

APPENDIX A

Existing Conditions Summary Report

**NORTH OF THE NITH
TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES
MASTER PLAN**

**PHASE 1:
EXISTING
CONDITIONS
SUMMARY REPORT**

SEPTEMBER 2025



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CHAPTER 01: INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Introduction

This report is a summary of the findings from the first stage of the North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan. The first phase, 'Understand', focuses on learning from the land and people, analysing the existing conditions, developing a vision and set of guiding principles, and identifying opportunities and constraints for the development of the Master Plan in the next stages of the project.

The purpose of the Master Plan is to create a balanced vision for the future of North of the Nith that respects the natural environment, provides opportunities for education, incorporates Indigenous place-keeping, enhances recreational opportunities, and celebrates the history of the Nith River.

The Master Plan will include a concept plan and phased implementation plan to guide the long-term development of this unique natural space. Figure 1.1 to the right outlines the Master Plan process.

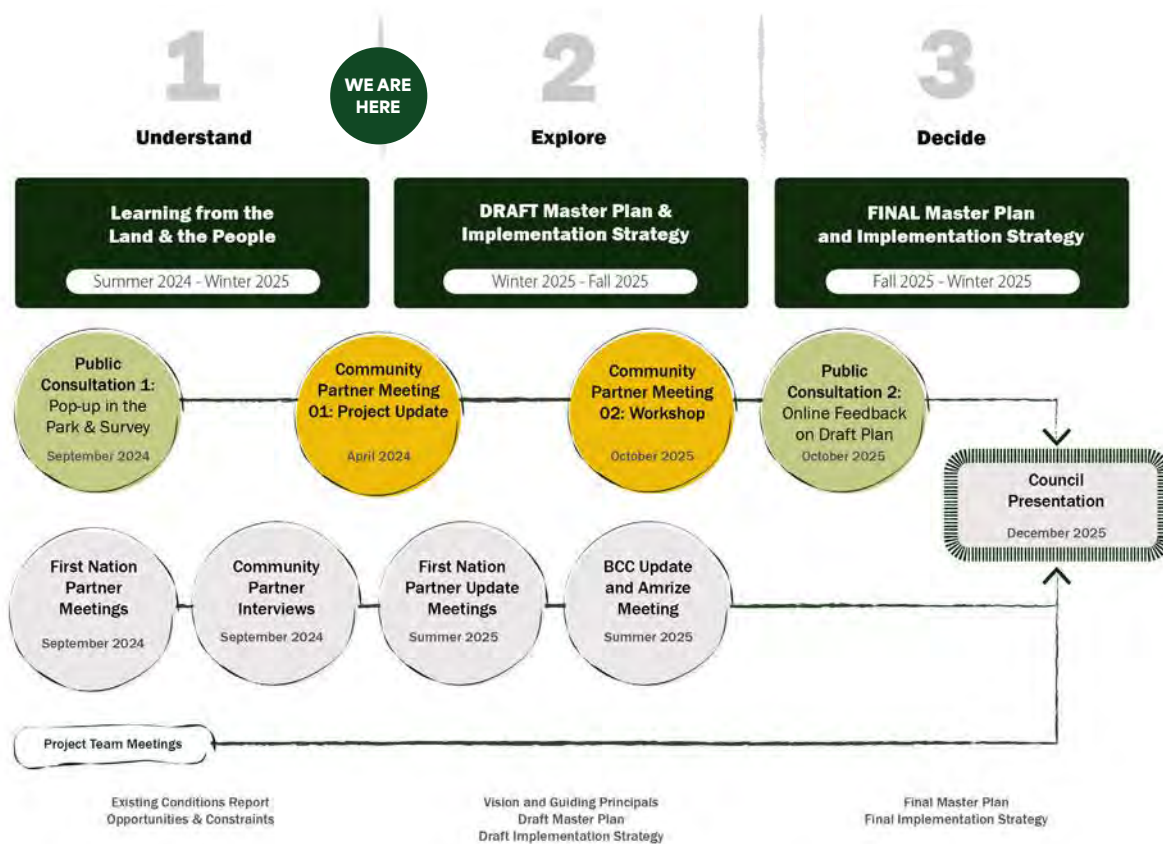


Fig 1.1 - Process

Study Area

North of the Nith is a 176.7 hectare (436 acres) natural peninsula located along the north side of the Nith River near Paris, Ontario. This land is jointly owned by the County of Brant and the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA). See Figure 1.2.

