

Waterfront Trail Rotary  
Community Action Team  
Letters of Support  
As of Feb 28 2022



## Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Port Arthur)

P.O Box 33016, Red River Road, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 0B1

04/10/2021

Warren Philp  
Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team  
P.O. Box 33016, Red River Road  
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 0B1

To Whom It May Concern;

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team (WTRCAT). This Committee has brought together multiple volunteer groups that have a positive interest in the development of the Thunder Bay Waterfront with a particular emphasis on the collaborative development of a multi use trail.

The goal of completing the trail from Fishermans Park to Chippewa Park will significantly increase ease of access, use and the profile of the Waterfront Trail. In other communities, similar trails have not only increased participation in physical activity but also has acted as an economic focus and driver.

The membership of the WTRCAT brings experience and expertise in the development and maintenance of trails as well as their economic and social impact on the Community. The Committee also provides the potential to lead and participate in fund raising activities in support of the Trail.

I and Port Arthur Rotary fully supports the work of WTRCAT and its collaboration with the City of Thunder Bay to complete the Waterfront Trail.

Sincerely

D Jim Madder  
President, Port Arthur Rotary



November 23, 2021

Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, P7B 0B1

RE: Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team

On behalf of the Board and Members of the Fort William Rotary Club, we like to offer our support and endorsement of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team. This group, which was been initiated by the Port Arthur Rotary Club is pursuing a transformative change to the health and wellness of the citizens of Thunder Bay and surrounding areas.

The vision of WTRCAT is to fill the gaps in the existing Waterfront Trail from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park. The work ahead for this team is of great importance to many in our community and it will have a lasting effect on many aspects of our city. The collaborative approach taken by WTRCAT of bringing together many like-minded organizations in the city to advocate for the enhancement of the trail is commendable.

As you know Fort William Rotary has a history of promoting healthy living as we worked in the early 1990's with other local Rotary Clubs and funded, in part, the Thunder Bay Active Trails project. We are pleased to see Rotary taking the lead once again to make a positive impact on the community. The enhanced Waterfront Trail will not only lead to many health benefits, but will also bolster economic and tourism opportunities.

Congratulations on this new project!

Yours In Rotary,

Dawn Sebesta  
*President,  
Fort William Rotary Club*

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## LAKEHEAD ROTARY CLUB

c/o 331 N. Harold Street  
Thunder Bay, Ontario. P7C 4C7  
[www.lakeheadrotary.com](http://www.lakeheadrotary.com)

Rotary



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

November 10, 2021

Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
P.O. Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, Ontario  
P7B 0B1

Greetings Warren!

Our Board of Directors has considered the proposal for a Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Extension and supports in principle the efforts of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team.

Multi-season trails will benefit residents and visitors and promote healthy mental and physical lives and lead to long-term positive impact on our health care system.

On behalf of the members of Lakehead Rotary, we will do what we can over time to help fulfill the plans of the WTRC Action Team.

Yours in Rotary,

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Sandy Lychowyd,  
Past President

# Rotary



## Club of Nipigon

PO Box 297, Nipigon, ON, P0T 2J0

Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, ON, P7B 0B1  
c: 807-632-3998

October 3, 2021.

Re: Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Extension

Nipigon Rotary Club firmly endorses the efforts of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team which is comprised of representatives from Active Living Groups representing more than 10 per cent of Thunder Bay residents.

Your goal is to move south from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park filling in gaps in the existing trail system, making it more robust and integral to living robust healthy lives.

Outdoor multi-season trails encourage residents and visitors to healthier mental and physical lives. A side benefit is environmental sustainability and lessening of the usage of our health care system—diabetes, obesity, and more can be positively impacted with healthy living.

Many non-residents from outlying communities such as Nipigon and Red Rock make use of the Thunder Bay trails and we look forward to the expansion.

We support the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail System Extension plans.

Sumiye Sugawara,  
President,  
Nipigon Rotary Club,  
c: 807-887-4648



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**



Thunder Bay  
**Rotaract**  
*Rotary Club Partner*



thunderbayrotaract@gmail.com  
Thunder Bay Rotaract Club  
124 Glendale Cres  
Thunder Bay, Ontario  
P7C 1N1

December 1, 2021

Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, P7B 0B1

RE: Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team

On behalf of the members of the Thunder Bay Rotaract Club, I would like to offer our support and endorsement of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team.

