



TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MEETING AGENDA

Held on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 1:00 PM
at Town Hall – 30 King Street East (Council Chambers)

Video Conference Link: [Click Here](#)

1.	Call Meeting to Order
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof
3.	Approval of Minutes (Adoption) – September 23, 2025
4.	Public Question/Comment (Only Addressing Reports on the Agenda)
5.	Disclosure of Additional Items
6.	Delegations
7.	Presentations by Staff (Others) – None
8.	Correspondence
	1. Newsletter-Ontario Trails Council-October 21, 2025
9.	Unfinished Business
	1. Murray/Bickerton Gananoque Trails – Trailhead Sign Unveiling Event
10.	New Business/Reports
	1. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund – Growing Canada's Community Canopies: Urban Forestry Plans and Studies
	2. McLeod Records Filing
11.	McLean Forest Sub-Committee
	1. Sub-Committee Update
	2. Collaboration between TIWLT, RTO, Rotary and TTAP
	3. Boot Brush Stations Update
12.	Invasive Plants

The Town invites and encourages people with disabilities to attend and voice their comments in relation to accessibility related reports. For those who are unable to attend, the Town encourages the use of the Customer Feedback Form found on the Accessibility Page on the Town's website.

	1. Invasive Plant Update
13.	Trail Updates
	1. Signage and Maintenance Updates – Trail Signage and Distance Markers
14.	Discussion of Additional Items
15.	Next Regular Meeting – December _____, 2025, at 1:00 PM
16.	Questions from the Media
17.	Adjournment

TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES

On Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 1:00 PM
Town Hall, 30 King Street East, Gananoque and Online via Webex

PANEL MEMBERS PRESENT		STAFF PRESENT
Chair:	Councillor David Osmond	Robert Kennedy, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities
Members:	Doug Bickerton	Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary
	Gerry Brown	
	David Frid	
	Kate McLean	
	Alan Smith	
	Alison Timusk	
Ex-Officio Member:	Mayor John Beddows	
Guest:	Holly Evans, CRCA Watershed Planning Coordinator	
Regrets:	Terry Childs	
	Calder Schweitzer	

1.	Call Meeting to Order
	Chair David Osmond called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.
2.	Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest & General Nature Thereof – None
3.	Adoption of Minutes
	Motion-TTAP-2025-16– Adoption of Minutes – August 19, 2025 Moved By: Gerry Brown Seconded By: Alan Smith BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL HEREBY ADOPTS THE REGULAR TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS

13.	Trail Updates
14.	Discussion of Additional Items
	1. Member McLean – Wood chips available for use on McLean Forest trails.
15.	Questions from the Media – None
16.	Next Meeting – TBD
17.	Adjournment
	Motion-TTAP-2025-18 – Motion to Adjourn Moved by: David Frid BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TREES AND TRAILS ADVISORY PANEL HEREBY ADJOURNS THE TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 MEETING AT 2:53PM. CARRIED – UNANIMOUS
Councillor David Osmond, Chair Lynsey Zufelt, Recording Secretary	

Ontario Trails Council - a provincial charity working for the development, use, management and preservation of trails and trail based activity.



Ontario Trails Council is a charity, led by a volunteer board of directors, that promotes the use, management, development, and preservation of trails and trail-based activities in Ontario.

Please consider supporting us through a donation or a membership. Thanks.



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members in good standing needed to assure quorum.

[Doodle Poll - select your best times](#)

OCTOBER 21, 2025.

Please renew your membership so you can vote.

+Thanks+

ONTARIO TRAIL NEWS

[Rainbow Routes unveils **new**, more detailed **trail** map - CTV News](#)

[CTV News](#)

The **new** map, funded by a \$97,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant, includes **trail** difficulty, parking, and accessibility details. Amanda Hicks has ...

[Bradford to Richmond Hill Cycling Route: A 52-Kilometer Journey Through York Region Deskmodder](#)

Ontario trails; Greater Toronto Area; GTA cycling; weekend ride; bike training; elevation gain; hill climb; steady climb; route planning; fitness ride ...

[Canoe Kayak **Canada** Builds Inclusive Alumni Network to Strengthen the **Paddling** Community](#)
[Ecuavisa](#)

Alumni form the heartbeat of Canoe Kayak **Canada's paddling** family, carrying forward a shared purpose that extends beyond competition.

[Exploring Ontario's Spanish River: A backcountry **canoeing** gem - Sudbury News](#)
[Sudbury.com](#)

In northern Ontario, where water dominates the landscape, lies one of **Canada's** most accessible yet wild **canoe routes**—the Spanish River.

[Seasonal fun in Ottawa: What to do in summer, fall, winter, and spring.](#) | [London Daily News](#)
[London Daily News](#)

It's the perfect time to enjoy traditional **Canadian** winter activities that appeal to all ages. ...
After **outdoor adventures**, warm up in Ottawa's cafes, ...

[Bruce Mines **trail** project gets a boost from retired teachers group - Sault Ste. Marie News](#)
[SooToday.com](#)

... **trails**. It's one of 26 community projects in Ontario and **British Columbia** to receive this funding.
In Algoma the Bruce Mines Trailblazers plan to ...

[This beautiful town near Toronto is the '**Trail** Capital of **Canada**' and it's a fall dreamland](#)
[Narcity](#)

Autumn is the perfect time for a hike, offering views of stunning colours, crisp air, and leafy pathways. If you're looking for a beautiful **hiking** ...

[Collingwood resident's book tells history of the battle to protect Ontario's Niagara Escarpment](#)
[Collingwood Today](#)

... **Canadian** History, and a passion for **conservation**. Avery launched his latest book, Protecting the Ontario Niagara Escarpment, on Oct. 8 at the ...

[Get **outside**: 5 ideas for **outdoor** experiences in and around Waterloo Region this week](#)
[Explore the outdoors in Waterloo Region](#)

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Spadina Avenue, Suite 10A, Toronto, ON M5V 0S8.



What We're Gathering: Stories for the Jane's Walk Book

This year, countless people joined walks around the world, sometimes as **leaders**, sometimes as **listeners**, always as **neighbours**. Each conversation, each moment of wonder or connection, is a **seed in the story of our cities**.



We're collecting those seeds in a **Jane's Walk Book**, a celebration of how walking brings people closer to each other and to the places they call home.

If you've had a Jane's Walk moment that you'd like to share, we'd love to hear it!

[Submit here by Nov 30](#)

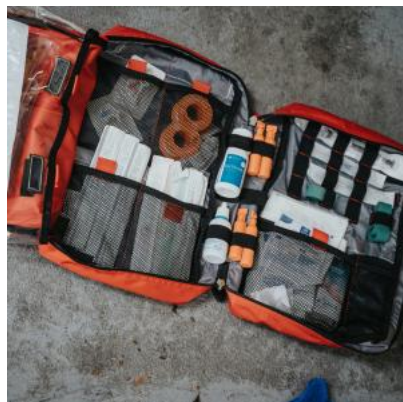
Ontario Trails Council presents Trail Stewardship - Coming this Fall

**Offered in Partnership with Confederation College
OnLine Learning**

ALERT - DUE TO THE SUPPORT STAFF STRIKE THE ADVERTISING AND THE PRICE FOR THE COURSE ARE DELAYED. WE WILL BE OFFERING THE COURSE ON A CONTINUOUS INTAKE TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENT NEEDS, GIVEN THE FLUIDITY OF THE SITUATION. THANK YOU.



Why Confederation College? Learn more about [OnLine Learning](#).
Course details coming soon.



Unit 1 - Safety and Training

By the end of this lesson, you will have demonstrated the ability to do the following: Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the trail industry in Canada.

Work safely as a trail crew member – (prepare self and others to be effective trail crew members).

Explain the basics to trail building. Recognize common trail issues and how to resolve problematic areas. Handle trail tools safely and effectively.



Unit 2 - Trail Assessment

By the end of this lesson, you will have demonstrated the ability to do the following: Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the on the ground trail environment. Explain key features of recreational trails. Describe the basics of trail tread, site preparation and construction elements. Assess the key components of trail issues and how to resolve them. Explain the basic elements to designing and installing a trail tread.



Unit 3 - Food and Nutrition

By the end of this lesson, you will have demonstrated the ability to do the following: Demonstrate basic knowledge of the various food groups that are important to nutrition. Explain why keeping hydrated on the worksite is important to worker health and wellbeing. Describe what types of food and drink are available on the worksite. Provide an example of what you would take with you as snack, lunch or dinner out to the trail. Provide an example as to how you would prepare a meal on the trail.



Unit 4 - Indigenous Trail Building

This course will focus on Indigenous trail building best practices across Canada to encourage more Indigenous communities to build legacy trails for community recreation, tourism, and pathways for reconciliation. This course will provide an educational opportunity for non-indigenous trail builders to gain an understanding of community-based consultation and opportunities for partnering with trail tourism development.

More trail news!

Greetings,

In July 2024, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks proposed the regulation of a list of 27 sites, covering 10,300 hectares (25,500 acres) to be protected under the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006* (PPCRA). The proposal was available for comment on the Environmental Registry of Ontario for a 45-day period, ending on August 30th. The ministry continues to consider the regulation of these sites as provincial parks or conservation reserves.

Today, we are pleased to share with you that the ministry is proposing an additional list of 43 additional sites, comprising approximately 12,600 hectares (over 31,100 acres) to add to Ontario's protected areas network under the PPCRA. Ontario is committed to expanding greenspaces throughout the province to provide Ontarians with new outdoor recreation opportunities, such as hiking, camping and fishing, while providing communities with critical support related to tourism, job creation and economic development, without negatively impacting industrial activities. At the same time, Ontario is conserving and safeguarding the province's unique ecosystems, habitats, and wildlife for the benefit of Ontarians today and future generations.

Under the PPCRA, hunting is permitted in a conservation reserve and is not permitted in a provincial park unless it is allowed by regulation made under the FWCA. Hunting would be protected in all 26 sites proposed as conservation reserves under this proposal. Hunting is proposed to be allowed in all or portions of six provincial park additions, and in the existing Boyne

Valley Provincial Park (where hunting is currently not permitted). Hunting is proposed to not be allowed in 11 sites proposed as new or additions to existing provincial parks. Generally, these restrictions are proposed to ensure public safety in high-traffic areas and sites that abut roadways, trails, campgrounds and other developments and in some cases, to align with existing park management policies where hunting is prohibited. Should the proposal to regulate a particular site proceed under the PPCRA, the corresponding amendments to O. Reg. 663/98: Area Descriptions under the FWCA would be proposed to permit hunting in certain areas being considered under this proposal, where required.

For more information, please visit the proposal on the Environmental Registry of Ontario at ero.ontario.ca under the number [019-9306](https://ero.ontario.ca/019-9306). The 45-day comment period ends on November 24, 2025. Written comments can also be sent to: Protected.Areas@Ontario.ca.