The property includes a closed landfill, an operational waste transfer station, and operational lands owned by the County of Brant. Currently, there is no formal public access to the property beyond the Waste Transfer Station. Despite this, there are unauthorized trails throughout the site.

The property is part of the Natural Heritage System mapped in the County's Official Plan and contains an extensive network of ecological features. These include:

- The Nith River Forests (designated as a Life Science Area of Natural and Scientific Interest).
 - Additional upland forest throughout the site.
 - Wetlands known as the West Paris River Swamp.
 - A deer wintering area.
 - The Nith River, identified as a waterfowl winter concentration area and home to aquatic Species at Risk.
- Charlie Creek, a tributary of the Nith River.
 - A prairie meadow in the south part of the site.
 - Natural hazards regulated by the GRCA, such as wetlands, floodplains, and steep slopes.



Image 1. CN Rail line north of the Study Area.



Image 2. Double-track trail in the upland forest.



Image 3. Double-track trail beside the Nith River.

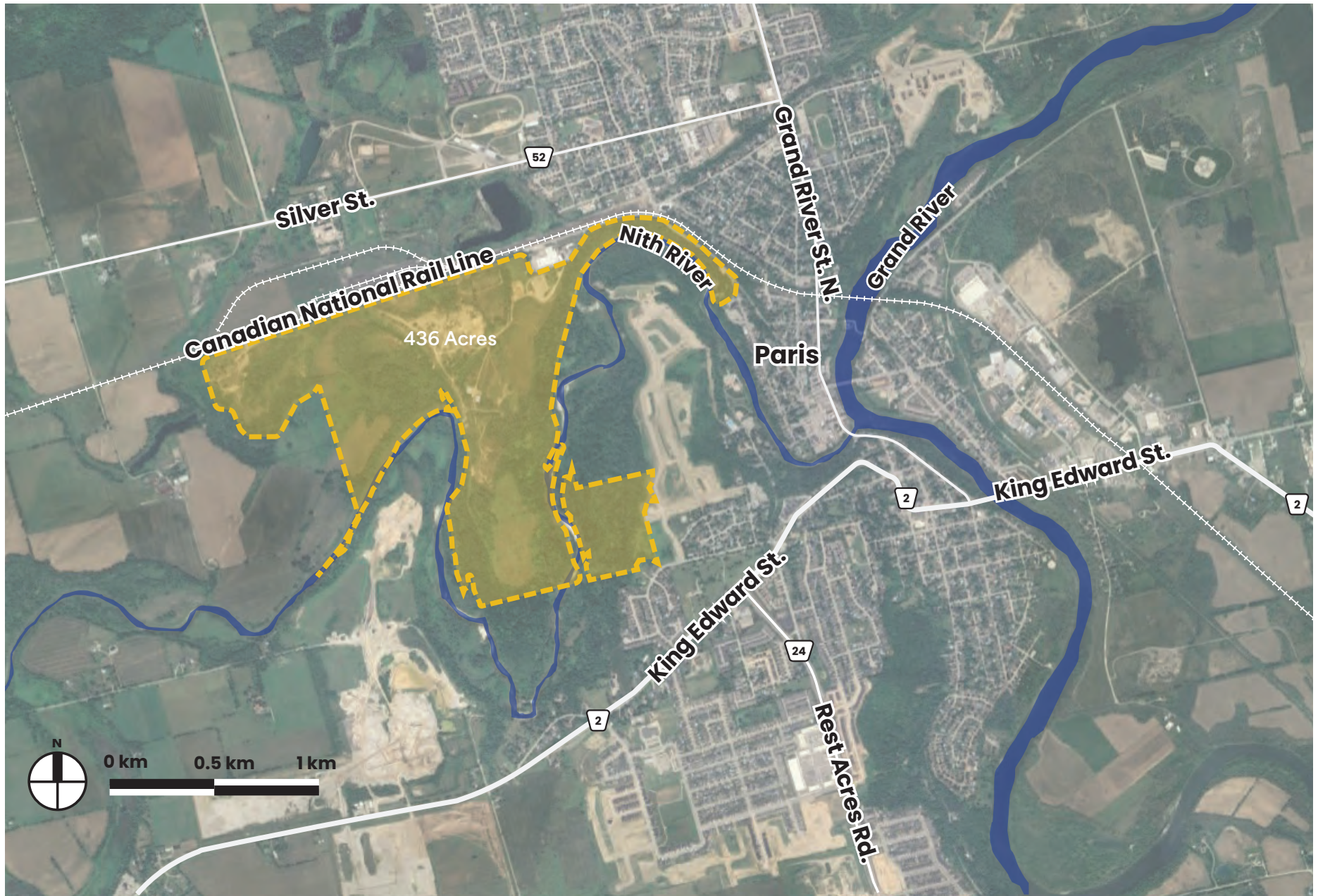


Figure 1.2 - North of the Nith / Study Area

Master Plan Objectives

The goal of the project is to create a space for recreation and nature enjoyment while safeguarding the natural environment and preserving cultural and ecological heritage. Six Master Plan Objectives, to the right, have been developed with input from the public, Community Partners, and First Nations during Phase 1 engagement.

Recreational Opportunities:

- Provide trails for mountain biking, hiking, and more.
- Provide safe, legal access to the property for a variety of groups and the general public.

Environmental Preservation and Enhancement:

- Enhance and restore natural heritage features, including wetlands, tributaries, and ecological linkages.

Improved Safety and Accessibility:

- Foster a safer environment by formalizing unauthorized trails and providing formal entry points.

Educational Opportunities:

- Provide educational opportunities that celebrate the cultural and ecological history of the Nith River.

Community and Economic Benefits:

- Promote sustainable ecotourism, enhancing the economic benefit in the County of Brant.
- Improve the mental, social, and physical well-being of the community by creating spaces that encourage outdoor activities and social interactions.

Long-term Sustainability:

- Ensure the area remains a valuable and sustainable natural space for future generations through careful planning and ecological restoration.

Site History

The Nith River lands have long been a significant ecological and cultural place. Historically, the Grand River valley was inhabited by Indigenous peoples who used the lands for passage, trade routes, hunting, and other purposes. By the 18th and 19th centuries, European immigrants were attracted to the fertile riverbanks for farming, and later mineral extraction. Most recently, a portion of the land has been used as a landfill/transfer station. The timeline below identifies key moments in the historic evolution of this place.

