

Appendix B: Questionnaire Results

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**Township of Huron-Kinloss
Parks and Trails Master Plan Questionnaire Results**

Total Surveys: 78

May, 2010

1. Do you currently use a trail system in the Township of Huron-Kinloss?

Yes: 43

No: 32

2. Where do you currently go for trail, hiking, and/or cycling opportunities?

- Cycle on the trails that I can use. Mainly stay on hard surfaces.
- We walk often and our preference is along the beach, south to the 8th concession
- Huron County
- Perth County.
- Various places in Grey Bruce and beyond.
- Brant tract near Paisley
- Streets at Point Clark,
- Benmiller
- Halton - wonderful trails on escarpment.
- Maitland Valley - Near Belgrane.
- **Lakeshore** (x3)
- **Lucknow area** (x2)
- Wingham.
- **local fields and bush** (x2)
- Killarney.
- Through woods
- **Point Clark and area** (x2)
- Around Ripley.
- Local

Roads

- Along the roads from Kincardine to Point Clark.
- I frequently run on the township roads.
- **Road** (x7)
- Sidewalks and roadway in Ripley.
- **On country roads** (need paved shoulders or biking lanes) (x2)
- Don't go at the time (only on roads) No Good!
- Behind Huron Tel to the 1st side road. Behind the arena to the first side road.
- On the side of County Rd 6 and Concession 8, Huron Township.
- Shoulder of all roads leading out of Ripley.
- Cameron Lane etc.
- **Bruce Beach Road** (x4)
- Hike, bike through and from Bruce Beach to Kincardine
- **Lake Range Drive** (x3)
- Cycle from Heritage Drive to Wooden Spoon
- Huron Road
- Havelock St to South Kinloss Church
- Anywhere between the 4th and 10th concessions, west of Highway 21.
- **Point Clark Area** (x3)

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- Boiler Beach Road
- Pine River north to 10th Conc. – Huron-Kinloss

Trails

- **Goderich trails (x2)**
- Port Elgin trails
- **Bruce trails (x3)**
- Station beach trails
- Greenway Trail in Lucknow.
- Falconer trail - near Whitechurch.
- Carrack trail - biking.
- **Lucknow Trails (x4)**
- Lucknow has limited trails - need of expansion.
- Sauble trails.

Rail Trails

- Train lines Kincardine to Lucknow.
- **Rail track S.E. of Ripley (x7)**
- Rail Lines.
- Down the railroad tracks.
- Various parts of the rail trail.

Lakeshore

- **Beaches (x8)**
- **Lakeshore (x3)**
- **Bruce Beach and private trails (x5)**
- **Lurgan Beach (x3)**
- **Blair's Grove (x4)**
- McCosh Grove
- Touts grove property
- We walk often and our preference is along the beach, south to the 8th concession

Kincardine

- **Kincardine (x5)**
- Kincardine river trails
- Stony Creek Park, Kincardine
- Around Kincardine
- **Kincardine trails (x5)**
- **Inverhuron Park (x3)**

South Kinloss Avenue

- South Kinloss Avenue.
- Reforestation located on South Kinloss Avenue.
- **Kinloss tract on South Kinloss Avenue (x2)**

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3. What parks would you like to see connected to the proposed trail network?

- 18 – Lions Park, Point Clark**
- 17 – Lewis Park
- 16 – Victoria Park, Lucknow
- 16 – Lighthouse Park, Point Clark
- 16 – Blue Park, Point Clark
- 15 – Kinsmen Park, Whitechurch
- 15 – Kinbruce Park, Lakeshore
- 15 – Attawandaron Park, Point Clark
- 13 – Heritage Park, Heritage Heights
- 12 – Langdon Park, Lakeshore
- 9 – Huronville Park, Huronville
- 1 – Waterworks Park, Lucknow
- 1 – Legion Trail, Lucknow

Other:

- **Connect all parks (x3)**
- Silver Lake Area.
- Any parks possible.
- Just as is.
- Lakeshore trails and parks are of most interest.
- Not aware of proposed trail or where many of these parks are.
- Not sure how these can be integrated into the trail system.