Please feel free to forward this email to other leaders, partners, or organizations who you think may be interested in supporting protected area expansion in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Service
Director, Conservation and Source Protection Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Jason Travers
Director, Ontario Parks Operation Branch
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

[Canada Strong pass offering cheaper travel and other perks is being extended - blogTO blogTO](#)

... **conservation** areas operated by Parks **Canada**. In addition, no fees are applied for lockage at canals administered by the agency on historic ...

[This riverside Ontario town with cobblestone charm is one of **Canada's** 'best' spots to live Yahoo News Canada](#)

Nicknamed the "Cobblestone Capital of **Canada**" for its many **heritage** buildings, Paris has also earned the title of "The Prettiest Little Town in **Canada** ...

[Crankworx Announces 2026 World Tour with Three **Canadian** Stops - Pinkbike Pinkbike](#)

News; Originals. Podcast · Reviews ... Expect a massive celebration to cap off the year in one of **Canada's** most storied **mountain bike** destinations.

[Arc'teryx RECCO Jacket with Gore-Tex Pro Shell: **Canada**-made Women's Outerwear, 4.9 ... ABP News](#)

It is described as a women's design, manufactured in **Canada**, and tied to Arc'teryx, a brand known for technical **outdoor** apparel. The jacket is ...

[Canadian road **trips** to U.S. plunge for ninth straight month | Toronto Sun Toronto Sun](#)

... **Canoe** Shopping Essentials team. Save now >>. Sections. Search. Search ...
Return **trips** to **Canada** by car plunged 34.8% on the year in September ...

[Snowmobile trail permits now available for purchase - CTV News CTV News](#)

The Ontario Federation of **Snowmobile** Clubs opened permit purchases this month for the upcoming season at the same price as last year, ...

Ontario Trails supports all trails!



Join Today!

ALERT - DUE TO THE SUPPORT STAFF STRIKE AT CANADA POST PLEASE CONTACT THE OTC TO MAKE ANY PAYMENTS BY CREDIT CARD, OR YOU CAN PAY BY DIRECT DEPOSIT OR VIA PAYPAL. WE ARE SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.



with



Ontario Trails - Trails Risk Management Committee 2025-26

The purpose of each meeting is to gather resources from practitioners on the topic in advance so we can have a productive discussion on the topic and the various sub sections below. The materials will be crafted into supporting documents, educational sessions and a follow-up webinar so that maximum distribution of these up to date best practices can be achieved, and then shared with the Ontario Trails Community.

- Intact Co-Chair - Jaden Hodgins
- Ontario Trails Co-Chair - Dave Naulls

There will be 6 online meetings over the year.

2nd. Meeting Date - [November 4, 2025 1030-1200](#)

Topic: On Trail speed controls

- Chicane
- Surfaces
- Markings
- Signs
- Natural features
- Costing
- Sourcing
- Maintaining
- Annual Budgets
- Partners in Control
- Best recommendations

Please provide any materials for this meeting by October 20, 2025:

[Drop Box](#)

N/C for OTC Members

[Donation for non-members](#)

3rd.Meeting Date - December 18, 2025 1030-1200

Topic: Trail Wardening

Meeting Date - January 27, 2026 1030-1200

Topic: Natural Risks

Meeting Date - March 20, 2026 1030-1200

Topic: User Education and Training

Meeting Date - May 5, 2026 1030-1200

Topic: Regulation and Legislation

Do you have a Trails Committee?

We are doing an outreach to determine if we are connected to the folks in your community that assist your landowners with your trails. are you one our list? Did we miss you?

The Ontario Trails Council works with volunteers and community groups from all over Ontario. Since 2003, starting with a renewed partnership with the staffs of the Trans Canada Trail Ontario, the Ontario Trails Council spearheaded the development of Regional Trail Committees.

Our work in trails supports the holders of these community mandates, whether conservation authorities, municipal parks, active transportation or recreation, Ontario Trails is your provincial stakeholder promoting your work and your infrastructure improvements.

Please let us know if we are missing your community. Email us at execdir@ontariotrails.ca

List of Regional Trail Committees in Ontario:

Committee Name	Location A-Z
Get Ajax Moving Ajax Trails and Parks	Ajax
Engage Aurora	Aurora
Hastings Destination Trails Inc.	Bancroft
Active Transportation and Sustainability Simcoe County Trails Committee	Barrie
Active Transportation	Belleville
Active Transportation and Trails	Bracebridge
Walk and Roll	Brampton
Active Transportation Friends of the Brock Trail	Brockville
Transportation and Environmental Services Committee	Bruce County
Hamilton and Burlington Trails Council	Burlington
Walk and Roll	Caledon

Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee	Clarington
Chatham-Kent Trails Committee	Chatham-Kent
Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee	Cornwall
Active Transportation and Trails Committee	East Gwillimbury
Elliott Lake Trails	Elliot Lake
County Wide Active Transportation System	Essex County
Active Transportation and Trails	Frontenac
Active Transportation and Trails Master Plan Development	Georgina
Guelph, Wellington and Waterloo Trails Committee	Guelph
Friends of Glengarry Trails Association	Glengarry Stormont
Active Transportation and Trails	Goderich
County Forests and Trails	Grey County
Active Transportation, Trails and Roads	Haliburton
Active Transportation and Trails	Halton Hills
Hamilton and Burlington Trails Council	Hamilton
No plan	Kawartha Lakes
Kenora Urban Trails Committee	Kenora
Active Transportation and Trails Advisory Committee	Kitchener
Sentier Prescott Russell	L'Original
Frontenac Arch Biosphere	Lansdowne
Trails Sub-Committee	Lanark County
Active Transportation and Trails	Leeds Grenville Lanark
Hastings Destination Trails Inc.	Limerick Township
Age Friendly and Active Community Advisory Committee	Lincoln
London Trails Advisory Group Conservation Advisory Group Accessibility	London
VMUTS	Mattawa-Bonfield
Active Transportation Advisory Committee	Midland
Walk and Roll Mississauga Cycling (and Trails)	Mississauga
Active Transportation and Trails - Engage Muskoka	Muskoka
Trails Committee	Napanee
#ShareNewmarketTrails	Newmarket

Active Transportation and Trails - Plan only	Niagara
Active Transportation Plan	Niagara Falls
Discovery Routes Trails Organization	North Bay
Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee	Norfolk County
Health, Wellness, Fitness, and Active Transportation Advisory Committee	North Grenville
Active Transportation and Trails - various committees and plans	Oakville
Active Transportation and Trails	Orillia
Durham Trails Committee	Oshawa
Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Active Transportation National Capital Commission	Ottawa-Gatineau
Oxford County Trails Council	Oxford County
Park to Park Trail Association Board Georgian Bay Coast Trail	Parry Sound
Committees - none specific for trails	Pembroke
Lanark Trails Committee	Perth
Community Services - no committee	Petawawa
Active Transportation and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee	Quinte West
Red Lake Active Transportation Plan	Red Lake
Red Rock Active transportation Improvement Plan	Red Rock Township
Bluewater Trails Committee	Sarnia-Lambton
Ad Hoc Trails Committee	Saugeen Shores
Active Transportation and Trails - ATMP	St. Catharines
Active Transportation and Trails	St. Thomas
Active Transportation and Trails Guelph to Goderich Rail Trail	Stratford
Rainbow Routes	Sudbury
Temiskaming Shores Trail Committee	Temiskaming Shores
Thousand Islands Parkway Trail Advisory Committee (TIPTAC)	Thousand Islands
Active Transportation and Trails Thunder Bay Rotary Waterfront Trail Committee	Thunder Bay
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee	Tiny Township
TCAT TRCA - Trails Strategy	Toronto

Waterfront Toronto Trail Strategy Natural Environment Trails Strategy	
Uxbridge Town Trails Co-ordinating Committee	Uxbridge Township
Active Transportation and Trails Hydrocut Committee Waterloo Cycling Club Committees	Waterloo
Community Trails Strategy	Welland
Trails and Active Transportation Committee	Wellesley Township
Active Transportation and Safe Roads Advisory Committee	Whitby
Prince Edward County Trails Committee	Wellington
Waterloo Wellington Dufferin	Wellington Township
Walk Wheel Windsor	Windsor
Active Transportation and Trails	York Region

Ontario Trails Council encourages the Economic Developers Council of Ontario



Even more trail news!

[DID YOU CATCH THE CORDUROY ENDURO THIS YEAR?](#)



[Record-breaking planting season helps Forests Canada reach 50 million tree milestone](#)
[The Environment Journal](#)

“On behalf of **Conservation** Authorities across Ontario, **Conservation** Ontario is delighted to join in Forests **Canada's** celebration in meeting the 50 ...

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Happy Monday! I'm sending this message on behalf of Carl.

We are seeking volunteers to assist in maintaining the trails at [McGeachie](#) for a day (or two). The township is willing to help take any equipment to the trail with a helper. We are seeking dates that are acceptable to the most significant number of volunteers. Since the upcoming long weekend is Thanksgiving, we are considering either October 18-19 or the last weekend in October, 25-26, 2025. At this upcoming meeting (Friday, October 10), you can indicate if you are interested, or send me or Carl a quick message. sheyhutch@gmail.com

As well, attached is a picture of the newly installed traffic counter at McGeachie

 image.png

Not signed up yet?

[Subscribe today!](#)

[Web version](#)

(Le français suit)

Rouge National Urban Park

Fall update – Parks Canada

October 2025



Did you know autumn is the busiest season at Rouge National Urban Park? Brilliant foliage, crisp air, and migrating wildlife make it the perfect time to explore. To make your visit memorable and hassle-free, a little planning goes a long way!

In this issue

Fall colours 101

A new web page for all your fall planning needs

Choose your own adventure

Fall day trip itineraries

Fall operations

- Park hours
- Washrooms
- Closures

Fall guided walks

Friendly fall reminders

Hemlocks need our help

Construction updates

- Rouge Beach
- Visitor, learning and community centre

Upcoming this fall

- Discover the Rouge
- Learn-to Campfire
- Build-a-forest



Summer highlights

- Marking a decade of Rouge National Urban Park
- Volunteer appreciation
- Spotlight on future conservation leaders

TRAIL CLEAN UP DAY

**Kearney Dog Sled Races**
12 September at 11:01 · ⚙️

TRAIL CLEAN UP DAY!

We are planning a trail clean up day on November 15th, 2025 to help kick off preparation for February. We will meet at the Kearney Legion at 58 Park St for about 9:00am with the intention of creating a clear plan. We will be ready to hit the trails by 9:30am.

If you have an ATV, bring it! If you just have a chain saw or brush cutters, bring those! If you only have your beautiful self, just come and join us and lend hand! Our goal is to ensure that we remove any fallen trees and cut down any problematic brush before too much snow falls.

Expect to be in the trails with us until mid-afternoon. Wear comfortable and PROTECTIVE clothing. Bring some snacks and some water if you can.

