



2025-2026

Annual Impact Report



**Bruce Trail
CONSERVANCY**

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club



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Our Mission

Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

Our Vision

The Bruce Trail secured within a permanently protected corridor along the Niagara Escarpment.



President's Message

Time flies when you are having fun, and days are filled with purpose.

Recently, board members spent time reflecting on our 2025 work, a year that seemed to fly by. In small groups, we brainstormed words and short phrases to describe our accomplishments. As a culminating activity, groups created a word cloud to visually represent their text data.

As the groups worked through the task, the dialogue was lively. Blank pages were quickly filled with thoughts. It soon became evident that we had enjoyed a highly impactful year. We had lots to celebrate!

I briefly paused my participation from the energetic flurry to observe others' interactions. I noticed that each member's unique knowledge, expertise, and perspectives truly make us strong and contribute to our overall success.

A later analysis of each group's list showed a high frequency of similar word choices, such as protect, restore, conservation, build, maintain, care, support, nature, members, volunteers, community, friendships, inclusive, commitment, and connections. Clearly, we are united in our thinking as a group, and our actions are aligned with the goals of the Bruce Trail Conservancy's

2030 Strategy for conservation and connection to nature.

We are a TEAM working together to fulfill our mission "to preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever."

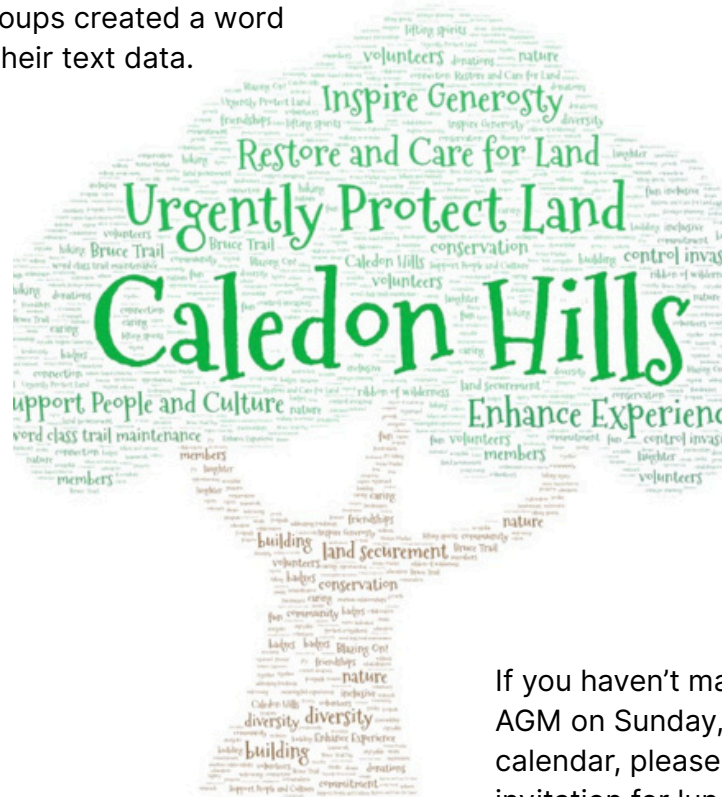
We have ambitious plans to keep up our good work in 2026 and look forward to blazing on with our extended team of equally passionate volunteers and the support of our members.

I hope you enjoy reading the following impact reports from your dedicated representatives.

If you haven't marked Spring Social and AGM on Sunday, April 26, on your calendar, please do so, and see the invitation for lunch registration instructions.

When members and friends meet, we offer one another encouragement and are filled with inspiration and positive energy. Here's to another year of making a significant difference.

Sandra Green
Caledon Hills Club President



Overview

The Bruce Trail Conservancy Board is comprised of 19 Directors, including one Director from each of the nine Bruce Trail Clubs. In the Fall of 2025, I was nominated and accepted by the CHBTC and BTC Boards to be the CHBTC Director representative on the BTC Board. I was also appointed to sit on the BTC Board Finance and Risk Sub-committee (one of four sub-committees of the BTC Board). I look forward to my tenure and to supporting the work at both the operational club level and the governance board conservancy level.

In 2025, the BTC Board met 8 times in addition to holding its Annual General Meeting virtually in November. In June, Leah Myers stepped down as Chair and longtime BCT Board member, and Jaclyn Moody was welcomed as the new Chair in July 2025. Heidi Bischof also stepped down as the Caledon Hills Director representative to the BCT board.

2025 Bruce Trail Conservancy Highlights

The BTC's 2024-25 Annual Impact Report provides an excellent summary of all the work, results, and achievements from July 2024 to June 2025 (i.e., BTC's fiscal operating year).

This past December, the BTC received the sad news that Dr. Philip R. Gosling, Honorary President of the BTC and the last living co-founder of the Bruce Trail, had passed away at the age of 97. In a message to BTC members at the 2025 Annual General meeting, Dr. Gosling said, "The Bruce Trail Conservancy has truly realized the vision we set out so long ago. I am very happy and proud of its incredible success." Our sincere condolences are extended to his family and friends.

In May 2025, the Caledon Hills Meltwater Moraine opened for hiking. It was one of 11 new protected natural areas established in 2024-2025. In December 2025, the BTC completed the purchase of over 120 acres of the former Talisman Mountain Resort Lands in the Beaver Valley. This acquisition permanently protects these lands from development pressures. In 2026, BTC work is well underway to assess the opportunities and options for ecological restoration and securing another 855 metres of the Bruce Trail. View from Talisman Hill and Beaver Valley

Liz Yeigh

BTC Board of Directors Representative

Urgently Protect Land

Landowner Relations Committee

The BTC has emphasized securing our trail with existing landowners. Specific workshops have been designed to support Landowner Relations Directors in raising this topic with landowners who currently host the trail on their land. New pamphlets have been developed and are helpful in initiating conversations and provide a number of options for landowners interested in selling or donating their land in the future. We also have the opportunity to share strategies with other club directors at these workshops.



