



West Bragg Creek Trail Centre Project



January 26 2026

Aquadel Crossing Community Clubhouse (near Chilliwack, BC)

Introduction

- The BCT Board of Directors created a WBC Trail Centre Project Committee in 2024 to carry out one of the key actions they committed to in the WBC Trails Master Plan 2024 and BCT Strategic Plan:

"Plan, design and build a new, permanent trails centre in the West Bragg Creek PRA that serves as a place to gather, store equipment and deliver outdoor education for all trail users."

- The primary focus of the Trails Centre will be on public access, training and environmental education.
- The Trails Centre will serve as a warming space, a destination for educational & training programs and non-profit events, a community gathering space, a trails information hub, and a nexus for BCT trail hosts/volunteers and BCT merchandise sales.

This is a signature Project that will serve as a much needed and lasting legacy for WBC Trail Users, the Community, and the Province for the next 50+ years.

Background

Our goal is to create a **fully accessible, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable** facility, thoughtfully located adjacent to the existing temporary Trails Centre and oriented toward **Chickadee Meadow**.

The Trail Centre will be delivered:

- **Without public user fees** — ensuring West Bragg Creek trails and facilities remain affordable and welcoming for everyone
- **Without parking lot expansion** — preserving the uncrowded, natural experience that users value
- **With running water and washrooms** — a standard feature at 11 of the 12 trail centres we benchmarked, and a top priority consistently identified by user groups
- **With capacity for up to 150 people** — aligned with Alberta Parks' longstanding event permit capacity for West Bragg Creek, supporting existing annual events such as the Alberta Youth Championships, trail running races, and mountain bike events
- **With a fully adaptive and accessible design** — enabling people of all abilities, including those living with physical and neurological challenges, to connect with nature in healthy and meaningful ways
- **With strong collaboration with local businesses** — creating shared opportunities that support a vibrant local economy

WBC Trails Centre Concept Design Plan Summary

- A two story up to 3,750 ft² building located near the WBC parking lot.
- The current plan is for the Trails Centre to contain:
 - a common gathering / warm-up / eating area for up to 150 people
 - a meeting room for groups to convene for educational or organizational purposes
 - a small kitchen, office for trail hosts & BCT staff, small information and BCT sales booth and indoor equipment storage room
 - indoor washrooms with 4-6 flush toilets
- Advanced wastewater treatment system/septic field.
- Potable water supplied by a new licenced well.
- A solar system, connected to the grid via a bidirectional meter will supply 105% of site electricity needs on an annual basis to promote sustainability and minimize operating costs.
- Heating/cooling for the TC to be provided by ground source heat pump system.
- Trail Centre rentals will be considered for non-profit events.



William Watson Lodge



Proposed Trail Center Location Options



Trail Centre Benchmarking Study

The BCT Trail Centre Project Committee conducted a comprehensive & objective benchmarking study covering a broad spectrum of 12 existing Trail Centres within Western Canada, to enable the Committee to:

- Understand what is possible
- Learn from others' successes and regrets
- Inform cost effective and fit-for-purpose design parameters of the proposed new Bragg Creek Trails Centre, to **be enjoyed by all, in every season.**



Sovereign Lake Nordic Centre, BC



Dawn Mountain, Golden BC



Whitehorse Nordic Centre, YT



Raven Lodge at Mt Washington BC



Revelstoke Nordic Centre BC



Larch Hills Ski Chalet, Enderby BC



Pembina Nordic Centre, Drayton Valley AB



Wapiti Nordic Centre, Grand Prairie AB



Canmore Nordic Centre, AB



Kimberly Nordic Centre, BC



Strathcona Wilderness Centre, AB



Hinton Nordic Centre, AB

Benchmarking Data of 12 Existing Trail Centres

Public Use / Demand Benchmarks of Trail Systems

Smallest		Largest	BCT Rank
60	Parking Lot Capacity ★	549	#1
10,000/yr	Trail User Count ★	267,000/yr	#1
14 km	Trail System Length ★	187 km	#2 (170 km)
4,000	Proximity to Large Population ★	1.4 million	#1
Single use	Diversity in Users ★	Multi-use (6-8)	#1
	Aggregate ★		#1

In aggregate the BCT trail system ranks as the **#1 Largest Public Use / Demand** area in Western Canada!

