



## Halifax North West Trails Association

Spring is well underway with trees leafed out, wildflowers blooming, and birds singing from the treetops. If you are out enjoying the trails you have been experiencing nature as it unfolds. Each day can bring a new discovery. Hopefully the bugs have not found you!

Come celebrate International Trails Day (always the first Saturday in June) by joining hike leader James Boyer for a hike up [Blue Mountain Hill](#) on Saturday, June 2 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. The hike is 5 km and is considered moderate with some rugged slopes. Bring water, a snack, and your camera to capture the 360° view overlooking Halifax.

Pre-registration is required. Please contact Sharon Gibson at [sandfg6@gmail.com](mailto:sandfg6@gmail.com) or 902-435-6959. Park and meet in the cul-de-sac of Anahid Drive off Kingswood Drive (about 4 kms in from Hammonds Plains Rd). For information about more upcoming walks and hikes, consult our [www.halifaxnorthwesttrails.ca](http://www.halifaxnorthwesttrails.ca) website. As a part of Bedford Days, we are participating with a trail walk at Hemlock Ravine Park on June 28.

The trails group is hosting their Annual General Meeting, Wednesday, June 27 at Keshen Goodman Library from 6:30-8:30pm. Come and join or renew your Membership, only \$10! After the AGM, we will learn more about Trail Stewardship from our guest speaker, Mike Lancaster. Mike is the Stewardship Coordinator for the popular Bluff Trail and will share some of his skills with us. Come to learn if this is an activity you could take on while you are walking your favourite trail – a simple but rewarding role. In addition, we will discuss briefly some ideas for the coming year as we continue to plan and maintain local trails for our ever-increasing local population and visitors.

Recently, our own Shirley McIntyre was honoured at the Mainland North Volunteer recognition event; celebrating 15 years of participation with the trails group. Shirley is currently one of our trail stewards at the Geizer Hill Trail.

The Friends of Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes held their initial meeting when the new Executive and board were selected. Diana Whalen and Mark Young have agreed to cochair this new group and we look forward to learning more about plans and activities in the coming months. Several of the new members joined us on a recent hike to Hobsons Lake.

**Safety Alert:** For regular users of the Mainland Linear Trail, please be aware of scheduled construction and upgrades along the Trail. Work is planned during June at four neighbourhood connections after previous community consultation. Westridge Drive will become a Gateway to the trail and Mainland Common including paving of the parking lot, and addition of some new pathways; the connections to Mary Clayton Park and the Canada Games Centre and opposite Park West School, and traffic calming at Langbrae Drive. Pay attention to the construction team for your own safety. We hope you will be pleased with these improvements. (This construction was rescheduled from Fall 2017).

Wendy McDonald