4. Please mark the five (5) recreational trail amenities that are most important to you and your family:

- 52 – Natural Areas/Wildlife**
- 44 – Naturalized Trails
- 34 – Soft Surface Trails
- 31 – Neighbourhood Access
- 28 – Signage
- 24 – Trail Head Parking
- 22 – Benches
- 23 – Shade
- 17 – Hard Surfaced Trails
- 10 – Manicured Trails
- 10 – Interpretive Information
- 8 – Lighting

Other:

- Security and privacy to property owners.
- Garbage and limbs cleaned up: Garbage at the start of trails.
- Picnic
- **Washrooms (Portable Toilets) x2**
- Prefer to walk on grass, gravel, packed surfaces if possible.
- Maps.
- Garbage cans – even in winter! There is a lot of garbage at Bruce Beach.
- Away from residential areas.

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5. Please rank your choice for the following in order of priority.

(1 = Most Important 6 = Least Important)

1.94 - Trails located along scenic areas

2.12 - Trails close to where I live

2.39 - Feeling safe on the trails

2.77 - Bike lanes along roadways

2.77 - Convenient parking or access to trails

2.95 - Trails wide enough for all types of users

6. Do you agree or disagree with developing additional trails in the following areas?

(A = Agree D = Disagree N = Neutral)

	A	D	N
• Along greenbelts, creeks, and drainage ways	59	4	4
• Along utility right of way corridors (electric, water, drainage, easements and corridors)	32	24	11
• Through neighbourhoods	21	33	13
• Along railroad corridors	60	2	4
• Along roadways	24	25	18
• Along shoreline	47	15	5

7. What do you/would you use the trail system for:

64 – Walking

49 – Nature Hikes

43 – Biking

34 – Fitness

31 – Dog walking

30 – Bird Watching

28 – Cross Country skiing

22 – Jogging

21 – Snowshoeing

5 – Equestrian

Other:

- Rollerblading (1)

8. What should the Township's trail system priorities be over the five to ten years?

(Rank from 1 to 4)

1.14 – Development of one or two long-distance, major routes that have a high ease of use for the average user.

1.76 – Focus on start/end of trip facilities (bicycle racks, parking facilities, signage, etc)

1.92 – Focus on improvement of existing streets (provide route signage, improve surface condition, add striping, etc.)

1.86 – Focusing on connecting all parts of the Township.

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9. In what part of the Township would you like to see trails developed?

- North West and west
- Where attempts have been made in past (railway corridors, Bruce, city, forests)
- **The whole township (x3)**
- **Lucknow/Kinloss Township (x3)**
- Back to Highway 21, with one or two trail routes to the eastern hills and natural area.
- **Most densely populated areas (x2)**
- In Holyrood, we have nothing rurally. Just in the towns.
- West of Road 1 - north to Holyrood.

Naturalized Areas

- Forested tracts north of Bruce Road 86
- Northwest quadrant; to and through conservation areas
- **Along lake, in forested areas (x2)**
- **Natural Areas (x2)**
- **Woodlands (x3)**
- **Watercourses (x3)**
- Up the Pine River
- Trails near scenic areas would be welcome

Kincardine

- Bruce Beach to Kincardine on a safe bike lane roads where possible.
- Connect with Kincardine systems.
- Would like paved shoulders on paved road (Lake Shore) from 10th concession to Kincardine.
- South end of Kincardine would be a good start.
- Point towards Kincardine.

Lakeshore

- **Along shoreline (x3)** and shore area
- **Lake shore Area (x10)**
- **No trails on privately owned land (especially through McCosh Grove & Tout's Grove (x4))**
- **Like to see trails near the lake**
- I do not want any trail system near the beach area
- Not on beach areas or groves or near right of ways
- **Lurgan Beach (x2)**
- Along lakeshore particularly a foot bridge hooking up Point Clark with Lurgan Beach
- Along lake create a boardwalk from lighthouse to Amberley Beach (Boundary Road) - get shop students to build
- **Connect Point Clark (x3)**
- Blair's grove to Point Clark.
- Between Huronville area and Point Clark - high user area. Bikers/runners/walkers
- **Lake Range Drive needs a paved shoulder from Huronville to Point Clark for the cyclists (x2)** – between 8th and 12th Concession
- All parts but along the beach from Point Clark.

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Ripley

- **Ripley (x7)**
- Around Ripley towards north end of Township

Rail Trail

- **Along old rail lines (x3)**
- Improve old rail line
- Old rail line Kincardine to Lucknow.
- More of the rail trail extended to include some of the wetlands and smaller lakes like Silver Lake.

10. Please tell us what specific routes, areas, or destinations should be added to the Township's Trail System or what existing trails require improvement?