By bringing together a number of local volunteer groups, WTRCAT aims to fill the gaps in the existing Waterfront Trail from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park and create outdoor, multi-season trails which will increase the useability and profile of the Waterfront Trail.

Multi-season trails such as this encourage participation in physical activity and can improve the mental and physical health of many residents and visitors to Thunder Bay. As a primarily student-led club, our members also understand the many benefits outdoor recreation spaces offer those who cannot afford expensive gym memberships.

We support the work of the WTRCAT and its collaboration with the City of Thunder Bay to complete the Waterfront Trail.

Yours In Rotary,

Paige Perrons  
*President,  
Thunder Bay Rotaract Club*



December 2021

On behalf of the Central Canada Charity Ride, we are whole hearted in support of extending the multi-use recreational trails along the city's waterfront and beyond.

One only has to look at the usage that our existing trails have taken during the last year and a half to see the demand for outdoor pursuits.

I'm sure our participants would use the extended trails for cycling as well as walking, running or just showing our great vista to guests of our city.

There were nay-sayers to the development of Prince Arthur's Landing and now it's the city's showpiece.

By connecting more people to our waterfront in an active way, we will have something to pass on to our citizens and guests for decades.

Sincerely

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Alan Cranston

Chair CCCR



## Confederation College XC Running

March 2021

Re: Waterfront trail development

As the head coach of Confederation College Cross Country Running team, former head coach of Lappe Nordic Ski Club, and past president of the Blacksheep Mountain Biking Club, I wish to offer my full support for the proposed waterfront trail extension. Thunder Bay has a growing network of inner city trails and this waterfront section could easily become a highlight for the City's sports community.

As a cross country running coach we primarily run on dirt but use the city's paved network often to access those dirt trails. Being able to use a trail separated from vehicle roads is much preferable for that access. Similarly, mountain bikers accessing Centennial Park/Shuniah Mines would prefer a dedicated trail separate from other vehicles. A waterfront trail with the natural beauty of the Lake Superior shoreline would add to the experience and provide a safer access route for all.

The proposed facility would also provide an excellent resource to our vibrant cross country ski community. As former coach at Lappe Nordic, I appreciate how the trail would provide an excellent location for off season roller ski training, again separate from vehicles, and a natural extension of the Boulevard Lake trails currently being used.

I applaud the Rotary Club for promoting this initiative and leading the community in moving it forward.

Paul Inkila,

Head coach of Confederation College Cross Country Running team,

Former head coach of Lappe Nordic Ski Club,

Past President of the Blacksheep Mountain Biking Club





## **The Fire Fighters Ten Mile Road Race Committee Supports Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team**

November 24, 2021

The Fire Fighters Ten Mile Road Race committee is excited to support the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team initiative to develop Thunder Bay's waterfront recreational trail system.

Many of our race participants utilize running trails within the community and expanding that network will be mutually beneficial to runners and other users and the community at large.

Our organization supports these types of initiatives as it is important to promote opportunities for a healthy community.

We look forward to our continued participation and promotion of the project.

Herbert Daniher Fire Fighters Ten Mile Road Race Director

# Lappe Nordic Ski Club

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1866 Oliver Road  
Thunder Bay ON P7G 1P1

November 26, 2021

Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay ON, P7B 0B1

## **Re: Letter of Support for the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail**

The Lappe Nordic Ski Club, whose members use Thunder Bay's recreational and commuter trail system daily, offer this letter of support to the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team (WTRCAT) in its efforts to advance the construction of the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail, part of a larger plan to connect Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park.

Constructing dedicated, safe, and scenic paved path/trail systems for non-motorized use is an important step in making Thunder Bay a climate friendly place for its residents and visitors. The city of Thunder Bay has made amazing strides in the last 15 years to increase the ability of its residents and visitors to enjoy the outdoors within the city, either by bike or on foot, by developing a network of multi-use trails. Many of these trails are also used by bike commuters and the city is becoming more connected each year for its citizens who prefer to walk and cycle.

To complete a path along the waterfront from one end of the city to the other would be an extraordinary achievement for Thunder Bay, and I am already excited about the possibilities that this path will bring to our citizens.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Marler  
President, Lappe Nordic Ski Club



March 27, 2021

**Re: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail**

On behalf of NTDC Thunder Bay, I am writing to express our strong support for your initiative to expand the trail network on the Thunder Bay waterfront. It is of great value to our community to enhance the opportunities for physical activity while enjoying the breathtaking backdrop of Lake Superior and the Sleeping Giant.