Reach out if you are able to join our trail boss Andre and the rest of the committee for a fun afternoon of exercise in the Kearney Dog Sled Race trails!

Kearney Dog Sled Races

Trail Clean Up!

Saturday - November 15th, 2025

Kearney Legion - 58 Park Street

9:00am Meeting

9:30am - Mid Afternoon

**Destination Northern Ontario** • 1st

Regional Tourism Organization 13

2d •

Northern Ontario's largest tourism event is just around the corner. Join industry leaders, changemakers, and innovators driving the future of tourism in ...more



SPACES ARE LIMITED, DON'T WAIT!

Visit northernontariotourismsummit.ca
or scan the **QR code** now to register.

REGISTER NOW >



[Add An Event](#)

Over 1.4 million unique visitors go to ontariotrails.ca each year.

We link trail events to one of our over 2,707 trail listings.

We have over 130,000 followers on social media.



Send us your event we'll add it to our inventory of over **6,000 trail events** taking place in Ontario each year.

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER

[Check out all the October trail events here](#)

NOVEMBER

[Colours of the Credit 2025 Gala](#)

[Trail Clean-up - Kearney Dog Sled Races - November 15, 2025](#)

[Check out all the November events here](#)



THE QUARRY SPRINGS HIKE

Beginner E2E Day Hike

Friday, October 24th @ 10:30am

Join us as we make our way through Lincoln, Ontario. We will start our journey travelling along the Twenty Mile Creek and follow it up into the Balls Falls Conservation Area. After exploring the area, we will travel the Bruce Trail until we reach Cave Springs Conservation.

[More Information](#)

The Ontario Trails Council works with Intact Public Entities on trail risk management



Last week's Membership Renewals!

We survive on memberships. We have new rates. We wish to thank the following groups who either re-newed their membership or who joined for the first time! THANK-YOU.

[Re-up here](#)

City of Guelph - Thank you!



Latest updates

- [Construction notice: Guelph Junction Railway Multi-Use Trail—Woolwich Street to Woodlawn Road](#)
October 7, 2025
- [Eastview Bike Park pump track now open](#)
August 29, 2025
- [Construction notice: South End Community Park closed September 2 until spring 2026 for community centre construction work](#)
August 25, 2025
- [Next](#)

Related links

- [Facility rentals](#)
- [Find a park washroom](#)
- [Outdoor skating rinks](#)
- [Outdoor Sports Facility Strategy](#)

- [Parks and Recreation Master Plan](#)
- [Parks and trails photo gallery on flickr](#)
- [Recreation](#)
- [Report concerns about a park or trail](#)

Be a member. Get your badge.

Are you a club trying to get volunteers or memberships?

Are you a federation trying to get support for your riders and programs?

Use the power and reach of Ontario Trails Council to your advantage.

- Website - 1.5 million visitors, (last year)
- Newsletter 91,092 weekly newsletter sends (last 365 days).
- Open rate 33.% (Sector avg.19%) Clicks 8.4%
- Social Media - 68,003 on Facebook, 16,200 on Instagram,

Get recognized on hundreds of [YOUR ACTIVITY] on our trail pages allowing tour activity in Ontario.

ORCKA did.



Canoe and Kayak

A place to find places to paddle in Ontario. Before you paddle get educated through ORCKA, the voic...

Ontario Recreational Canoe
and Kayak Association

Website Sample page - <https://www.ontariotrails.on.ca/trail/grand-river-water-trails>

[Facebook](#)

[X](#)

Contact Ontario Trails

Get your badge on 100's of pages, in front of the next generation of [YOUR ACTIVITY SUPPORTERS/TAX PAYERS] today.

And....more trail news!

2025 Regional Tourism Summit

Rooted in the Outdoors: Growing Rural Tourism Together — Summit Announcement



Calling all campground operators, rural tourism businesses, municipal leaders, and experience creators — mark your calendars! On **October 16, 2025**, we're gathering at the picturesque **KOA Parry Sound**, graciously hosted by **Tristan Berry** of KOA Parry Sound, for the **Explorers' Edge 2025 Regional Tourism Summit**.

[Click here for more information on the summit](#)

ONTARIO TRAILS SAFETY MESSAGE -

Trail SMART - Snowmobile Safety

Remember when on the trail, expect and respect other users! A winning trail attitude includes safety, respect, and relaxation. Combine this attitude with the following trail etiquette tips and you will be on your way to an amazing outdoor experience.



[TAKE THE SAFE TRAIL USER PLEDGE!](#)

[SHARE THE SAFE TRAIL USER PLEDGE POSTER](#)

During the winter months, Ontario is a snowmobiling paradise. From fast-flowing trails to pristine back-country, Ontario has it all. While snowmobiling is a lot of fun, with it comes a lot of responsibility.

Out here you will encounter frozen lakes and deep back-country powder far from the comforts of the city. Ensure that you are properly trained and equipped to survive a night outside or to help fellow snowmobilers in need.

Snowmobile Smart Tips

- Follow the rules: Regulations on sled registration and use are different in various parts of the snow belt. Check with natural resource and law enforcement agencies, and snowmobile dealers or clubs in the area you're visiting to make sure your ride results in legal and hassle-

free snowmobiling. Remember, too, that some provinces have age restrictions for snowmobile operation, often requiring that children are supervised by adults.

- Safe crossing: Be careful when crossing roads of any kind. Come to a complete stop and make absolutely sure that no traffic is approaching from any direction. Always cross at a right angle to traffic.
- Think ahead: Safe riders make snowmobiling safe. Many problems can be avoided by using common sense. Minor problems can be overcome by carrying a tool kit, spare parts, flashlight, first-aid kit and a few survival items such as high-energy food, fire-starting equipment and a compass.
- Take it easy: Always ensure that you are driving slow enough to see an object in time to avoid a collision. At night on the lakes and large open fields, estimating distances and direction of travel is more difficult.
- Take a friend: Never snowmobile alone. "Snow plans" which describe your machine and your planned route can be life-saving. Leave one with someone responsible, and always let that person know when you're back or have arrived at your destination.
- Take care of the trail: Treat trails with respect. Always wait for enough snow cover to protect vegetation. Avoid running over trees and shrubs. Appreciate, but don't disturb, animals or other wildlife.
- Beware of darkness: Low light and darkness require extra caution. Slow down and watch for others. Overcast days also require extra awareness.
- Beware of water: The safest snowmobiling rule is never to cross lakes or rivers. Falling through the ice is the most obvious risk but you also have far less traction for starting, turning and stopping on ice than on snow. Collisions on lakes account for a significant number of accidents. If you must snowmobile on the ice, make absolutely sure the ice is safely frozen. Drowning is a leading cause of snowmobile fatalities.

For more information on all our Trail Smart Messages go to: [TRAIL SMART](#)

Ontario Trails Council supports professional recreation practices developed by:



[ORFA Job Postings](#)

1. Junior Ice Technician, Granite Club, Toronto, ON
2. Weekend Arena Attendant, Pickering College, Newmarket, ON
3. [Supervisor of Parks and Facilities*](#), Township of Georgian Bay, ON
4. Operator, Municipality of Lambton Shores, ON
5. Supervisor, Central Parks, City of Kawartha Lakes, ON
6. [Manager, Facility Operations*](#), City of Waterloo, ON
7. Supervisor, Aquatics, City of Guelph, ON
8. [Parks & Facilities Casual \(6-Month Contract\)*](#), Town of Innisfil, ON
9. Parks and Facilities Maintenance, Corporation of Norfolk County, ON
10. Supervisor, Central Parks, City of Kawartha Lakes, ON
11. Parks and Facilities Labourer (MT I) , Town of Grimsby, ON
12. [Recreation Facilities Supervisor*](#), Town of Goderich, ON
13. [Winter Seasonal Parks Labourer*](#), St. Andrew's College, Aurora, ON
14. Winter Seasonal Parks Labourer, Town of East Gwillimbury, ON
15. Director of Recreation & Facility Services, Municipality of Middlesex Centre, ON

*ORFA certification required or considered an asset

[JOB OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Funding Opportunities: Seed & Grow Grants

The **Ontario Trillium Foundation** is offering two upcoming grant streams designed to help nonprofits and community organizations strengthen their impact and long-term sustainability:

[Grow Grant](#)

Grow grants support the scaling or improvement of proven programs that address a community need. Eligible organizations can apply for \$100,000 to \$600,000 over 2–3 years to expand, enhance, or adapt an existing program or service with demonstrated success and impact.

Application Period: October 8 – November 5, 2025 (by 5:00 p.m. ET)

These grants are a valuable opportunity to invest in long-term planning and build resilience in your organization.

[Learn More Here](#)

Mayor's Walks



Many communities held walks on Provincial/International Trails Day.

We will provide links to other walks and trail celebrations that took place June 7, as well as throughout the year. The Ontario Trails "Mayor's Walk" events are open to OTC member organizations to act as hosts for a walk in 2025. ***Tell us when you are having an event in 2025*** [Event Notification Sheet](#).

With trails in 100's of Ontario Communities this is a great way to showcase your local support while enabling all the Mayor's and their trail friends to get out for a celebration of trails.

Send us details about your Trail Day Celebration!

Did you Know? Please search '[Trails Day](#)' on Facebook, Ontario Trails provided 80% of Canadian messaging content about trails day.

Ask for the **Mayor's Walk** event planning tool, email us at execdir@ontariotrails.ca

NEW MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT PRICING - LAPSED MEMBER? TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SEASONAL PRICING.

SUPPORT TRAILS TODAY!



MORE CHOICE

- Provincial/Large City - \$867.50
- County/Conservation - \$339.00
- Township/First Nation - \$113.00
- Regional Tourism - \$565.00
- Club/Gym/Health - \$56.50
- Media/Website/Social - \$56.50
- Outdoors Industry - \$339.00
- Non-Profit Partner - \$169.50
- Federal/National - \$226.00
- Individual - \$33.90

REBATES AND OFFERS

- 50% off until October 15th
- 15% Discount on Education Packages
- No Change for Current Renewals
- Call 614-484-1140



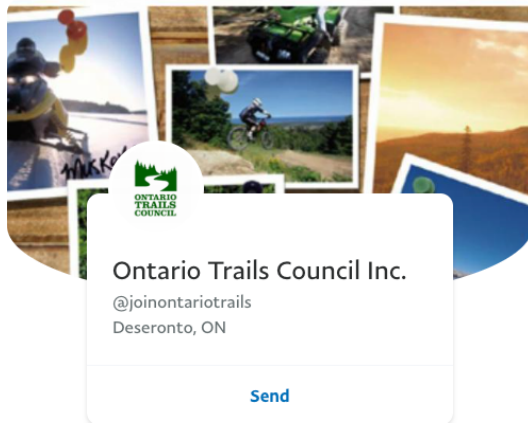


Add Our Logo

We ask members to place our logo on your trail pages! We can provide variety of styles and colours.