Pre-settlement - The Grand and Nith Rivers were used as passage and trade routes by First Nations.

1780s - Joseph Brant, some Six Nations, and Mohawk of the Upper Castle settle along the Grand River (Present-day Brantford).

1793 - Deposits of gypsum are found by the British.

1829 - The village of Paris is first settled by Hiram Capron.

1856 - The Town of Paris is established.

1874 - The Penman Textile Mill is built along the Nith River.

1923 - Paris Sand and Gravel Company purchased land south of the CN Rail Line and installed facilities to crush, grade, and ship gravel.

1948 - Landfilling began on site.

1963 - A gravel large pit is operated at the west edge of Paris in lot 34, concession I, South Dumfries township, Brant County.

1994 - Grand River and major tributaries gain Canadian Heritage River status.

2000 - The Paris Landfill closes while the Transfer Station continues operation.

2021 - Brant Cycling Club creates a proposal for the lands.

2024 - The North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan project commences.



Image 4. 1955 aerial with Study Area boundary overlay.



Image 4. 1978 aerial with Study Area boundary overlay.



Property of Paris Museum and Historical Society 1999.4223.01

Image 6. Penmans Textile Mill in 1905. (County of Brant Public Library)



**CHAPTER 02:
EXISTING
CONDITIONS**

Ownership & Operations

North of the Nith is comprised of land owned by the County of Brant and the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA).

Land Ownership

The County of Brant owns 85.9 hectares (212 acres) within the Study Area, which includes the transfer station, County Operational Zone, and a capped landfill. The GRCA owns 90.8 hectares (224 acres) within the Study Area, and a 10.9 hectare (27 acres) peninsula parcel to the south. A Maintenance Agreement is currently being discussed between the GRCA and the County to manage the GRCA-owned land.

County of Brant Operational Zone

The County of Brant has an operational zone within the Study Area. This zone includes the Paris Waste Transfer and Recycling Station, the biosolid storage facility, and designated lands for County maintenance and operations. Access to the County Operational Zone is possible via Railway Lane, as well as a gated entrance along Railway Street.

For safety reasons, the County Operational Zone will not be accessible to the general public from within North of the Nith. The County will install a fence around the zone to ensure security and restrict public access.

Active Extraction Licence

Amrize, formerly known as Lafarge Canada Inc. currently has an active licensed area on the southern portion of the Study Area and south-west of Governors Road West. At present, Amrize does not intend to use North of the Nith for resource extraction, but this is to be confirmed. Because these lands are licensed under the of Natural Resources (MNR), the extraction licence would need to be surrendered.