The Thunder Bay waterfront is a special place in the heart of our community and there is much to be gained by increasing the network of accessible trails in this location.

Please keep us posted as this waterfront trail initiative moves ahead and we look forward to hearing about the next steps.

Sincerely;

Chris Serratore  
President, NTDC Thunder Bay

About the National Team Development Centre Thunder Bay

"The National Team Development Centre Thunder Bay is a community-based organization providing elite cross country skiers with an intensive training and competition program. The Centre partners with Nordiq Canada (national) alongside Cross Country Ski Ontario (provincial) and the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario."



April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

**RE: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail**

On behalf of the Thunder Bay Cycling Club, I would like to extend our full support towards the current initiative to expand the City's recreation trail network along the Thunder Bay Waterfront.

One of our core values as a club is to promote the virtues of cycling along with a healthy active lifestyle. This initiative will further connect the City's recreation path network allowing for riders to experience a safe and enjoyable ride while taking in the breathtaking views of Lake Superior and the Sleeping Giant.

Best regards,

Stéphane Audet  
President, Thunder Bay Cycling Club





P.O. Box 10041  
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6T6  
[president@tbha.ca](mailto:president@tbha.ca)  
[www.tbha.ca](http://www.tbha.ca)



Nov. 22, 2021

Re: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail

As proponents of healthy outdoor activities, the Thunder Bay Hiking Association is pleased to support the creation of a Waterfront Trail in our city. We look forward to having another venue for people to get out and enjoy what Thunder Bay has to offer. If sections of this proposed trail have access points close to public transit, this trail would help promote equity of access to our city's recreational activities. If the trail were to be maintained year round, then even in the spring when hiking conditions in the bush can be icy, people would have another place to get outside and benefit from the opportunity to use this trail.

TBHA is pleased to have representation on the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team and look forward to the progress of this initiative for the benefit of our community.

Hilda Postenka, Past President  
Thunder Bay Hiking Association

About the Thunder Bay Hiking Association:

Established in 1984, the Thunder Bay Hiking Association is an incorporated non-profit organization that promotes recreational hiking and related seasonal activities such as cycling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, kayaking and canoeing in the Thunder Bay area, Northwestern Ontario, and northern Minnesota.



March 29, 2021

**Re: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail**

On behalf of the Blacksheep Mountain Bike Club, please accept this letter of support for the construction of the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail. The proposed trail would add great value to current waterfront infrastructure and help increase Thunder Bay's paved network of trails which promote healthy outdoor activities such as biking, running, and walking.

The Blacksheep Mountain Bike Club focuses on building and maintaining mountain bike specific trails that are accessible for all types of trail users. The past and present expansion of trails in the Trowbridge Forest has led to a significant increase in the number of people out riding, running, and walking. A network of paved trails throughout the city would only help grow the number of active trail users and with the backdrop of the sleeping giant in the background the Waterfront is the perfect place to start.

Please keep us up to date as the Waterfront Trail initiative moves along as we are excited to see this project move forward.

Sincerely,

Tristin Radley-Hansen  
President  
Blacksheep Mountain Bike Club



[www.metreeaters.ca](http://www.metreeaters.ca)

[thunderbaymetreeatersrunclub@gmail.com](mailto:thunderbaymetreeatersrunclub@gmail.com)

February 28, 2022

Mr Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, Ontario  
P7B 0B1

Dear Warren,

Re: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Extension

On behalf of the Thunder Bay Metre Eaters I am writing to express the full support of our club for the expansion of the trail network along the Thunder Bay waterfront. The Thunder Bay running community uses the trail network throughout the city and a Waterfront Trail from Fisherman's Park all the way to the Jackknife Bridge would be an excellent addition to the network. This trail connecting the city from Westfort to Current River would provide a safe and accessible route across the city for all active residents and visitors to Thunder Bay. The route would also provide an interesting route for running race and other events.

Warren, you can count on support and participation from Metre Eaters on the proposed Action Team.

Regards,

Fred Bauer  
President

February 14, 2022

Warren Philp, Team-Lead  
Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 0B1

RE: Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Extension

Dear Mr. Philp:

In our capacity as the administrators of the Thunder Bay Hiking Group Facebook page, we would like to formally express our enthusiastic support for the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team's proposal to further the construction of the Waterfront Trail.

