

IRON HORSE

Trail

A Newsletter of the Riverland Recreational Trail Society
Building Trail from Fort Saskatchewan to the Saskatchewan Border

Spring 2003

The Year in Review

Once again, it has been a busy year with much happening since our last Annual General Meeting. Following are some of the notable events:

- Spring saw initial grading of the line funded thru the CN acquisition agreement.
- May: Calgary cycling group tried out the trail
- June: Alberta Trail Net Grant of \$60 000
- July: Trail Legis. Review Committee chaired by Ray Danyluk held hearings in St. Paul.
- Fall: Development approval from Counties of Smoky Lake & St. Paul was given to RRTS.
- Sept/Oct: Initial signs were installed by volunteers getting ready for snow season.
- October: Ministers' Fur Trade Ball was a great regional success.
- October: RRTS signed a License of Occupation agreement with Muni-Corr
- November: Muni-Corr applied for a development permit on the M.D. Bonnyville line.
- December: 350 citizens came out to hearings in Bonnyville in support of trails.
- January: Cold Lake—Bonnyville Trail Stewards group began organizing.
- Feb: Trail Stewards Workshop in Ashmont RRTS met with Economic Dev. Minister, Mark Norris. WOW Women of Winter national ride for breast cancer research came through Bonnyville and down the trail.
- March: Private Members Bill Introduced
- April: 2003 Annual General Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Night



Riverland & Alberta's Lakeland REACH for Major Tourism Initiative

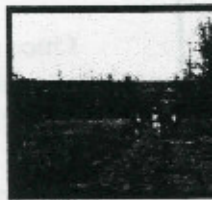
Congratulations to Janice Kennett, Dick Millar and Mike Bergeron for their successful application for Canadian Tourism Commission (CTC) funding. Their project, called the Centennial Trail Product Club, will enlist tourism businesses from Edmonton to Regina to develop products around the many regional trails. A special emphasis will be placed on the 2005 centennials of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Funding amounts to \$150 000 over three years and needs to be matched twice over at the provincial and local levels multiplying to \$450 000 in tourism initiatives. CTC will help the product club develop three specific target markets aimed at the regional urban level, Quebec and European tourism markets. Many partners will be brought into the club over the three year term. Founding partners include La Chambre Economique de L'Alberta, Fishing Lake Economic Development, Muni-Corr and Paradise Hill Rural Economic Development Ass'n (REDA) in Saskatchewan. Eighteen applications were submitted and Centennial Trail was one of only three selected. This is a wonderful opportunity for our region. Well done!

A Legacy to Discover

IRON HORSE TRAIL

Picture a ribbon of trail rich in the natural beauty of Alberta's Parkland ... linking prairie, wetlands, aspen and pine forests ... connecting the multi-cultural communities of Northeastern Alberta. The Iron Horse Trail travels east from Waskatenau to Abilene Junction where it branches north to Cold Lake and south to Heinsburg.



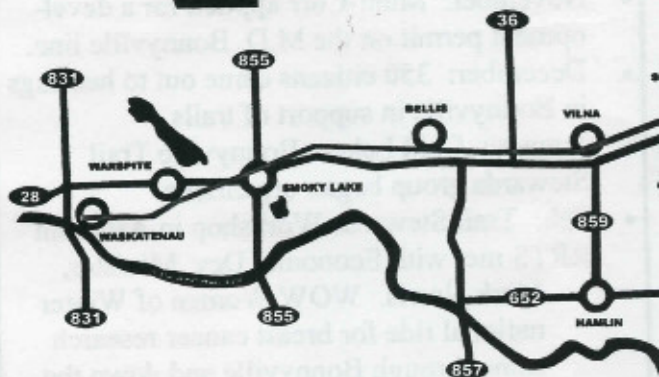
The Iron Horse Trail is managed by several organizations. It links the communities of



The Iron Horse Trail is an alliance of municipal, recreation and service organizations committed to preserving this historic transportation corridor for the benefit of today's citizens and generations yet to come.



