



2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2022 - MARCH 31, 2023

braggcreektrails.org | info@braggcreektrails.org



WE ARE

A community-minded, volunteer-run nonprofit dedicated to maintaining and advocating for multi-use trail systems in Bragg Creek.

WE PROVIDE

Multi-use trail systems in Bragg Creek cared for and created by community for community so everyone can connect with nature in every season.

OUR MISSION

Happy trails! Connecting a diverse community through a shared love for the outdoors in every season.

In the spirit of truth and reconciliation, Bragg Creek Trails honours and acknowledges that the West Bragg Creek land and trails where many people work, volunteer and play, are located on Treaty 7 Territory, sacred ancestral lands of the Blackfoot Nations of Siksika, Kainai, Piikani, Wesley, Stoney-Nakoda & Tsuut'ina Nations & Region 3 of the Métis Nations of Alberta. As current land and trail stewards, BCT is grateful for the keepers of the land who came before us.



Table of Contents



Presidents Report	01
Our Team	02
Trail Love	03
Community Trails	04
All Season Trails	05
Ski Trails	07
WBC Partnership Project	09
Building Community	10
Fundraising	11
Bragg Swag	14
Volunteers	15
Communications	17
Trail Hosting	19
Get Involved	20
Financial Reports	21

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD

BCT continue to evolve as we focus on achieving the goals of our Strategic Plan. Last year at this time, we were preparing to hire Michelle Dice, our first-ever Executive Director. This move to professional management has been transformational for the organization.

Growing even stronger with a new Trail Operation Manager, Russell Wright. Both bring exceptional management skills and insightful perspectives to working in the non-profit world of trail management.

The financial support of the newly named Alberta Ministry of Forestry, Parks, and Tourism (FPT), through dedicated funds collected from the Kananaskis Conservation Pass (KCP), has made this possible. Our long-standing partnership has resulted in a trust in our ability to leverage funding and volunteerism to steward the West Bragg Creek trail system. This sustainable operational funding allows us to concentrate fundraising on capital projects without the worry of how we maintain operations, staffing and essentials for our users.

Another significant collaboration with FPT this year has been the West Bragg Creek Master Trail Plan. This intensive review of the network by all stakeholders will result in a final plan that will guide the development and management of the area for the next few years.

While out at WBC please say hello to our BCT volunteers working on trail building and maintenance, grooming, or trail hosts in gear sponsored by Arc'teryx Canada. The enthusiasm for our merchandise has not only been a pleasant surprise but has become a significant fundraiser, along with setting a high bar for trendy trailside fashion. A big thanks to Imke for her vision.

Although much of our primary focus is aimed at the trails inside Kananaskis Country, the trails within Rocky View County that provide local connectivity are an important link BCT provides to community trail users and visitors. In particular, the Bragg Creek section of the Trans Canada Trail section connects us to the longest continuous trail in the world.

This annual report will elaborate on the various activities of the past year. It is an impressive group of individuals with a common vision for these trails that have contributed in so many ways to the evolution of the Bragg Creek Trails organization. My role as President is made much easier when you have a community behind you, and I thank you all for that support.