Expanded Landowner Relations Team

We now have a Club team of 3 people to reach out to our landowners. We have been meeting regularly to review and divide up our contact list. Introductions to the new members of the team were made during calendar delivery this past fall. Visits to landowners with our calendars are a way to maintain visibility and trust and create opportunities for dialogue. Communication from the BTC indicates that 85% of land securement comes from existing landowners who host the trail. It is vital to have friendly communication with our landowners and respond immediately to any problems they encounter.

Potential New Landowners

We are reaching out to new landowners near and along Escarpment Road to request permission to place the Trail on their property. At the same time, we are advising them of our new trail on Meltwater Moraine and noting that their response to the purchase of this property is very positive. One new landowner has come on board with a handshake agreement to have the Trail on their property if and when several other acquisitions are completed.

Louise Carberry
Landowner Relations Director

Restore and Care for Niagara Escarpment Land

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Habitat Restoration

1. Invasive Species Management

Our Land Stewardship Team, consisting of Land Stewards, BTC staff, Conservation Ambassadors and many club volunteers, had a very busy year beginning in early May and continuing weekly through to mid-November, eliminating invasive species.

- Garlic Mustard: Hemlock Ridges, Griffith Ravine, Moule Easement, Cedar Highlands, Riverside Woods Nature Reserve, Meltwater Moraine, Twin Waters Nature Reserve, Vitali, Songbird Nature Reserve
- Dog Strangling Vine: Quarryside Nature Reserve, Caledon Mountain Springs, Vitali, Meltwater Moraine, Tall Timbers, Moule Easement, Cedar Highlands, Riverside Woods Nature Reserve, James Dick property
- Buckthorn: Riverside Woods Nature Reserve, Cedar Highlands, Quarryside Nature Reserve (over 800 buckthorn trees removed), Cheltenham Badlands, Meltwater Moraine, James Dick property
- Japanese Knotweed: Riverside Woods Nature Reserve, Mono Kiln Edge
- Goutweed: Riverside Woods Nature Reserve
- Yellow Iris: Rushing River Nature Reserve
- Wild Parsnip: James Dick property
- Honeysuckle: Vallis
- Controlled Burn: Riverside Woods Nature Reserve



2. Plantings

- Native Grasses planted at Whitetail Refuge and Riverside Woods
- Seed Orchard - 3 kilograms of seeds were harvested from the seed orchard last fall. These seeds, including Pearly Everlasting, Indian Grass, Big Bluestem, Purple Coneflower, New Jersey Tea, and others, will be distributed strategically in targeted locations (e.g., to fill in spaces where invasives have been removed).
- Tree and Shrub Plantings - Whitetail Refuge Nature Reserve (over 500 trees and shrubs planted on May 4 and May 30), 200+ trees and shrubs planted at Tall Timbers
- Corporate Work Party - Employees of Goldman Sachs planted 150 trees and shrubs at Coldwater Ravine Nature Reserve.





3. Bird Boxes

- Bird Box Team - Don Hamilton, Bill Copeland, Nina Garyfalakis, John Kirby McCuaig, Sharon Bieck, Gary Hall
- 11 new bird boxes were installed - Riverside Woods Nature Reserve (1), Moule Easement (2), Meltwater Moraine (8), for a total of 56 boxes overall
- The children's bird box activity was a big hit again this year during Bruce Trail Day. This annual activity will provide us with a supply of bird boxes for years to come.
- All boxes have been inspected twice (once in mid-summer and once during fall cleaning). Bird species inhabiting the boxes include: Eastern Bluebird, Tree Swallow, House Wren and Chickadee

Committees

I have represented the BTC on the following Committees:

- TRCA – Public Advisory Committee (Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System - NEPOSS)
- Town of Caledon Natural Heritage and Urban Forestry
- Town of Caledon Bird Team

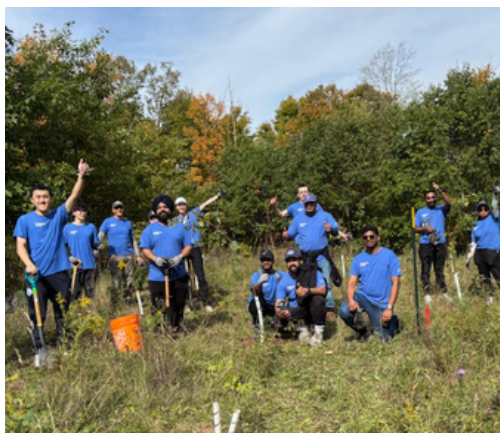
Partnerships

- Continued our partnership with Hart House Farm - presentations, buckthorn removal, and leading hikes.
- Partnered with Ontario Heritage Trust for two days of Buckthorn removal on the Cheltenham Badlands

Plans for 2026

- Another full season of invasive species management is in the planning stages, including Buckthorn removal at Quarryside Nature Reserve and the Cheltenham Badlands.
- Continue to work on the clean-up of the Quarryside Nature Reserve
- Filling in spaces created by the removal of invasive species with seeds from the seed orchard and shrubs for spaces created by Buckthorn removal.
- A BioBlitz is planned for Meltwater Moraine on Saturday, May 9

Gary Hall
Land Steward Director



“Another full season of invasive species management is in the planning stages for 2026.”

Enhance the Bruce Trail Experience

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No new properties were acquired in the Caledon Hills section in 2025.

But the Club did take advantage of an acquisition made in late 2024 – the Meltwater Moraine property on Mountainview Road in the town of Caledon. Club volunteers built about 4 km of new main trail, which eliminated more than 3 km of road walking on Airport Road and Escarpment Sideroad. The new trail traverses a variety of ecosystems, including agricultural field edges, hedgerows, regenerating old fields, meadows, and mature hardwood forests.

This year (2026), the club will work with one of our major landowners, Hockley Valley Resort, to build a new section of the Main Trail that will avoid the resort's developed area. When this is finished, hikers will no longer walk along a service road and through a cluster of maintenance buildings. The new trail will provide a more natural hiking experience.

We are also planning to extend the Rushing River Side Trail to Hockley Road by building a 50-foot-long bridge over the Nottawasaga River.