We thank [Hike Ontario RTO7 Bruce, Grey, Simcoe Ontario Equestrian](#) and the [Rideau Trail Association](#) for posting our logo or a link to our site and social media.

We appreciate your support!

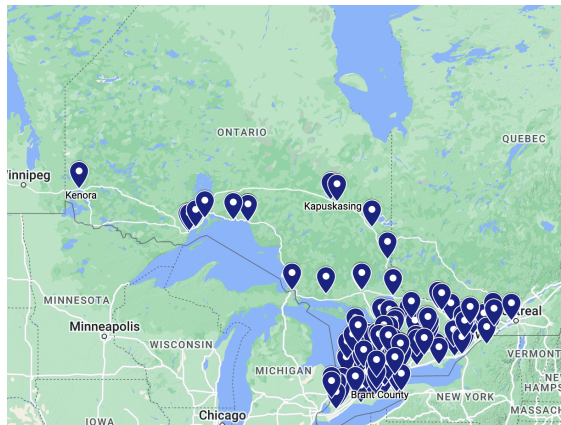


Be a Friend

We are a trail community made by up of clubs, municipalities, user federations, health units, and many other types of local organizations and individuals.

We have a volunteer Board and a membership that loves trails and trail activity as much as you do.

Join or donate today!



Get on the map!

Ontario Trails Council members span the entire province and over 24 different uses.

We are the only trail organization in Ontario filtering trail best practices on multi-use trails, promoting the safe use by all trail users across all activities.

We also share stories through our weekly

newsletter, '[Trail Wise](#)' and on our blog.

We hope you would help us through a donation or join the 170 other member organizations supporting our work in Ontario, for more and better trails in Ontario. With your support, we can achieve this one trail at a time, making the case for all of Ontario's trails, together.

Add A Trail



Add A Trail

Ontario Trails Council provides information about the trails that you build and maintain to trail users from all over the world.

Our website is a referrer site. We send people to you so you can tell them about your trails.

People stay with us about 2 and half minutes. Then they go to you.

Help us help you. Add your trail or support us through membership.



Add A Review

Our website is reviewed and updated weekly.

Your opinion helps improve our ranking on search engines. The better the score the more likely we will be found first.

Facebook reviews from members of the trail Community score high:

96% recommend (61 reviews)

Add A Project

Ontario Trails Council is interested in making the case for funding trail projects.

Often infrastructure project budgets are dominated by other larger recreational infrastructure needs,



If you need funding from other sources, due to a smaller municipal portion use us to help you make the case for more funds.

Follow us on X



For all the latest on trails and trail news follow:

[Ontario Trails Blog](#) - regular round up of Ontario Trail News!

[Ontario Trails](#)

[Ontario ATV Trails](#)

[Ontario Hiking Trails](#)

[Ontario Climbing Trails](#)

[Ontario Cycling Trails](#)

[Ontario Dirt Bike Trails](#)

[Ontario Horse Trails](#)

[Ontario Water Trails](#)

[Toronto Trails](#)

[Trailhead North](#)

[Trails of 1812](#)

[Niagara Trails Committee](#)

[Hamilton Burlington Trails](#)

[Canadian Trails Federation](#)



Instagram

To find your trail listing go to [Ontario Trails](#)

Support us today. [Join ON-line](#)

Please renew. By electronic transfer,



PayPal - select your membership rate and Go!



Payments include tax exclude fees

Medium : \$308.69 CAD - yearly ↕

Subscribe



or a call with your credit card.

613-484-1140

Thanks!

**Life's a journey. Find
your perfect trail**

 Explore nearby trails

The Ontario Trails Council (OTC) is a charity that promotes the development, preservation, management and use of recreational trails and trail-based activities in Ontario.



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GREEN
MUNICIPAL
FUND

FONDS
MUNICIPAL
VERT

Growing Canada's Community Canopies – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies

Application Guide

For applications received from October 2025 to April 2026

A program of

FCM

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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Green Municipal Fund's (GMF) Growing Canada's Community Canopies (GCCC) is a \$291M initiative that drives climate action by funding projects that plant and manage trees in communities across the country. GCCC will support the planting of at least 1.2M new trees by March 31, 2031. The GCCC initiative is a part of GMF's broader approach to nature-based climate solutions focused on achieving significant carbon sequestration and increasing forest and community resilience to climate change.

GCCC offers funding to support communities in developing comprehensive plans and studies to strengthen the planning, management and stewardship of their trees and forests. This includes projects that enable informed decision-making in urban forest management, and ensuring that forests in communities are resilient, equitably distributed and contribute long-term environmental, social and economic benefits. GCCC supports the development of [urban forestry](#) plans and studies that enhance municipal capacity for future tree planting, and provide essential tools, strategies and data to guide effective and long-term tree planting efforts.

For more information on GCCC, please visit our [initiative webpage](#).

GCCC is funded by the Government of Canada and delivered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. FCM has partnered with Tree Canada to enable capacity development.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide outlines everything you need to know about applying for funding under GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies. It contains application instructions, information about how your project will be evaluated and tips for completing a great application.

Follow the directions in this guide as you complete your pre-application and full application, to help ensure your responses are comprehensive and provide enough detail so that someone who is unfamiliar with your project would fully understand it.

The appendices at the end of the guide contain additional information:

- [Appendix A: Funding details](#)
- [Appendix B: Required supporting documents](#)
- [Appendix C: Evaluation of applications](#)
- [Appendix D: Reporting requirements](#)
- [Appendix E: Municipal council resolution template](#)
- [Appendix F: Glossary of key terms](#)

IMPORTANT: Please visit the GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies [funding webpage](#) prior to reading this application guide. The webpage has essential information about funding amounts; project eligibility, including a quick “readiness check” that we recommend you complete to determine whether your project is a good fit; and required project outcomes.

GMF respects the principles of ownership, control, access and possession, more commonly known as OCAP®. These principles assert that Indigenous communities have control over data-collection processes, and that they own and control how this information can be used. Any product, data or information that may include Indigenous knowledge may be submitted at the discretion of the applicant.

If you have questions or would like help as you complete your application, please email us at gmfinfo@fcm.ca, call 1-877-417-0550 or [book a meeting with a GMF representative](#).

APPLICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

To apply for GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies funding, you will need to submit:

- A pre-application form
- A full application form
- An Excel project workbook
- All [required supporting documents](#)

Below is an overview of the steps in the application process.

Step 1: Readiness check

Before applying, please complete the “readiness check” on our [funding webpage](#) to help you determine if your project is eligible for GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies funding and to learn about the application process.

Step 2: Pre-application completion and submission

After you have completed the readiness check and determined that your project may be eligible, you will need to obtain a pre-application form through [FCM's funding portal](#). Once you have completed this form, you will submit it through the portal as well. To do this, create a client profile in the portal and follow the instructions listed there.

Supporting documents are not required at the pre-application stage. They will need to be submitted with your full application.

IMPORTANT: If you are a municipality or municipal corporation from Quebec, pre-applications must be submitted and approved by Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH). Please review the steps on how to apply on our [funding webpage](#).

Step 3: Eligibility determination

A GMF representative will review your pre-application and determine whether your organization and project are eligible to proceed to the next step of the application process. You should receive a response within five business days of the date we receive your pre-application.

IMPORTANT: Even if your organization and project are deemed eligible to move forward with a full application, it does not guarantee that your project will be approved for funding.

Step 4: Full application completion and submission

If your organization and project are deemed eligible to proceed, your GMF representative will inform you that the full application form is available through [FCM's funding portal](#). They will also provide you with a project workbook to complete.

As you complete the application and the workbook, contact your GMF representative if you have questions or need help. Once you've filled out the application form and project workbook and attached the [required supporting documents](#), submit all of this information through [FCM's funding portal](#).

Step 5: GMF project officer review

Once your full application is submitted, a GMF project officer will be assigned to your file and will review your application for accuracy and completeness. They will work with you to resolve any questions and be your point of contact throughout the rest of the application and funding decision process.

Step 6: Peer and internal review

Following an external peer review and an internal analysis of your full application, a funding recommendation is made by GMF to FCM's Board of Directors.

Step 7: Funding decision

FCM's Board of Directors approves projects funded under GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies.

Note: Access urban forestry coaching

You can access free coaching support from urban forestry professionals to improve the quality of your application and receive answers to technical questions about your project. If you are interested in speaking with a coach to support your application, please ask your GMF representative to refer you.

Coaches can help you with:

- Scoping your project and reviewing methodology
- Maximizing project benefits
- Ensuring your project is informed by best practices in urban forestry

Your GMF representative may recommend coaching at different phases of the application process, including after eligibility determination (step 3) and peer and internal review (step 6). If your application is successful, coaching is also available as a resource to support you throughout the implementation of your project.

Please refer to our [coaching webpage](#) for more information on this service.

HOW TO COMPLETE A PRE-APPLICATION

Before you complete a pre-application form, please fill out the “**readiness check**” on our [funding webpage](#). This will give you a good indication of whether your project may be eligible for GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies funding.

If you’re not sure whether your project aligns with the funding requirements, or if you have questions about how to apply, please email us at gmfinfo@fcm.ca, call 1-877-417-0550, or [book a meeting with a GMF representative](#).

After you have completed the readiness check and determined that your project may be eligible, please obtain the pre-application form through [FCM’s funding portal](#) and follow the instructions in this guide to complete it.

GMF uses the information in your pre-application to evaluate whether your project aligns with GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies funding requirements and is eligible to proceed to the full application step. It also helps us determine if you might benefit from coaching during the application process.

Quebec municipal applicants

Quebec municipalities that are interested in applying should refer to our [funding webpage](#) for more details or contact us as outlined above.

Part A: Applicant information

In part A, please describe who you are, where you are from and who your main partners are, if any.

Participating organizations

In the participating organizations section, please provide the name and role of each participating organization. Use the guidance in the following table to help you complete this section.

IMPORTANT: If your organization is *not* a municipal government, your project must be delivered in partnership with one. You will be required to provide the name of the main project contact for your lead municipality on the project team. You will also be required to submit a municipal council resolution showing the municipal partnership.

Please see [Appendix B: Required supporting documents](#) for requirements of non-municipal applicants and [Appendix E: Municipal council resolution template](#) for an example of a council resolution.

Participating organizations	Required supporting information
Organization name [type to select from list in the portal]	Use the full legal name of the organization.
Organization role [select one]	Select from the following four options (in a drop-down menu): Lead applicant: the entity (e.g., not-for-profit, municipal services corporation, Indigenous community) championing the project in partnership with the lead municipality. The lead applicant signs the funding agreement with FCM, oversees the project (even if a third party completes the work), incurs the costs for the project and submits the required reporting to FCM. Lead municipality: the primary municipal partner to a non-municipal lead applicant; usually the municipality where the project is taking place or that will benefit from the project. Lead applicant and municipality: select this option if the lead applicant is a municipality. Partner: select this option if the organization is not the lead applicant or the lead municipality (e.g., projects with multiple municipal partners, non-municipal funders, etc.).