Conrad Schiebel, BCT President



OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM



Conrad Schiebel
President



Brad Small
Vice President



Karena Brawley
Secretary



Ken Young
Treasurer



Eric Lloyd
Director Special Projects



Imke Gudehus-Ryder
Director



Josh Leung
Director



Pam Lewis-Cresswell
Director



Neil MacLaine
Director



Paul Saunders
Director



Alf Skrastins
Director



Michele White
Director



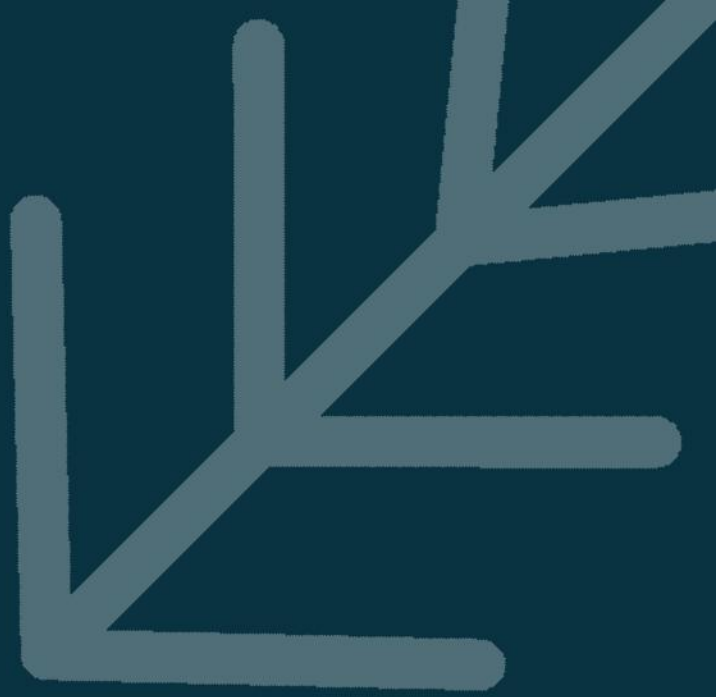
Ursula Wolfarth
Director



Michelle Dice
Executive Director



Russell Wright
Operations Manager



TRAILS LOVE



32 of the 36 existing
trails worked on in
2022/2023

COMMUNITY TRAILS

WEST BRAGG CREEK TRANSCANADA TRAIL PHASE 2.1 PAVING

Bragg Creek Trails is pleased to report that in 2022 we completed the paving of 1.4 km of the West Bragg Creek TransCanada Trail along Township Road 232 from Mountain Park Road to Meadow View Road in Rocky View County (RVC). BCT would like to thank RVC and Western Economic Diversification Canada Community Revitalization Fund for each providing 50% funding for this \$242,000 project. Economy Paving Ltd. completed this work in September 30, 2022 after submitting the lowest bid in a competitive tender process. McElhanney completed all the technical work for this project including engineering design drawings and specifications, RVC approvals, tendering, inspections and project management. We look forward to paving the remainder of the TCT in 2023.



"Thank you to your team who helped to get the paved bike trail. The bike racks used to only have 2 or 3 bikes...10 years ago. Thank you for helping to get our kids moving outdoors and fostering that love of the outdoors."

-Rose

ALL SEASON TRAILS

West Bragg Creek's 113 km multi-user trail system includes trails for hiking, biking, equestrian, running, skiing, dog walking and all non-motorized activities outside. BCT crews start the spring season by focusing on drainage issues and tread repairs on the most popular trails to get them ready for the summer season. This ensures that the trails are dry and firm for trail use as soon as possible and ready for the spring precipitation events.

“Walking on the trails in West Bragg is how I maintain my mental health”
- Trudy

During the summer and early fall, the trail work focused on completing the deadfall clean-up from the November 2021 windstorm as well as the thorough refurbishment of a selection of trails. Braggin Rights, the south half of Long Distance, Disconnect, Boundary Ridge, Strange Brew, Ranger Summit and the east half of Snakes & Ladders were all returned to newly built condition. This includes repair to eroded tread, re-shaping and reinforcement of bermed corners and removal of organic debris that was compromising good drainage. Where the trails had widened or braided due to short-cutting or avoidance of muddy areas, the tread was narrowed to bring the trail back to the original designed width. By keeping the trails in brand-new condition, we maintain the high standard of user experience.



Later in autumn, our work involved brushing and clearing on popular winter trails, to get them ready for the snow season. This included some safety, drainage and tread improvements on Snowy Owl and Sugar Pony, and repairs to two bridges on Fullerton Loop. All of this improves the fat biking, snowshoeing and winter hiking when the trails are snow covered.



BCT is looking forward to the completion of the Master Plan 2.0 and the improvements and new trails to come!

