



# VOYAGEUR TRAIL NEWS

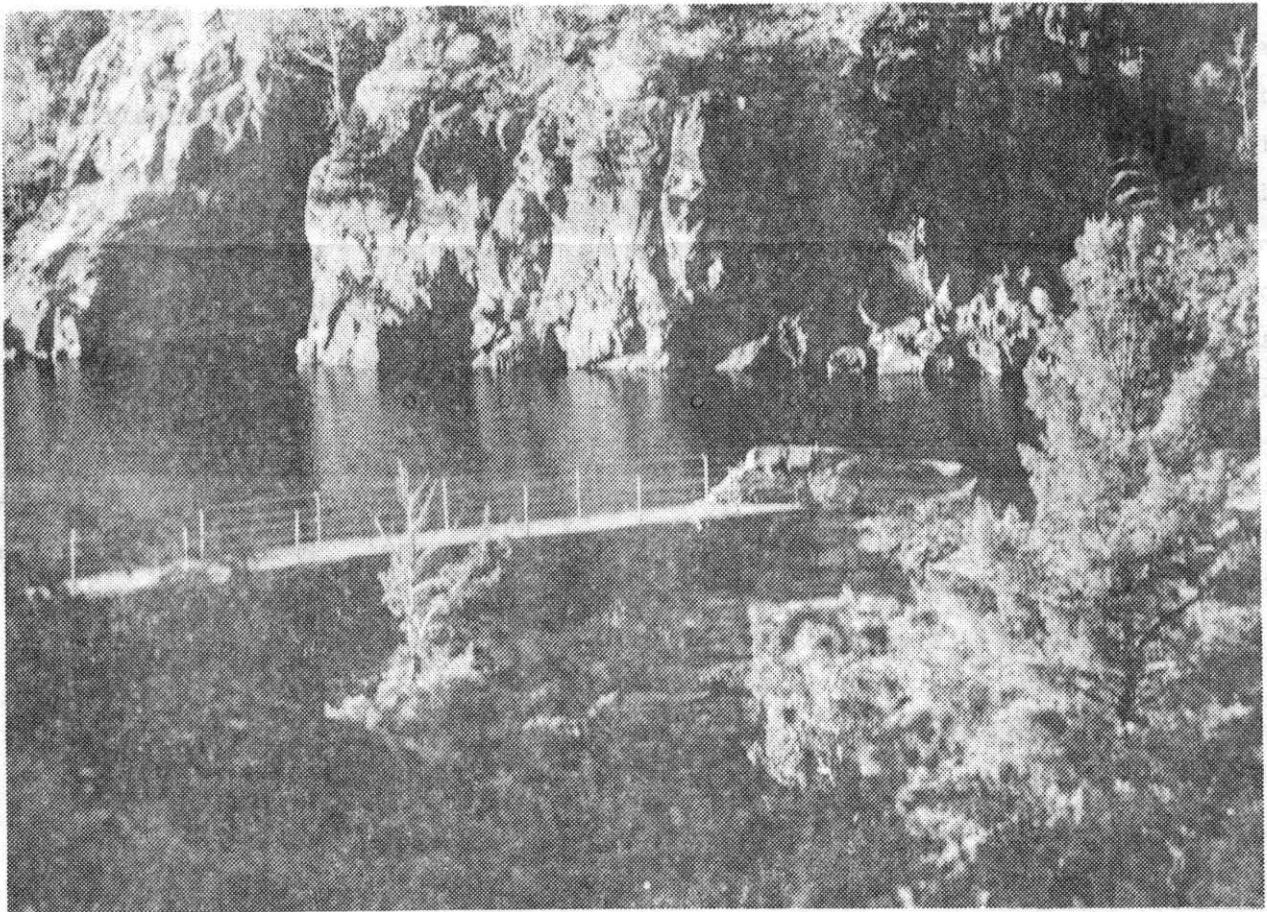
PUBLISHED BY THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION, A MEMBER OF F.O.H.T.A.

BOX 66, SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO P6A 5L2

No. 21

Editor: Lorie Armstrong

Spring, 1982



SHAW DAM — THESSALON SECTION

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

1981

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies and gentlemen, members and guests, welcome to this, the seventh Annual General Meeting of the Voyageur Trail Association in the 8 years that we have been in existence. Imagine - 8 years ! In two more years we will be a decade old! We must celebrate that event in a grand way and I would welcome any suggestions on just how we might do that.