Project contacts

In the project contacts section, please provide details for the lead project contact(s). Be sure to include their primary role(s) in the project and their affiliated organization(s). Use the guidance in the table below to help you complete this section.

IMPORTANT: Contacts listed in this section will have access to view the application, but the form can only be submitted by the **application contact**, who is the primary contact for the application and the person who is permitted to submit the application. We recommend that you designate only one application contact who

will be responsible for completing the application process and receiving all related correspondence.

You may include additional contacts other than the application contact here, but it is not required at this stage. You will have to provide contact details for all project contacts at the full application stage, including a secondary contact from the lead applicant organization. If your organization is not a municipal government, you will also need to include a municipal contact from the municipality with which you are collaborating.

Project contacts	Required supporting information
Organization name [select from list in the portal]	You will only be permitted to select the names of the organizations you listed as participating organizations in the participating organizations section.
Contact name [open text]	Enter first and last name.
Contact role [select one]	One of the contacts you provide must be the application contact. If you wish to provide additional contacts, select them from the following list: Secondary contact: the secondary point of contact with the lead applicant organization supporting the submission of the application Municipal contact: contacts representing the municipality if not already identified as an application contact or a secondary contact Consultant: the primary contact representing the consulting team, if applicable Read-only: a contact who is permitted to view the application, but is not permitted to make changes to the application

Lead applicant community type

In the lead applicant community type section, please indicate if you belong to the listed community types.

Municipalities with populations of fewer than 10,000 as well as [Indigenous, northern](#) or [remote](#) communities are eligible to receive a higher cost share. See [Appendix A: Funding details](#).

Question: Is the lead applicant an Indigenous community or a municipality partnering with an Indigenous community? [select one]

- Yes
- No

Question: Is the lead applicant a municipality with a population of fewer than 10,000, or a remote or northern community? [select one]

- Yes
- No

Part B: Project information

In part B, please provide an overview of your project, including the project category, title and description.

Project category

In the project category section, please select one of five project types, as listed below, to categorize your project. Review the categories and examples and then select the category that best fits your project from the drop-down list in the table.

Urban forest strategy or plan

These are long-term strategies or plans to manage, enhance and protect the entire urban forest.

Examples:

- [Urban forest management plan](#) or strategy (or update)
- [Urban forest operational plan](#) (e.g., implementation, long-term maintenance, monitoring)
- [Urban forest asset management plan](#)

Tree planting strategy or plan

These are strategies or plans specifically aimed at guiding community-wide or regional tree planting efforts, with a focus on achieving strategic tree planting goals and priorities, such as increasing tree abundance.

Examples:

- [Tree planting strategy](#) or framework
- [Tree planting master plan](#)

Urban forestry policy or guideline

These are projects that can help shape effective urban forestry policies, such as those that govern tree preservation, planting and maintenance.

Examples:

- Tree or urban forest bylaws
- Technical guidelines, manuals, standards and specifications
- Urban forestry best practices and operational design standards

Urban forestry community engagement strategy or plan

These are plans to involve community members in urban forest management and education.

Examples:

- Urban forest collaboration and partnership plans (e.g., [stakeholder](#) or [rightsholder](#) engagement plans)
- Community education and engagement strategy
- Capacity-building strategy for tree planting and maintenance

Urban forest assessment and analysis

These are projects that involve gathering, analyzing and assessing data and information to better understand and manage urban forests.

Examples:

- Tree inventory
- Land cover analysis (e.g., [canopy cover](#), plantable area)
- Planting site inventory
- Canopy growth modelling
- Planting prioritization study (e.g., urban heat, equity)
- Forest structure and function study (e.g., [biodiversity](#), [connectivity](#), [ecosystem services](#))
- Urban forest climate vulnerability assessment
- Urban forest current conditions assessment/baseline analysis (e.g., criteria and indicators assessment)
- Urban tree risk assessment (e.g., environmental, financial)

IMPORTANT: Your project may fall into one or more of the above categories, as these are not mutually exclusive. However, please select the category that best describes your project. For example, the development of an urban forest strategy could require the creation of a community engagement strategy and the completion of urban forest assessments and analyses. In this case, while your project includes the development of an engagement strategy and urban forest assessments, you would select “urban forest strategy or plan” as the application project type, as this will be the final deliverable for your project.

Question: Please indicate the category that best describes your project. [select one]

- Urban forest strategy or plan
- Tree planting strategy or plan
- Urban forestry policy or guideline
- Urban forestry community engagement strategy or plan
- Urban forest assessment and analysis

Project title

In the project title section, please indicate your project's working title. This title will be used to publicly identify the project. Use the guidance in the following table to help you complete this section.

Project title	Required supporting information
Project working title [open text]	The title should include, at a minimum: • the name of the municipality or, in the case of multiple municipalities, the region • a description of the project, with at least one keyword based on the project deliverable

Project description

In the project description section, please provide a short description of your project, including the objectives. Your project description should provide GMF staff with a reasonable understanding of what you plan to accomplish with the funding.

Details to include in your project description
• Who: Provide an overview of who will lead, partner on and help deliver (e.g., consultants) your project. • What/when: Describe the scope of your project. Include key activities, interim and final deliverables and an overall timeline. • Where: Describe the community or region where your project will take place. Highlight any unique characteristics or needs that your project will address. • Why: Describe the objectives of your project, and the specific outcomes you hope to achieve.

- **How:** Describe the methodology that will be used to implement your plan or study. Explain how the methodology aligns with the project's objectives, addresses all aspects of the project, specifies appropriate data collection methods and incorporates innovative strategies to achieve urban forestry goals and outcomes.

Part C: Project eligibility

In part C, please provide more information to help us evaluate your project's eligibility, including information about previous GCCC funding, the primary focus of the project, contributions to tree planting initiatives and a plan for measurable results.

Each lead municipality is only eligible to apply for one GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies grant. Please indicate if the lead municipality has already received funding for a GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies application.

If you respond yes to the question below, your project is not eligible for funding.

Question: Has the lead municipality already received funding for a GCCC – Urban Forestry Plan or Study? [select one]

- Yes
- No

Only projects where the primary focus is on forests or trees within your community are eligible for funding.

Examples of ineligible projects include plans or studies that focus on broader environmental or ecosystem issues rather than urban forests or trees within the community. This includes projects like biodiversity plans that address multiple ecosystems, natural asset management plans that cover natural assets beyond urban forestry, and general sustainability or green infrastructure plans where the focus is broader than trees or urban forests.

If you respond no to the question below, your project is not eligible for funding.

Question: Is the primary focus of the project on the forests/trees in your community? [select one]

- Yes
- No

Your urban forestry plan or study must contribute to building your community's capacity to prioritize, plan for or undertake future tree planting initiatives. This could include actions such as developing strategies, assessing tree planting needs or identifying key locations for future tree planting. While your plan or study does not need to be directly linked to a specific tree planting project, it should help lay the groundwork for future planting efforts.

If you respond no to the question below, your project is not eligible for funding.

Question: Will your project contribute to future tree planting initiatives in your community? [select one]

- Yes
- No

GCCC supports urban forestry projects that drive tangible, positive change in local communities. Only projects that include a clear, actionable plan to implement the results of the plan or study and lead to measurable changes and impacts will be considered for funding.

Examples of ineligible projects include plans or studies that focus solely on research without a clear path to implementation, theoretical plans without specific actions, or projects that do not have a strategy to achieve measurable, long-term outcomes.

If you respond no to the question below, your project is not eligible for funding.

Question: Does your project include a clear plan to implement the results to make measurable changes in your community? [select one]

- Yes
- No

Budget

In the budget section, please indicate your project's anticipated start and end dates, the amount of funding being requested and the anticipated total project cost.

IMPORTANT: The project must be completed within two years of receiving funding approval.

Budget	Required supporting information
Project start and end dates (yyyy-mm-dd) [date fields]	Indicate the anticipated start and end dates for your project.
Funding request (\$) [currency field]	Indicate the amount of funding you are requesting for your project.
Anticipated total project cost (\$) [currency field]	Provide the anticipated total cost of your project.

Part D: Declaration and signature

In the declaration and signature section, type the information of the person with signing authority from the lead applicant organization.

IMPORTANT: Only the application contact from the lead applicant organization can submit the pre-application form. This person must ensure they have permission to submit on behalf of their organization. Consultants working with a lead applicant to prepare the pre-application cannot sign the declaration or submit the pre-application.

Ready to submit your pre-application?

Submit your pre-application to GMF in [FCM's funding portal](#). To do this, create a client profile in the portal and follow the steps listed there to fill out and submit your pre-application form.

If you have challenges submitting your pre-application, please email us at gmfinfo@fcm.ca, call 1-877-417-0550 or [book a meeting with a GMF representative](#).

HOW TO COMPLETE A FULL APPLICATION

If your project is deemed eligible, based on the information you provided in your pre-application, your GMF representative will inform you that the full application form is available through [FCM's funding portal](#). They will also provide you with a project workbook to complete and submit.

IMPORTANT: As part of your full application, you will be required to submit applicable supporting documents through [FCM's funding portal](#). Supporting documents relevant to each part of the application are listed below and summarized in [Appendix B: Required supporting documents](#).

As you complete the full application form and project workbook, please contact your GMF representative if you have any questions.

Part A: Applicant information

Instructions on how to provide information about the project applicants can be found in the pre-application [Applicant information](#) section.

Note: Please include contact details for additional project contact(s), if any, who were not identified at the pre-application stage.

Supporting document(s)

Required supporting documents for Part A, Applicant information:

The required supporting documents will differ depending on the type of lead applicant. See [Appendix B: Required supporting documents](#) for details, including templates where relevant.

All applicants:

- Evidence of municipal support

Non-municipal applicants:

- A municipal council resolution showing the municipal partnership
- Confirmation of organizational support from CEO or CFO
- Articles of incorporation
- Last three consecutive audited financial statements, if applicable.

Indigenous communities:

- If eligible through a partnership with a municipality:
 - A municipal council resolution showing the municipal partnership
- If eligible through a shared service agreement:
 - A shared service agreement with a Canadian municipality related to municipal infrastructure, climate change or adaptation.

Part B: Project information

In part B, please provide the project category, title and description for your project.

Note: When possible, please refer to specific page numbers or sections in your supporting documents when you are completing your full application, to make it easier for staff and peer reviewers to evaluate your application accurately.

Project category

Instructions on how to indicate your project category can be found in the pre-application [Project information](#) section.

Project title

Instructions on how to indicate your project title can be found in the pre-application [Project information](#) section.

Project description

Instructions on how to describe your project can be found in the pre-application [Project information](#) section.

In your full application, please expand on the project description from the pre-application by describing your overall project approach and methodology.