The Hiking Group has over 10,300 members. Our membership numbers and the extensive activity on our Facebook page indicate that there is a strong interest in hiking and walking in Thunder Bay. We see many new and inexperienced hikers post questions about hikes that are safe and easy, hikes that can be reached by public transit, hikes that are easy to navigate, and hikes that accessible for those with mobility issues or for parents with children in strollers. We also see questions from visitors to Thunder Bay who are looking for easy-to-find public trails.

Expanding the Waterfront Trail to connect Fisherman's Park to the Marina and on to Chippewa Park would help satisfy the need in Thunder Bay for safe and accessible trails that can be enjoyed by people with all levels of fitness and outdoor ability. This proposed 24-km trail system would connect north and south Thunder Bay and would enable walkers to enjoy incredible lake views, visit some Lakehead Region Conservation Authority conservation areas, and perhaps learn more about the history and natural beauty of Thunder Bay. The trails would also make it easier for active transportation users to access Boulevard Lake and the extensive trail systems at Trowbridge and the Cascades. The tourism opportunities for trails like these are endless. Look to New York's new "Empire State Trail" for an example of how an extensive trail system can support residents and attract tourists.

At the TBHG, we believe that fresh air activities promote mental, spiritual, and physical health. The proposed expansion to the Waterfront Trail should be embraced by the City as an opportunity to promote citizen health as well as tourism.

We look forward to working with the Waterfront Trail Community Action Team to promote the trail extension.

Sincerely,

Deborah Shannon, Nicole Landgraff Wegner, and Scott Hobbs

Thunder Bay Hiking Group Administrators





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March 30, 2021

**Re: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail**

On behalf of UPRIVER RUNNING, I am writing to express our support for the initiative to expand the Thunder Bay waterfront trail network. We see this project as a great way increase access to a safe and scenic route that may be used for commuting and recreational purposes.

By extending the network, we believe more people will be encouraged to take part in physical activities which can have a positive impact on our community's mental health and connectedness.

We look forward to hearing about the next steps involved in this exciting waterfront trail initiative.

Sincerely,

Antonio Stefanile  
Co-Owner & Co-Founder  
UPRIVER RUNNING INC.  
[www.upriverrunning.com](http://www.upriverrunning.com)



February 9, 2022

Warren Philp,

Port Arthur Rotary Club

P.O. Box 33016

Thunder Bay, ON P7B 0B1

Dear Warren,

On behalf of Special Olympics Thunder Bay, I'm pleased to express my support for the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Plan. Completion of the trail from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park will cement an important piece of our community's development and open our magnificent waterfront for the enjoyment of everyone. The trail will provide year round physical and mental benefits for all who use it.

I especially applaud your commitment to inclusion, which will allow individuals with physical or intellectual disabilities to enjoy the splendour of our local environment to the fullest. Thank you to Rotarians for taking on a leadership role in this important project,

Best wishes for success.

Rob Neff

Community Coordinator,

Special Olympics Thunder Bay



January 15, 2022

**Re: Letter of Support for Waterfront Trail**

The Fresh Air Ten Mile Training Group started in 2006 when Sandy Guthrie, a former Fresh Air employee and long-time Thunder Bay runner, had the idea of starting a training group to help people get ready for the Ten Mile Road Race. What started out as a group of 30 runners and a team of fellow runners to act as leaders has grown to more than 200 participants (in non-pandemic years) and 18 group leaders. We are grateful to the owners of Fresh Air, Jeff Pylypchuk and Pete Tofinetti, for their ongoing support of runners and so many other athletes in the community.

Each week we map out running routes for our Training Group members in different parts of the city with safety in mind. A connected trail system would make this so much easier and would help our runners stay off the roads and away from traffic.

As the leads for the Fresh Air Ten Mile Training Group, we fully support the expansion of the trail system along the Thunder Bay waterfront as it will increase the availability of safe and accessible running routes.

Sincerely,

**Marilee Chase and Cheryl Ready**



2022-01-18

Waterfront Trail Rotary  
Community Action Team

On behalf of the organizing committee of the Sleeping Giant Loppet, I would like to express our support for the Waterfront Trail project.

The Loppet attracts close to 1000 participants each year and it is only possible due to the extensive trail network that exists in Sleeping Giant Provincial Park. Trails offer citizens of all ages and abilities the opportunity to explore their surroundings and appreciate their environment. It's hard to imagine a more spectacular journey than a bike ride or walk along Thunder Bay's waterfront with Lake Superior and the Sleeping Giant as the back drop.