FAT BIKE GROOMING

A selection of single track trails are groomed for fat-biking during the snow season, a process of machine packing, using motorcycles. This is supplemented by trail crews who use hand tools to dig out drifted snow, level sloped tread, shape bermed corners and remove ruts. While this makes these trails fun for fat-biking, it also makes it easier for snowshoeing, winter hiking and trail running.



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to all the enthusiastic trail crew volunteers who made it possible to achieve all of this work. We had **142** trail days and volunteers put in **468** shifts, for **3,481** hours of trail work.



142

Trail Days

468

Volunteer Shifts

3,481

Hours of Trail Work

SKI TRAILS

The 2022-2023 XC Ski season keep us on our toes! Early snow to equipment challenges, light snow fall to a large dump, and frigid temperatures to melting conditions. As always the BCT grooming teams persevered.

GROOMING IN THE SUMMER... IT'S ALMOST TIME

Grooming on the ski trails began in the summer of 2022, as the team identified a number of concerning areas in the network. On the northern section of Moose Loop Connector, we widened the steep bottleneck, and improved the shape of the tread to allow room for skiers to ascend the hill and not be in the way of skiers coming down, while also improving sightlines.

The sharp and dangerous 90-degree left-hand turn on the north end of Mountain View was addressed by adding a chicane, which provided a means for slowing skiers down and improving their safety and control while entering the sharp corner.

The pesky ice flow issue by the bridge on Iron Springs was also tackled. Improvements to the ditching and drainage helped to minimize the amount of ice flow that developed later in the winter season.

"Thank you to the BCT Ski groomers for all they do. Our family love the trails at WBC!"
-Tyler



EARLY SNOW... LAYING THE GROUNDWORK

One of the most important pieces to establish a great ski season is to build a great foundation. The snow we packed in early November helped set up the base we needed to make it through the year. The early snow also helped us start to level the crowned trails and fill in deeper troughs to facilitate easier grooming as the season progressed.

“It was great to see the crew already out roller packing on November 2: my first ski day of the 22/23 season.”



ALBERTA YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP

While we're a big believer that education is important, for the weekend of March 3-5, 2023, XC Skiing took precedence! After a 3-year hiatus, we welcomed youth athletes from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Yellowknife to take to the trails, gliding and skating to victory. It was an extremely successful tournament, with many smiling faces (we even heard that some athletes beat their personal bests due to the precision of the groomed tracks).



WAITING FOR THE SNOW

Remember the weeks that Mother Nature denied us any snow? Our amazing groomers worked smart to keep the ski trails buried through snow farming, snow piles and wind rows.

Ski grooming shuts down when the temperature is -25° Celsius. Once warmer conditions developed, groomers concentrated on renovating the hills and skate lanes on the core XC Ski trails. With focused intent and lots of manpower, we were able to maintain the trails well into spring, so our cross-country skiers could extend their season.

We never get tired of the accolades – this is what fuels us!



Thank you to the amazing groomers of BCT – we couldn't have done it without you!

WBC PARTNERSHIP REPORT

WBC COLLABORATIVE WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP PROJECT FORMERLY KNOWN AS WEST BRAGG CREEK (WBC) RIPARIAN AND WETLAND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

Starting in May 2020, this project is a partnership between BCT, Cows and Fish, Alberta Government, Rocky Mountain Forest Range Association, Elbow River Watershed Partnership, and local range allotment Preference Quota (PQ) holders.

The goal is to implement range and riparian management enhancements in the Bragg Creek sub-basin of the Elbow River watershed. A detailed range and riparian health inventory led to a number of projects over the last 3 years:

- Riparian restoration of Old Shell Road site including fencing and plantings
- Installation of two solar off-stream cattle water troughs
- Range health educational field days and signage
- Pond Leveller research and installation (coming this summer)
- Beaver co-existence education and signage
- Fence realignment to facilitate cattle movement
- Noxious Hawkweed control volunteer pulling days
- Raising of Mountain Road to prevent flooding by adjacent beaver dam

This project plays an important role in protecting our watershed and being good environmental stewards of this land that we all enjoy.