Part C: Project approach

In part C, please provide more information about your project's approach and methodology, including the project team, the engagement strategy, the connection to community and sustainability objectives, the implementation plan, measurement and monitoring activities and project challenges and mitigation strategies.

Project team

In the project team section, please identify the members of the team (including project partners, if any) and their roles in the project.

Your application should include at least one member of the lead applicant's project management team as well as anyone responsible for training and capacity building who will contribute to successful completion of your project. If your project is sponsored or championed by a municipal elected official, include them as well.

If you have not yet hired one or more key team members, please indicate this in your application (e.g., "consultant TBD") and detail their *anticipated* roles and responsibilities along with their *required* level of experience and expertise (i.e., as defined in your request for proposals to hire the consultant).

Project teams will be evaluated based on the composition of the team and its ability to lead the project to completion and deliver the expected benefits, and whether there is strong municipal staff participation throughout the project.

Question: Please describe in the table below the roles and responsibilities of the project team and partners.

[fillable table]

Name	Title	Organization	Scope of responsibilities	Years of experience
[open text]	[open text]	[open text]	[open text]	[numerical]

Engagement strategy

In the engagement strategy section, please provide information about your project's plan for engagement and inclusive engagement practices. When describing your engagement strategy, please indicate the extent to which you have identified and engaged and/or plan to engage relevant rightsholders and stakeholders for project planning, design, execution and operations. These might include operations staff, staff from other relevant departments, council members, regulators, agencies, Indigenous groups from the traditional territories the municipality is situated upon, citizens' groups and not-for-profit organizations.

IMPORTANT: If an engagement strategy has already been created for the project, please include it as a supporting document with your submission.

Where appropriate, GMF strongly encourages project applicants to build broad public support with the community, as well as inclusive, accessible and authentic engagement with and representation of equity-deserving groups.

For each group identified, indicate the level of engagement from the following five categories, taken from [IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation](#):

- **Inform:** You will provide or have provided the group with balanced and objective information to assist the group to understand the problem, alternatives and/or solutions.
- **Consult:** You will provide or have provided opportunities for the group to share feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.
- **Involve:** You will work or have worked directly with the group throughout the process to ensure their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.
- **Collaborate:** You will partner or have partnered with the group in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.
- **Empower:** This group will have or has had final decision-making power.

Question: Please describe in the table below the project's engagement plan.

[fillable table]

Stakeholder or rightsholder, including equity-deserving groups	Level of engagement	Description
Group A	[select one]* • Inform • Consult • Involve • Collaborate • Empower	[open text]
Group B	[select one]* • Inform • Consult • Involve • Collaborate • Empower	[open text]
* In cases where one activity serves several purposes, select the <i>highest</i> degree of engagement the activity serves (e.g., "consult" rather than "inform")		

In the engagement strategy section, please describe any inclusive engagement practices that were or will be implemented for your project, or how you plan to develop these practices with stakeholders and rightsholders.

Inclusive community engagement entails identifying and engaging with equity-deserving groups that have an interest in the project, reducing barriers to participation, empowering diverse groups with decision-making, and building relationships and connections through [meaningful engagement](#).

Examples of inclusive engagement practices include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Identifying and addressing potential barriers to participation by equity-deserving groups (e.g., personal resources, motivation and attitude, cultural factors)
- Making changes to the project based on feedback received from community engagement activities
- Using multiple methods of communication to help reach diverse groups in the community
- Reviewing communication materials for improved [accessibility](#) (e.g., written clearly in a plain language style; translated into the languages spoken in the community; formatted with high-contrast colours, accessible fonts, alt text for visuals)

Question: Please describe any inclusive engagement practices that will be part of the project.

[open text]

Connection to community and sustainability objectives

In the connection to community and sustainability objectives section, please describe how your plan or study is linked to, or supported by, the municipality's broader urban forest management priorities or sustainability objectives, as outlined in existing municipal policies, plans, programs or guidelines (e.g., climate action plans, biodiversity strategies, natural asset management plans, municipal council priorities, etc.). Please explain how your plan or study advances or complements these objectives and discuss any trade-offs between different sustainability goals, if relevant.

When describing the community or sustainability objectives in your response, please provide brief descriptions and web links (if available) to the documents you reference, including relevant page numbers or sections that demonstrate alignment. In your description of how the plan or study supports each objective, also comment on how your project fits the size, scale, and capacity of your municipality, and how it advances local priorities.

Question: Please describe in the table below how this plan or study is aligned with your community's urban forest management priorities or broader sustainability objectives.

[fillable table]

Community or sustainability objective(s)	Description of how the plan or study supports the objective(s)
[open text]	[open text]

Project implementation

In the project implementation section, please explain how you plan to implement your plan or study. Your plan or study should have a clear, actionable strategy to ensure that the actions and recommendations that are developed in your plan or study will be effectively carried out and sustained.

Describe how you will manage the transition from planning to execution, including the steps you will take to ensure you have the necessary resources to implement the actions or recommendations, the timelines for implementation and who will be responsible. You can also highlight any existing collaborations or new partnerships that will support the long-term implementation of the project.

Question: Please describe how you will ensure that the actions and recommendations developed in your plan or study will be carried out after the plan or study is completed and how they will continue to be supported over time.

[open text]

Measuring and monitoring

GCCC funds urban forestry plans and studies that present a comprehensive, actionable and realistic plan to measure results and make adjustments based on outcomes.

Please describe how you will measure success and the outcomes of your plan or study, including your plan for collecting performance data, and the methods and indicators that will be used to monitor progress toward the specified environmental, social and economic benefits.

Question: Please describe how you will measure and monitor the implementation of your plan or study.

[open text]

Project challenges and mitigation strategies

In the project challenge and mitigation strategies section, please describe the key risks and challenges you may face in developing and implementing your project, and how you will manage and mitigate them. Risks and challenges may be environmental, technical, operational, planning, and time- and cost-related.

Your response should show an understanding and adoption of risk management strategies with appropriate mitigation of potential risks to the project.

Question: Please identify in the table below the potential risks and challenges in executing and implementing this project and provide your proposed mitigation strategy for each risk or challenge.

[fillable table]

Risk/challenge description	Mitigation strategy
[open text]	[open text]

Supporting document(s)

Required supporting documents for Part C, Project approach:

- Project team members' resumés or documents listing their professional qualifications and experience as they relate to this project.
- Letters of support from project partners, if applicable

Note: Please provide detailed resumés or descriptions of the experience of the lead members of the project team. Short descriptions of experience are sufficient for other team members.

Optional supporting documents for Part C, Project approach:

- Engagement strategy
- Risk register document (in addition to the [project challenges and mitigation strategies](#) table)
- Documentation indicating your community or sustainability objectives

Part D: Project benefits

In part D, we want to better understand your project's anticipated benefits and outcomes.

In the benefits section, please answer questions a) through e) to explain how your project will identify and prioritize different benefits.

Please describe how your project will identify and prioritize socio-economic benefits in your community:

- **social benefits**, which could include increased access to new and improved shared spaces and green spaces, improved air quality, improved public health, improved safety or security, and reduced noise.
- **economic benefits**, which could include creating quality jobs, applying social and local procurement of goods and services criteria, or building community wealth.

Question a) Please describe how your plan or study will consider socio-economic benefits.

[open text]

Please describe how your plan or study will incorporate a climate lens into the planning process, to ultimately improve community climate change resilience. This could include urban forest planning to reduce the effects of urban heat islands, manage stormwater or prioritize planting in areas with low canopy cover.

Question b) Please describe how your plan or study will consider community climate change resilience.

[open text]

Please describe how your plan or study will consider biodiversity and ecosystem health outcomes or benefits that your project could generate. Examples of benefits may include habitat restoration, support for species at risk and other species of interest, planting to increase ecosystem connectivity, and restoring or enhancing the ecological value of sites.

Question c) Please describe how your plan or study will consider biodiversity and ecosystem health.

[open text]

GCCC funds urban forestry plans or studies that help communities overcome barriers to planting trees, build the skills and resources necessary for the successful implementation of planting projects and strengthen the community's capacity to maintain and expand the tree canopy cover over time.

While your urban forestry plan or study does not need to be directly linked to a specific tree planting project, it should lay the groundwork for future planting efforts. This can include creating strategies, policies or frameworks that support tree planting and canopy expansion, such as regulations or strategies that ensure tree replacement and long-term urban forest sustainability.

Please describe how your project will contribute to future tree planting initiatives in your community, including increases to the community's capacity to undertake future tree planting initiatives, whether through policy development, planning strategies or other actions that support long-term tree canopy maintenance and growth.

Question d) Please describe how your plan or study will contribute to future tree planting initiatives in your community.

[open text]

GCCC supports urban forestry plans or studies that address Reconciliation, anti-racism, equity and inclusion. Please describe how your project ensures that the benefits of urban forests (e.g., improved air quality, access to green spaces, community climate resilience) are accessible to all members of your community, especially racialized persons, Indigenous peoples and other equity-deserving groups.

Here is some guidance on how to integrate Reconciliation, anti-racism, equity and inclusion into your project:

- **Advancing Reconciliation with Indigenous communities:** Engage Indigenous communities to ensure their knowledge, rights and cultural values are incorporated into urban forest planning. Consider and prioritize Indigenous ecological practices and perspectives in decision making about urban forest management.
- **Integrating an equity lens:** Identify equity-deserving groups and communities and rightsholders that may be affected by your project. Assess tree canopy cover to identify areas of greatest need for these communities. Ensure the inclusive engagement and active involvement of equity-deserving groups in the decision-making and planning process.
- **Ensuring equitable access to benefits:** Ensure all community members, especially equity-deserving groups, have equitable access to the benefits of tree canopy and urban forestry initiatives. This includes improving equitable access to green spaces with tree cover, promoting tree planting in areas of

greatest need, and providing resources and education to communities with limited access to trees and the benefits of urban forests.

- **Building capacity for long-term equity and inclusion:** Provide training for staff and community members to help them understand and address the needs of equity-deserving groups. Establish clear mechanisms to monitor, report and adjust strategies to ensure equitable benefits for all, especially those in greatest need. Leverage partnerships to achieve equity goals.
- **Addressing historical disparities and environmental justice:** Acknowledge historical inequities in access to trees and green spaces, to ensure your project addresses some of these disparities, promotes anti-racism and provides long-term solutions to improve green space access for equity-deserving groups.

Question e) Please describe how you plan on integrating Reconciliation, anti-racism, equity and inclusion into your plan or study to ensure equitable access to benefits, especially in communities of greatest need.

[open text]

Supporting document(s)

Optional supporting documents for Part D, Project benefits:

- You may provide additional documentation that provides further details about your project's benefits.

Part E: Budget and workplan

Before completing part E, please complete the project workbook provided to you by your GMF representative.

Be sure to consult [Appendix A: Funding details](#) to determine what cost share you are eligible for, and [Appendix D: Reporting requirements](#) to ensure that your project's budget includes sufficient resources to meet the reporting requirements.

