

Terms of Reference

Bruce County Rail Trail Management Committee

April 2004

Goal

The Bruce County Rail Trail will be a co-operatively managed recreational trail corridor that encourages safe use for a variety of recreational activities while ensuring the protection of natural and cultural heritage values for future generations.

Objectives

The goal statement is supported by the following objectives for management of the BCRT corridor:

- Health: To provide opportunities and trailways to encourage health benefits from a variety of trail activities.
- Recreation: To provide opportunities and facilities for a variety of trail uses that are accessible to all genders, ages and abilities, high in quality, environmentally sustainable, and promote four-season use.
- Connection: To connect communities along the Bruce County Rail Trail multi-use corridor and provide linkages to other high quality local trails, other recreation amenities and tourism attractions.
- Appreciation: To create opportunities for understanding the cultural and natural heritage of the Corridor as a greenway including the diverse range of natural processes occurring along the Corridor and historically significant features associated with it.
- Tourism: To support economic benefits associated with trail use by encouraging local initiatives to supply trail users with goods and services and through promotion of the trail corridor.
- Protection: To protect the greenway function of the corridor and the integrity of associated natural heritage features and the rights of adjacent property owners.

Reporting Relationships

The Management Committee is a committee of Bruce County Council and is affiliated with the Bruce Grey Trail Network. The Management Committee will develop, in collaboration with local trail groups: trail policies, annual operating plans, etc. and will provide these reports to the BGTN Board for information and to the County of Bruce for approval. Ongoing communication between all partners is critical and is anticipated through the composition of the Management Committee. An organizational structure chart and table of Areas of Responsibilities is attached.

Responsibilities/Tasks

The Management Committee has primary responsibility in the following areas:

- 1) Establish/ communicate/ represent local trail groups and user groups
- 2) Trail Planning - Recommend / Implement agreed upon use policies- urban areas (speed limits, policing etc.)
- 3) Trail Development & Construction –Develop Management Plans and Approve Annual Operating Plans from local trail groups
- 4) Develop trail opening policy and checklist
- 5) Trail Maintenance/Monitoring – Ensure Inspections/ Maintenance /Patrolling is undertaken.
- 6) Ensure Insurance coverage is in place for approved uses.
- 7) Revenue Generation – Coordinate local funding with corridor funding
- 8) Promotion and Education
- 9) Monitor contact with landowners
- 10) Monitor annual work planning/budgeting

Some staff resources through the BGTN Trails Coordinator are available to support the work undertaken by the Management Committee.

Planning Principles

These planning principles were identified in the Bruce Grey Trails Network Master Plan and confirmed through subsequent public meetings and are recommended for adoption by the Management Committee:

- Include all approved trail uses where possible.
- No trail use will have exclusive use of the entire corridor.
- Priority will be given to trail uses in sections of the corridor required as “key linkages” to their other trail systems.
- Alternative trail routes into urban areas will be encouraged and investigated to allow access to services for motorized trail users.
- Traditional trail uses within sections of the corridor will be recognized.
- Some trail uses co-benefit from the activities of other trail uses, i.e. Cross-country skiing and groomed snowmobile trails.
- All user groups should be expected to contribute to the ongoing operation and maintenance of the corridor
- Local motorized user clubs must be recognized by the Bruce County Rail Trail Management Committee through formal arrangement.
- All motorized users must be affiliated with a recognized local club and both the club and individual user will carry the proper amount of liability insurance.

Composition of the Committee

No single private or public organization will have sole responsibility for management of the rail trail. The committee recognizes the role of Bruce County as owner of the trail corridor, Bruce Grey Trail Network as an affiliate organization assisting with trail

development and promotions, and the importance of local trail groups and individuals who will undertake trail building, maintenance and patrolling.

Members:

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|--------------------------|--|
| Bruce County | 1 Representative ¹ (Council or staff designate) |
| Bruce Grey Trail Network | 1 Board Member |
| Local Trail Groups/Users | 1 representative from local trail group or user group
presently composed of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mildmay/Carrick Trail Committee▪ Brockton Trails Committee▪ Saugeen Rail Trail▪ Kincardine Trails Association▪ CN North Group▪ Saugeen Snowmobile Club▪ Bruce County Federation of Agriculture▪ Paisley Trail Committee |

Adjacent Landowner 2 Representatives (1 rural & 1 urban)

Resource/Advisors:

BGTN to provide some secretarial support to the Management Committee.

Summary

Total # of Voting Committee members will vary depending upon the representatives:	12
Additional resource/advisors	2

¹ Bruce County representative shall report back to Highways Committee.