Dave Moule
Land Securement and
New Trail Development Coordinator

Dominion Street has been one of the most picturesque parts of the Main Trail since the Bruce Trail Conservancy was formed in 1962. It leads to highlights such as the Cataract Falls and the ruins of one of the first hydroelectric power dams in Ontario.

The roadway is located with the Credit River on one side and the Escarpment on the other. Over time, due to erosion, it became clear that the roadway would eventually collapse into the river, posing extreme danger to hikers and residents of Brimstone. A permanent solution was needed to stabilize the roadway and modernize the bridge at Forks of the Credit.

Construction started in 2023. So far, three new retaining walls have been completed, and work on the bridge has started, with one lane nearing completion. Roadway resurfacing is next and is expected to continue through Fall 2026 and 2027.

Once the work is complete, the plan is to move the Main Trail back to its original route on Dominion Street through Brimstone.

Bob Ferguson
Director at Large





The tragic passing of Heather Murch brought out the very best in our trail maintenance community. Volunteers rallied to support each other and the Club, continuing the work she cared so deeply about. The accomplishments of this past year are a testament to the incredible team Heather helped build and the passion she shared with so many. Her impact on our trails and our community will not be forgotten.

2025 Highlights

Meltwater Moraine Property

- Removed tonnes of waste material from the property, including over 100 tires, with the support of volunteers and the BTC team.
- Constructed 2.2 km of new main trail, including a short exploratory side trail on the new property.
- Converted 2.2 km of the former main trail into the Paris Moraine Side Trail, expanding trail options for hikers.

Caledon Mountain Springs Property

- Flagged and began developing a new 1.5 km main trail corridor on BTC-owned and managed property.
- Received a grant from 100 Women Who Care Caledon to support building materials.
- Secured NEC approval for the trail route and required structures.
- Met with Town Realty Services to obtain access via an unopened road allowance on the west side of the property.

“The Trail Maintenance Team continues to elevate the hiking experience.”

2025 BTC Condition Audit

- Reviewed the audit findings and developed an action plan to address feedback.
- The team has already made significant progress and is well on the way to resolving all concerns while continuing to elevate the hiking experience. Hockley Resort Partnership.
- Received approval to eliminate 300 m of main trail road walking on the resort property.
- A new main trail route, flagged by Dave Moule, will guide hikers through mature forests and scenic valleys.
- Discussions are ongoing regarding potential side trails and extensions.

Ontario Heritage Trust Partnership – The Badlands

- Continued collaboration with the Ontario Heritage Trust to improve trail conditions.
- 50 tonnes of recycled concrete were moved into place to stabilize sections of the trail.
- A rerouted main trail, including stairs and boardwalk, now avoids a frequently flooded section.

Biodiversity Team Partnership

- Worked alongside the Biodiversity Team at several locations to tackle invasive species.
- Increased awareness among Trail Captains and identified areas requiring ongoing stewardship and monitoring.

Looking Ahead to 2026

An exciting list of projects will keep our trail maintenance team and volunteers busy in the year ahead.

Caledon Mountain Springs Opening in 2026

This project will move 1.5 km of the main Bruce Trail onto secured property.

Construction will soon begin on:

- 2 bridges
- 100+ feet of boardwalk
- Significant trail benching and improvements

Hockley Resort Reroute

We will open the new rerouted main trail through the Hockley Resort property, with possible side trails connecting to the winery and resort entrance.

Rushing Rivers Nature Reserve Bridge

Plans are underway to install a new bridge spanning the Nottawasaga River, which will:

- Enable future access from Hockley Road
- Create a connection to the main trail that will eventually eliminate 1.3 km of road walking

And much more is on the horizon.

If you're interested in being part of this work, come join the fun — we're always looking for volunteers.

Dave Wiffen
Trail Maintenance Director

Trail Angels

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Trail Angels have been greatly appreciated by hikers who are either hiking on their own or who want to use only one car for their hike. We have 10 dedicated drivers who continue to aid with drives as requests come in. There has been interest in this service from other clubs as well, and our process for setting it up has been shared with them.

Most requests for drives occur in the busiest hiking months: April, May, June, and Sept, October, and November, but requests come in any time of year.

Many hikers provide donations to the club in appreciation of this service. Thank you to them.

And a big thank you to all our drivers!

Anyone who would like to join our team of drivers, please contact me.

Marilyn Ross
Past President

“If you're interested in being part of this work, come join the fun — we're always looking for volunteers.”



Support People and Culture

Membership

As of January 1, 2026, there are 12,103 Members with the Bruce Trail Conservancy. The Caledon Hills Club is proud of our 1,012 members who have CHBTC as their Club. Membership numbers remain fairly consistent among all Clubs.

As many of you know, the membership fee is 100% tax-deductible and is an important part of the Trail's financial support. The Membership referral program remains in effect, and there will continue to be various incentives to become a member.

Volunteers

WHAT A YEAR! The habitat restoration events were hugely successful, with consistently large turnouts of volunteers to spread crushed concrete on the trail, plant trees, remove invasive species, clean up newly purchased properties, and support events such as the Winter and Spring Social, the Crusher Trail Race, and Bruce Trail Day.

Each time a request went out for assistance with a project or event, the response was fantastic! There are now more than 300 volunteers with the Club, and there is no limit to the projects and contributions we can make on our beautiful 72 km section of the main trail and many km of side trails.

Lynn Dobson
Membership and Volunteer Director

“Each time a request went out for assistance with a project or event, the response was fantastic!”



Awards and Recognition

It is always a pleasure to celebrate our Volunteers and shine a light on the incredible accomplishments and service they provide in support of the Club and the Bruce Trail.

2025 Ontario Volunteer Service Award Recipients

The following volunteers were nominated and received recognition for their years of service with the Club:

Heidi Bischof – 5 years

Sally Cohen – 30 years

Barbara Forster – 15 years

David Lamb – 10 years

Jean Trask – 15 years

David Wiffen – 10 years

Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat

Jean Kerins, recipient of the June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club Awards

The Club awards were presented at the annual Volunteer Appreciation event in June. This is always a fun and casual event where the Club has an opportunity to host volunteers and say thank you for all that you do.

