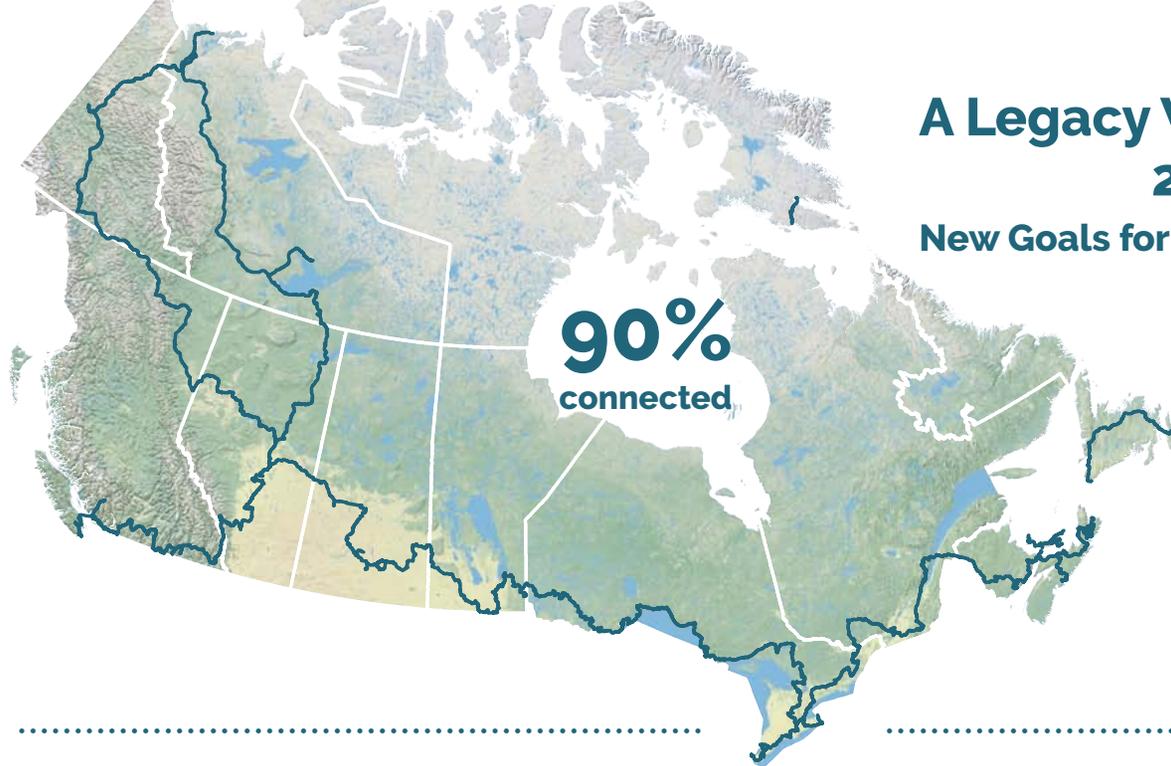




Deborah on the Trail near her home in Calgary.

A Legacy Within Reach 2017

New Goals for Trans Canada Trail



A Message from TCT President & CEO, Deborah Apps:

Building a Living Symbol of National Collaboration

We are on the precipice of something truly historic — the culmination of a grand vision to connect Canada and Canadians, that will imprint 2017 on our hearts forever. In 2016, we added over 2,000 km of multi-use trail to our national network, bringing connection up to 90%.

Thanks to your amazing support, we're almost there.

This past year was one of triumphs and progress, which TCT would not be able to achieve without your support.

Your generous investment in The Great Trail has an impact on the national stage. It contributes to the creation of a truly Canadian icon — a living symbol of the country's collaboration. Your donation dollars help to bring the Trail closer to the goal of full connection, from coast to coast.

All contributions are vital to the development of The Great Trail, as we approach our year of celebration. Post-2017 is when we begin the important work of expanding and enhancing the Trail. We hope you'll continue supporting our effort to build a meaningful legacy for future generations.

Saskatchewan Shines Through

From groves of aspen trees to following in the footsteps of Louis Riel, Saskatchewan's section of The Great Trail is an adventure — and now it's 100% connected, province-wide.

In October, TCT celebrated this milestone with Trail supporters, signalled by the completion of Saskatchewan's "final spike": Moose Jaw's 144-foot long Wakamow Valley Suspension Bridge, built with the help of Canadian Armed Forces reservists as part of a volunteer training exercise.

"The bridge's construction was a partnership," said Commanding Officer Paul Davies from the 38 Combat Engineer Regiment. "The bridge stands as a result of rigorous volunteer efforts, engineering and construction expertise from the Canadian military, and donations from Canadians who wanted to see this important last piece of The Great Trail in Saskatchewan become a reality."

Now connected, The Great Trail in

Saskatchewan spans over 900 km from the Alberta to the Manitoba borders. Whether traversing waterway or greenway, prairie or pine, Trail users can experience rural and urban municipalities, ferry crossings and several of Saskatchewan's provincial parks.

Making it Count

"In 2016, we almost doubled the number of grants to Trail groups up to \$15 million, connecting many sections of the Trail, and equally important, there's the behind-the-scenes work of promoting the Trail," says TCT Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Lori Spence. "Every donation dollar is allocated with care."