The City of Thunder Bay has worked hard to develop the existing recreation trail network and a waterfront trail should be the next logical extension.

I applaud the Rotary Action Team's efforts on behalf of Thunder Bay residents and wish you success.

Peter Gallagher, Coordinator  
Sleeping Giant Loppet





Lakehead Public Schools



THUNDER BAY CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

January 24, 2022

Warren Philp  
Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team  
P.O. Box 33016, Red River Road  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 0B1

RE: Waterfront Trail Letter of Support

Dear Mr. Philp,

Please accept this letter of support with respect to the development of the Thunder Bay Waterfront trail and the proposed extension.

The Superior Secondary Schools Athletic Association (SSSAA), on behalf of all Schools and School Boards in the City of Thunder Bay, is the largest multi-sport athletic association in Northwestern Ontario. Our Association runs over 125 major events (200+ participants) throughout the course of the school year at an average of 3.5 events per week. In addition, elementary sporting opportunities have increased ten-fold in the last 15 years and account for the largest group of active youth in our Region.

School sport remains the most accessible activity option for youth in our City. The development of recreation trails certainly falls in line with our mandate and our programming. The Waterfront Trail will be a fantastic resource for not only our community, but for schools, students and families, in general. I can envision activities and events run by our organization that would utilize these trails to the benefit of our students.

I applaud the WTRCATs goal to enhance recreational trails in our community. Our organization is proud to have partnered with the City of Thunder Bay and various other partners in projects of mutual benefit. We offer our full support to this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

David Pineau  
Director



## Friends of Grain Elevators

1212-199 Academy Drive  
Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7B 5W2

Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team  
c/o Port Arthur Rotary  
PO Box 33016  
THUNDER BAY, Ontario  
P7B 0B1

To Whom It May Concern

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Members of Friends of Grain Elevators(FOGE) we fully support the efforts of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team(WTRCAT) in completing the waterfront trail from Fisherman's Wharf to Chippewa Park. This initiative is long over due and will greatly benefit the citizens of Thunder Bay and visitors to the city.

Thunder Bay's waterfront, with it's dramatic views of Lake Superior and the Sleeping Giant is a great example of it's natural heritage and should be made accessible to the public as soon as it can be done.

FOGE is a not for profit corporation and a registered charity dedicated to preserving the rich history of the Canadian grain industry and bringing the story to the Canadian public. The completion of the trail would bring many more people to the waterfront thus creating interest in the Grain Elevators. Such interest would raise many questions about the large structures and FOGE is poised to answer these questions. 22

The completion of this pathway is a must for the City and the WTRCAT is just what is required to achieve this milestone.

Robert J. Paterson

President, FOGE



55a Red River Road Thunder  
Bay, ON P7B 1H3  
807.624.2140

[ecosuperior.org](http://ecosuperior.org)

January 13, 2022

**Re: Letter of Support for The Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team**

Dear Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team:

EcoSuperior is pleased to submit this Letter of Support for all efforts by the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team and others, to enhance the connectivity, walkability and bike-ability of the City of Thunder Bay's Waterfront trail from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park. This multi-season trail has the potential to enhance opportunities for increased health and well-being of our community, as well as enhance the opportunities to connect meaningfully with each other and the shores of Lake Superior. This trail will further the commitment and movement towards enhancing infrastructure to support active transportation across our City and beyond, providing safe all-season trails that can be used for commuting, leisure, or exercise of all ages and abilities. There is no better time to invest in our public spaces and places, as this latest global pandemic has highlighted the precious value of these places to both our physical and mental well-being.

EcoSuperior Environmental Programs is a partnership-based non-profit organization, working to build a healthy future for people and the planet in northwestern Ontario and beyond, since 1995.

Thank you, we are so grateful and thrilled about this long-time dream coming to reality for present and future generations to come.

Sincerely,

Sue Hamel  
Executive Director, EcoSuperior  
E: [executivedirector@ecosuperior.org](mailto:executivedirector@ecosuperior.org)





**LAKEHEAD REGION**  
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

130 Conservation Road, PO Box 10427  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 6T8  
Phone: (807) 344-5857 | Fax: (807) 345-9156

January 28, 2022

Warren Philp, Team-Lead  
Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay ON P7B 0B1

RE: Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Extension

Dear Mr. Philp,

We are writing this letter to express our support for the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team its proposal to further the construction of the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail, which would see the trail connect Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park.

