	Fruit leather recipe	157
Presidents corner / RTA Picnic	4	Landowner tribute—Bill Irwin	12	News and Notes from the clubs	16-17
Board highlights / New Webmasters	6	Xmas tree decoration	17	RTA Outing Categorization/trail info	18-20
New Treasurer	8	Coming events	13	Margaret Angus Award—Doug Knapp	20
Winter E2E Completion	9			Volunteer Notice	21
				Corporate Shake up	22-23
Rideau Trail Association		24		Spring 2023	