



Rainbow Routes Association Annual Report to the Community November 2021

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Message from our Board President & Executive Director

In a world full of change and challenges, there seems to be one certainty that continues to prove unshakable: the primordial role that nature and trail based physical activity has on our individual and collective health and wellbeing.

The community's appetite and desire for an inspiring trail network throughout Great Sudbury has never been stronger. People are looking to enhance and beautify their neighbourhood connectors. People are stepping up with visions and action to create fresh and inviting grassroots trail parks. All over the City, people are finding possibilities to create new trail connections or to improve existing well used trails that serve purpose.

Our Association works on four main pillars to continuously improve our trail network and to increase opportunities for nature based experiences. As you'll see herein, we completed a long awaited trail project; we delivered on our prided Sudbury Camino to engage participants and volunteers on a personal challenge; and we continue to provide leadership and support to community individuals and groups that are advancing great projects.

There is a lot to do if we want to keep growing the use and amount of quality trails available to residents. We must continue to proactively review the health, quality and sustainability of our trails. We must find ways to engage people and create collaborations. We must proactively educate and address the unique challenges that invariably appear when undertaking visionary projects.

The recent years we have all navigated together demonstrates the growing need and appetite to have more trails... and of course, to appreciate what we already have.

We hope you appreciate our efforts in 2021 and that you continue to follow and support us in 2022 and beyond!

Lynn Bulloch
Board President

Daniel Barrette
Executive Director



Board of Directors & Staff

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS INTRODUCTIONS

Executive

Lynn Bulloch, President
Dave Tindall, Vice President
Francoise Nadon, Treasurer
Carol Craig, Secretary

Directors:

Jim Little Ursula Sauve
Stanley Koren Peter Beckett
Gisele Roberts Dawn Brown

Permanent Staff

Daniel Barrette, Executive Director

Summer Staff:

Liam Burseay
Alison LaBrash

As a registered not-for-profit charity, the Association is governed and overseen by a group of awesome individuals that have a passion for trails and a drive for a healthier, more vibrant community.

No new directors were added in 2021, however, it is with much recognition that we announce the term completion of two solid directors in Peter Beckett and Stan Koran. RRA policies state that directors must take a leave from the board after serving two consecutive terms. We express our deepest gratitude for their leadership over the years.

To that effect, we will be welcoming Rob Klein, Dylan Kryskow, and Nick Head-Petersen to the board of directors in January of 2022. Welcome aboard!



Trail Infrastructure

Big Nickel Trail



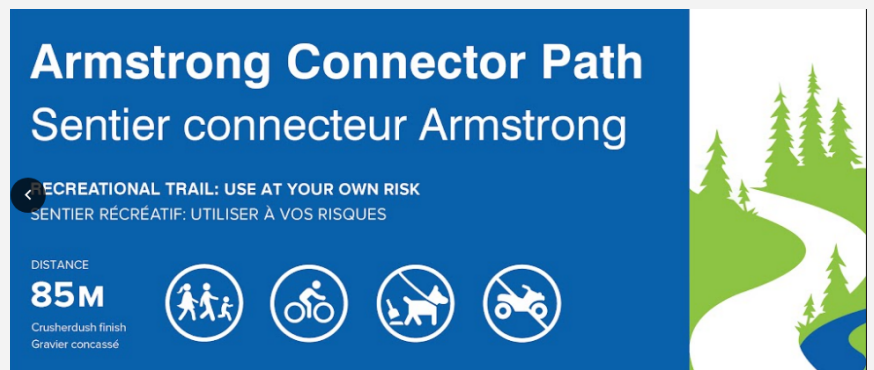
It finally happened! RRA, in partnership with Science North and the financial contribution of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, is proud to have officially announced the opening of the Big Nickel Trail.

Started in 2019, this new 400m trail provides a short but heart pumping experience. The project as a whole proved to be quite the process given the 20m elevation change that follows the contours of a typical Sudbury rock outcrop, and the desire to limit the trail running slope at an average of 10%. It took a true community collaborative effort to make it happen: Businesses like Pioneer Construction, Sign Effects, and Pinchin Environmental stepped in to provide their expertise when most needed. Community individuals got their hands dirty and worked their backs on a few occasions to bring the trail a touch of life and its unique features. Many individuals provided insight, technical guidance and comments along the way to make the trail as safe and most accessible to everyone while aiming to provide the best possible experience.