Budgets should be realistic and reflect the proposed workplan, which should have concrete deliverables tied to established project milestones. The workplan should also have realistic timelines and consider elements such as data collection, project monitoring and performance verification.

Budgets and workplans will be evaluated based on industry standards for projects of similar size, scope and location.

In the budget table, please review the budget information about your project that was provided at the pre-application stage and update it if necessary. Please ensure

that the values for the funding request and the anticipated total project costs are the same as those in your project workbook.

Budget	Required supporting information
Project start and end date (yyyy-mm-dd) [date-time field]	Indicate the start and end dates for your project
Funding request (\$) [currency field]	Indicate the amount of funding you are requesting for your project
Anticipated total project cost (\$) [currency field]	Provide the total costs of your project

Supporting document(s)

Required supporting documents for Part E, Budget and workplan:

See [Appendix B: Required supporting documents](#) for details, including templates where relevant.

- GCCC – Urban Forest Plans and Studies project workbook
- Letters from each confirmed source of funding

IMPORTANT: Your project workbook is a critical supporting document for your funding application. It will be used to create the funding agreement for approved projects and for project monitoring. *Please be sure to carefully read and follow the instructions provided in the project workbook.*

Optional supporting documents for Part E, Budget and workplan:

- You may attach additional documentation that provides further details about your project budget and workplan.

Part F: Declaration and signature

In the declaration and signature section, type the information of the person with signing authority from the lead applicant organization (i.e., the person who will sign the funding agreement if your application is successful). There is no need to physically sign the application.

IMPORTANT: Only the application contact from the lead applicant organization can submit the full application form. This person must ensure they have permission to submit the application on behalf of their organization. Consultants working with a lead applicant to prepare the application cannot sign the declaration or submit the application.

Ready to submit your full application?

Once you have verified that the information in your full application form and project workbook is complete, and that you have gathered all required supporting documents, submit your completed application in [FCM's funding portal](#).

Your completed application should include:

- Your full application form as a PDF file
- Your project workbook as an Excel file
- All required supporting documents listed in [Appendix B](#), uploaded in the “supporting documents” section

Ensuring that your submission is complete will shorten processing time, so take a little extra time to check that you have provided all the information requested in the application form, and that your project workbook is complete.

Please refer to our [guidelines](#) for attachments to find out which file formats are accepted, the limits on file size and what to do if your files are too large.

After you have submitted your application, a GMF project officer will review it for accuracy and completeness. They will work with you to resolve any questions and be your point of contact throughout the rest of the application and funding decision process.

NEED HELP, OR HAVE SUGGESTIONS?

If you are having trouble completing or submitting your application or uploading files, or if you have suggestions to improve this guide, we want to hear from you.

Please email us at gmfinfo@fcm.ca or give us a call at 1-877-417-0550.

APPENDIX A: FUNDING DETAILS

The table below presents a funding overview of the GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies initiative. Funding amounts are based on total eligible costs for each stage.

Further details on eligible costs are provided on our [funding webpage](#).

Funding details

GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies will contribute up to 80 percent of eligible costs, up to a maximum grant amount of \$175,000.

- Municipalities with populations of fewer than 10,000, [northern](#) and [remote](#) communities will receive a cost share of 90 percent.
- [Indigenous communities](#), or local governments applying in partnership with an Indigenous community, will receive a cost share of 100 percent.

APPENDIX B: REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Along with your submission of the full application form and the project workbook, you will need to include supporting documents with information about your organization and details of your project. Required supporting documents differ depending on the type of project and whether your organization is a municipal government or a partner of a municipal government.

The table below lists the required documents along with the conditions your organization must fulfil before you can apply to the GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies initiative.

Additional supporting documents may be requested. You are also welcome to provide further evidence as it becomes available.

Note: When possible, please refer to specific page numbers or sections in your supporting documents when you are completing your full application, to make it easier for staff and peer reviewers to evaluate your application accurately.

Applicant category	Required documents
All applicants	• Completed application form • Completed project workbook, including budget and workplan • Letters from each confirmed source of funding specifying the amount of cash and/or the value of any staff time or in-kind contributions to the project Note: You are not required to have all sources of funding confirmed prior to submitting your application. However, funding that is confirmed must be supported with a letter using this template. • Evidence of municipal support (e.g., council resolution or letter of support using the template) signed by the mayor, CAO or designated authority on behalf of council, describing the municipality's commitment to the project and funding application) • Project team resumés • Letters of support from project partners, if applicable

Non-municipal applicants

- [Municipal council resolution](#) confirming municipal partnership on the project
- Confirmation of organizational support from CEO or CFO (using the [template](#))
- Articles of incorporation, including all supporting documentation
- Last three consecutive audited financial statements, if applicable. If you don't have audited financial statements, please provide any of the following documents: review engagements, annual reports to CRA or published financial reports.

Eligible Indigenous communities

- If eligible through partnership with a municipality:
 - [municipal council resolution](#) stating municipal partnership
- If eligible through a shared service agreement:
 - shared service agreement with a Canadian municipality related to municipal infrastructure, climate change or adaptation

APPENDIX C: EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS

External peer reviewers will evaluate all funding applications. There will also be an internal analysis to provide a funding recommendation to FCM's Board of Directors.

GMF will evaluate your project using the following criteria:

Evaluation criteria (weight %)	Performance expectation
Project approach	
Overall project approach and methodology (20%)	The project methodology is effective, relevant, comprehensive, well aligned with project objectives and urban forestry goals. Data collection methods are appropriate.
Engagement strategy (15%)	The project's rightsholder and stakeholder engagement processes will show a commitment to building broad and ongoing internal and external support from the beginning. Inclusive engagement practices will be used to identify and engage relevant rightsholders and stakeholders for planning (e.g., operations staff, staff from other departments, council, regulators, agencies, Indigenous groups, citizen groups, not-for-profit organizations). There is an emphasis on building broad public support with the community (e.g., promoting an understanding of reasons for project selection, trade-offs and long-term benefits, collecting feedback on project design) as well as ensuring inclusive, accessible, and authentic engagement and representation of equity-deserving groups.
Connection to community and sustainability objectives (10%)	The project is aligned with broader community and sustainability objectives and with broader municipal or regional environmental policy and governance considerations. It advances the lead municipality's priorities; is appropriate for the size and scale of the municipality; and is supported by existing plans, policies, programs, guidelines, or council priorities.
Project benefits	
Socio-economic benefits (10%)	The project will consider how to generate social and economic benefits for the community. There is a clearly articulated rationale and intent to consider socio-economic benefits in the planning process.

Community resilience to climate change (10%)	The project will consider how to improve community resilience to climate change. There is a clearly articulated rationale and intent to incorporate a climate lens into the planning process.
Biodiversity and ecosystem health (10%)	The project will consider how to increase biodiversity and improve ecosystem health. There is a clearly articulated rationale and intent to incorporate a biodiversity lens into the planning process.
Increasing capacity for future tree planting (15%)	The project will significantly enhance the community's ability to prioritize and undertake future tree planting initiatives.
Reconciliation, anti-racism, equity and inclusion (10%)	The project clearly integrates principles of Reconciliation, anti-racism, equity, and inclusion throughout the planning process, with detailed strategies to prioritize equity-deserving groups; involve them in decision-making; and address systemic inequities in tree planting, resource distribution and access to benefits.
Project implementation	
Team and partners (pass/fail)	The project team has the appropriate capability and expertise to successfully carry out the proposed project, with experience managing complex projects. There is strong municipal staff participation throughout the project that will enable municipal staff and, where applicable, rightsholders and stakeholders, to build and retain the skills and knowledge needed to undertake the project.
Likelihood of implementation (pass/fail)	The project has a detailed, realistic plan for implementation after completion, with defined timelines, responsibilities, secured resources, partnerships and strategies for long-term implementation. It is feasible for the actions and recommendations generated by the project to be successfully carried out and sustained over time.
Measuring and monitoring (pass/fail)	The project has a comprehensive, actionable, and realistic plan for measuring and monitoring performance data. It has defined clear objectives, success criteria and key performance indicators and has a strategy for measuring progress towards achieving benefits at the implementation stage and adjusting based on outcomes.
Risk management (pass/fail)	The project identifies and assesses all relevant risks, including environmental, technical, operational,

	planning, time and cost-related risks. It has developed suitable risk management plans and mitigation strategies that are appropriate for the size of the project.
Workplan (pass/fail)	The project workplan is specific and measurable. All activities are explained in appropriate detail, and the workplan identifies concrete deliverables. Timelines are realistic and the project is likely to be completed on time.
Budget (pass/fail)	The budget is detailed, realistic and reflects the proposed workplan, with a clear breakdown of amounts. It represents good value, and all costs contribute to achieving the project outcomes.

APPENDIX D: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

If your project is approved for funding, you will be required to submit project reports to GMF. The purpose of these reports is to confirm that your project is progressing as planned or to inform GMF of changes. The reports are also a means of sharing your community's experience in undertaking the project with others seeking to address similar issues in their communities.

Project reports ask you to provide information related to project outcomes, key stakeholders involved in the project, methodology and approach used, your findings and recommendations, next steps in the project and lessons learned from the project. The reports are typically in the range of five to ten pages but may be longer depending on the complexity of the project.

Before submitting your application, it is important to consider all required reporting documents for project completion and disbursement. Please ensure that your project workbook includes sufficient budgetary accommodations for final reporting needs. This includes, but is not limited to, sufficient staff time.

The following reporting documents will be required:

- Final plan or study deliverable
- Project completion report
- Updated project workbook that includes:
 - An expense claim
 - All confirmed sources of funding
- Request for disbursement

APPENDIX E: MUNICIPAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION TEMPLATE

Instructions

To be eligible for GCCC – Urban Forestry Plans and Studies funding, non-municipal applicants must provide a resolution drafted and adopted by the municipal council partnering on the project.

When submitting your application, please include proof that the resolution was adopted by submitting *one* of the following:

- a formal copy of the resolution (on letterhead with a seal or signature and date)
- a signed and dated copy of the minutes at which the motion was adopted, including the text of the resolution
- a signed and dated copy of the text of the resolution, with confirmation that the text is identical to that adopted by council

A resolution is not required for municipal lead applicants. However, a resolution may be used to show evidence of municipal support, which is an application submission requirement.

Council resolution requirements

If you choose to draft your own resolution, it must acknowledge that the partner organization is submitting the application in partnership with the municipality.

Sample council resolution text

Whereas, <name of municipality> has the following interest: (list the main reasons for the municipal interest in the project)

Whereas, <name of partner organization> is undertaking <project title>

Be it resolved that <official name of council> acknowledges that <name of partner organization> is applying for a funding opportunity from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Growing Canada's Community Canopies initiative for <project title>, in partnership with <name of municipality>.