Ribbon of Wilderness – Sallie Smyth

Isabel East – Mohammad Shafiq

Barry Westhouse – Heather Murch

Laurence Christie Biodiversity – Norm Randle and Fred Nix

Retiring Trail Captains – Alan and Helen Billing, Barbara Forster, David Lloyd, Ron Porter, Ray Matsalla

Bruce Trail Conservancy Awards

Sandra Green, recipient of the Leaders in Hiking Award



Review of 2025

Our hiking program is successful due to the commitment of our volunteer hike leaders, who continue to offer a wide variety of hikes throughout the year, as I've highlighted below. Thanks to all of them!

- Frosty Five Weekday & Weekend Series
- Stained Glass E2E Series
- Sunset/Moonlight Hike
- Winter Badge Wednesdays
- Saturday Shorts – various locations
- Fandango/Pentango Series (thanks to Heather)
- Sweetwater Series
- Nature Walks – a wide variety of opportunities
- Indigenous Learning Hikes
- Yoga + Hike Fundraiser
- Pride Hike and Picnic
- Geology Hikes
- Historically-based Theme Hikes
- Novice Hikers Series
- Fall Colours E2E
- Film Fundraiser Fun Hike
- Tuesday Hikers – throughout the year
- Humpday Hikers – various locations

Tuesday Hikers Loonie Fund

- The 2025 total for donations was \$678.10 - very generous, as always.
- There are currently 250 hikers on the email distribution list.

First Aid and Certified Hike Leader Training Courses

- A First Aid & CPR course is being planned at the Inglewood Community Centre in mid-April or early May (specific dates TBD).
- A CHLT course will be offered in a hybrid format in late May.

BTC Hike Calendar

- Already, in 2026, the Caledon Hills Section of the Hike Calendar lists a wide variety of hikes.
- I look forward to seeing a continuation of the quantity and variety of hike submissions so that our members can enjoy their hiking experiences in 2026!

Rob Martin
Hike Director



“I look forward to seeing a continuation of the quantity and variety of hike submissions so that our members can enjoy their hiking experiences in 2026!”

2025 Highlights

2025 was an active year for youth programming within the CHBTC. Supported by a group of enthusiastic hike leaders and volunteer Lauren Moule, we continued to provide schools (e.g., James Bolton PS) with in-class visits and hiking experiences. Helping to expand our outreach, Lauren brought the Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters together for an introductory event at Riverside Woods. Participating in a volunteer fair in Caledon East led high school students to engage in habitat restoration at the Cheltenham Badlands. Initial contacts were made with various teachers, schools, and youth organizations. By the end of the year, a promising connection was established with Headwater Hills Montessori School in Orangeville.

We continued to partner with WILD Outside by providing nature exploration experiences for the youth group and benefiting from their energetic assistance at Habitat Restoration Projects. The enthusiasm of teen members of Progress Peel was contagious as they helped with trail building on the Meltwater Moraine property and removing Buckthorn from the Badlands.

Plans for 2026

As before, we will continue to work with schools and youth organizations to further promote curiosity about nature and caring for nature. However, the landscape for working with youth is changing. We are laying the foundation for new expectations and requirements to support future volunteers in youth programming. For example, school boards are developing new policies and procedures regarding guest speakers and excursions for which we need to respond.

Elizabeth Ganong
Sandra Green
Youth Program Coordinators

“We will continue to work with schools and youth organizations to further promote curiosity about nature and caring for nature.”



Events play an important role in strengthening the sense of community within the Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club by creating opportunities for members to connect both on and off the trail. In 2025, two successful social gatherings brought members together to celebrate the club and enjoy time with fellow hikers.

The 2025 Annual General Meeting and Spring Social were held on April 27 at the West Lodge of the Caledon Ski Club. Approximately 120 members attended, beginning the day with a pre-event hike followed by the AGM and social gathering. A silent auction was also held as part of the event, adding to the energy of the afternoon while raising funds for the club.

The Winter Social took place on November 5 at the Caledon East Community Complex and welcomed approximately 90 members. The event began with a pre-event hike and continued indoors with games, conversation, and a raffle, adding a fun, engaging element to the gathering while supporting the club.

These events would not be possible without the enthusiasm and support of dedicated volunteers who assist with planning and running the gatherings. Their contributions help ensure that each event is welcoming, organized, and enjoyable for members.

The 2026 AGM and Spring Social continues this tradition of bringing members together, and we are especially excited to welcome Canadian explorer and author Adam Shoalts as this year's guest speaker.

Kevin Bunn
Events Director



“Events play an important role in strengthening the sense of community.”

I would like to express my greatest appreciation to the members and volunteers who participated in **17** and assisted with Bruce Trail Day 2025. Special thanks to Melissa Krakar for being everywhere, looking to help from setup to clean up.

Approximately 200 people attended, including families (young and old), groups of friends, couples, and individuals, some bringing their four-legged friends to enjoy our amazing Riverside Woods Nature Reserve.

We had wonderful fall weather for connecting with the Trail. Our hike leads and sweeps accompanied over 80 hikers on a variety of hikes throughout the day. Thanks to Rob Martin for his part in organizing this part of the day.

A big shout-out to the parking attendants (Richard Smythe, Dave Moule, Sally Cohen). They managed to squeeze everyone in without incident. Great work!!

We had 51 people attend the morning Birds of Prey Show, and 43 attend the afternoon show sponsored by SunRay Group.



Bill Copeland managed to build 16 new bird boxes during the day with the help of young and old “newbie” carpenters. We are grateful for his talent and his patience. Sandra Green and Lauren Moule created a Citizen Scientist station that was informative, interactive, and fun! It included many giveaways for young and old. The Family Nature Hunts led by Sandra were attended by families with children of many ages. Gary Hall presented a wonderful butterfly exhibit with his photographs, many of which were taken in the meadows of Riverside Woods Nature Reserve.