The Big Nickel Trail features ten unique signs that highlight key points of interest surrounding the trail, a variety of different shortcuts to explore, and picturesque lookouts of Sudbury. Most notably, the trail now provides a safe and legal walking/cycling route to the world famous Big Nickel and the Dynamic Earth Science Center.

Armstrong Connector Trail Upgrades

The Armstrong Street connector is a short and well used neighbourhood trail in the Lo-Ellen area. The South End CAN approached RRA in 2019 to collaborate in enhancing the trail to make it safer, and more accessible and enjoyable to use for residents.



RRA assisted with funding applications, advanced a scope of work and technical proposal, while also advancing a number of signage options as necessary to obtain authority approvals to undertake the work. Unfortunately, approvals are still pending and the project file will continue to be advanced in the Winter of 2022.

Southview Greenbelt Trail

This trail proposal is a collaborative effort by RRA and the Hélène-Gravel elementary school parent council. The vision for this project is to create a high quality greenspace trail that would offer nearby residents a convenient barrier free loop into the Southview Greenbelt, while providing the school population with a tree-covered active transportation route for youth and their families.

Significant consultation that included door to door handouts and multiple on-line presentations to both nearby residents and the school's population took place in May 2021. Unfortunately, some barriers are still hindering general advancements and continue to be discussed and reviewed. We are currently unsure if this trail will materialize but remain hopeful.

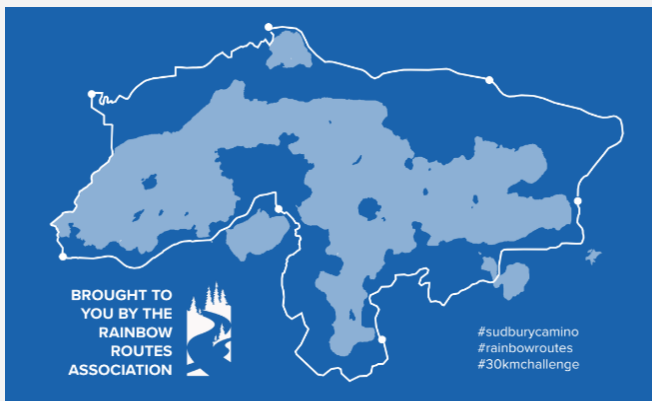
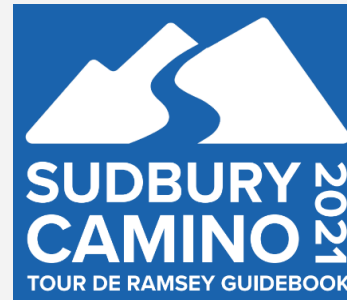


Other Trail Infrastructure Initiatives

A number of other smaller initiatives took place, such as producing and installing additional signage on some trails, such as the New Sudbury Historical Trail. Other initiatives and trail based collaborations are elaborated in future sections.

Programming

The **Sudbury Camino** is a free event that offers a unique Camino-like experience to help people discover the trails that interconnect in our community while challenging people to push their physical limits and reap the mind-calming rewards of a really long one day hike.



The 2021 Camino took on an entirely new route that featured lake Ramsey and the multiple lakes and lookouts along the way. Due to continued COVID disruptions, our event did not feature a mass start, but did provide a starting window with recommended start/end locations. A self-printable and thorough route [instructions guidebook](#) was prepared and distributed to participants and the community.



Created in partnership with Darlene Tindall, personal and spiritual development coach, our 5th Camino featured our very first [Mindful Moments Guidebook](#) to engage people on wellbeing exercises while our bodies took on the physical route.

295 registrations were received this year, with over 100 people collectively completing the hike on the official August 7th, with the others engaged to complete it in sections or on their own sometime in August.