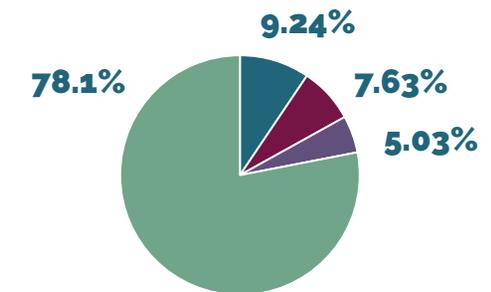


Lori on the Trail near TCT's head office in Montreal.

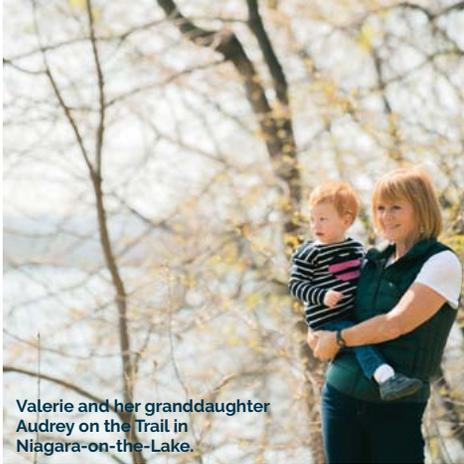
YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK

Donating to TCT helps us build and promote Canada's national Trail.

TCT grants funding to local Trail groups to plan routes, conduct studies, acquire land permissions, hire engineering firms, build paths, create signage, construct trail heads, and refurbish and maintain pavilions. See the infographic below for the complete breakdown of how donations are allocated.



- Trail planning and construction
- Fundraising
- Administration
- Marketing & promotion



Valerie and her granddaughter Audrey on the Trail in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

A Message from TCT Foundation Co-Chair, Valerie Pringle:

The Human Impact of The Great Trail

Supporting The Great Trail creates an exhilarating "ripple effect": it empowers volunteers, creates economic drivers, and improves the health and wellbeing of Trail users. Families and friends stay connected, while tourists meet and mingle on pathways and water routes. Indeed, the human impact of the Trail is tremendous. It connects more than 15,000 communities, yet touches individuals on a personal level, speaking to our need to commune with nature, and one another. We are building the Trail for our children, and for their children. Your gift to TCT strengthens this legacy of unity and wellness, from this generation to the next.

"Thanks to our donors, TCT was able to grant \$15 million to local Trail groups and municipalities, adding over 2,000 km of multi-use Trail to our national network."

One Man's Path to Inner Peace



Trevor Hodgson prefers solitude as he struggles with the symptoms of bipolar disorder. But he found renewed hope and purpose cycling The Great Trail in his home province of British Columbia.

"It gave me a reason to live," says Trevor, a native of Kelowna, and proud owner of a fully suspended mountain bike. "Now, riding the Trail is a way for me to stay physically fit, manage my weight and combat depression."

When Trevor took ownership of his personal health and healing, he found a steadfast companion in The Great Trail — made possible because of generous donors like you. Over the past eight years, Trevor has cycled the Trail across BC twice. That's roughly 9,000 kilometres — many of them on BC's challenging mountain pass trails.

"It has been one of the greatest pleasures of my life to ride The Great Trail. Because of my bipolar disorder, I'm a loner and connecting with people is not easy for me, but when I travel the Trail, I experience a connection to this land that opens me up and fills me with a certain life-affirming energy."

On behalf of Trevor and all those who are able to use the Trail to help manage their health — both physical and mental — THANK YOU.

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A Volunteer's Take on the Trail in New Brunswick

Like Saskatchewan, New Brunswick celebrated its Trail *Connection Milestone* in October 2016, an immense achievement made possible in large part thanks to dedicated volunteers.

"We get out there and upgrade trails, cutting branches, refreshing paint on signs, and using local rocks and stones to control erosion," says President Alonzo Léger, the patriarch of a three-generation clan of Trail volunteers.

The Fundy Hiking Trail Association is a local trail sponsor of the New Brunswick Trails Council Inc., which in turn oversees TCT activity in the province. Together, they harness the work and goodwill of thousands of provincial volunteers, like the Léger clan, who rediscover the magnificence of their landscape — while doing their part to build a national legacy for future generations. All this good work is made possible by the generosity of TCT donors.



Celebration Countdown: The Great Trail & Canada 150 A Living Legacy

Supporting TCT is an extraordinary opportunity to leave a lasting legacy of environmental stewardship and national pride. TCT's immediate goal is to have The Great Trail fully connected in 2017, for Canada 150 celebrations.

To celebrate the country's sesquicentennial, TCT is partnering with one of Canada's largest retailers to create an unforgettable event, and a truly epic way to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary of Confederation. Stay tuned for all the details on this historic event on The Great Trail.

Post-2017, the next phase of TCT activity is equally important, as we continually upgrade and expand routes. We also need to bolster efforts to build tourism infrastructure in local communities and invite visitors from near and far to experience the Trail. This new chapter requires just as much drive and commitment. Remember, in addition to the traditional ways of giving, you can support TCT by leaving a planned gift in your will or a gift of securities. Our mission is to protect the Great Trail's integrity for future generations, with your help.



Visit **TheGreatTrail.ca** to learn more about the different ways you can give, or contact our Donor Services team at 1-800-465-3636 or info@tctrail.ca.