Aerial view of completed restoration project and woody debris barriers on either side of Bragg Creek, October 8, 2021.

Drone imagery courtesy of Mike Gallant, KWL



BUILDING COMMUNITY



9669

VOLUNTEER HOURS



2800

EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS



FUNDRAISING

There is no shortage of love and appreciation for everyone that supports BCT and we want to thank you for donating, for sponsoring us, for purchasing raffle and silent auction tickets, for showing up at our events, your grants, and for buying your bragg swag!

BCT has received a commitment from Alberta Forestry, Parks and Tourism for a three year commitment of \$300,000 per year to go towards BCT operations. These funds are a result of the Kananskis Park Pass (KCP) fees collected by the Government of Alberta. BCT is excited that long term operational funding has been secured as it ensures we are able to pay expenses for staffing, equipment maintenance, fuel, tools, insurance and all the things that support our work as Trail Stewards. Although this contribution goes a long way to supporting our sustainability, it is not sufficient to cover all of our operating costs and cannot be used to purchase capital assets. Based on our detailed Asset Management Plan, BCT is responsible to raise an additional \$100,000 for operating and all capital needs through our fundraising efforts.

This past year we purchased four e-bicycles that we use to transport crew to the far-flung reaches of our trails system and are currently raising funds for new equipment needs. The WBC Master Plan will be finalized soon and we look forward to a capital campaign that will allow us to repair and build trails, old and new, for the enjoyment of generations to come.

thanks
for your
support

Sponsorship opportunities have also proven to be successful for both BCT, and the sponsors, with exposure to thousands of eyes every year! Thank you to last years sponsors of our Trail Condition Cameras (Calgary Cycle), the Nordic Pulse Ski Conditions page (Nordiq Alberta), and our Trail Apparel for Groomers and Trail Hosts (Arc'teryx Canada).

We have several opportunities for sponsor the work we do at BCT - Wifi, Safety Program, Trail Crew Tools, etc. so reach out and support your favorite trail network. We love our sponsors!

And last, but definitely not least, we want to extend a huge gigantic thank you to the support from our trail users, outdoor clubs and foundations who drop cash in the donation boxes at the trail head, give online on our website, send us cheques in the mail and make the work we do possible every day!

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

\$100,000 +



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada



Canada

\$5000 +



Brodie's Professional Outdoor
Leadership Fund at the Calgary
Foundation

James & Brenda Mackie

Bill Sawyers

The Bellini Foundation

\$1000 +



ARC'TERYX



Becky Rogala

Shamrock Foundation

John and Mariette
VanWees Fund at
Calgary Foundation

Jason Legere

Lauren Cooper

Kelly Woods

Gary Millard

Clark & Judy Lang

Rosemary Nation

The Read Family
Foundation

Rocky Mountain
Charitable Giving
Fund

Iron Legs Running
Company

Greg Jansen

Geoff Ryder

Galvin Family Fund at
Calgary Foundation

\$500 +

Shirley Marsh
Dave Steadman
Michael R. Smith
Jane Crawford
Judy Atwater
Marcia Monteith
Darlene Weger
Andrew Esposito
Nicholas Campbell
Doug Hackbarth
PipeTech Corporation
Beniva Consulting Group
Laura Zawalsky
Doig Bunait
Ryan Hegholz
Clinton & Lisa Roberts
Jane Stevenson
Jennifer Hetherington
Phil Entz
Deloitte
James Andruchow
Toni Jaques
Wallace King
Tricia Leadbeater
Apple
Kenneth Richards
Gordon Dibb
Elizabeth & Philip Hoffman
Perrin Dunn
Colleen Burns
Shawn Irwin
Bragg Creek Trading Post
Paradise Landscape
Robert Lazorko
Mark & Julianna Fish
Steve Nikiforuk
Norseman Ski Club
Randy Parsons
Michele Anholt
Nancy Farries
Heninger Toyota
Kendra Gowdy
Wendy Kadar



BRAGG SWAG

It's ok if you don't like Bragg Swag... not everyone has good taste!