Below are some post-event comments received: :

- *I had never hiked the Minnow Lake trail before and it was fantastic! Nice, technical hiking.*
- *I loved discovering new trails and boardwalks I didn't know existed!*
- *My highlight was spending a whole day with my walking companion*
- *I travelled to Sudbury from Niagara so it was all new to me. I loved Bell Park at the start, the drummer in the woods and the beautifully designed steel bench. The route had enough of everything - road walking, woods, boardwalks etc. A good variety.*

Our initial concept made use of many more existing unofficial trails, but unfortunately, we did not receive permission from a few land Owners to advertise these routes. RRA is committed to advancing these potential routes with the hopes of creating high quality greenspace trails linking the Minnow Lake neighbourhoods to Silvercity and Moonlight Beach.

Guided Hiking, typically branded as Explore Sudbury and Trails4Life, continued to be on hold during the COVID disruptions. Many hikers who have participated together continued to do so in smaller closed groups



RRA however continues to encourage closed group participation and is committed to those individuals demonstrating their leadership in getting people together for hiking. In 2021, under the leadership of Muffie McIntosh, we assisted two new individuals in getting urban poling certification alongside First Aid training and police checks.

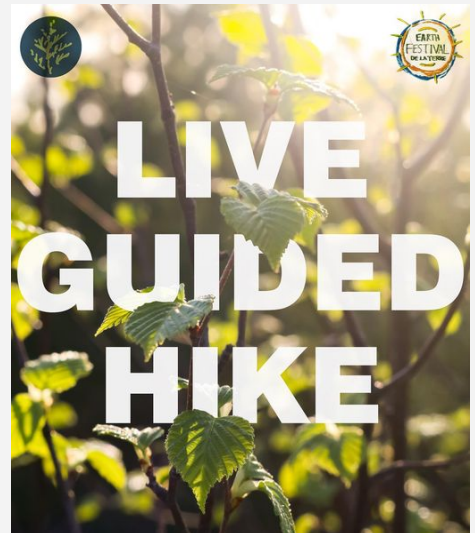
Promotions and Collaborations

RRA remains committed to working and providing leadership to the numerous community groups who share our values. Highlighted below are some of our 2021 collaboration initiatives:

- RRA facilitated the receipt of grants for Bike Sudbury and the Sudbury Single Track Collective (SSTC) for \$1,000 and \$2,000 respectively. Bike Sudbury advanced Trans Canada Trail related community cycling rides (available on [Ride with GPS](#)) while the SSTC will be using these funds towards the purchase of a Snow Dog to improve fat biking trail conditions in the winter.
- RRA collaborated with the Azilda Community Action Network and the Voyageur Trails group to advance a business case, review feasibility, and provide general requirements to legitimize the old Voyageur Ski Trails. RRA has a pending grant application that would see the project significantly move along.



- RRA collaborated with Conservation Sudbury and the SSTC to advance a land use agreement on Nickeldale land, which will allow RRA and the SSTC to create additional single track trails connecting to the New Sudbury Historical Trail spur line.
- Participated in a Kivi Park led community challenge that encouraged local trail exploration and the use of the What3Words application.
- RRA staff and board director Ursula Sauve hosted and led a virtual guided trail hike featuring the Bethel Lake trail, as part of reThink Green's Earth Fest.
- RRA continues to be a reliable point of contact for community trail based information and the distribution of trail maps in our community.



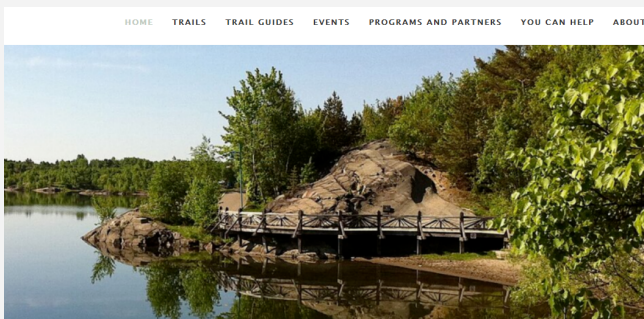
Sustainability and Governance

RRA leverages funding and shares knowledge in the community to advance and communicate the importance of high quality, convenient and practical trails and greenspaces.

