



# Minutes

## Of a Meeting of the Kenora Urban Trails Committee of the City of Kenora Tuesday, November 3, 2015 Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre at 8:00 a.m.

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**With** Diane Pelletier, Chair, Penny Beal, Judy Underwood, Northwestern Health Unit, Councillor Sharon Smith, Melissa Shaw, Real Estate Officer, Heather Gropp, Tourism Development Officer, Kerri Holder, Administrative Assistant

**Guests** Ren Amell, Michelle Queen

**Regrets** Barry Corbett, Paloma Corrin, Dave Schwartz, James Williams

### 1. Call to Order

Diane called the meeting to order at 8:18 a.m. with a quorum of four present. There was discussion about the membership and timing for meetings. This will be further addressed at the next meeting.

### 2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

There were none declared.

### 3. Decommission of Trans Canada Trail

**Moved by S. Smith, seconded P. Beal and Carried -**

That the Kenora Urban Trails Committee decommission the land based Trans Canada within the City of Kenora.

#### **Discussion**

All were in favour of passing this motion based on the background discussed at prior meetings. Melissa will work with Jennifer Findlay to complete the decommission process.

#### **4. Great Lake of the Woods Trail**

**Moved by P. Beal, seconded by J. Underwood and Carried -**

That the Great Lake of the Woods Trail will start at Anicinabe trail head follow through to McLeod Park, continuing along Highway 17 West, then down St. Clair Street, meeting up at Mink Bay Trail on Beach Road and connecting at Bay Street.

##### **Discussion**

Determining the system for the Great Lake of the Woods Trail was deliberated using the City of Kenora's GIS trails story map to visualize the options available. The main concerns raised were linking with Norman Park and the railway tracks in Keewatin. As the accessible trails at Norman Park have not been completed yet, the trail system will need to stay on the highway and be adjusted to join later. It was noted that at this point the area does not meet the trail criteria in the terms of reference. There was examination of possible connections once into Keewatin, maybe providing route choices that would be spurs of the Great Lake of the Woods Trail or Mink Bay Trail. It was suggested to leave as a direct connection. It was mentioned that it would be nice to have the land based section bring people to the Winnipeg River to connect with the Path of Paddle. It was thought that the trail would come off the bridge and connect over the tracks somehow. There was further discussion about the issues with having three trail systems names joining together from Anicinabe to Keewatin. There was some support for having the entire section named as the Great Lake of the Woods for simplicity. The idea of branding the trails to show connections and loops was brought up also. There was discussion about the methods for marketing those different trails.

#### **5. Co-Branding of the Great Lake of the Woods Trail and Trans Canada Trail**

**Moved by Councillor Smith, seconded by P. Beal and Carried -**

That the Urban Trails Committee supports co-branding of the Great Lake of the Woods Trail with the Trans Canada Trail.

##### **Discussion**

All supported that the Trans Canada Trail group will decide on the connections to the Great Lake of the Woods Trail.

*Diane left the meeting at 8:46 a.m. and Penny undertook the role as Chair.*

There was opportunity for additional comments or announcements. Judy shared that there is an open house on November 10<sup>th</sup> at the Kenora Recreation Centre on the proposed event centre. There was discussion around how the existing trail system in the area would be included around the expansion and how safety issues of the existing trail along the creek may be addressed, such as with better lighting.

Councillor Smith asked that the Mink Bay Trail signage be looked at in the future as there are missing signs and issues with the postings. Vandalism is responsible for some of these issues. It was suggested to consider what the signs are made and how to best keep them upright and posted. A suggestion was made to cross check the Mink Bay Trail signs with the sign inventory. Melissa will locate the sign inventory and Ren volunteered to do the check.

Heather spoke about a partnership program offered by Tourism Northern Ontario which includes wayfinding signage. This could be included in next year's plan. There was discussion about a developing a recognizable logo for the Great Lake of the Woods Trail. This may be a good use for the wayfinding program. A suggestion was made that a contest could be held for high school students to create a logo. Heather will look into the program details and report back.

## **6. Next meeting**

- December 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.