Trail Centre Design Benchmarks

Smallest		Largest	Proposed BCT TC
1,200 ft ²	★ Size	15,000 ft ²	3,750 ft ² (#5)
50 people	★ Capacity	500 people	150 people (#7)
2	★ # of Washrooms	22	4-6 (#8)
1	★ # of Stories	3	2
	★ Aggregate		3rd Quartile

The proposed BCT Trail Centre design is **Modest** relative to trail user count.

TC Benchmarking Study Conclusions

- BCT WBC ranks as the **Largest Public Use / Demand** trail system in Western Canada!
- BCT WBC is the only trail system of its scale without a permanent Trail Centre.
- Proposed BCT WBC Trail Centre size (up to 3,750 sf) and occupancy capacity (up to 150) are modest compared to 12 benchmarked Trail Centres.
- 92% of Trail Centres have indoor washrooms with running water. The other 8% wish they did.
- Many report increased trail user counts after building a Trail Centre (up to 38%).
- Funding sources include provincial grants, memberships, donations, and events.
- Many report rental revenue opportunities in the off-season to balance operating expenses.
- All benchmarked Trail Centres are financially viable.
- Some reported significant economic impact on provincial economy. BCT expects +\$23M/yr.

Investment in an appropriately sized & functioning BCT Trail Centre is **well justified**.

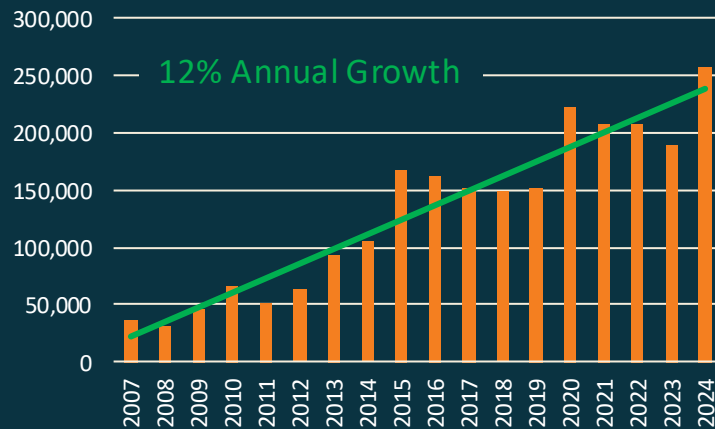
What is Bragg Creek Trails?

In 2024, Bragg Creek Trails proudly marked 20 years of trail stewardship, community spirit, and volunteer dedication. From humble beginnings to maintaining and supporting over 170 km of multi-use trails, BCT has grown into a trusted, volunteer-powered organization rooted in sustainability, connection, and care for our shared outdoor spaces.

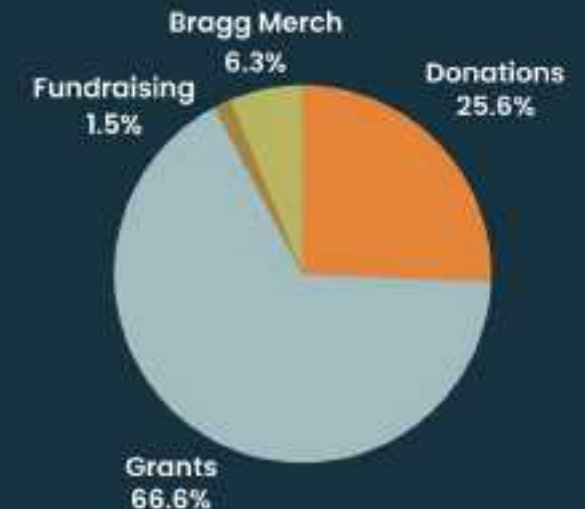


265,000 Trail Users annually #1 in Western Canada!

Very Rapid Growth in Trail Users!



Dedicated Volunteer Community



Total annual revenue \$845k (2024)

Thank You!

For All. Outside. Every Season.

[Click here to fill out the survey](#)