We continued to cross-collaborate with local groups to communicate the importance of the Laurentian University Trail Network by submitting letters to authorities, a [letter to the editor](#) and by facilitating support from the Trans-Canada-Trail Foundation.

We continue to be a go-to source for general trail based information. With our continued collection of information on best practice and local design applications, we now hold a sizable database of local inventory to share. We even provided general support and guidance to the Municipality of French River to advance their own trail initiatives.

Social Media and Web Analytics continue to be good indicators of trail based information and promotion sought by the community. Highlights for the period of Nov1 2020 to October 31, 2021 include:

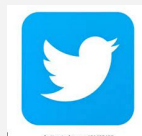


RRA Website

- 100,000+ Page views
- 10,000+ Trail Network and Trail Map Views
- 2,500 + views on popular AY Jackson, Sudbury Camino, Kelly Lake Trail, Rotary, New Sudbury Trail...

Social Media

- Facebook: Page Followers 4,021 (6% growth), Multiple post reaches of 1,000 people or more. (high of 4,200)
- Twitter followers: 2128 (increase of 53)
- Instagram followers: 2026 (increase of 193)



Recognition to the Community

Rainbow Routes Association is grateful for the City of Greater Sudbury's financial support which provides for financial stability that meets a significant portion of our yearly base operation expenses.

Through responsible financial stewardship, the Association actively leverages the City's investment to produce a sound and balanced budget that enables our projects and initiatives.

We kindly express our recognition to the following businesses that have either provided financial assistance or offered other in-kind assistance to the Association from Nov 1 2020 to Oct 31 2021. This includes the businesses and the individuals that have participated in our yearly membership campaigns. Thank you!

Financial Support



RRA Membership Program



Closing Remarks / Future Planning

2021 was a year full of drive and planning with results of a varying nature. We're thrilled to have finally seen the completion of the Big Nickel Trail take place and in seeing the Camino return to the strong community event that it is and can be.

However, a large amount of effort went into projects that never quite took place. This includes a large amount of time and submission for projects like the Armstrong Trail Connector, the Southview Greenbelt Trail, and unsuccessful private land use authorizations for the Sudbury Camino. However, those seeds have been planted and we are hopeful that they germinate positively during the winter months.

Future planning initiatives also taking shape include:

- A reignited appetite towards the advancement of the Junction Creek Trail rail crossings, which are highly complex, challenging and costly.
- The purchase of 6 trails counters for deployment in November 2021!
- Continue to advance the Camino route to further connect the Minnow Lake area with high quality greenspace trails.
- Continue to advance the New Sudbury Historical Trail Phase 2 (Barrydowne to Lansing)
- Work with the downtown CAN to confirm interest and support of enhancing the existing St.Nicholas greenbelt trails. (area bordered by Paris Street, Bolland Avenue and trails, Highland Drive, etc.)
- Continue to explore and develop programs that engage people on trails, with more confidence and frequency, and/or engage people towards healthier and more sustainable trails.

The list of possibilities is anywhere but short and exciting for the community..

Thank you for your continued support and presence. Breath fresh!.

Daniel Barrette
Executive Director.

Appendix A - 2020 Financial Statements

Notice to Reader and Financial Statements, December 31, 2020

As prepared by BakerTilly

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION, As at December 31, 2020

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 81,258	\$ 86,363
Accounts Receivable	\$ 35,579	\$ 28,471
	\$ 116,837	\$114,834
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 41,368	\$ 11,493
Deferred Revenue	\$ 16,157	\$ 62,657
	\$ 57,525	\$ 74,150
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$ 43,312	\$ 40,684
Internally restricted fro human resources	\$ 16,000	\$ 0
	\$ 59,312	\$ 40,684
	\$116,837	\$114,834

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION, For the year ended Dec.31,2020

