



Bruce Trail
CONSERVANCY
IROQUOIA CLUB

Spring 2026

"Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever."



Image: Freddy Wang

Welcome to the spring edition of the Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club Newsletter!

The snow has fully melted giving way to potentially muddy adventures. Although spring seems to be taking its time this year, the Bruce Trail is slowly coming alive with the popping colours of spring ephemerals. This is truly a magical time to explore the trail. The abundance of snow and rain has given us an incredible waterfall season and lush greenery awaits those venturing out.

As you explore the trail, keep your eyes open for those delicate spring blooms. It's not just the colour returning to the trail, the sounds of nature are getting more plentiful as many birds have returned after a long winter.

Here's what you'll find in this edition of our newsletter:

- [Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club AGM](#) - Our Annual General Meeting has moved to a new location this year!
- [Bruce Trail Talks: Session 1](#) - Come join us for the first of our Conservation & Community Speakers series
- [Bruce Trail Moments](#) - What's your "origin story"?
- [Join Our Team!](#) - There is always room for more
- [Kristy's Story](#) - Volunteer Spotlight
- [Hikes, Events and more!](#) - Save the dates and new hike series!
- [2026 Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon](#) - Do what you love, while raising funds to help protect what you love
- [Rainbow Accreditation](#) - What it means to be Rainbow Registered
- [Take a trip back in time...far back in time!](#) - BTC Membership has its benefits. Don't miss out!

Happy trails!

The Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club

It's recommended to [View this email in your browser](#)

2026 IBTC AGM

The 2026 Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club Annual General Meeting is happening on Saturday May 9th and we have changed locations to The Westdale Theatre! The morning features two pre-AGM hikes, a Meet-and-Greet, our AGM presentation & Volunteer Awards followed by a locally catered lunch.

This year's AGM events will conclude with Session 1 of our Bruce Trail Talks Conservation & Community Speaker Series: *Indigenous Trails: Forerunners of Today*. The event is free for all IBTC Members attending the AGM.

To find out more information and register for the event, please click on the link below.

[AGM Details and Registration](#)



Bruce Trail Talks: Session 1

On Saturday, May 9th, the Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club launches Bruce Trail Talks with its first event, Indigenous Trails: Forerunners of Today, at The Westdale Theatre in Hamilton (1014 King St W).

Following the AGM and Volunteer Awards (starting at 12:30 pm), BTC CEO Michael McDonald will welcome guests, followed by expert talks: Martin S. Cooper (Senior Archaeologist, ASI Toronto) on historical First Nations trail systems; Tim Johnson (Niagara Academy) and Rick Hill Sr. (Haudenosaunee educator) on current priorities for engagement and reconciliation; followed by a moderated panel with Q&A. A second event on wellness and nature arrives in October.

This fundraising event supports BTC conservation efforts with matching donations. BTC members get in for \$20 (\$30 non-members).

Tickets can be purchased online at: iroquoia.on.ca/bruce-trail-talks.



Bruce Trail Moments

Submitted by Freddy Wang



You know the “butterfly effect” idea—one tiny flap over here, resulting in an out-sized change? Drew Dudley furthered this concept with his own delightful version in his TEDx talk [Leading with Lollipops](#): a small, almost-forgettable moment can land like a comet in someone else’s story, without any intention to do so.

That got me thinking about our own Bruce Trail “origin stories”—those sneaky little beginnings that turn into something bigger... [\[continued\]](#)

Volunteer Opportunities



Volunteer with us!

Volunteering with the IBTC is sure to be a rewarding experience. Whether it is at an Info Booth, pulling invasive species, trail maintenance, there's always room for more!

Our Bruce Trail volunteers enjoy:

- Meeting like-minded people
- Helping the club by sharing their skills and talents
- Contributing to our mission of preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.

There's a place for you at the Iroquoia Club!

Current Open Positions

Vice President to be the president elect and act in place of the Club President when the President is unavailable.

Treasurer to be responsible for the custody of the funds of the Club and all financial matters affecting the Club. For more information about this role, please click [here](#).

Landowner Ambassadors to maintain connection and support the needs of over 100 landowners in the section. For more information please see the link [here](#).

Fundraising Director to help promote and collect funds through events or other initiatives to support the Bruce Trail Conservancy at the Club level.

Interested in applying? Volunteer applications can be submitted via the BTC volunteer application form at [Apply Online To Volunteer | Bruce Trail Conservancy](#) Please indicate your area of interest when completing the form.

Kristy's Story



"I have always been a runner/hiker, logging many miles on the Bruce Trail. In 2021, I donated a kidney to my brother. In 2024, three years after the surgery, I ran in a 200-mile race. My journey from kidney donation, to crossing the finish line, is available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/K6mz9NZdi10>"

[\[continued\]](#)

Our volunteers have unique stories and experiences, and we love learning more about what they do outside the club. Be sure to check out Kristy's story above.

Got your own story to share? Please [email](#) Kathrin König, IBTC Communications Director, for a possible feature in a future newsletter.

Come Hike with Us!

From Challenge Hikes to Fundraising Events - there's something for everyone!