10km

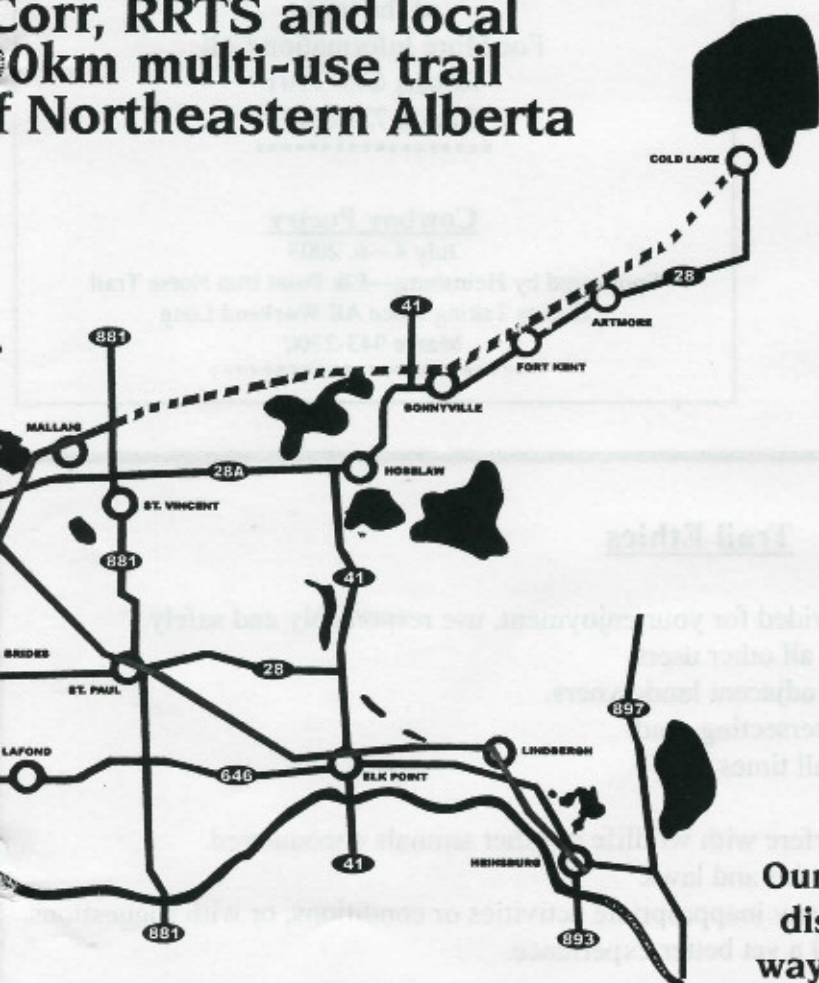


Web Site: ironhorsetrail.ca
E-Mail: ironhorse@mcsnet.ca
For more Information Phone
1-780-645-3301

IRON HORSE Trail



formed by N.E.Muni-Corr
Corr, RRTS and local
300km multi-use trail
of Northeastern Alberta



300 km of Multi-use Trail

IRON HORSE TRAIL PARTICIPANTS

**N.E. MUNI-CORR
SMOKY LAKE COUNTY
COUNTY OF ST. PAUL
TOWN OF SMOKY LAKE
TOWN OF ST. PAUL
TOWN OF ELK POINT
VILLAGE OF VILNA
ALBERTA TRAIL NET
ALBERTA SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION
GO FOR GREEN TRAIL PAQ
HEINSBURG COMM. CLUB
ELK POINT HISTORICAL SOC.
SNOWMOBILE CLUBS
ATV CLUBS
KALYNA COUNTRY
ALBERTA'S LAKELAND TOURISM
CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE
RIVERLAND REC. TRAIL SOC.
M.D. OF BONNYVILLE
TOWN OF BONNYVILLE
CITY OF COLD LAKE
MIDWEST TOURISM**

Our goal is to create a trail for people to discover their environment in different ways while encouraging the protection of natural and cultural heritage.

Thank You, Volunteers!

On May 15, 1999 people from around the region gathered at Gentleman Jim's restaurant in St. Paul to discuss the possibility of becoming part of the Trans Canada Trail. No one in that room imagined the trail system we would create in four short years. It is truly an astounding feat, made possible by legions of dedicated and tireless volunteers.

Since last the Annual General Meeting, we have logged over 5000 volunteer hours ... and those were just the ones people bothered to record. Much more volunteer time has been spent behind the scenes. This contribution by a broad cross-section of citizens throughout the region is priceless beyond measure—however, granting organizations place a dollar figure of \$10 / hour. This means we have contributed \$50 000 in matching donations toward trail grants.

Every hour counts and is appreciated.

New Volunteer Opportunities

Newsletter Editor

You can run the show. Report events to members & community at large. Possibilities for advancement. Adj. Landowner newsletter being considered. Call Sheila 724-2007

Designer Needed

Staging areas from inspiration to creation. Be there for the process. IH Trail is developing 20 staging areas. Have input in building this tangible legacy. Danny 645-4414

Day Labourers

Get involved in trail building without signing your life away. Take it one day at a time. Danny 645-4414

Interpreters Required

Liaise with Beaver River Naturalists, Ducks Unlimited to identify environmentally significant areas to preserve & protect. Sheila 724-2007

Yes, Webmaster

Take command of the IH Website. Get this project to lift-off. Update info as needed. Call Marvin 724-2061

Family Easter Quad Ride

Saturday, April 19, 2003

sponsored by

Smoky Lake Regional ATV Association

Registration 10:00 am to 11:00 am

FIRM

At CN Station Platform in Smoky Lake

\$25 Driver**\$15 Passenger**\$5 Silent Hand unlimited

50+ mile trail**Complimentary midpoint lunch

SupperRefreshments**Prizes

4:00 pm refreshments

5:00—7:00 pm supper

Event is limited to 200 ATVs

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY

Contact: Jamie 656-2341

Karen 656-3769

Leesa 656-3615

Del 478-8701

Official Opening Of the Iron Horse Trail

Sunday, June 8

Ashmont Agriplex

1:00—4:00

Trail Steward Groups ...

Please get involved, take on a task

and make this a day to

remember as we celebrate the official opening
of the trail.

For More Information Call

Robert 645-3301

Sheila 724-2007

Cowboy Poetry

July 4—6, 2003

Sponsored by Heinsburg—Elk Point Iron Horse Trail

Events Taking Place All Weekend Long

Marge 943-2700

Trail Ethics

1. Know that these facilities have been provided for your enjoyment, use responsibly and safely.
2. Respect others: slow, yield to, and greet all other users.
3. Stay on the trail and respect the rights of adjacent landowners.
4. Stop before, and carefully cross every intersecting road.
5. Keep pets on leash and under control at all times.
6. Do not use or carry alcohol or drugs.
7. Respect the environment and do not interfere with wildlife or other animals encountered.
8. Be aware of and abide by all applicable rules and laws.
9. Dial the "trail-call" number to inform of any inappropriate activities or conditions, or with suggestions.
10. Lend a hand to make the Iron Horse Trail a yet better experience.