The Scouts, led by John McCuaig, hosted many families at the campfire, where they toasted marshmallows for s’mores and entertained those who attended. Home Hardware Orangeville donated the firewood, cooking forks, and a photo poster board for this activity.

The Ontario Greenbelt Foundation provided giveaways for our information table and donated 40 BTC Reference Guides for distribution to attendees. An Ontario Greenbelt representative attended our Bruce Trail Day celebrations.

Fifty-seven individuals (children and adults) completed their event passports and were entered into the draw for four gift baskets.

We had a very successful Bruce Trail Day 2025, connecting with the trails, with our communities, our partners and each other.

Elizabeth Staite
Bruce Trail Day Coordinator

2025 marked the launch of a new Caledon Hills BTC publication, Caledon e-Comment. On a monthly basis, the happenings of the CHBTC were shared directly with members and subscribers and online through our website. It takes a team (at the club level and at the BTC) to put it together and to make it available to readers. Thanks to the many for their contributions in connecting our CHBTC community and making each and every issue uniquely ours!

Caledon e-Comment



Started in January 2025, **Caledon e-Comment** provides you with the latest from the *Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club*. The history of the club is important. Check out our [archived news](#), namely **Caledon Comment** and **Cal E-News**.

✔ [Subscribe to Caledon e-Comment.](#)

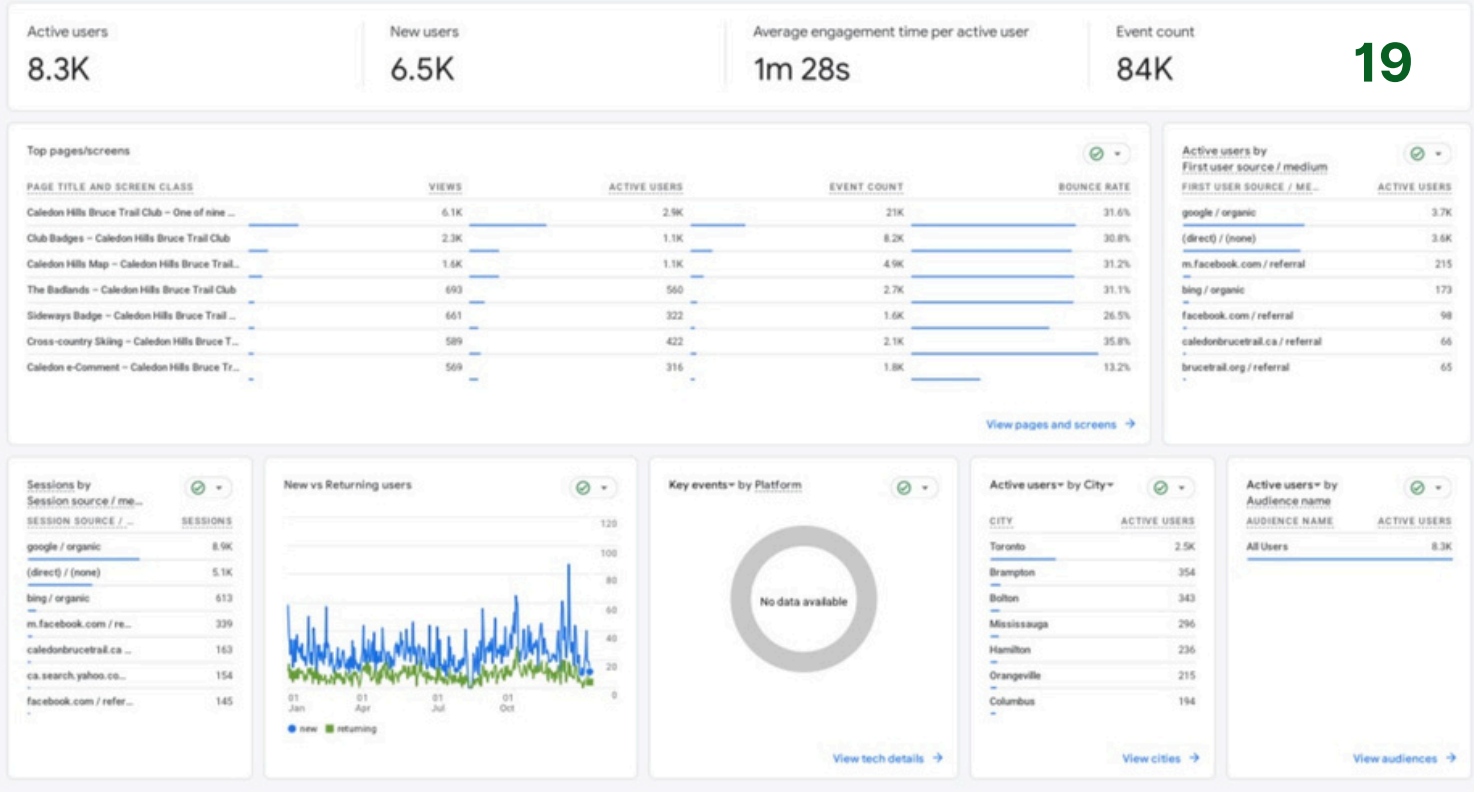
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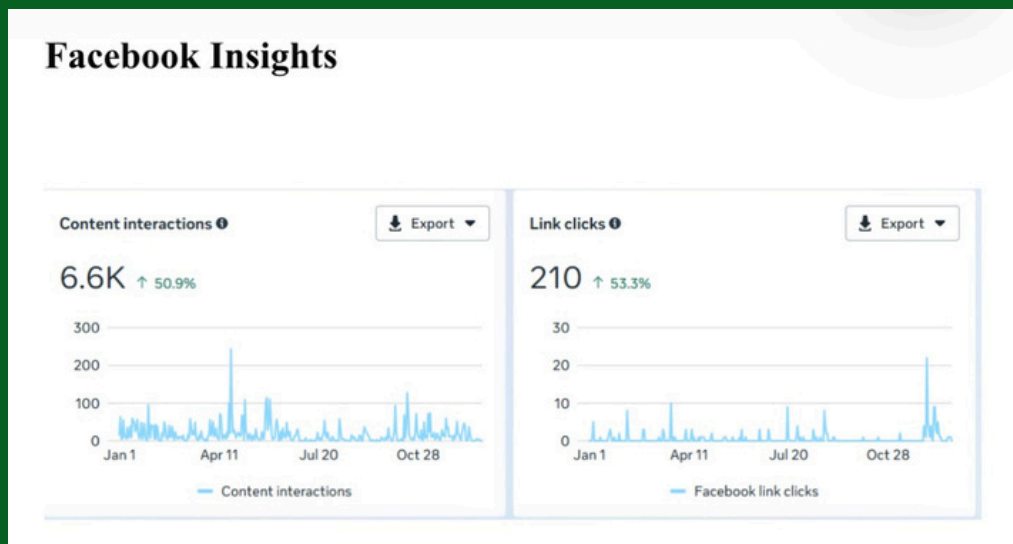
Plans for 2026