Again, I wish to bring you up to date on what has happened over the past year. I think the major event was the meeting of the Federation of Ontario Hiking Trail Associations (FOHTA) in Sault Ste. Marie in September and the smashing success of the social dinner and hike that followed. That event brought the realities of our Trail to the appreciation of many from Southern Ontario. I have learned since that there has been at least one positive spinoff from that event. Although these people meet regularly in Toronto, there is really not much time for comparing notes and thoughts during the meetings, and afterwards, everyone is rushing to catch a plane or train home. The hike we sponsored allowed for a good mixing of people and exchange of ideas. As a result, when Doug Knapp, Rideau Trail, discovered that the Voyageur Trail Association accepts 2 people as a minimum club requirement he saw a solution to a problem that the Rideau Trail Association had. Although they had large clubs at Kingston and Ottawa, the ends of the Rideau Trail, they had no club in the Perth area. Today, the R.T.A. has a club of 8 people in the Perth area, after they stopped thinking in only large terms!

Now, we'll turn to our home ground, and I've got some good news. Locally, the flagging of the Saulteaux Section north has proceeded very well, and it is now flagged into Pennefather Township, north and east of Prince Township. The Penewobikong Voyageur Trail Club and the Michipicoten Voyageur Trail Club are building apace and this Fall I travelled to Rossport to demonstrate blazing to the Schreiber Club. A short piece of that beautiful Section was blazed, before we were rained out, and the white paint blazes were very impressive to those who had not seen them before. That particular Section is very popular, and well it might be, for it is gorgeous, but people have been getting lost because there

were a few places where the Trail was not distinct, and with no blazes there was no hope. Because of the good impression the blazes made, I expect that Section will be blazed next summer.

The Echo Ridges Section has been measured and described under the guidance of Brian Williams and a crew of dedicated workers and the notes will be edited this winter for inclusion in our Guide Book next Spring. Guide Book sales have been good and whenever a new section is completed, we will add it at cost to members.

Finally, I ask all our members to do more and more, all you can, to promote the Voyageur Trail Association and recruit more members, for as I've said before, in our members lies our strength, and as our Trail expands, we need more and more hands to build and maintain it. When your Club asks for your support, respond if at all possible, because many hands an easy job doth make. I would also exhort you all to get out and use our Trail. There are many kilometers built through this wonderful country and the more it is used, the better it will become. It is your Trail, built through your own efforts, so enjoy the fruits of your labours!

We are making good and steady progress, and I wish to thank all of you who have helped in so many ways to further our aims and objectives. It is a pleasure to serve you in my capacity as President. Thank you.

Paul D. Syme

November 27, 1981



TOM McGRATH

We regret to announce the death of Tom McGrath who was the driving force behind the trail at Schreiber and the founder and President of that Club. We extend sincere sympathies to Heather his wife, and to his parents at Schreiber.

A NEW NAME

Two weeks prior to the tragic accident that took Tom McGrath's life, he had submitted the following:

*In 1823 John Bigsby climbed a hill on Pic Island.*

*"As I turned towards the land, tall casque shaped islands were seen here and there, bordering the north shore, full of sinuosities, and overlooked by pleasingly-grouped hills of conical or waved outline, from 600 to 800 feet high. I was well repaid for the troubles of the ascent". The Shoe and Canoe, London, 1850.*

*With reference to the preceding quote we have decided to name our trail club 'CASQUE - ISLES V.T. CLUB'*

*CASQUE - is a poetic word for something possessing the anatomical shape of a helmet.*

*The conical hills of the Superior coast indeed resemble helmet shaped structures. Also our trail leads to within a corridor of islands that stretch westward as far as Pidgeon River (U.S.A. border).*

*Therefore, we have decided to use the notion contained in Bigsby's words as a base for our trail name.*

The section of trail formerly referred to as Schreiber or North Superior (Terrace Bay in our brochure) will henceforth be known as the CASQUE - ISLES SECTION OF THE VOYAGEUR TRAIL and the responsible club as THE CASQUE - ISLES VOYAGEUR TRAIL CLUB.