REVENUE		
GRANTS		
- Operational	\$ 72,420	[265,893
- Programming	\$ 19,402	
- Projects	\$ 35,000	
Donations & Sponsorships	\$ 13,136	\$ 13,667
Membership fees	\$ 737	\$ 1,016
Interest Income	\$ 103	\$ 280
	\$140,798	\$280,856
EXPENDITURES		
Insurance	\$ 3,363	\$ 3,317
Office and general	\$ 1,333	\$ 4,483
Professional fees	\$ 4,567	\$ 2,547
Programming and events	\$ 4,213	\$ 12,595
Trail development	\$ 34,563	\$106,401
Wages and benefits (2 contract staff)	\$ 74,131	\$157,283
	\$122,170	\$286,626
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES		
Internally restricted for Human Resources	\$ 16,000	\$ ---
Revenue over expenditures	\$ 2,268	\$ (5,770)
	\$ 18,268	\$ (5,770)
Net Assets, beginning of year	\$ 40,684	\$ 46,454
Net Assets, end of year	\$ 43,312	\$ 40,684

Appendix B - 2020 AGM Meeting Minutes

2020 AGM MINUTES - Facebook and YouTube Live events

Tues. Nov. 24, 2020 6:00 pm

Attendance: Jim Little, Dave Tindall, Lynn Bulloch, Francoise Nadon, Ursula Sauve, Carol Craig, Stanley Koren, Peter Beckett, Gisele Roberts

Staff: Daniel Barrette, Ashley Campeau

General Public: ~ 40 to 60 viewers

1. *Call to Order:* The meeting was called to order by Lynn Bulloch at 6 :00 p.m.

2. *Approval of the Agenda*

Motion AGM 1-20: To accept the agenda for the 2020 RRA AGM.

Mover: Jim Little **Seconded:** Dave Tindall **Passed**

3. *Approval of 2019 minutes*

Motion AGM 2-20: To accept the 2019 AGM minutes as presented. **Mover:** Jim Little

Seconded: Dave Tindall **Passed**

4. *Introduction of the Board of Directors & Staff*

Lynn Bulloch introduced current Directors and Staff.

Motion 03.20 - To accept Lynn Bulloch, President, on a second term of 3 years. **Moved:** Jim

Little Seconded: Stan Koren **Passed**

Motion 04.20 - To accept Dave Tindall, Vice President, on a second term of 3 years. **Moved:**

Stan Koren Seconded: Ursula Sauve **Passed**

Motion 05.20 - To accept the nomination of Dawn Brown for a 3 year term as director of the

board. **Moved:** Dave Tindall **Seconded:** Ursula Sauve **Passed**

5. *2019 Financial Statement Review completed by Francoise Nadon, Treasurer.*

Motion 06.20 - To accept the Financial Report for the year ending December 31, 2019 as

presented. **Moved:** Francoise Nadon **Seconded:** Dave Tindall

6. *Our Year in Review by Daniel Barrette, Executive Director*

Daniel provided an overview of the initiatives from the 2020 year. From the Adam Shoalts event to specific trail developments, the Association was still very much active in a COVID environment. RRA`s new 2021-2025 Strategic Plan was also created and shared.

7. *Adjournment of business Meeting at 6:30 p.m.*

8. *Presentations: Lynn Bulloch and Kielyn Marrone (Lure of the North, Specializing in traditional winter travel, hand crafts and wilderness living) entertained viewers with her experience on the reality television series "Alone".*

Appendix C - 2021 AGM Agenda

Business Meeting - 6:00 to 6:35pm

- | | | |
|----|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Welcome / call to order | Lynn Bulloch, President |
| 2. | Motion to Accept Agenda (<i>Motion 2021.01</i>) | |
| 3. | Motion to Accept 2020 Minutes | |
| 4. | Board of Directors | |
| | a. Introductions | |
| | b. Resignations | |
| | c. Nominations for election | |
| 5. | 2020 Financial Statement Review | Francoise Nadon, Treasurer |
| 6. | Our Year in Review (Routes Report) | Daniel Barrette, Executive Director |
| 7. | Adjournment of Business Meeting | Lynn Bulloch, President |

Presentations - 6:35 to 7:15pm

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Keynote Speaker - Back Roads Bill | |
| 2. | Closing Remarks | Lynn Bulloch, President |