There are so many exciting ways to participate in various types of club activities this year. Here are some of the upcoming hikes and events:

Registration is open for the Iroquoia End to End in 4!

Happening September 19/20 and 26/27, this E2E is sure to challenge you! Anyone finishing all 4 days will qualify for the official IBTC E2E Badge. Please note, hikes are between 30 to 35 km each day. For more details and to register, please visit: [Iroquoia E2E in 4](#)

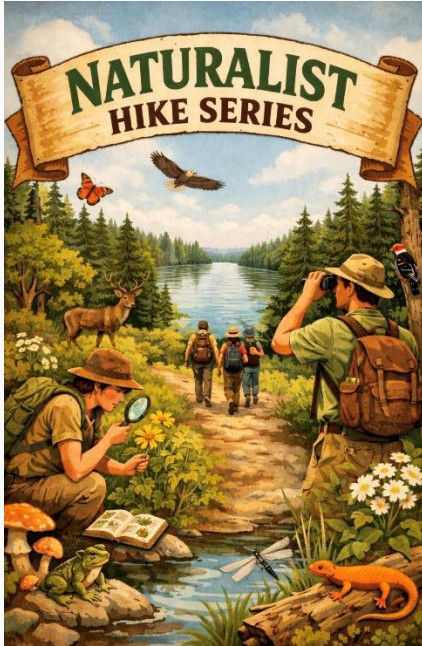
Save the date! Steeltown Stomp - October 3, 2025

Looking for a distance and strength challenge? This is the event you've been waiting for! Climb up and down approximately 2,000 steps of the escarpment stairs, and hike 20 km of the

Iroquoia Bruce Trail. Keep an eye on our social media for registration details!

New Hike Series - IBTC Naturalist Hikes

Happening throughout the year, our new IBTC Naturalist Hikes are geared to discovering nature one hike at a time. Whether that means learning more about the species on or above the trail, or discovering a new way to enjoy nature, be sure to check our hike schedule regularly.



The following Naturalist Hikes are currently posted on the Hike Schedule:

April 30 - [Grimsby Wetlands](#)

May 30 - [Sketching Nature](#)

May 31 - [Forest Bathing](#)

Past hike: Niagara Hawk Watch (April 12)

Bruce Trail Day - October 4 - Save the Date!

Bruce Trail Day is an annual celebration of the Bruce Trail and the wonders of the Niagara Escarpment. Keep an eye on our Social Media for more details as they become available. You can also visit [Bruce Trail Day 2026](#) for details on activities, as they become available.

Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon

The Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon is a month-long, self-led, hiking and fundraising event in support of the Bruce Trail Conservancy mission: *Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.*

Register, set a hiking goal, and seek donations from friends and family while hitting the trail in the month of May! Best part? **All funds raised through Hike-a-thon 2026 will be matched!**

Registration is now open: [Bruce Trail Hike-a-thon](#)



We are Rainbow Registered!



The Bruce Trail Conservancy is proud to announce that it is Rainbow Registered! This means that the BTC and all nine of our Clubs have met a specific set of standards to ensure that 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals feel welcomed and accepted. The BTC is committed to making the Bruce Trail and our organization an inclusive and supportive space for all.

You can find the full press release [here](#).

To learn more about our 2026 Pride events within the Bruce Trail Community, visit [Pride on the Bruce Trail](#)

Upcoming IBTC Rainbow Hikes:

April 25 - [Devil's Punch Bowl to Red Hill](#)

May 3 - [Picturesque Bruce Trail Hike - 22 Side Rd](#)

May 9 - [World Migratory Day - Pre-AGM Hike](#)

Your Ad Here!

As one of the largest Bruce Trail Conservancy Clubs, we have a circulation of approximately 4000 subscribers. The eNotes newsletter is distributed quarterly by email.

Please contact info@iroquoia.on.ca to secure your space in our next publication

The Many Benefits of Membership

Membership has many benefits. The most important, of course, is that your membership fees will help the Bruce Trail Conservancy in their mission of "*Preserving a ribbon of wilderness, for everyone, forever.*"

But, did you know that your Bruce Trail membership also comes with a number of benefits such as a **15% off admission to the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) in Toronto?** The ROM is also currently hosting an exhibit featuring Crawford Lake, one of the 8 Conservation Halton Parks to which BT Members also receive discounts on annual passes. To find out more about these offers, and others, please visit the Member Discounts page at the link below:

[BCT Member Benefits](#)



Photo: Kathrin König

Share your hike photos and experiences with us

We want to hear from you!
Instagram page: [iroquoiabrucetrailclub](#) and
Facebook page: [Iroquoia Bruce Trail Club](#).
E-Mail: info@iroquoia.on.ca

Let's do our part to respect and protect nature by staying on the marked trails and leaving plants, trees and wildlife untouched for others to discover and admire. Please leave the trails, forests, meadows and wetlands as you find them.



Sign up for the Iroquoia E-notes.

Iroquoia E-notes are for members and non-members. Our E-notes are sent out by email to your inbox regularly. Signing up is easy; go to the Club webpage www.iroquoia.on.ca, scroll to the bottom and you will see where you can sign up on the left-hand side.



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