- A bridge over the Pine River connecting Point Clark to Lurgan
- Trails should avoid built up areas and focus on using existing roads to make pedestrian traffic safer.
- Improve Attawadaron and other one off of Concession 2.
- From out skirts to park - Lewis or Point Clark.
- Involve local people in creating trails and use to educate about caretaking nature.
- The trail on South Kinloss Avenue (east of Lucknow) it's beautiful.
- Easier access to what we already have.
- Pine River.
- Cottage access
- Existing trails could be connected and lengthened.
- We should concentrate our efforts towards maintenance and improvement of existing trails
- Paved sidewalks on all streets in town
- Tuscarora Trail – make walking trail around ball park area and behind community centre to south end of property

Lakeshore

- Not on beach areas or groves or near right of ways.
- Lurgan Beach to Point Clark.
- **A trail through Bruce Beach (x2) – to Boiler Beach**
- Original walkways reserved as access to shore
- More access routes into Blair's Grove.
- **Lakeshore bike trail (x2)**
- Anywhere along the beaches where there are lots of users
- Point Clark lighthouse
- Huronville to Point Clark
- **Point Clark in general (x2)**

Roads

- They should all be connected even using the road system
- **Lake Range Rd (x4) bike lane needed from the 4th conc. to the Lake Range extension into Kincardine**
- Boiler Road
- Lakeshore and back to Highway 21, with one or two trail routes to the eastern hills and natural area
- Trail from various points along Bell Drive and Green Brae Crescent

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Kincardine

- Kincardine to Point Clark.
- Roads from Kincardine to Goderich.
- Joining trails from Kincardine - near Huronville to increase total available trails for all users.
- Ripley to Kincardine beach area.

Rail Trail

- Focus on train lines
- **Ripley Rail bed S.E. of Ripley- currently unsafe from erosion and rotting bridges (x3)**
- Use rail system
- Groomed railway tracks
- Kincardine to Lucknow rail line great bike route with Ripley in middle.

Ripley

- Any added to the Ripley system
- Connection between villages of Ripley and Lucknow.
- Lewis Park to side roads to NW and SE.

11. What community focal points/special places do you suggest should be incorporated into the Parks and Trails Master Plan?

- Use trail website to encourage photos (Google Maps), Geocaching etc for morels and other interesting stuff.
- Bicycle paths along Huron Road.
- Ripley Downtown on rail line.
- Picnic area. Rest stops - washroom facilities.
- Chick-a-Dee trail which was started (along east Highway section and down to Highway 86)
- Water availability on long trails if possible.
- Towns should all be connected
- To possibly incorporate a workout plan for different fitness levels i.e. 20 push ups

Nature

- County forests
- **Woods (x2)**
- **Rivers (x3)**
- Wetlands
- **Creeks (x2)**
- Nine mile river
- The water and forest system
- Nature trails
- **Lakeshore (x3)**
- **Beach (x2)**
- Pine River (Attawandaron Road across from Ridgewood)

Community Landmarks

- Connect all the major parks in the township
- **All existing parks (x2)**
- Lewis cemetery

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- Arena
- Holyrood general store.
- **Lucknow mural at arena (x2)**
- Local heritage sites/historical storyboard.
- Historical markers or storyboard and all parks and/or cemeteries.
- Existing park lands
- **Lewis Park (x2)**
- Ripley Settlers Cemetery
- Cheese factory, village of Ripley
- Open up dedicated park land that is not being used

Point Clark Lighthouse

- **Light house. (X6)**
- **Lighthouse at Point Clark. (X5)**

12. What do you consider the single biggest barrier to your trail usage in the Township?

- Lack of knowledge/communication
- Use the web
- Security and privacy for adjacent properties
- Poor planning of new neighbourhoods that do not consider continuous trails
- Cost?
- I walk usually alone all throughout Lucknow and have no problem with barriers all year: Deep snow and ice are seasonal and controlled by nature thus bearable.
- Money (Our taxes are high enough.) Property issues - landowners insurance.
- My own availability of time; weather; available bathrooms.