While connecting members and subscribers with CHBTC happenings remains the main priority for 2026, there is a continued effort to build capacity to share the ongoing demands of monthly production. There is no shortage of material. It would be ideal to have another editor for a few issues per year, but this may start with creating a small team of regular reporters.

Elizabeth Ganong
 Caledon e-Comment Editor Director



Dave Guzda
Web Designer



Roopa Dindigal
Public Relations Director

The wonderful mix of participants, smiling and chatting while hiking or enjoying events, reminded me of how fortunate we are to have the Bruce Trail as our ribbon that connects us.

Taking time to honour a friend, building belonging, pulling out buckthorn, learning to recognize different bird sounds, collecting seeds, planting, discussing nests in trees, enjoying conversation while hiking, or relishing the silence of nature during forest bathing were some of my many selfish escapes.

I contributed to the Nomination, Biodiversity, Awards, Events and Budget Committees and secured a grant through the Town of Caledon.

My highlight was receiving a surprise thank-you note from a member who joined an Indigenous hike with her son. Not only did he earn a 96% in a difficult university course, but we all learned more about Indigenous heritage together and used nature apps to help enrich our learning. A cherished 'smile file' note on why I choose to volunteer.

In 2026, I will be focusing on taking on a Fundraising and Events Director role while continuing to foster wellness and preserve a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

GG
Director at Large

Highlights of 2025!

•Helped to organize our Film Fundraiser on Oct 25th where we showed Butterflies on the Brink and Sandy Green's Walking in Wonder in the Canadian Wild West. A team effort, this event brought in 94 generous donors and raised over \$5,000 for the Bruce Trail Conservancy. Adam Brylowski's presentation at the film event raised awareness of the BTC's mission of preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

• Recruited 3 new Side Trail Story writers: Vibisham Sutha, Brent Fleming & Elizabeth Kim.

•Co-ordinated the writing of 5 (!) new Side Trail Stories for:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Goodyear Memorial Side Trail | author- Janice McClelland |
| Upland Side Trail | author- Janice McClelland |
| Griffith Ravine Side Trail, | author – Dan Revington |
| Songbird Side Trail, | author – Brent Fleming |
| Paris Moraine Side Trail. | author – Brent Fleming |

•Led Forest Bathing hikes – a large hike on Bruce Trail Day at Riverside Woods and cozier hikes on June 14th and 21st, prompted by the DHBTC Summer Solstice Hike event.

•Looking forward to another Film Fundraising event in 2026 as we present a very moving film, The Art of Adventure: In 1957, world-renowned wildlife artist, Robert Bateman, and spirited biologist, Bristol Foster, embark on a global expedition in a Land Rover called "The Grizzly Torque," setting in motion a powerful story of environmental activism. DO NOT MISS THIS FILM!!

•Plans also include more Forest Bathing hikes and 4 more Side Trail Stories in 2026!

Janice McClelland
Director at Large



There have been more opportunities than ever in the past year for groups of volunteers to assist BTC Staff in removing invasive species and planting native plants.

Events I was fortunate to participate in included tree planting at Whitetail Refuge Nature Reserve, Garlic Mustard removal at Hemlock Ridges, and Buckthorn removal at the Quarryside Nature Reserve, and at the Cheltenham Badlands

We will be maintaining that momentum in the year ahead with several Restoration Events already scheduled:
April 21 - Cheltenham Badlands Habitat Restoration
May 9 - BioBlitz at Meltwater Moraine - Registration is online on the BTC Events page.

May 13 - Riverside Woods Nature Reserve Habitat Restoration

May 23 - Riverside Woods Nature Reserve Habitat Restoration

October 25 & 26 - Buckthorn Blitz at Quarryside Nature Reserve

November 6 - Cheltenham Badlands Habitat Restoration

The purchase of the new Meltwater Moraine property was wonderful news, including the removal of the Main Trail off Airport Rd. I was lucky enough to join the group of volunteers that removed old blazes and installed new ones. I say lucky to volunteer because not only were we helping enhance the Trail, but we were also meeting new people and the camaraderie you get when everyone is working hard for a good cause were in abundance.

I lead a Nature Walk for new hikers in the spring, co-lead the Fascinating World of Butterflies and More Nature Walk in the summer, and lead another Nature Walk on Bruce Trail Day in the fall.

I presented a talk about Buckthorn at Hart House Farm (University of Toronto) to a group of members of the Nikibii Dawadinna Giigwag (NDG) program and helped support the students with a Buckthorn Removal activity later that afternoon.

I joined the group from the Caledon Club to explore the Caledon Mountain Springs property with 100 Women Who Care Caledon. That group presented the CHBTC Club with a \$6,400 donation to support the development of trails on the property.