This initiative is an integral element to growing the connection between people and the land by providing a safe and accessible trail for the community walk in close proximity to the waterfront and Lake Superior.

The LRCA has recently carried out extensive rehabilitation work at Fisherman's Park West along with other community partners; the LRCA also operates and maintains Mission Island Marsh Conservation Area. As such, the LRCA has a vested interest in the successful completion of this ambitious trail project, as it aligns with the LRCA's values and goals.

We look forward to working with you.

Yours truly,

Tammy Cook  
CAO

[www.lakeheadca.com](http://www.lakeheadca.com)





January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**RE: Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Extension**

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of Superior Country, I am pleased to express our support for the "Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail Expansion" Project as proposed by Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team.

As we understand it, the project will develop a recreational non-motorized trail south from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park. This extension will fill gaps in the existing trail, making it a seamless active transportation system - which is integral to community health and fitness.


As a Destination Marketing Organization with a tourism product development arm, Superior Country sees this trail expansion as a potential tourism asset that would allow visitors to enjoy the shores of Lake Superior on foot or by bike, encouraging longer stays and more dollars spent.

Through the Lake Superior North Shore Tourism Project, we have partnered with Thunder Bay CEDC, Destination Northern Ontario and Trans Canada Trail among others, to complete a feasibility study for a Lake Superior expansion of the Great Lakes Waterfront Cycling Trail. We feel this project will incorporate well into that plan, making Thunder Bay a more attractive destination to long distance cyclers.

Recognizing the economic benefits of this initiative, Superior Country fully supports the work of the WTRCAT and its partnership with the City of Thunder Bay to complete the Waterfront Trail.

If you have any questions regarding this letter of support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

  
Dan Bevilacqua  
Executive Director  
Superior Country Nipigon, ON  
[dan@superiorcountry.ca](mailto:dan@superiorcountry.ca)  
807-887-3188



# Great Lakes Waterfront Trail

A Signature Project of the Waterfront Regeneration Trust

January 26, 2022

***Letter of Support for the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail and the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team (WTRCAT)***

This letter is to express the Waterfront Regeneration Trust's strong support for the City of Thunder Bay's initiative to expand the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail and for the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team in assisting this initiative. The proposed Waterfront Trail will help foster a healthier more active lifestyle, providing a new and vital way for residents and visitors, both cyclists and pedestrians, to experience and celebrate the natural beauty and unique industrial history of Thunder Bay's waterfront. As a tourism asset and destination, the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail will benefit and support numerous local businesses at or near the waterfront.

These proposed improvements to Thunder Bay's waterfront will not only provide an important connection for residents and visitors to access the waterfront by foot or by bicycle, but the route will be mapped, signed and promoted as part of the 3600 km provincially significant Great Lakes Waterfront Trail. In this way, the project contributes to both the health and safety of the community, inclusive of non-motorized transportation, provides vital local infrastructure as well as complementing several federal and provincial policy objectives:

- The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is a product and legacy of a joint Federal and Provincial Royal Commission on the Future of the Toronto Waterfront led by Hon. David Crombie;
- The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail will connect Thunder Bay to a partnership of over 150 communities united in a vision for a complete and connected trail that is an integral part of each ecosystem it passes through, enhancing the environment, economy, society and history of each community
- The Great Lakes Waterfront Trail serves as an internationally recognized cycle tourism asset. Cycle tourism generated \$893M (Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Tourism Research, 2019);
- The 3600 km Great Lakes Waterfront Trail is a foundational piece of Ontario's province-wide cycling network; and
- The Trail is recognized as an "Ontario Trail of Distinction" by the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, one of five inaugural designations.

The Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail will improve local cycling and pedestrian opportunities and reconnect the community to an accessible, connected, beautiful, vibrant, regenerated Lake Superior waterfront.

Waterfront Regeneration Trust  
A registered charity regenerating Ontario's Great Lakes since 1999  
4195 Dundas Street West, Toronto, ON M8X 1Y4  
416-943-8080 [www.WaterfrontTrail.org](http://www.WaterfrontTrail.org)

We are so grateful to the City of Thunder Bay and the Rotary Community Action Team for their continued investment in the waterfront experience that will make it a must-see stop for the community and visitors.

