

Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club
Hike Director's Annual Report
August 2022-August 2023

2022-23 was a year of recovery from the impact of COVID 19 and the various public health restrictions on outdoor gatherings that resulted in cancellations and reduced attendance over the previous two years. I am pleased to report that we are back to offering a full program of weekend and Tuesday hikes. Hike leaders and hikers have re-emerged and we have adapted to the parking restrictions that were introduced by municipalities to deal with the massive number of cars that descended on our trails during the pandemic.

This year's weekend hikes included a mix of section end-to-ends, short and longer hikes and the introduction of informative discovery hikes on various ecological topics, suitable for families.

The Tuesday hike leadership team expanded to four with Julie Daley and Tony Evangelista joining Inge Eckerich and me in planning and leading a wide variety of short (3-5 km) and longer (6-10km) hikes.

This will be my final report as Hike Director. I am stepping down after 12 years in the role. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our cadre of hike leaders for their support in building and diversifying our program. I would also like to recognize the work of our trail captains and trail maintenance volunteers. During my term i consistently received compliments on both the route through the Dufferin Hi-Land section and the excellent condition in which it was maintained.

I look forward to being part of the next chapter of DHBTC hiking as a hike leader and hiker!

Les Babbage
Hike Director