ECHO RIDGES HIKE - MAY 16-21, 1981

A 5-day hike on the Voyageur Trail Echo Ridges section to Hiawatha Park in Sault Ste. Marie was undertaken by Barb Triplett, Tom Allinson, Betty Nassoioy and E. Nassoioy last May.

The hikers hit the trail at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 16. They started one kilometer west of Centre Line Road north of Bruce Mines. Tower Lake was reached just in time for a pleasant lunch. A relatively flat campsite was found near Peter Lake by 3:00 p.m. The day's mileage was estimated at 9 miles.

Sunday the hikers were off to an early start and had lunch at Two Horse Lake. A spectacular campsite was found at the bottom of a waterfall just below where the trail meets Coffee Creek. A respectable 11 miles were covered on day two.

Monday the hikers were surprised by 30 C. heat and temporary loss of the trail. However the hikers used their heads and soon came back onto the trail where Coffee Creek flows into the Echo River. As the bridge over Coffee Creek was out, the Creek was forded with little difficulty and some pleasure due to the unexpected heatwave. Camp was set up on the creek draining Trotter Lake west of Echo Lake. Mileage for day three was 10 miles.

Day four commenced at 8:00 a.m. Wahbunose Lake was reached by 9 o'clock. Lunch was eaten at the High Dump at noon. The High Dump is 30 metres or more above the Garden River. From here in earlier days logs were dumped into the river to be driven downstream during the Spring flood. A spectacular view of the river valley and adjacent hills makes High Dump a much photographed spot. The Bailey bridge across the Garden River within the Reserve was reached at 1:15. Camp was set up on a sand bar on the Garden at 4:00. The day's mileage was 12.

Wednesday, (day 5) the hikers set out at 8:10 and reached the spectacular gorges and waterfalls of Bedore Creek by 9:00. The Driving Creek Road was reached by 9:45. Lunch was eaten where the Driving Creek crosses the road west of Driving Lake. Camp was set up along the Driving Creek 3/4 of a kilometre east of the Jardun Mine Road. Mileage for the day was 7.

The final day of the hike began early with the hikers on the trail at 7:15. Hiawatha Lodge was reached by 3:20 with 12 miles covered on the last day. The hike had been planned to last another day but the unexpected heatwave brought out the blackflies, scourge of the north woods. Still, the hikers had a memorable journey on this beautiful yet rugged section of the trail with its many lakes and watercourses, spectacular vistas and waterfalls.

## NOTICE

### GUIDEBOOK OWNERS

If you have purchased our Voyageur Trail Guidebook, the Echo Ridges Section, consisting of 5 sheets (10 pages) of description, two title pages, and 4 maps, are contained in this newsletter. The first map is a revision of the last map of the Saulteaux Section (S3), which includes the first part of the Echo Ridges Section. Replace the last Saulteaux map with this. If your copies were not attached, or if there are any errors of omission or duplication of pages, please notify the Secretary.

Remember, for your purchase price, you will yet receive, at no extra cost, the Thessalon Section when it is mapped and described. This will provide you with a guidebook for approximately 200 km of rugged and beautiful hiking trail.

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### EDITOR NEEDED !

Here's your chance to gain on-the-job experience as an Editor of a newsletter ---- this letter !

Contact Paul Syme.

Your current editor will be moving to Alberta this Spring -- unable to say she hiked even 1 complete section of the Voyageur Trail -- Don't let it happen to you. Plan a hike today !

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### DISCOUNTS TO HIKERS

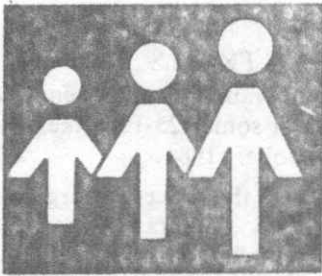
On presentation of a current membership card, the following businesses offer a discount to V.T.A. members.

Joe's Sports and Surplus, 9 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., offers a 10% discount. Sales items and all "Woods" brand articles are excluded.

Kinney Shoes of Canada Ltd. offers a 10% discount on hiking boots.

Margessons of 17 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, M5C 1H4, offers a 10% discount on most camping items. Margessons issue a camping catalogue which may be obtained by writing to them.

Freeze-Dry Foods of 579 Speers Road, Oakville, Ont., L6K 2G4, offers a 20% discount on their freeze-dried products to club members.