Richard Smythe
Director at Large



Inspire Generosity

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2025 marked my first year as Merchandise Coordinator. The role proved to be an enjoyable and rewarding fit. Throughout the year, I had many opportunities to learn the processes involved in organizing and selling merchandise, with helpful guidance from experienced volunteers and members of the Board of Directors. Merchandise sales were supported in person at several key club events during 2025. The role also provided the chance to meet many members of the Bruce Trail community, including fellow volunteers, board members, and people newly discovering the Trail through club events. These interactions helped strengthen connections within the community and contributed to a welcoming atmosphere at each event. Merchandise sales help foster a sense of community among members while promoting awareness of the Trail and the work of the Bruce Trail Conservancy.

During the year, I also began supporting the Trail Race Liaison role. This involves working with race directors to coordinate trail running events held on the Caledon section of the Bruce Trail. This year's races include The Ribbon Run and Caledon Crusher.

Christine Hesch
Merchandise Coordinator



2025 has been a great success!

- We raised \$7,614 more and spent \$10,445 less than we budgeted, allowing us to increase our donation to the BTC at year's end to over \$30,000.
- Our fundraising events raised over \$20,000.
- We were the recipient of a \$6,000 donation from the 100 Women Who Care Caledon group and plan to use those funds to build a new trail.
- Badges continue to be very popular. We handed out 588 during the year, earning \$8,875.
- We switched to the Meridian Credit Union, which allowed us to pay bills by e-transfer with two signature approvals.
- Our bank balance was \$34,000 as of year-end 2025.
- Our goal is to have approximately 6 months' worth of expenses in our bank balance.
- Our lifetime donation to the BTC has now reached \$325,000!

Colleen Darrell
Treasurer

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club

2026 Budget

Income	TOTAL
4050 ADVERTISING INCOME	
4060 Advertising - Caledon e-Comment	1,500.00
Total 4050 ADVERTISING INCOME	1,500.00
4100 AGM CHBTC INCOME	
4110 AGM CHBTC - Draw	500.00
4120 AGM CHBTC - Lunch & Refreshments	1,875.00
4130 AGM CHBTC - Silent Auction	800.00
Total 4100 AGM CHBTC INCOME	3,175.00
4200 BRUCE TRAIL CONSERVANCY INCOME	
4210 BTC Life Member Fees	528.00
4220 BTC Membership Fees	8,000.00
4230 BTC Trail Fees	1,500.00
4240 BTC Reimbursement - First Aid Course	1,800.00
4250 BTC Reimbursement - Hike Leader Course	720.00
4280 BTC Reimbursement - Snowplow	4,000.00
Total 4200 BRUCE TRAIL CONSERVANCY INCOME	16,548.00
4600 FUNDRAISING INCOME	
4601 Fundraising - New Venture	8,000.00
4602 Fundraising - Caledon Crushers	3,000.00
4603 Fundraising - Ribbon Race	2,500.00
4614 FUNDRAISING - FILM - AT BOOKSHELF	
4615 Film - at Bookshelf Tickets	5,000.00
Total 4614 FUNDRAISING - FILM - AT BOOKSHELF	5,000.00
4630 Fundraising - Theatre - Orangeville	1,000.00
4680 FUNDRAISING - WINTER MARKET INCOME	
4682 Winter Market - Christmas Tree Sales	5,000.00
Total 4680 FUNDRAISING - WINTER MARKET INCOME	5,000.00
Total 4600 FUNDRAISING INCOME	24,500.00
4700 HIKE INCOME	
4710 Hikes - Badges (Regular)	3,000.00
4720 Hikes - Fundraising Stained Glass Badge	500.00
4730 Hikes - Fall Colours E2E Income	6,500.00
4745 Hikes - Trail Angel Donations	1,000.00
4750 Hikes - Tuesday Hikers Loonie Fund	750.00
Total 4700 HIKE INCOME	11,750.00
4800 MERCHANDISE INCOME	
4810 Merchandise Sales	4,000.00
Total 4800 MERCHANDISE INCOME	4,000.00
4850 WINTER SOCIAL INCOME	
4855 Winter Social - Draw	850.00
4860 Winter Social - Lunch & Refreshments	1,875.00
Total 4850 WINTER SOCIAL INCOME	2,725.00
Total Income	\$64,198.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$64,198.00

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club

2026 Budget

Expenses	TOTAL
5050 ADVERTISING / PUBLICITY EXPENSE	
5057 Advertising - Social Media	300.00
Total 5050 ADVERTISING / PUBLICITY EXPENSE	300.00
5100 AGM CHBTC EXPENSE	
5105 AGM CHBTC - Decorations	300.00
5115 AGM CHBTC - Entertainment	150.00
5120 AGM CHBTC - Lunch & Refreshments	2,250.00
5130 AGM CHBTC - Room Rental	500.00
5135 AGM CHBTC - Speaker	500.00
5140 AGM CHBTC - Silent Auction	200.00
5145 AGM CHBTC - Sundry	200.00
Total 5100 AGM CHBTC EXPENSE	4,100.00
5200 BRUCE TRAIL DAY EXPENSE	
5230 Bruce Trail Day - Sundry	1,500.00
Total 5200 BRUCE TRAIL DAY EXPENSE	1,500.00
5300 EVENT EXPENSE	
5310 EVENT - Earth Day Expense	100.00
5320 EVENT - OUTREACH EXPENSE	
5325 Outreach - Give Aways	1,000.00
5330 Outreach - Portal Potties	400.00
5335 Outreach - Refreshments	500.00
Total 5320 EVENT - OUTREACH EXPENSE	1,900.00
Total 5300 EVENT EXPENSE	2,000.00
5400 FUNDRAISING EXPENSE	
5405 Fundraising - New Venture Expense	6,000.00
5415 Fundraising - Film - at Bookshelf	500.00
5450 FUNDRAISING - WINTER MARKET EXPENSE	
5455 Winter Market - Christmas Trees	3,000.00
5457 Winter Market - Christmas Planter & Wreaths	100.00
5460 Winter Market - Cider	50.00
Total 5450 FUNDRAISING - WINTER MARKET EXPENSE	3,150.00
Total 5400 FUNDRAISING EXPENSE	9,650.00
5500 HIKE EXPENSE	
5501 HIKE - BADGE EXPENSE	
5502 Badge Expense - Regular Badges	500.00
5505 Badge Expense - Mailing Supplies	700.00
5512 Badge Expense - Stained Glass Fundraising	425.00
5513 Badge Expense - Stained Glass BTC Admin Fees 3.5%	20.00
Total 5512 Badge Expense - Stained Glass Fundraising	445.00
Total 5501 HIKE - BADGE EXPENSE	1,645.00
5520 HIKE - FALL COLOURS E2E EXPENSE	
5522 Fall Colours E2E - Bus Rental	1,500.00
5524 Fall Colours E2E - Badge	350.00
5526 Fall Colours E2E - BTC admin fees 3.5%	218.00
5528 Fall Colours E2E - Checkpoints/rovers	850.00
Total 5520 HIKE - FALL COLOURS E2E EXPENSE	2,918.00