We wish you well and thank you for your support of this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Marlaine Koehler  
Executive Director  
Waterfront Regeneration Trust  
[mk@wrttrust.com](mailto:mk@wrttrust.com)

**About the Waterfront Regeneration Trust**

Established in 1988, by the Honourable David Crombie, the Waterfront Regeneration Trust is the non-profit, registered charity leading the movement to build a province-wide Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Waterfront Trail. Recognizing the tremendous value and multiple benefits of the waterfront to the people of Ontario, the WRT is focused on reconnecting people and communities to the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes – the largest group of freshwater lakes on Earth. Today the Trust works with 140+ communities from the eastern border of Ontario to Lake Huron to create a Trail that is now more than 3000 km.



February 14, 2022

**Re: Letter of Support for Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail**

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior (CLLS) we support and applaud the efforts of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Plan in addressing access to our waterfront from Fisherman's Wharf to Chippewa Park. This initiative will allow citizens and visitors an opportunity to explore further our connection to Lake Superior.

The proposed trail would be a value to the community by promoting healthy outdoor activity and fostering a stronger connection to one of the largest fresh water lakes in the world.

The lighthouse trail, extending from Thunder Bay Main Lighthouse to the Slate Islands, welcomes over 1,000 visitors per season to these distant and isolated sites on Superior. Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior operates two sites on the Trans Canada Water Trail that features stops at Porphyry Island and No.10 Lighthouses. CLLS's membership driven mandate is to preserve, protect and promote Lake Superior lighthouses for access by the general public.

Through the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team's development work to expose the public to Lake Superior, dividends for years to come will change perspectives on where we live, work and play. Thank you for the work you are undertaking and let us know if CLLS can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Paul Morralee  
Managing Director  
Canadian Lighthouses of Lake Superior  
212 Miles Street E., Suite #202  
Thunder Bay, ON  
P7C 1J6  
clls.ca



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# THUNDER BAY HISTORICAL MUSEUM SOCIETY

425 Donald St. E., Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5V1 807-623-0801 • [www.thunderbaymuseum.com](http://www.thunderbaymuseum.com)

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16 February 2022

Warren Philip  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
P.O. Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 0B1

Dear Mr. Philip:

Re: Letter of Support for the Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail

I am writing to confirm the support of the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society for the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team (WTRCAT) and its efforts to develop a Thunder Bay Waterfront Trail that connects from Fisherman's Park to Chippewa Park as a public infrastructure asset.

The Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society firmly believes that the study and understanding of our past and present through history not be limited to the archives and artifacts, but to be inclusive of built history and the land. Without this inclusive view, we neglect to consider the impacts of the land on shaping the history of our society. The industrial areas, waterfront, island biomes, Indigenous heritage sites, and waterways the proposed trail would traverse are part of our shared heritage and critical to understanding the region. The Waterfront Trail will, in our hopes, bring attention to the history of the immediate area it goes through and be complimentary to the Thunder Bay Museum's collection plan and interpretation plans.

The Society is prepared to intellectually support through our programs and committees any efforts that are part of this project to develop historical interpretation along the trail system.

The long-term benefits and collateral effects of this work for Thunder Bay and the region will echo into the future in immeasurable ways but it is certain that this is the path to a better society. We encourage the readers of this letter to consider our recommendation to move this project forward financially and administratively.

Sincerely,

Frank Gerry  
President  
Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society



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*Celebrating History Since 1908*

February 23, 2022

Warren Philp  
Port Arthur Rotary Club  
PO Box 33016  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 0B1

Dear Warren:

#### THUNDER BAY WATERFRONT TRAIL

The Board of Directors of the Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce are pleased to offer our support for the continued pursuit of funding and assessment activities towards the development of a waterfront multi-use trail. In addition to the obvious quality of life benefits for our community, the development of a waterfront multi-use trail offers economic benefits including construction jobs and expanded opportunity for the creation of new active lifestyle competitive events that support tourist attraction.

We strongly believe that collaboration and partnership development can and should play a vital role in the completion of the waterfront trail in a fiscally responsible and affordable manner.

We applaud the efforts of the Waterfront Trail Rotary Community Action Team to bring together stakeholders, enlist community support, assist with fundraising and fund development and provide advice and support to the City of Thunder Bay on this infrastructure project. We look forward to hearing about next steps on this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Riley Burton  
2022 Chair of the Board