FEDERATION OF ONTARIO HIKING TRAIL ASSOCIATIONS,  
Box 422, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 5V5

# FOHTA. OUTLOOK

Vol. 3, No. 1

Winter 1982

Editor: Jean White

## HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1981

In his annual report to the Director's annual meeting held in February 1982, FOHTA President, Doug Knapp noted that during 1981 five regular Board meetings, one special executive meeting and several meetings of special sub-committees were held. Despite an average attendance of only 11 directors from a possible 18 at the regular meetings, FOHTA was "able to carry on in a vigorous fashion in initiating and continuing many important projects for Ontario hiking trail associations." These included:

- attendance of a delegate at a seminar on Liability/Trespass legislation sponsored by the Attorney General's Office, with subsequent efforts to obtain legal opinion regarding liability of trail associations and their directors.
- attendance of a delegate at the Ministry of Culture and Recreation's "Conference on Recreation".
- preparation of a major report on the interface of FOHTA member associations with the Ministry of Natural Resources and presentation of this report at the Ontario Provincial Parks Conference in Waterloo in May. This report was also submitted to the Minister of Natural Resources with a request for a response — as yet to be received.
- receipt of a grant from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation (primarily to cover travel expenses of FOHTA delegates).
- visiting the Voyageur Trail Association for one Board meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, followed by a guided hike over part of the scenic Saulteaux Section of the Voyageur Trail. It is hoped that this will establish a tradition whereby at least one meeting a year will be similarly hosted by one of the FOHTA members.
- successful promotion of the sixth annual Ontario Hiking Day.
- printing 2,000 copies of the new FOHTA HIKE ONTARIO brochure.
- continued liaison with the Federation of Cross-Country Skiers (FOXCS).
- establishment of an annual FOHTA Award, to be presented to the most deserving member within each association.
- continued efforts for the creation of a Volunteer Development Program for the use of FOHTA members.
- production of a permanent audio slide show of Ontario trails, as well as work on a proposed film on the theme "The Joy of Hiking".
- provision of assistance to any association requiring and requesting support.

Other accomplishments noted by the President included promotion of FOHTA members Newsletter exchange; drafting Job Descriptions for desirable FOHTA positions of

## YOUR FOHTA REPRESENTATIVES

as of February, 1982

Avon Trail Association	Bob Ross Kitchener	519-743-7102
Bruce Trail Association	John Brady Toronto	416-925-6710
	Gordon Thompson (Toronto BTC)	416-653-3369
Elgin Hiking Trail Club	Brian Henson St. Thomas	519-633-3850
	Henry Jeanes St. Thomas	519-631-4702
Ganaraska Trail Association	Chris Daffern Oshawa	416-723-6794
	Jim Parsons Lindsay	705-324-4708
Grand Valley (Treasurer) Trails Association	David Emberly Cambridge	519-621-5586
Guelph Trail (Secretary) Club	Bob Fanning Agincourt	416-298-7250
	Sandra Webster Cambridge	519-658-9938
Maitland Trail Association	Don Grant Goderich	519-524-9426
	Lynda Postill Clinton	519-482-3393
Quinte-Hastings Recreational Trail Association	John McLaughlin Cobourg	416-372-0253
Rideau Trail Association	Al Gamble Ottawa	613-729-5056
(Past President)	Doug Knapp Kingston	613-542-2039
Thames Valley Trail Association	Ron Gill London	519-681-5864
	Maria Gahlinger London	519-472-3237
Voyageur Trail (President) Association	Paul Syme Sault Ste. Marie	705-254-4791
	Ralph Wood Bancroft	613-339-2899

## FOHTA AWARD

The Rideau Trail Association is proud to announce that its first FOHTA Award was presented to Rolly Hamilton, Ottawa, for his top quality work on the Map Kits for the Rideau Trail Association. As noted during the annual general meeting in September Rolly is also one of the eleven founders of the Rideau Trail Association.



Continued from page 1

Government Relations Coordinator, FOHTA Executive Director and Publicity Coordinator; discussion with Ministry of Culture and Recreation representatives for possible assistance to FOHTA; continuation of FOHTA representation on Coalition on the Niagara Escarpment (CONE).

Also presented were ideas for future consideration such as: commencement of preliminary work on a possible 1985 Hike Ontario Conference, the need for compilation of statistics on the number of people using our trails, improvement of liaison with all members of FOHTA, and filling positions for which Job Descriptions have been drafted.

