



Trails Symposium

Connecting Trails & Tourism
in Eastern and Northern
Georgian Bay

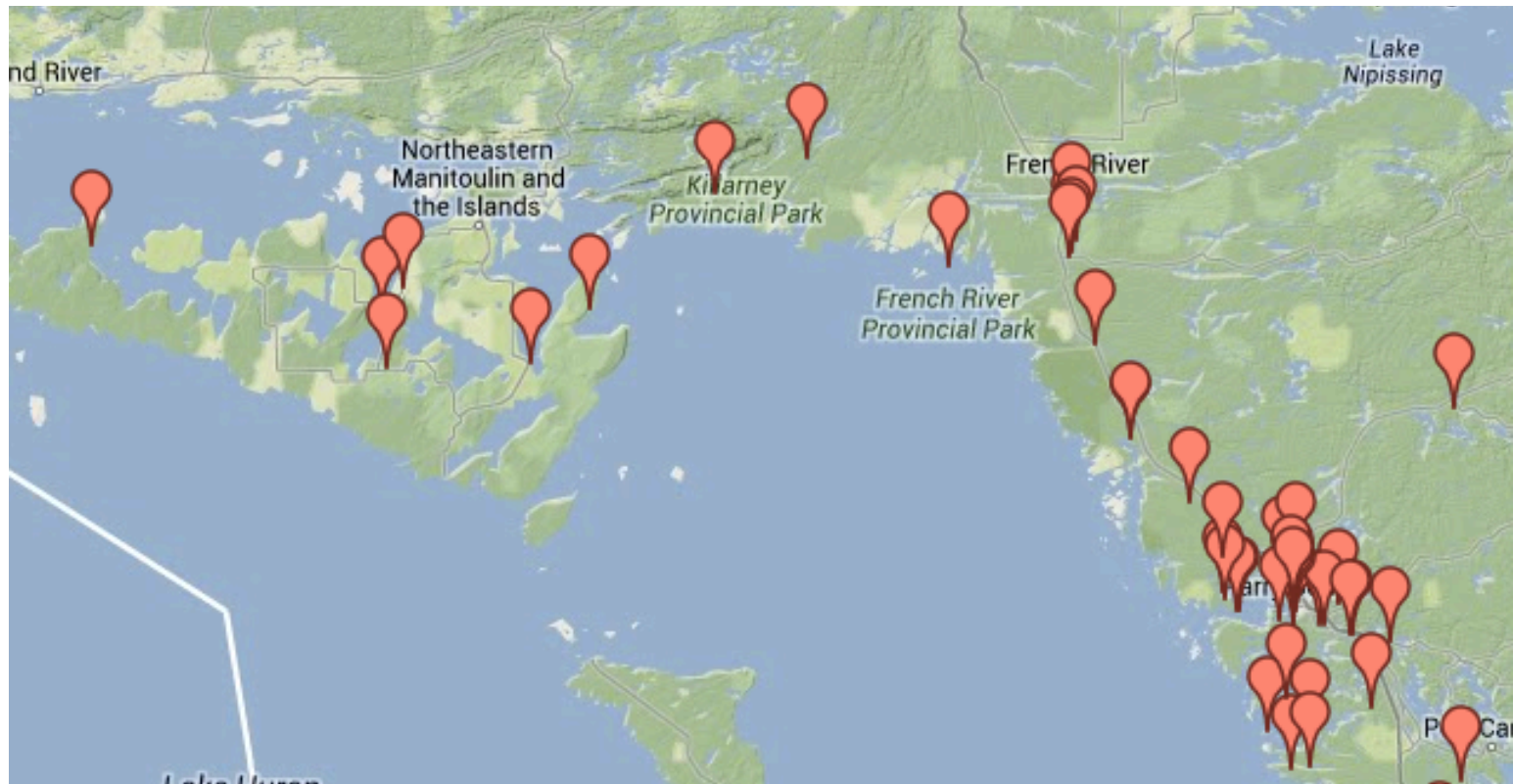
Agenda

9:00	Registration	
9:30	Opening Remarks	Jessie Metelka, GBCT Carol Oitment, MTCS
9:45	Speakers	Laura Peddie, GBCT Luke Wassegijig, Wikwemikong Tourism Kimberly Clark, Bruce County Tourism
10:50	Break	
11:00	Speakers	Sarah Matheson, Frontenac Arc Biosphere Maja Mielonen, Manitoulin Island Cycling Advocates
12:30	Survey	
1:00	Lunch	
2:00	Open Spaces #1	
2:45	Open Spaces #2	
3:30	Synopsis & Next Steps	Patrick Connor, Ontario Trails Council
3:45	Closing Remarks	Thank you!

Trails Stakeholders

- **Ontario Trails Council**
- **Georgian Bay Destination Development Partnership**
- **Park to Park Trail**
- **Discovery Routes**
- Rainbow Routes
- **Manitoulin Island Cycling Advocates**
- Rotary Club
- **Ontario Parks**
- **RTO12 Explorers' Edge**
- **RTO13A Northeastern Ontario**
- **Municipalities**
- Hike Ontario
- Trans Canada Trail
- YMCA
- **Wikwemikong Tourism**
- **Georgian Bay Coast Trail**
- **Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve**
- Great Spirit Circle Trail
- **West Parry Sound Active Transportation**
- **Ontario Ministry of Tourism**
- **French River Multi Use Trail Association**
- **Georgian Nordic Ski & Canoe Club**
- Parry Sound Snowmobile District
- **Pedaling for Parkinson's**
- **First Nations Communities**

Trails Inventory



Trails Milestones

- Park to Park Strategic Plan
- RTO12 Destination Development Plan
- Formation of French River Multi Use Trails Association
- Georgian Bay Coast Trail Business & Marketing Plan
- Wikwemikong Tourism Trail Planning & Building Crew Training Program
- MICA's establishment of the Georgian Bay Cycling Route
- Some municipalities adopting bylaws to allow the use of ATVs on roads
- Select groups participating in wayfinding signage development
- Municipal Master Trails Plans
- Trails Inventory & Research in RTO12

Trails Inventory & Research in RTO12 Opportunities

“...there were weak areas and ignored needs that were obvious. While these weaknesses and needs of trail are evident, they could be remedied with the implementation of a Regional Trails Tourism Council (RTTC). A RTTC does not own or manage trails. Rather, it acts as an advocate and coordinator for the development and maintenance of trails. If a not-for-profit RTTC was created for RTO12, they could service the entire regions trail needs...”

Eastern & Northern Georgian Bay Priorities

- Mapping needs and tools
- Wayfinding signage
- Measuring economic impact of trails
- Developing Destination Trails Experience
- Sharing resources among trail organizations
- Regional Trails Tourism Committee
- Route Planning (hike, bike, ATV, snowmobile, ski, canoe/kayak, motorcycle)
- Sustainable tourism
- Trail infrastructure development and maintenance
- Linking communities

Objectives

- Learn from other exciting initiatives in Ontario
- Identify priorities for partnership development
- Create networking opportunities for trails and tourism organizations

Thank you!



**GEORGIAN BAY
COAST TRAIL**



Ontario



Biosphere Reserve