



# Staff Report

## Community Services

---

**Report To:** Committee of the Whole  
**Meeting Date:** March 10, 2020  
**Report Number:** CSOPS.20.015  
**Subject:** Georgian Trail Annual Operations Report  
**Prepared by:** Terry Green, Manager of Parks and Trails

---

### A. Recommendations

---

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.20.015, entitled "Georgian Trail Annual Operations Report" for information purposes.

### B. Overview

---

The Georgian Trail Annual Operations Report is required to be brought forward to each of the three participating partner municipal Councils; Municipality of Meaford, Town of The Blue Mountains, and Town of Collingwood. The purpose of the report is to update Council on the maintenance and operations specific to the Georgian Trail.

### C. Background

---

Staff from each of the three participating partner municipalities have contributed to the summary of work completed on the Georgian Trail in 2019.

### D. Analysis

---

#### Municipality of Meaford (Kilometer 1 to Kilometer 7.2 - 22% of Trail)

Work and inspections completed:

- Monthly trail inspections, including new path to lookout done by parks staff from May to November
- Lifted tree canopies twice from Swathmore Drive to Christie Beach Road
- Refurbished the stone path and both sides of every bridge
- Fixed numerous washouts between Swathmore and Christie Beach Road
- Completed bridge repair audits for future budget purposes
- Collected garbage along the full trail twice and emptied 5 garbage containers distributed along trail daily

Town of The Blue Mountains (Kilometers 7.2 to Kilometer 27.7 - 62% of Trail)

Work and inspections completed:

1. General operations:
  - Monthly inspections completed from April 1 to November 1
  - Three cuts of grass along trail including trimming around benches
  - Contracted by the Municipality of Meaford to cut the grass on their section of the trail
  - Removal of dead trees along various sections of trail
  - Noxious weed control program (June)
2. Maintenance and repair works:
  - Top dressed trail section from Grey County Road 21 to Old Lakeshore Road
  - Planted 300 seedlings along section of trail from Georgian Peaks to Hidden Lake Road
  - Continued with the removal of ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer continuing from where we stopped in 2019, heading west to Old Lakeshore Road
  - Removal of dead and hazardous trees along various locations of the trail
  - Cleaned bridge decks at Little River and Indian Brook bridges

In the Summer of 2019 staff utilized trail counters for the month of July which resulted in trail counts of 4,246 pedestrians and 4,061 cyclists along the Georgian Trail adjacent to the Craighleith Heritage Depot, and 18,573 pedestrians and 1,186 cyclists along the Georgian Trail at the trestle bridge adjacent to Town Hall.

Staff currently have a bid in place to purchase trail counters to collect more trail use data in the future.

Town of Collingwood (Kilometer 27.7 to Kilometer 33.0 - 16% of Trail)

Work and inspections completed:

- Monthly inspections completed from April 1 to November 1
- 3 cuts of grass along the trail including trimming along benches
- Removal of any fallen/hazardous trees along the trail
- Public works performed ditching alongside a section of the Georgian Trail behind the Balmoral development/Canadian Tire Store to address flooding issues

## **E. The Blue Mountains Strategic Plan**

---

Goal #1: Create Opportunities for Sustainability

Objective #5 Improved Visibility and Local Identity

Goal #2: Engage Our Communities & Partners

Objective #1 Improve External Communication with our Constituents

Objective #3 Strengthen Partnerships

Goal #3: Support Healthy Lifestyles

Objective #1 Promote the Town as a Healthy Community

**Objective #4 Commit to Sustainability**

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational & Operational Excellence

Objective #3 To Consistently Deliver Excellent Customer Service

Objective #4 To Be a Financially Responsible Organization

Objective #5 Constantly Identify Opportunities to Improve Efficiencies and Effectiveness

Goal #5: Ensure Our Infrastructure is Sustainable

Objective #1 Develop a Long-Term Asset Management Plan for the Maintenance, Renewal and Replacement of Existing Infrastructure

Objective #2 Avoid Unexpected Infrastructure Failure and Associated Costs and Liability

Objective #3 Implement Best Practices in Sustainable Infrastructure

## **F. Environmental Impacts**

---

All activities are completed with as little environmental impact as possible.

## **G. Financial Impact**

---

Municipality of Meaford:

General Operations \$10,000  
(10.4% of total)

Town of The Blue Mountains:

Recorded expense of \$33,013.30 for 2019 operating season; includes \$9,130.23 for general operations and \$23,883.07 for maintenance and repair works  
(68.75% of total)

Town of Collingwood:

General operations \$5,000.00  
(20.8% of total)

Total: \$48,013.30

## **H. In consultation with**

---

Municipality of Meaford

The Town of The Blue Mountains

Town of Collingwood

## **I. Public Engagement**

---

The topic of this Staff Report has not been subject to a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required.

Comments regarding this report should be submitted to Terry Green, Manager of Parks and Trails at [parkstrails@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:parkstrails@thebluemountains.ca).

## **J. Attached**

---

None.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Terry Green  
Manager of Parks and Trails

---

Ryan Gibbons  
Director of Community Services

For more information, please contact:  
Ryan Gibbons  
[directorcs@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:directorcs@thebluemountains.ca)  
519-599-3131 extension 281