Maintenance

- Surface conditions
- Existing trails are poorly maintained.
- People who don't like horse shit but I have to put up with dog shit, garbage, beer can etc. Is this 100% fair?
- Rough uneven surfaces
- Dog walking can add filth/smell to trail
- Any trails that exist are poorly maintained, marked etc.
- South Kinloss reforestation is very rough since it has been logged and hard to walk through some sections
- Downed trees and rubble (lack of upkeep)

Bike Routes

- Lack of bike lanes or paved shoulders
- Not having safe bike routes
- Danger on roads due to traffic and shoulder not paved

Beach/Shoreline

- **The over growth of brush along shoreline (x4)**
- Point Clark to Lurgan Beach

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Wayfinding

- **Don't know where trails are or where they already exist (x12)**
- Knowing what the opportunities are for trails.
- No trails long enough.
- Lack of trails.
- Reference trails on roads using signs like the Huron-Kinloss signs.
- **Provide Signage and maps (x5)**
- Signage - i.e. distance, degree of difficulty.

Motorized Vehicles

- **4 wheelers churning up mud, not slowing down when meeting pedestrians (x3)**

Accessibility

- **People not knowing how to access the trails or where they can park (x3)**
- Access that does require automobile use
- Driving distances and lack of trails close to name
- Quick accessibility to the next section
- Poor parking at some locations especially in Winter

Trail Length

- Legion trail is rather short - ok for walking.
- **No long distance trails (x3)**
- Not enough of them - not far enough.
- Length/distance, the one trail in Ripley is not long enough.

13. **Do you have any additional comments to be considered in the Parks and Trails Master Plan?**

- Glad to see that the township is looking into a master plan.
- I think beaches should be considered as part of this Plan- for walking and jogging. My suggestion is make Boiler Beach Road safer.
- Add parking for people going to the beach.
- I am not sure if you consider the beach shoreline (e.g. Bruce Beach) to be a "trail" but the beaches are certainly a well used resource. We do not need to develop them - benches, signs etc.
- Paint the windmills and use as markers. Green tower, red blades. Blue tower, yellow blades - landmarks.
- I want the Township to avoid Bruce Beach as a "destination." This is a built up area where there is considerable illegal snowmobiling in winter. There are many rail lines and roads where trails could be built and avoid the problems associated with trail use.
- Trails should not go through neighbourhoods. Since most utility rights of way also go through neighborhoods, trails should not follow the rights of way either.
- Trail development in any form should Not be undertaken on waterline or electrical power corridors.
- I think you need to decide whether a "trail system" is really needed in the first place, and what it would be used for. Would it simply be for local use? Or does the township want to develop trails and market them as a tourist attraction across a wide area? I would disagree with the latter approach. I'm not sure that developing a formal trail network should be a high priority for the township. The roads I run on are fine as they are, for most part (perhaps Lake Range Dr. should be widened to include a bike lane, if reconstruction work is in the

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township's long range work plan. It's much busier than it used to be, and a bit narrow to accommodate cyclists. I try to avoid running on it as much as possible. But I realize that's probably an expensive proposition.) Farmers don't need a lot of people tramping across their property, damaging crops and coming into contact with livestock. We don't need signposts to tell people where the lake is. We don't need benches or interpretive information. People who want to walk the shoreline can do so. It would, however, be nice to have a wide, sandy beach that everyone can enjoy.

- Trails, bikes and vehicles are not compatible with the shoreline of lake Huron, according to brochures, and as already established by the townships objections to changes to the shoreline.
- I am not familiar with the township Trail System and do not require further trails.
- Please consider connecting Lurgan Beach to Point Clark over Pine River. There is no family friendly access from Lurgan Beach to Point Clark.
- Please plan for the long term, don't study it too much.
- Post signs to warn if dangers on or near trail - E.G. coyotes, swift water.
- A worthwhile project.
- Keep dogs limited. They are not compatible with all users. IE. "dogs allowed" trails and "No dogs allowed" trails. Fitness outdoor activities should be kept separate from nature. "Nature first" on nature trails. Incompatible activities, using vehicles or large numbers of people/dogs discouraged.
- This is an important part of recreation. Dollars are spent on our arenas for 200-300 people to use where a trail system has the potential of huge user ship.
- I have always repeated the laws and have ridden in the reforestation for over 30 pyears. I think I should have some rights as well as city people who come to our trails and complain.
- Access to the beach from Bruce Beach Road - very little indication now. There must be more options and more signage. Signs warning of bicycle or walking use, like new section of Lake Range, would be helpful. Handicaps prevent us from using distance trails now. When we first came, we explored the beach from Amberley to Kincardine and fortunately decided the section closest to home was the best. But we do need level, solid surfaces to be able to access the beach. Guard rails would be helpful for cane and walker users.
- I use existing trails around Lucknow but they are not well used. Do not believe improving or increasing will get more people using them. Also, trails are wonderful but how are we going to pay for them? Taxes are high enough for the services we now receive. I would hate to see another hike for a service that would only benefit a few.
- Positive and good idea - but don't be extravagant!!
- Stop spending and increasing our taxes. No trails.
- Thank-you for improving these trails. We look forward to using them.
- Start soon; don't take years and years to develop these trails.
- There are massive amounts of bikers from Huronville to Point Clark in the summer. Someone will get hurt if roads and signage is not improved.
- Garbage bins along trails. Out houses or washrooms at beginning and end at least.
- Yes, when are you planning to clear the beach of grass Etc. - see Bruce beach?
- Would like to see a circuit around Ripley with outdoor fitness equipment - historic markings.
- Very important to community.
- Thanks for all your hard work. I use the Lucknow trails two times per week.
- If the trail allows, consider having a yearly 10km run and proceeds would go to the up keep of the trails. It would also bring people to our area to see how beautiful it really is.
- It would be nice to have a long flowing trail in Ripley.