In concluding his report, outgoing President Knapp stated:

"FOHTA has accomplished a great deal in 1981 and FOHTA Directors have every right to be proud of this record. An enormous amount of time, energy and talent has been donated unselfishly by all these hard-working directors. As outgoing President, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to every member of the Board of Directors. The enthusiasm, dedication and hard work of every Board member has made the job of President a pleasure. I feel confident that FOHTA will continue to more than justify its existence as we step into a new year."

*The Rideau Canal is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 1982. For information on specific events, write to: Kingston Chamber of Commerce, 209 Ontario Street, P.O. Box 486, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 2Z1.*

## TRAILS FOR THE BLIND

The University of Guelph Arboretum has opened two trails specially designed for handicapped visitors, according to the University's News Bulletin. The trails are a quarter mile long and superimposed on the more extensive trail system. One trail is designed for wheelchairs (and strollers). The other trail is designed for the visually impaired, who must pick up a tape recorder at the Arboretum Nature Centre. The voice on the tape will guide the walker along the trail which is identified by a wooden kick rail and a wood chip surface. The tape tells how many paces to each station, warns of changes in the terrain and encourages the walker to use touch and smell. Braille and large lettering will also assist the trail user, as the trail passes through a good selection of maples, black cherry and other trees.

## FEES UP IN 1982 FOR ONTARIO PARKS

A small increase in park fees has been issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources to be effective April 1, to help offset higher operating costs. For example, a campsite with electricity costing \$7.50 in 1981 will cost \$8.00 under the new fee structure, while a regular campsite increases from \$6.00 to \$6.50. For more information write Warren Robertson, Parks and Recreational Areas Branch, Toronto (416) 965-1245.

The opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the Editor and contributors, and do not necessarily represent the position of the Federation of Ontario Hiking Trail Associations.

## NEWS FROM THE TRAILS

**Congratulations to the Guelph Trail Club** for opening a new trail, and for their turn-out of some 125-150 hikers on Ontario Hikers' Day, held in October, 1981.

The **Rideau Trail Association** is in the process of organizing a third club in Perth. Helped by a Wintario grant, the guidebook **Trail Notes** has been published and is available for purchase to members for \$5.00 and to non-members for \$8.00.

The **Thames Valley Trail Association's** busy winter schedule includes activities such as square dancing, skiing, hiking, theatre night, dinners and snowshoeing. Their first trail guidebook has been published and is available to their members and FOHTA Directors at \$5.00 each.

The **Voyageur Trail Association** was the recipient of a donation from the Algoma Steel Corporation in Sault Ste. Marie of steel blanks, cut and drilled, for new signs. The signs are in production and some have been installed. The Echo Ridge section of the Voyageur Trail, linking the Sauteaux and Desbarats sections has been measured and described; and will provide a continuous trail from Gros Cap to just north of Rydal Bank.

"Go to Blazes" day will be held by the **Bruce Trail Association** on Saturday, May 15, 1982, to clean-up and repair the blazes on its entire 450 miles of trail from Niagara to Tobermory. This Association has also embarked on a fund raising and land acquisition program.

The 1981/82 winter edition of the **Grand Valley Trails Association** contains a **Where to Ski** map in the Elora to Brantford area, with detailed information on the terrain, available snack bars, entry fees, etc.

The **Avon Trail Association** will commence clean-up during the first week in April, with blazing completion date expected to be by the end of April.

**Items of interest from each club are solicited for publication in Outlook.**

Please mail submissions directly to the **Outlook Editor**, 350 Meadowcrest Road, Kingston, Ontario K7M 3S5.

## TWO CANADIAN SITES NAMED TO WORLD HERITAGE LIST

Two native sites have been named to the World Heritage List by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee meeting in Australia; in October. Anthony Island, located at the southern tip of the Queen Charlotte Islands off the west coast of British Columbia, is the site of an important collection of totem and mortuary poles of the Haida Indians. The second Canadian site to be named to the list is a buffalo jump site located in Alberta.





V.T.A. ACTIVITIES - Spring-Summer 1982

Sunday : Conservation Week Hike on Voyageur Trail.  
May 9 MEET: At Nettleton's Lake at the north end of Goulais Ave.  
2 p.m. Guides will be on hand from the Saulteaux Club. Walks will be east or west along the trail which may be wet in spots. A good area for early Spring wild flowers - please leave them for following hikers to enjoy.

