



BRANT WATERWAYS FOUNDATION

NEWS

BRANT CELEBRATES EXPANSION TO TRANS CANADA TRAIL

October 30, 2010

MOUNT PLEASANT, ON – Brant Waterways Foundation and the County of Brant held an official ceremony today to celebrate the completion of the Toronto Hamilton & Buffalo Trail (TH&B) project.

Phil McColeman, MP for Brant; Dave Levac, MPP for Brant; Mary Welsh, Honourable Lifetime Director of Brant Waterways Foundation; and Ron Eddy, Mayor for the County of Brant are pleased to see this important community recreational infrastructure project reach completion.

Work on this project included converting 12 kilometres of abandoned TH& B Rail corridor into a multi-use trail to complete a key trail link of the Trans Canada Trail in south western Ontario. It will be enjoyed year-round by walkers, hikers, joggers, cyclists, roller bladers and cross country skiers. The governments of Canada and Ontario, and Brant Waterways Foundation have each committed up to \$505,400 to the eligible costs for the project, which has a total cost of \$1,516,200.

“Improvements to the trail will help connect Brant County to Norfolk County and allowing families, friends and neighbours to stay active and healthy throughout the year,” said MP McColeman. “Our government is committed to creating jobs and investing in recreation projects across the province to stimulate local economies and provide the infrastructure our communities will rely on for years to come.”

“The trail project we are celebrating today supports our government’s Open Ontario plan to stimulate the economy and create new opportunities to support healthy, active living while creating jobs,” said MPP Levac. “In Brant, Open Ontario is supporting local trades and businesses while promoting a stronger, healthier community.”

“Almost ten years ago, Brant Waterways recognized how important it was for the abandoned T H& B Rail Line to become a public asset. This would allow a critical missing link in the Trans Canada Trail in south western Ontario to be developed,” said Mary Welsh. “In addition, when joined with the long established and popular Lynn Valley Trail, it provides a safe off-road recreational trail from Brantford to Port Dover on Lake Erie. We are proud that people of all ages will enjoy the Brant County section of this trail now and for years to come.”

“This trail will be enjoyed by thousands of citizens and visitors for many decades,” said Mayor Eddy, who on behalf of the Brant County Council expressed gratitude to the governments of Canada and Ontario, Brant Waterways Foundation, and all of their sponsors and donors. “We thank you all for contributing to and completing the T H & B Rail Trail through the County of Brant.”

This project is one of more than 760 across the province that is moving forward thanks to a joint federal-provincial investment of more than \$380 million under the Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program in Ontario and the Ontario Recreation Program (Ontario REC). The governments of Canada and Ontario teamed up to support Ontario's communities and create jobs by improving recreational infrastructure, as these types of projects also encourage higher levels of participation in physical activity and community building. For more information on this initiative, please visit www.rinc-on.ca

Colleen Stolp, Secretary
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