APPENDIX F: GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

2SLGBTQI+: Two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and others. The symbol "+" represents people who identify as being part of various sexual and gender communities and use additional terminologies.

Accessibility: In the context of GMF-funded projects, accessibility is centred on both tangible and intangible improvements. Tangible improvements to accessibility could mean creating physical spaces to aid [people living with disabilities](#) or mobility issues. Intangible improvements could mean implementing measures for greater access to services for people living with disabilities, such as sensory-friendly quiet hours or flexible scheduling and service delivery.

Biodiversity: Short for biological diversity, biodiversity refers to the variability among living organisms, including diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. Biodiversity is crucial for maintaining ecological balance, sustaining ecosystems and providing numerous benefits through ecosystem services (e.g., pollination, purification of water and air).

Canopy cover: The layer of leaves, branches and trunks of trees that cover the ground when viewed from above. "Planting in urban areas with disproportionately low canopy cover" refers to areas within cities or towns where the amount of tree cover is significantly lower compared to other parts of the urban environment.

Carbon sequestration: The process of capturing and storing atmospheric carbon dioxide. It is one method of reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere with the goal of reducing global climate change. This process can occur naturally, such as through plant growth, or can be facilitated by certain technologies.

Community climate change resilience: The ability of a community to endure or recover from the impacts of extreme weather and other events worsened by climate change.

Connectivity: The physical and functional links between and within ecosystems that allow wildlife to move freely and that support ecological processes.

Ecosystem health: The condition or state of an ecosystem. It is a measure of the stability and sustainability of an ecosystem, its ability to maintain its structure and functions, and its capacity to withstand stress and disturbances.

Ecosystem services: The benefits that humans receive from ecosystems, including food and water (provisioning), climate and flood regulation (regulating), recreational and cultural value (cultural), and the natural processes that support these functions (supporting).

Equity-deserving group: A group of people who, because of systemic discrimination, face barriers that prevent them from having the same access to the resources and opportunities available to other members of society, and that are

necessary for them to attain just outcomes. This phrase can refer to [Indigenous peoples](#), [newcomers to Canada](#), [non-binary persons](#), people who are part of [2SLGBTQI+](#) communities, [religious minority groups](#), [people living with disabilities](#), [racialized persons](#) and [women](#).

Equitable access to the benefits of tree canopy: Planting in neighborhoods where social and economic factors can amplify climate hazards — such as in communities with lower income levels and/or with varied employment statuses, racial or ethnic backgrounds, health statuses, and age groups.

Improved shared spaces: Improvements to shared spaces can include physical elements (e.g., new or renovated parks), intangible elements (e.g., cultural, educational and recreational opportunities), and improved safety and security (e.g., road and pedestrian safety and food security). The additional shade that trees provide can be incorporated as part of outdoor shared spaces, allowing for more cooling to reduce the [urban heat island](#) effect. Trees and natural spaces can also reduce stress and increase feelings of well-being. They can also act as a sound barrier, reducing noise pollution in shared spaces.

Indigenous community: In the context of GMF funding, an Indigenous community (which includes First Nations, Métis and Inuit) is eligible to apply if a province or territory has passed an act or a regulation that affords a community the status of a municipality, if the Indigenous community is undertaking an eligible project in partnership with a municipal government, or if the Indigenous community has a shared service agreement for any purpose with a municipal government related to municipal infrastructure, climate change or adaptation.

Indigenous peoples: First Nations, Métis and Inuit people and communities, including urban Indigenous communities.

Meaningful engagement: An intentional process undertaken with the purpose of working in inclusive and respectful ways with all [stakeholders](#) and [rightsholders](#) to shape decisions, actions, impacts or change.

Newcomers to Canada: A self-identified group that may include people who have obtained landed immigrant status, refugee status or permanent resident status up to five years prior to a given census year.

Non-binary persons: Persons whose gender identity does not align with a binary understanding of gender such as “man” or “woman.”

Northern community: A community located in the North, which in the context of GMF funding is defined as the three territories and the northern portion of the following seven provinces, as defined by Statistics Canada codes: Newfoundland and Labrador (10), Québec (24), Ontario (35), Manitoba (46), Saskatchewan (47), Alberta (48) and British Columbia (59).

People living with disabilities: People who have a long-term or recurring physical, mental, psychiatric, intellectual or sensory impairment that, in interaction with various attitudinal and environmental barriers, hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. This is a self-identified status and does not require an external or formal recognition of disability.

Racialized persons: A person or group of people categorized according to ethnic or racial characteristics and subjected to discrimination on that basis.

Religious minority groups: A group of people who share religious characteristics that differ from those of the majority or dominant population, and who often experience discrimination or exclusion as a result.

Remote community: In the context of GMF funding, this refers to communities listed on the Canada Revenue Agency [list of places located in prescribed zones](#) (formerly referred to as “Northern communities”).

Rightsholders: In Canada, [Indigenous peoples](#) have constitutionally protected rights. This means there is a duty to consult Indigenous peoples, as rightsholders, in Canada (e.g., in resource development projects).

Species at risk: An extirpated, endangered or threatened species or a species of special concern, including any species of animals, birds, fish, plants or other organisms that are at risk of extinction due to habitat loss, climate change, overexploitation and other factors.

Stakeholders: An individual or group that is concerned about a particular issue and/or that holds legal or de facto rights to manage or make decisions about it.

Tree planting strategy: A high-level plan that outlines strategic goals and guiding principles for tree planting in a community or region.

Tree planting master plan: A detailed, prioritized plan that defines specific actions, sites, species, budgets and schedules to implement tree planting efforts.

Urban heat island: Urbanized areas that experience higher temperatures than outlying areas. Buildings, roads and other infrastructure absorb and re-emit the sun’s heat more than natural landscapes, such as forests and water bodies. Urban areas where these structures are highly concentrated and greenery is limited become “islands” of higher temperatures relative to outlying areas. Communities in these areas often face heightened risks of heat-related illnesses, reduced air quality and higher energy consumption.

Urban forest asset management plan: A planning document that sets out activities and costs for managing urban forest assets to achieve an expected level of service.

Urban forest management plan: A comprehensive, long-term plan or strategy focused on managing, enhancing and sustaining urban forests.

Urban forest operational plan: A short to medium-term action plan that translates the vision of goals of an urban forest management plan into specific, measurable activities (e.g. long-term monitoring or maintenance).

Urban forestry: The sustained planning, planting, protection, maintenance and care of trees, forests, greenspace and related resources in and around communities to create economic, environmental, social and public health benefits. Urban forestry practices are relevant to communities of any size.

Women: All people who identify as women, whether they are cisgender or transgender.

McLean Memorial Forest next steps - 3 Nov 2025

Updated after Working groups on 9 Oct 2025 and 20 Oct 2025.

Goal 1: A mature mixed native forest and native ecosystem.

Objective 1A	Protection of some coniferous blocks	The white pine plantations will be conserved close to their current boundaries, with light management to ensure that they remain safe and free from the infringement from non-native and invasive plant species - ONGOING
Objective 1B	Re-establishment of native forest and ecosystem.	- The Property Management Plan and ecological survey conducted by the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Network - Circulated to working group - COMPLETE. - - Reforestation is recommended for 2 locations where the tree canopy has been removed by emerald ash borer and invasive shrubs are starting to become established (near West entrance), and a third area made available by the removal of hydro poles. NEXT STEP: This will require detailed planning to prepare the areas for planting, procure, plant and nurture trees. Avenues for tree planting grants are to be sought.
Objective 1C	Preservation of native wetland	- Protect through isolation, with no trail access to the river and wetland between the Arthur St bridge and Turtle Rock. Unofficial paths to be closed off as they develop. NEXT STEP: Signs will be purchased from the Parks and Rec operations budget and placed along western trail stating, 'wetland conservation area - do not access'.
Objective 1D	Removal of invasive and non-native species.	- Rotary Club and T&T advisory Panel (volunteers) continue to manage invasive plants, vines and brush, through manual methods. - ONGOING - Boot cleaning stations (funded by FABN) to

		be installed at the North and West entrances in order to minimise the risk of spread of invasive plant seeds. These have QR link to the Town trails webpage. NEXT STEP Constructed with installation by volunteers expected in early November.
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Goal 2: A looped trail system that supports education and the enjoyment of nature.

Objective 2A	Improve existing trail system and boundary marking.	- Add a short 8ft boardwalk over the small stream at the output from Grandpas pond at 44.33589, -76.14632. NEXT STEP: Construction required. - Improve wet area of trail, 50m east of Arthur St bridge, with ditch and short boardwalk. NEXT STEP: Construction required. - Improve viewing area at Grandpas pond. NEXT STEP clearing brush from sightlines and laying mulch (volunteers). - Improve the rocky area 100m east of Arthur St bridge. NEXT STEP: Remove the worst trip hazards and build up with mulch (volunteers). - Arthur St bridge will likely need major repairs in the next couple of years. NEXT STEP Town to build maintenance into Asset Management plan. - Add boundary signs along the eastern boundary; along laneway and around private property. NEXT STEP Signs will be purchased from Parks and Rec operations budget.
Objective 2B	Establish a new looped trail system.	Pending completion of new sub-division
Objective 2C	Establish a river view point.	- The addition of the well-established 300m side trail to Turtle Rock to the official trail network was authorised by council in Aug 2025. There is no intention to extend the trail

		south beyond Turtle Rock at this time. Mulch and signage has already been added by volunteers. NEXT STEP: Some brush removal and minor widening of the last 100m of trail is required (volunteers). - A publicly funded bench should be added to the Turtle Rock view point. Given the location's importance to the donor, this is not considered to be a suitable location for a memorial bench.
Objective 2D	Design and implement an educational element.	- Installation of educational informational signs linked by QR code to the trails page of the Town webpage. Possible locations/themes/authors include: White Pine (Doug), Turtle Rock (Doug), Invasive Plants (Alan), Plantations (Doug), Afforestation (Alan), and Grandpas Pond/Glaciation (Doug). This will need additional research on format size etc. - Encourage use of the trail by schools once informational signs are added. Note that the GSS environment class has already conducted an Invasive plant walk in 2025.
Objective 2E	Ensure sufficient parking.	Initial needs are already met by the construction completed at the end of Arthur St and the abundant parking near Carmichael.

Goal 3: Enduring community involvement from initiation.

Objective 3A	Community involvement in the development of the area.	- The initial approach will be through the provision of information and plans to the community through social media and possibly the Town trails webpage. Further involvement is anticipated to grow organically from there. - The 'Gananoque Trees and Trails' facebook page is a useful medium for this with 500 followers already. With appropriate regular posts and sharing with other wider subscribed pages a large portion of the community could be reached.
Objective 3B	Community involvement in the ongoing maintenance and evolution of the area.	

Vision: To establish and maintain a mixed deciduous and coniferous native forest, with a mature trail system for the enjoyment and education of residents and visitors.

Table 1

[illegible]