

Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee

MANDATE

To enhance the availability, enjoyment and use of trails within Elliot Lake and the surrounding area by providing a central voice on behalf of user groups, residents and visitors alike, to the municipality and other government agencies.

DEFINITION

The Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee adopts the definition of trails from the Ontario Trails Strategy, 2005, as follows:

Trails can be:

- *footpaths with natural surfaces*
- *multi-use tracks with manufactured surfaces*
- *on-road bicycle routes*
- *walkways, boardwalks and sidewalks*
- *utility corridors or former rail lines*
- *forestry and mining access roads designated as trails*
- *waterways and portage routes*

MISSION STATEMENT

Through trail development and working in cooperation with other community partners, the Elliot Lake Shared Use Trail Committee will promote healthy, active lifestyles and contribute to building sustainable urban community throughout Elliot Lake and the surrounding area.

VISION

Trails are a vital component of recreation for both motorized and non-motorized transportation within Elliot Lake and the surrounding area. Trails benefit residents and visitors of all ages alike, and encourage healthy lifestyles and appreciation of the natural features and sites. The Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee seeks to develop and sustain these benefits for generations to come.

GOALS

- To foster the development and maintenance of trails, both public and private within Elliot Lake and the surrounding area
- To promote responsible and respectful use and enjoyment of trails within Elliot Lake and the surrounding area
- To create a sustainable cooperative partnership between various trails organizations and users
- To advocate on behalf of an interconnecting trails system at the city, district, provincial and national levels as appropriate
- To foster a policy that supports implementation of trails in areas of new development and redevelopment

OBJECTIVES

- To establish, develop, finance, maintain, promote and preserve a system of shared use recreational trails in Elliot Lake and the surrounding area for such uses such as, but not limited to, hiking, snowmobiling, all-terrain vehicle use, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and portaging; and to promote their use as part of the strategic plan for the tourism sector and other economic development benefits for Elliot Lake
- To coordinate and represent the interests of all groups representing users of said trails
- To coordinate and represent the interests of all groups representing the tourism and economic development sector of Elliot Lake
- Create consistent trail inventory and mapping throughout Elliot Lake and the surrounding area
- Inform municipal, regional, provincial and federal bodies of the goals and objectives of the Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee
- Meet with the Ministry of Natural Resources on an annual basis to discuss and coordinate forestry management planning
- Create public relations tools such as but not limited to:
 - Audio-visual presentation for public viewing
 - Develop a plan for regularly informing the general public of events related to trails and to help garner public support for trail development in Elliot Lake and the surrounding area
 - Compile information on socio-economic impact of trails and their usage
 - Develop an education plan for Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee members and partners (e.g. workshops, speakers, education packages for schools, etc.)
 - Advocate the protection of public rights of way such as road allowances and shore road allowances for possible future trails
 - Be alert for opportunities for further partnerships with the private sector
 - Marketing trails

OTHER ROLES

- Be aware and seek possible connections with trails in adjacent communities across the North Shore such as Township of the North Shore, Spanish, Massey, Blind River, Township of Huron Shores, Iron Bridge, and Serpent River First Nation
- Be aware of forestry related activities and work in conjunction with them
- Protect private property

MEMBERSHIP

Each of the following user groups including but not limited to the Snowbirds Snowmobile Club, Elliot Lake ATV Club, Friends of Algoma East, Penocean Hills Fields Naturalists, Coureurs de Bois Outdoors Club, Cross-Country Ski Club and the City of Elliot Lake are encouraged to appoint at least one member responsible for trails and recreation issues within their group. The committee member's role is to provide insight into the ongoing development and maintenance of the trail systems, and to provide communication and coordination between the Committee and the group. Membership may also include a representative from regional user groups that have an interest in a specific type of trail use (e.g. horseback riding, canoeing, kayaking, etc.). Each trail use group will have one vote. The Elliot Lake Shared Use Committee will reach out to and

encourage input and support from identified resources such as, but not limited to, Algoma Public Health, Mount Dufour Ski Area and historic committee members.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

- Working subcommittees will be struck to represent various trail stakeholder interests. These committees will not be required to have permanent status but may be created or recalled as work is required
- Activities of the Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee will be governed by the City of Elliot Lake Procedural By-Law
- Each user group represented is requested to appoint members to the Shared Use Trails Committee, preferably the President, and an approved delegate in the Presidents absence.
- The Elliot Lake Trails Alliance is an Ontario Corporation created for the purpose of supporting the Elliot Lake Shared Use Trails Committee in the pursuit of funding. The Elliot
- Report to Standing Committee

Approved: June 9, 2015