

HEALTH PROMOTION & PROTECTION (HPP) VALUES: NOVA SCOTIA WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE OUR PROVINCE A SAFE AND HEALTHY PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY.

HPP & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, SPORT & RECREATION (PASR) ARE COMMITTED to increasing physical activity through the provision of leadership in policy development, support to the local and provincial sport and recreation delivery system, and collaboration with service-providing partners, other government departments and our Federal/Provincial/Territorial counterparts.

(Department of Health Promotion and Protection 2007-08 Business Plan)

TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: Over the past two decades the trail movement in Nova Scotia has blossomed as community groups and other trail interests have become integral players in the planning, development, and management of a broad spectrum of trail opportunities. Three levels of government, foundations, private sector, and other not-for-profit agencies have also realized the many benefits that trails provide and continue to provide key supports to approximately 140 community trail interests.

Maintenance of these trails opportunities is becoming an issue for many groups. They can often provide the volunteer help/expertise required for maintenance but find it difficult to generate funds to support the necessary maintenance tasks that confront them on a yearly basis.

The Trail Maintenance Program will provide funding to groups who are involved in regular maintenance as well as emergency funding to groups who have experienced major maintenance issues due to fire, flooding, hurricanes, etc.

GOALS

The goal of the Trail Maintenance Program is to provide funding support for the maintenance of single or shared-use trails managed by community not-for-profit groups.

PRINCIPLES

The principles that guide the TMP are:

- Responsive to needs of the community trail groups in a timely manner
- In-kind contributions will be valued
- Flexibility regarding what needs to be funded – issues vary per group.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility criteria for the TMP include:

1) Eligible Applicants:

- a) Not-for-profit community groups who:
 - i) Have the authority to manage the trail
 - ii) Are registered in good standing
 - iii) Have landowner's permission
 - iv) Have trail insurance
 - v) Have an overall trail maintenance plan

2) Eligible Projects/Programs (three categories):

- a) Regular maintenance projects that could include:
 - i) Re-surfacing
 - ii) Addressing drainage issues
 - iii) Repairing or replacing bollards, gates, turnstiles, fencing
 - iv) Brush cutting
 - v) Replacing or repairing signage

- vi) Repairing or maintaining amenities such as washrooms, picnics tables, benches, gazebos, and garbage cans.
- vii) Acquisition of maintenance equipment including, shovels, rakes, bushhogs, chain saws
- b) Aging infrastructure including:
 - i) Replacing or maintaining bridge decking, railings, superstructure
 - ii) Replacing culverts
 - iii) Repairing groomers or other equipment
- c) Addressing catastrophic events caused by environmental or man-made disasters which threaten the continuity of the trail due to extensive infrastructure damage, and may include:
 - i) Replacement of bridges or bridge components, culverts, trail surfaces or supporting materials
 - ii) Removal of fallen trees, debris

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2. Application to include:
- i) Outline of work to be done
 - ii) Estimated costs with outline of other sources of revenue/in kind
 - iii) Evidence that community group is registered in good standing, have landowner's permission and have insurance
 - iv) A copy of an overall trail maintenance plan if one exists or assurances that one will be developed within one year

EXCLUSION

Exclusion criteria for the TMP include:

- Will not fund new infrastructure or trail upgrades, rather the focus will be on maintaining existing or restoring former trail experience.

Note: New development will continue to be funded through Health Promotion and Protection's Recreation Facility Development Program.

FUNDING

- May be applied for annually
- In-kind labour, materials or services could form all or part of the community group's contribution
- Projects that fall under the regular maintenance and aging infrastructure components will be eligible for up to 50% of the total cost of the project to a maximum of \$1,000 annually
- Catastrophic event funding will be assessed on a case-by-case basis depending upon the magnitude of the work to be done and available funds.

APPLICATION REVIEW & RESPONSE PROCESS

- Applications will be evaluated by Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection staff based on the criteria
- Grants will be awarded based upon available funds
- Successful applicants will be notified by mail

PAYMENT OF GRANTS

- Should the project need to be modified, written permission to reallocate funding is required from Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation.
- The recipient must recognize Nova Scotia Department of Health Promotion and Protection's contribution to the funded project.
- Successful applicants can receive up to 100% of the awarded grant before commencing work.
- A final report must be submitted to the Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation upon completion of the maintenance.
- The report will include a summary of work done and a financial/in-kind summary including photocopies of receipts and budget summary.

Note: For further assistance, contact the Coordinator of Outdoor Recreation

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Applications should be submitted to:
 Steve Vines, Trails Consultant

For more information contact Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection, Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation or visit our website at: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/hpp/>