Bragg Swag is run out of the Trail Centre in WBC, with merchandise sold by the Trail Hosts during shifts on the weekends. The monies earned help support happy trails, through equipment funding, environmental projects and volunteer appreciation.

Fair warning: There may have been some sore necks this past year, as trail users rubber necked the goods as they scooted past the Trails Centre.



“ Love the merch! ”

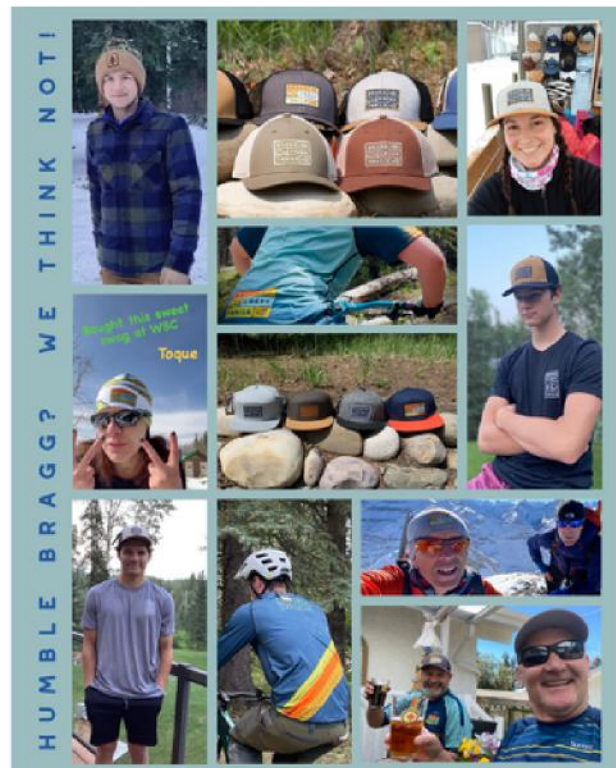
2022 OVERVIEW

~ **\$110,500**

Gross Revenue

~ **\$42,500**

Net Revenue



A photograph of three volunteers working in a forest. One person in the foreground is wearing a black shirt and grey pants, bending over to work on the ground. Another person in a yellow shirt is in the middle ground, and a third person in a blue shirt is in the background. The forest floor is covered with dry leaves and grass, and several trees are visible.

VOLUNTEERS

At Bragg Creek Trails, our dedicated volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization. Their unwavering commitment and passion for the trails have played a vital role in our success. We are thrilled to recognize the incredible contributions of our volunteers who have generously dedicated their time and energy to support our mission. In the past year, we have been fortunate to have 97 enthusiastic volunteers who collectively contributed a remarkable 9,669 hours of their valuable time. Their efforts have made a significant impact on the trail network and for all the people that enjoy the trails.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every volunteer who has selflessly given their time and skills to support BCT.