Saturday: VARIETY HIKE: Short, medium, or longer walks or just  
July 10 picnic in the park.  
10 a.m. MEET: At Tower lake Park which is north of McCarrel's Lake. Go north off Hwy 17 at Echo Bay. Follow #638 through Sylvan Valley past Wakonda Camp to the Tower Lake Road.

BRING: Bring lunch, either picnic or pack, insect repellent, field guides, binoculars, bathing suit, lawn chairs, kitchen sink - whatever you need to be happy and comfortable.

LEADER: Tom Allinson 256-8742

Saturday: Walks on parts of the trail north of Thessalon  
Aug. 14 interspersed with drives to the different areas.  
11 a.m. Visit a museum, waterfalls, dams, historic woods.  
MEET: At Little Rapids Museum - go north on #129.  
BRING: Picnic lunch, insect repellent, cameras etc.  
LEADER: Tom Allinson 256-8742

Saturday: Trail Hike north of Blind River.  
Sept. 25 Approx. 4 km. in length.  
11 a.m. MEET: In Blind River on Woodward Ave. From Hwy 17 turn north at the Old Mill Hotel, go one block and there is a free parking lot just past the intersection.  
BRING: Trail lunch, camera, binoculars, jacket.  
LEADER: Norm Lediett - Blind River 356-7608

EVE KERSEY.

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SPECIALIZED SERVICES

Sport Sewing Shop of 1659 Bayview Avenue, Suite 201, Toronto, Ontario, M4G 3C1, Telephone 1-416-486-9666, specializes in repairs to down-filled items, backpacks, tents, harness, etc. They also can supply specialized fabrics, zippers for sleeping bags, etc., webbing and fasteners. Free sewing advice is also offered.



## VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION

### THE TRAIL USERS CODE

- Hike only along marked routes. -Do not climb fences, use the stiles.
- Carry out all garbage (if you can carry it in, you can carry it out).
- Light cooking fires at official campsites only - drench fires after use (better still, carry lightweight hiker's stove).
- Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- Never strip bark from trees. -Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- Keep dogs on the leash on or near farmland.
- Walk around the edges of fields, not across them.
- Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs.

### VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER ROSTER

- |                      |                       |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Bridge-building   | 8. Map-making         | 14. Editorial Work    |
| 2. Carpentry         | 9. Publicity          | 15. Typing            |
| 3. Stone Masonry     | 10. Display Designing | 16. Legal Advice      |
| 4. Trail Maintenance | 11. Photos and Slides | 17. Correspondence    |
| 5. Trail Building    | Clearing House        | 18. Envelope Stuffing |
| 6. Contacting        | 12. Fund-raising      | 19. Serve on Board of |
| Landowners           | 13. Publications      | own club or V.T.A.    |
| 7. Leading Hikes     |                       | 20. Other             |

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

#### Sections (please check)

- ☐ Association-at-large
- ☐ Saulteaux V.T.C.
- ☐ Echo Ridges V.T.C.
- ☐ Desbarats V.T.C.
- ☐ Thessalon V.T.C.
- ☐ Iron Bridge
- ☐ Penewobikong V.T.C.
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Massey
- ☐ Rainbow V.T.C.
- ☐ Little Current
- ☐ Sheguiandah
- ☐ South Baymouth
- ☐ Sudbury V.T.C.

- ☐ Thunder Bay V.T.C.
- ☐ Nipigon
- ☐ Schreiber V.T.C.
- ☐ Marathon
- ☐ Pukaskwa Park
- ☐ Michipicoten V.T.C.
- ☐ Lake Superior Park
- ☐ Batchawana
- ☐ Goulais V.T.C.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (home) \_\_\_\_\_

(business) \_\_\_\_\_

#### DECLARATION

I have read and will abide by the TRAIL USERS CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

#### FEES

- ☐ Individual \$ 5.00
- ☐ Family \$ 5.00
- ☐ Student \$ 2.00
- ☐ Crests \$ (\$1.00 each)
- ☐ Guidebook \$ 3.00 (for members)
- ☐ \$ 5.00 (for non-members)
- ☐ Donations \$ (receipt for income tax purposes will be sent)

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SIGN UP A FRIEND