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- Don't allow dirt bikes, horses or bikes on walking trails - it ruins them (churns up mud). I want trails to give me nature, peace and quiet. Long, looped trails with side trails are desirable, so people can choose long or short walks. Please make trails at least 1 hour (of walking) long.
- Resurface roads in Point Clark. Much higher priority.
- None, except this is a great direction for Huron-Kinloss to be taking.
- Trails are very important to a healthy life can be used by all ages - cuts down on health care. Encourages practice in staying fit and healthy, physically and mentally. And it's free. And it's easy to use.
- Hard surface areas besides the roadways for biking and roller blading could also be considered in connecting trails.
- Clear a path along the sand for walking along the sand along the shoreline of Lake Huron.
- I think it is time a little less was spent on recreational facilities and more put into road upkeep. Soon some of our roads will not be much more than trails.
- A walking trail through Ripley marking historic sites - through signage.
- Ease of use for residents and tourists of various health/mobility is important.
- As a summer only resident I am unaware of existing trails and would encourage you to produce inexpensive maps to be distributed at the various beach association meetings.
- Fix the roads first.
- We don't use trails – we have a cottage.
- The beaches are becoming impassable due to excessive vegetation growing to the water's edge and must be cleaned up or the most valuable natural resource in the Township will be lost.
- Have signs on beach access paths and clean up some that are overgrown by hedges and tree patches.
- Very pleased with progress keep up the good work.
- We need to keep the beaches clear of the grass that has invaded them over the past 10 years.
- And anyone who wants can walk the shoreline. I would add one comment about the shoreline, since it's where our property is. It is becoming increasingly difficult to walk on because of the township's insistence that grass and weeds are not to be cleared. My family has been at Bruce Beach since 1922; I first arrived there in 1951, and I can assure you that the grass that now infests the shoreline is neither native nor natural. My own suspicion is that with the increasing acreage of drained farmland, the gullies that run down to the lake are carrying a much greater volume of water downstream, and with it many more seeds and plants that were never before spread along the shoreline. Certainly the gullies flow much harder and faster than they did when I was a child in the 50's and 60's. I think it's pretty well established that many of the plants now on the shoreline are invasive. Certainly many types of grasses now growing on the shore were never seen until very recently. I think they're being fertilized by the run-off from the newly drained fields. We're now faced with the situation on the shoreline of being plagued by invasive species, and told we must not remove them. The beach that used to be open sand along the shoreline is now, in many stretches, very difficult to walk on. I'm not entirely sure what the solution is. I'm not much in favor of hiring a tractor to bulldoze the shoreline, as has been suggested by some. That will only spread the weeds, not eradicate them. The best solution would be to stem the flow of water that now gushes out of the gullies, but that would mean removing a lot of field drainage systems, which is unlikely to happen. But if the township wants access to its shoreline restored, it will have to think seriously about allowing the people who live on it to fight off the stuff that is now clogging the beaches.

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- No motorized use - summer or winter.
- Consider that trails are also used to go places but not have to use or share with automobiles.
- Why would you waste money paying a company to do this survey? That's why we have team of councilors. We can use them for advice or comments when needed.
- No trails until roads in Point Clark are resurfaced and improved
- Rumour of cougars and rattlesnakes are they true? Are they in the area? How harmful are they while walking?