VOLUNTEERING ON AND OFF THE TRAILS

TRAIL CREW

TRAIL CREW
LEADERS

SKI
GROOMERS

FAT BIKE
GROOMERS

TRAIL
HOSTS

BOARD

COMMITTEES

SPECIAL
PROJECTS

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS

100+ HOURS CLUB

Alf Skrastins

Imke Gudehus-Ryder

Geoff Ryder

Brad Small

DNA Cebuliak

Conrad Schiebel

Ken Young

Michele White

Pam Lewis-Cresswell

Karena Brawley

David Owen

Ed Reynolds

Peter Farran

Steve Ernst

Eric Lloyd

Seth Ryder

Gordon Gilbertson

Mark Wilson

Jill Hartzell

Ursula Wohlfarth

George Haeckel

Jakob Ryder

Mike Massicotte

William Prebushewsky

Jeremy Neufeld

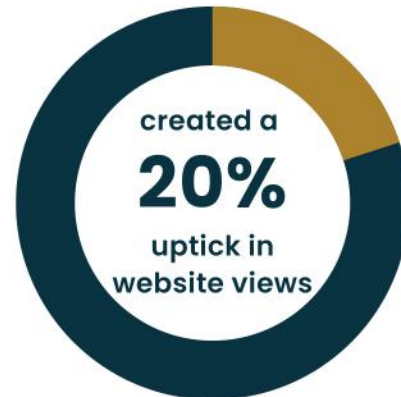
Lexie Massicotte

Special thanks to our 100+Hour Club for their dedication and passion to BCT.



COMMUNICATIONS

We LOVE interacting and building connections with trails users to ensure the visibility of the organization in multiple formats. Whether we're posting on social media, writing the newsletter, connecting on the website, or simply informing through TrailTalks, our volunteers develops, updates and monitors the many communication initiatives necessary to build connectiveness and community for BCT.



Find us on



@braggcreektrails



@braggcreektrails



braggcreektrails.org



info@braggcreektrails.org



linkedin.com/company/bragg-creek-trails-association/

HighCountryNews.ca

7000



Almost 7000 Facebook Followers

6200



Just over 6200 followers on
Instagram

News! News! Come and get our NEWSLETTER!

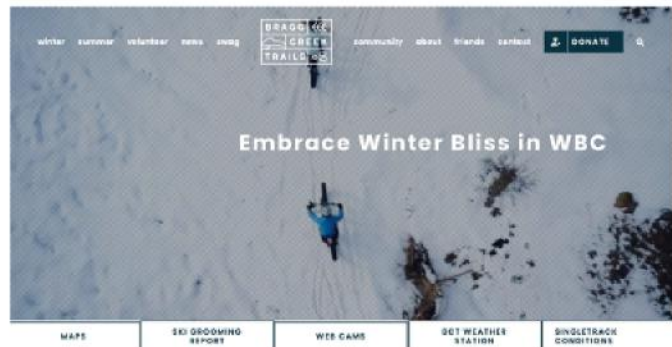
Complementing the website is a monthly newsletter — Happy Tales for Happy Trails — that is emailed via MailChimp. The focus here is on short, punchy, easy-to-read pieces that can contain links to the website, or other sources if readers want more information.

SUBSCRIBE



Are you silently judging our WEBSITE?

A significant method of communication, the **BCT website** is the place for all kinds of information, from trail conditions to maps to volunteer and donor recognition. It is a handy reference for anyone seeking information about BCT's trail system and the association.

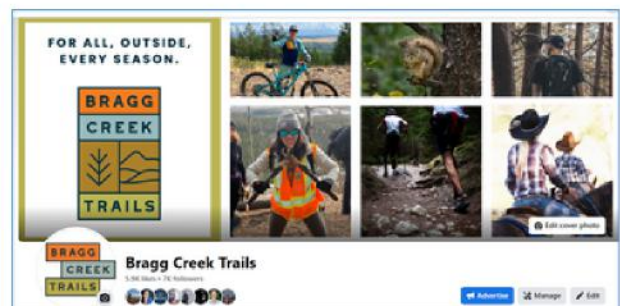


braggcreektrails.org



What happens on SOCIAL MEDIA, stays on Google forever:

BCT's social media uses Instagram and Facebook for communication on any number of topics. Social media platforms allow our followers to respond to posts, share their experiences and have a laugh. We love to foster community through our socials. Fun and peppy our followers love our social media pages.



TRAIL HOSTING

Fabulous called, and BCT answered! The Trails Host Program provides volunteers with rewarding experiences, while delivering outstanding service to our trail users through education, communication and an increased visibility/presence at the trailhead and along the trails.

