

Bios for Trailhead Headwaters

CHRIS LEE – GUELPH TO GODERICH RAIL TRAIL ASSOCIATION



I live close enough, long enough ago to have experienced the sound of train traffic on the Canadian Pacific G2G railway as it was passing through the Walton Cut. I was enthused back in the 1990s when there was discussion around the development of the abandoned right of way for recreation and profoundly disappointed when it fizzled out.

Over the years I and my family have been ardent users (and technically trespassers) as we ran, walked and biked our local sections. I was inspired to action 4-5 years ago by Doug Cerson's vision of restoring the abandoned gaps between the Goderich to Auburn section of the Maitland Trail Association and the Guelph to Millbank section of the

Kissing Bridge Trail Association.

I was assigned the role of board vice chair and chair of the trail advisory committee when G2G was incorporated as a non-profit charitable organization in 2015. I have been involved with many local and regional organizations for community and economic development such as RTO4, Blyth 14/19 and Huron Tourism Assoc.

With the trail lease arrangements secured with the province of Ontario, I see the G2G Rail Trail as a prime driver for the future similarly transformative as the advent of the railway and telegraph services of the past century. chris@g2grailtrail.com

ALEXA BRODKA, RPN



As a nurse and outdoor recreation professional, Alexandra places an interdisciplinary lens on the activities that she undertakes as Project Manager at the Hamilton Burlington Trails Council. Alexandra dedicates her time towards helping to build healthy, safe and vibrant communities through trails and natural spaces.

She sits on the Hamilton Cycling committee, advising City Council on all matters related to cycling and volunteers on the governance committee with Cycle Hamilton.

In her spare time, you might find her walking the local trails with her dogs, rock climbing or off on a camping trip!

PATRICK CONNOR BAH, CAE, SSA



For 30 years Patrick has led significant social safeguard initiatives for safer streets, improved community health and welfare, as well as completion of hundreds of national and provincial trail planning and development projects. Key achievements include securing \$10M+ in funding for Trans Canada Trail (TCT) lands through the National Trails Coalition project of 2009-16 that resulted in thousands of kilometers of TCT trail refurbished and maintained for continued public use.

Since 2003, Patrick has worked closely with TCT to complete the Ontario section of the trail. A convener of conferences, publisher of papers, and enactor of change, Patrick is equipped with extensive trail development experience aided by a unique practice-based methodology and keen understanding of trail planning processes and stakeholders in Canada.

In 2012, Patrick was awarded the QEII Silver Jubilee Medal for Service to Canada. Dedicated to working locally, provincially and nationally to assist in widening community development and strengthening the communities that agencies serve, Patrick believes in an accepting and tolerant Canada, supported by healthy vibrant communities within it. He is a CSAE Accredited Non-Profit Executive, President of the Canadian Trails Federation, A Member of Economic Developers Association of Canada and other community justice and betterment initiatives.

Kirsten Spence, HBA Geography, Principal, Quercwood Consulting Inc.



Kirsten Spence is the principle of Quercwood Consulting based in Northern Ontario. Quercwood Consulting is a small, personalized consulting company specializing in trail development, trail and management planning, operations and project management.

Clients include/d Provincial Trail Organizations, First Nation communities, Ontario Government and Regional Trail Organizations. Developed and implemented the Regional Trail Committee (RTC) model in Ontario over a 3-year period including numerous workshops and public meetings. Kirsten has also worked for Trans Canada Trail Ontario as the Trail Coordinator assisting groups with planning, funding, construction oversight, governance issues and government relations.

Other work includes field work with Blythe & Associates for Ministry of Transportation on an archeological study for highway expansion and management plan development for parcels of property owned by First Nation Communities. Kirsten has been involved with trail development for over 12 years and prior to that, with Ontario Parks operating a water access only Provincial Park on Georgian Bay.

Jane Murphy, Principal Terminus Consulting



Jane Murphy, owner of Terminus Consulting, is a trail recreation and tourism consultant with a focus on community and stakeholder engagement. Jane is passionate about the advancement of trail and cycling infrastructure in Canada and has had the opportunity to see the evolution of many trails from trail development to successful tourism and active transportation products.

Jane was instrumental in the development and launch of the Destination Trail Assessment Tool through Atlantic Canada Trails. This program saw the assessment of nearly 40 trails in Atlantic Canada with 12 reaching destination trail status. This tool resulted in the enhancement of many long-distance trails in Nova Scotia, including The Celtic Shores Coastal Trail.

As National Director of Trail with the Trans Canada Trail, Jane was involved in the development of 10,000km of land and water trail along with road cycling infrastructure to ensure the successful connection of The Great Trail (Trans Canada Trail) by 2017. In her role as National Director of Trail, she was the lead for the development of the National Road Cycling Strategy and the National Signage Program which provided opportunities to brand trails and road cycling infrastructure as well as enhancing the overall experience for the user.

Jane provided leadership and expertise in organizing an ACOA Best Practice Mission to the Great Allegheny Passage to learn about the Trail Town Program and has participated in four Best Practice Missions in Canada and the United States to learn about the cycle and hiking tourism opportunities that enhance the tourism product. Jane

is a proven leader in the trail industry with speaking engagements at international, national, provincial and regional conferences.

Jay Cranstone, B.Sc., MLA, OALA, CSLA



Senior Landscape Architect

Associate

Key Highlights:

- More than 30 years' experience in the landscape industry, with 20 years as a Full Member of the OALA
- Contributed to more than 100 active transportation assignments ranging in size and complexity from regional-scale master plans to the design of individual trail segments and trailside amenities
- Involved with all aspects of project delivery, including project management, research and site analysis, concept development, public consultation, design, and report preparation
- Avid cyclist for more than 30 years
- Experience in park master planning, development of open space management strategies and naturalization plans, and detail design for public- and private-sector clients
- Specializes in trail and active transportation planning and design, and has contributed to numerous assignments ranging in size and complexity from regional-scale master plans to the design of individual trail segments

Select Project Experience:

- Parks and Trails
 - Jaycee Trail Study and Management Plan, Milton, Ontario
 - Ottawa Pedestrian Plan, Ottawa, Ontario
- Active Transportation
 - Toronto Bike Plan, Ontario
 - Ottawa Cycling, Ontario
 - City of Sault Ste. Marie Hub Trail Signage Plan, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
 - County Wide Active Transportation Study, Essex County, Ontario
 - St Johns Cycling Master Plan Phase 1 Implementation, Newfoundland
 - Osgoode Link Pathway Design and Construction, Ontario
 - Cape Breton Regional Municipality Active Transportation Plan, Nova Scotia*