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club

2026 Budget

	TOTAL
5550 Hike Expense - Youth Outreach Project	800.00
5580 Hike Expense - First Aid Course	1,800.00
Total 5500 HIKE EXPENSE	7,163.00
5600 LANDOWNER RELATIONS EXPENSE	
5620 Landowner Relations - Miscellaneous	500.00
Total 5600 LANDOWNER RELATIONS EXPENSE	500.00
5650 LAND STEWARDSHIP EXPENSE	
5670 Land Stewardship - Biodiversity	500.00
Total 5650 LAND STEWARDSHIP EXPENSE	500.00
6000 MEETING ROOM EXPENSE	
6010 Meetings - Board Room Rental	550.00
6015 Meetings - Sundry	150.00
Total 6000 MEETING ROOM EXPENSE	700.00
6050 MERCHANDISE EXPENSE	
6055 Merchandise Costs	3,500.00
Total 6050 MERCHANDISE EXPENSE	3,500.00
6200 OFFICE ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE	
6215 Office Admin - Bank Charges	300.00
6230 Office Admin - Postage & Courier	50.00
6235 Office Admin - Quickbooks	593.00
6240 Office Admin - Tourism Road Sign	150.00
6260 Office Admin. - Credit Card Facility	200.00
6265 Office Admin - Office Supplies	200.00
6270 Office Admin - Web Hosting	240.00
Total 6200 OFFICE ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE	1,733.00
6300 SUNDRY	
6310 Sundry Expenses - Events Coordinator	300.00
Total 6300 SUNDRY	300.00
6400 TRAIL DEVELOPMENT MAINTENANCE (TD&M) EXPENSE	
6410 TD&M - Accessible Trail	1,000.00
6415 TD&M - Trail Captain Welcome Kit	500.00
6425 TD&M - General/ Equipment Maintenance	200.00
6430 TD&M - Equipment Purchases	500.00
6435 TD&M - Regular	7,500.00
6440 TD&M - Snow Plow	4,000.00
6445 TD&M - Riverside Woods Hydro	480.00
Total 6400 TRAIL DEVELOPMENT MAINTENANCE (TD&M) EXPENSE	14,180.00
6550 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EXPENSE	
6560 Volunteer Recognition - Food, Drinks & Supplies	1,800.00
6585 Volunteer Recognition - Membership VMBC	75.00
Total 6550 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EXPENSE	1,875.00
6950 WINTER SOCIAL EXPENSE	
6951 Winter Social - Decorations	200.00
6952 Winter Social - Dish rental	250.00
6954 Winter Social - Entertainment	150.00
6955 Winter Social - Raffle items	400.00

Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club

2026 Budget

	TOTAL
6956 Winter Social - Room Rental	300.00
6967 Winter Social - Refreshments	2,250.00
6968 Winter Social - Sundry	200.00
6969 Winter Social - Speaker	150.00
Total 6950 WINTER SOCIAL EXPENSE	3,900.00
Total Expenses	\$51,901.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$12,297.00
Other Expenses	
7000 Donation to BTC	10,000.00
Total Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -10,000.00
NET INCOME	\$2,297.00

Leadership Team 2025 - 2026**President - Sandra Green****Past President - Marilyn Ross****Secretary - Sally Cohen****Treasurer - Colleen Darrell****BTC Club Rep - Heidi Bischof & Liz Yeigh****Hike Director - Rob Martin****Trail Maintenance Director - Heather Murch & Dave Wiffen****Membership & Volunteer Director - Lynn Dobson****Landowner Relations Director - Louise Carberry****Land Steward Director - Gary Hall****Public Relations Director - Roopa Dindigal****Event Director - Kevin Bunn****Fundraising Director - Ana Farias****Caledon e-Comment Director-Editor - Elizabeth Ganong****Director at Large - Land Stewardship and Conservation - Richard Smythe****Director at Large - Bob Ferguson****Director at Large - Gurjinder (GG) Gill****Director at Large - Janice McClelland****Director at Large - Landowner Relations - Nancie Calder****Archivist - Jean Kerins****Badge Coordinator - Colleen Darrell****Caledon e-Comment Advertising Coordinator - Louise Porter****Landowner Relations Assistant - Elizabeth Staite****Fundraising Assistant - Diane McKenzie****Trail Development Coordinator - Dave Moule****Web Developer - Dave Guzda****Merchandise Coordinator - Christine Hesch****Youth Program Coordinator - Elizabeth Ganong & Sandra Green****Bruce Trail Day Coordinator - Elizabeth Staite****Trail Angel Coordinator - Marilyn Ross****Caledon Crusher Race CHBTC Coordinator - Lynn Dobson****Fall Colours E2E Coordinator - Sandra Green****BTC Land Securement Committee Rep - Dave Moule****Alternate BTC Land Securement Committee Rep - David Lamb****Quadrant Leaders - Stewart Forrest, Dave Wiffen, Dave Moule, Ron Gray****Lead Sawyer - John Maxwell****Tools Manager - Norm Randle & Scott Burnett**

Keep In Touch



info@caledonbrucetrail.org



<https://caledonbrucetrail.ca/>



Caledon Hills Bruce Trail Club



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[caledon.brucetrail](https://www.instagram.com/caledon.brucetrail)

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