



VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

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Welcome to the Saulteaux Club of the Voyageur Hiking Trail Association (pronounced "Soo-toe")! We are collecting email addresses, if you are on the Internet. These addresses would be kept strictly for keeping you informed of Saulteaux Club issues and events. Please email: voyageur.trail@sympatico.ca and put "email me" in the subject line of your email to add your address. Also, visit our Club Blog at: < <http://saultaux-vtc.blogspot.com> > or from the link on our home page at: < <http://www.voyageurtrail.ca/saulteaux.html> >.

While the Voyageur Trail Association (VTA) is overseer of the entire Voyageur Hiking Trail system from Thunder Bay to Sudbury, the Saulteaux Club is the branch responsible for the section of Voyageur Trail that runs from Gros Cap to Mabel Lake (behind the Hiawatha Highlands) and as far north as the Red Rock cottage area (a total of 55 km).

We organize a number of outings each year hiking, snowshoeing, bushwhack skiing, and of course, trail cleaning. On each outing we recommend that you dress appropriately for the weather conditions (preferably in layers which can be easily removed or added), bring a lunch, water, and you can expect to be asked to sign an Assumption of Risk Agreement. The VTA provides hand tools to use on the trail work parties. Outings are listed in the Voyageur Trail Newsletter and on the Saulteaux Club page of the VTA web site (now located at www.voyageurtrail.ca). Reminders are usually printed in the Sault Star Bulletin Board section, Sault This Week's Out & About Club Date section, and on Community Cable Channel 10 TV. From time to time, outings or leaders change so it is always a good idea to check with the leader beforehand, especially if you have any questions about how long or difficult the outing may be, or any other concerns that you may have.

If you wish to take your dog on an outing, we schedule several outings a year where pets are welcome, but you must ensure your dog does not disrupt the other hikers, particularly at lunch stops. Dogs should be leashed at lunch and under control at all times, and you should be prepared to take your own vehicle.

If you decide to venture out on our trail without the group, a guidebook is available from the VTA at a reduced price for members. It contains detailed descriptions and maps of the entire finished sections of the Voyageur Hiking Trail, including the Sault Ste. Marie area.

As a member of the Saulteaux Club, we ask that you try to attend at least three (3) work parties a year. On these outings, we use hand tools to trim branches and put up blazes. Local members are welcome to "adopt" a section of trail that they will then be responsible to clean and blaze every year. Trail adopters and trail conditions are listed on our web page if you are interested in knowing which sections are currently up for adoption. In addition, since our club is the largest west of Elliot Lake, we try to help clean the trails between the Sault and Thessalon and as far north as Pancake Bay, so you may notice work parties scheduled for out-of-town areas.

The other members of our Saulteaux Club executive are: Larry Gringorten, Vice-President and Susan Graham, Secretary / Treasurer. You are welcome to attend our bi-monthly meetings usually held the third Monday of each of the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November. At these meetings, we transact any necessary business, and plan outings for the upcoming months. If you are interested in volunteering your time and talents in any aspect of our Club, please contact me and we will talk about what you would be interested to do or develop. Your ideas to improve our Club are most welcome.

If you have an email address, please report it and if something last-minute comes up, I will be able to contact you directly. You can contact me at 942-1891 if you have any questions or wish to talk about volunteerism.

Again, welcome to the Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club.

Sincerely,

Gayle Phillips, President
Saulteaux Voyageur Trail Club