

## **Land Owner Relations Report**

Our Club currently has about 15 landowners who are very Bruce Trail supportive and generously allow us to cross their lands. Every fall I visit them with a calendar, a bottle of maple syrup, a great big thank you and an invitation to our year-end party in Mono Centre.

Landowners deserve a special thank you for their invaluable contribution to the Bruce Trail and hiking experience in Dufferin.

## **Land Securement Report**

This March finalized the purchase of the linking corridor from Prince of Wales Road west and south to the Honeywood Ridge property. Cattle fencing, stiles and gates were installed in time for the May 13 End-to-End. A few weeks later, the trail northward from 20 Sideroad was rerouted into mature hardwood forest on property secured in 2022. The project eliminated 8 handshakes, removed 700 metres of trail from Prince of Wales Road and increased hiker safety by minimizing contact with grazing livestock. A special thank you to Don Stewart, John van Nostrand and Dennis Floresco for their concentrated effort over several days, fast tracking completion of the re-route before the start of cattle grazing.

In cooperation with Mulmur Township, a section of road shoulder on the Prince of Wales where the trail crosses was graded and gravelled to provide excellent parking for several cars. The Conservancy paid for the gravel and the Township did the grading. The Township will wing the snow back during the winter which will be wonderful.

Again working effectively with the Township, the informal parking area on Centre Road south of 5 Sideroad was upgraded to provide an excellent lot for up to 19 cars. This is a unique situation in that the lot is on the unused road allowance but the Conservancy paid a local contractor to do the work. Hats off to Mulmur Township and BTC for the win/win attitude.

## **Trail Report**

Thanks to the previous efforts of Carl Tafel, trail captains and many other volunteers, the trail has been kept in good condition. A grass cutting crew is keeping up with a lush growing season and is now on the second cutting. Five trail captains now cut the grass on their own sections by borrowing Club equipment.

*Hiking with a purpose*, trail captains are actively looking after their sections and their involvement is invaluable. There is an ongoing process to group together specific tasks to be done by those with a keen interest and skills to match.

## **Trail Angel Program**

All the Clubs provide this service. End-to-End hikers come from a distance and Dufferin is often too far to drive two vehicles. Our area is a "no mans land" for taxis and Uber. Requests are submitted on our website and are automatically forwarded to my email. This year, we are averaging 2 requests a week.

A special thank you to John van Nostrand, Phyllis Robinson, Morley Brown and Pauline Lloyd who also often drive these hikers from their parked car to where they start to hike. We are rewarded by meeting interesting, enjoyable and very appreciative hikers who often make a donation to the Club.