Trail Hosts strive to:

- Unite all trail users in a safe, responsible activity
- Educate trail users on the ways to protect the land
- Inform and educate trail users about multi-user designation and proper trail etiquette
- Monitor trails and trail users – report unsafe trail conditions/issues
- Promote continued enjoyment of the trails



“Your volunteers were very friendly and helpful!”

The Trail Hosts have made some amazing connections with trail enthusiasts, to the point that people will stop before or after their activity to say hi and hang out on the deck. With increasingly more diverse users, creating a sense of community is vital to help share and respect the trails.

“Always kind and ready to help!”

Trail Hosts work weekend shifts, covering the core hours from 10am – 3pm.



22
Active
Volunteers



VOLUNTEER

Join our community of volunteers and make a difference at Bragg Creek Trails. Check out our website or contact us at volunteer@braggcreektrails.org for more information.



DONATE TODAY

Your support is vital in sustaining and enhancing Bragg Creek Trails. Make a donation today and directly contribute to trail development and maintenance. Every contribution, big and small, makes an impact. Visit braggcreektrails.org/donate to support BCT.



SHARE YOUR LOVE OF BCT

Follow us on our socials, subscribe to our newsletter, and check out our website. Capture your favorite moments and share them with us! Share your stories, send us your pictures, or tag us on instagram.





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended December 31, 2022

COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of Bragg Creek Trails Association

On the basis of information provided by management, I have compiled the statement of financial position of Bragg Creek Trails Association as at December 31, 2022, and the statements of revenues and expenditures and changes in net assets for the year then ended, and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information ("financial information").

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

I performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, Compilation Engagements, which requires me to comply with relevant ethical requirements. My responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

I did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor was I required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Ben Plumer CPA Professional Corporation
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT

Bragg Creek, Alberta
May 11, 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2022

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 324,174	\$ 97,417
Term deposits	135,137	119,152
Accounts receivable	30,777	-
Inventory	15,942	15,473
Goods and services tax recoverable	12,357	5,491
Prepaid expenses	6,797	4,020
	525,184	241,553
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Net of accumulated amortization)	164,983	192,022
	\$ 690,167	\$ 433,575
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	\$ 15,575	\$ 16,574
Employee deductions payable	8,906	2,072
	24,481	18,646
NET ASSETS	665,686	414,929
	\$ 690,167	\$ 433,575

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Year Ended December 31, 2022

	2022	2021
REVENUES		
Grants	\$ 532,508	\$ 78,762
Donations	166,782	149,934
Merchandise sales	110,394	44,605
Fundraising	19,275	21,685
Equipment Sales	2,000	28,075
	830,959	323,061
EXPENSES		
Trail development	281,513	216,734
Salaries and wages	73,787	69,301
Merchandise purchases	67,778	18,023
Amortization	39,133	44,652
Trail maintenance and supplies	33,312	85,431
Equipment operating and maintenance	23,011	14,528
Insurance	16,946	23,068
Administration	14,940	10,842
Credit card charges	7,195	3,391
Professional fees	6,663	9,738
Utilities	6,226	5,589
Office	5,910	3,230
Building maintenance	2,057	11,308
Subcontracts	1,538	19,742
Advertising and promotion	1,577	2,018
Training	868	2,326
Interest and bank charges	509	660
	582,963	540,581
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	247,996	(217,520)
OTHER INCOME	2,761	3,455
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 250,757	\$ (214,065)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Year Ended December 31, 2022

	General Fund	Restricted Fund	2022	2021
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 304,028	\$ 110,901	\$ 414,929	\$ 628,994
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	250,334	423	250,757	(214,065)
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 554,362	\$ 111,324	\$ 665,686	\$ 414,929

NOTES TO COMPILED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Year Ended December 31, 2022

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the statement of financial position of Bragg Creek Trails Association as at December 31, 2022, and the statements of revenues and expenditures and changes in net assets for the year then ended is on the historical cost basis and reflects cash transactions with the addition of:

- accounts receivable
- inventory valued at cost
- property, plant and equipment amortized over their useful lives
- accounts payable and accrued liabilities



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