Adjacent Land Ownership

Paris Kitchens owns a parcel of land along Railway Street at the north end of the site and there is a small privately owned parcel of land to the south of North of the Nith, within the peninsula.

Master Plan Considerations:

- Prioritize security improvements including fencing and signage to secure the County Operational Zone.
- Conduct future conversations between the GRCA, County of Brant, and private landowner, to include the entire peninsula (10.9 hectares south) within the Study Area.
- Identify potential implementation partnership opportunities between the County and Amrize.

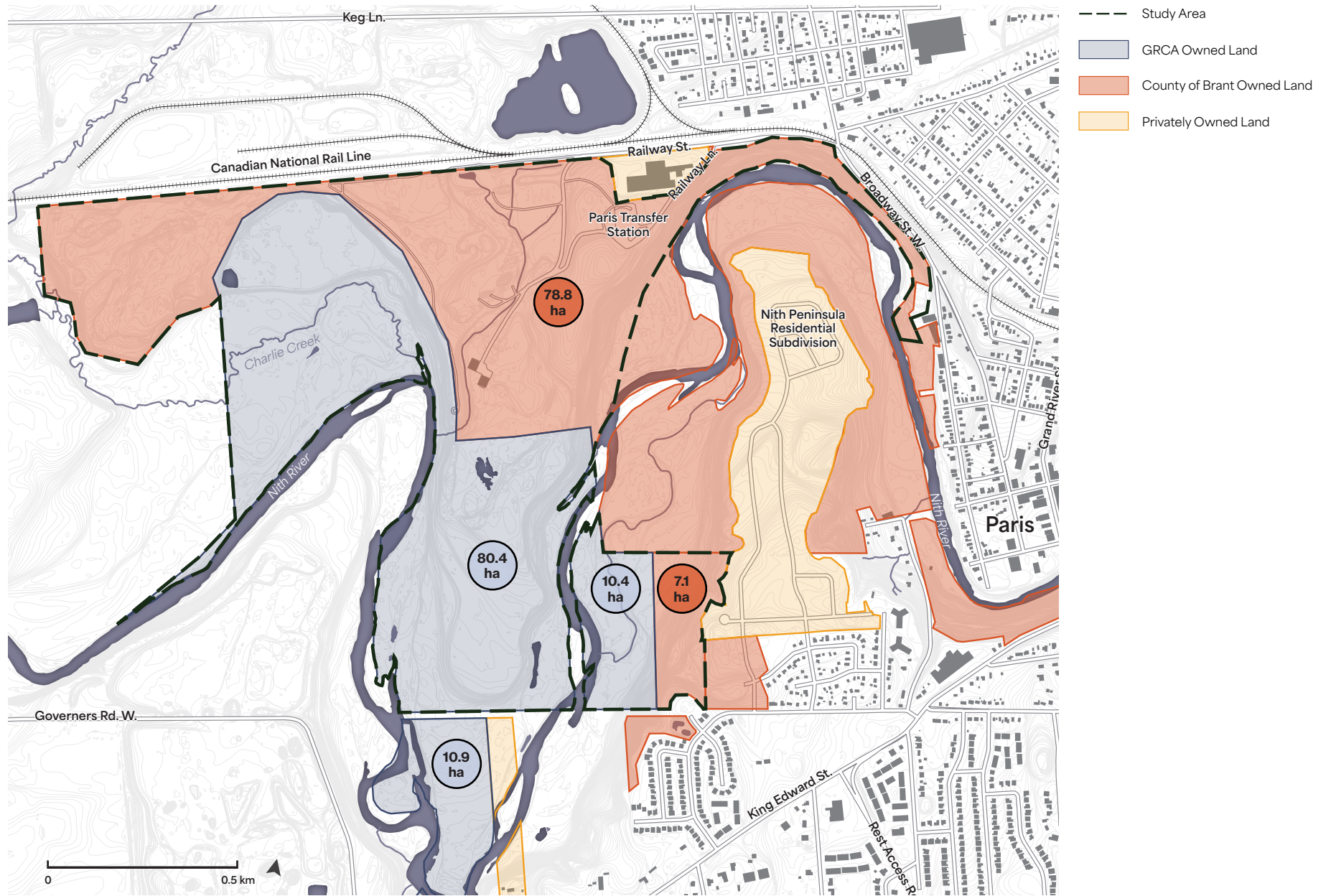


Fig 2.1 - Ownership

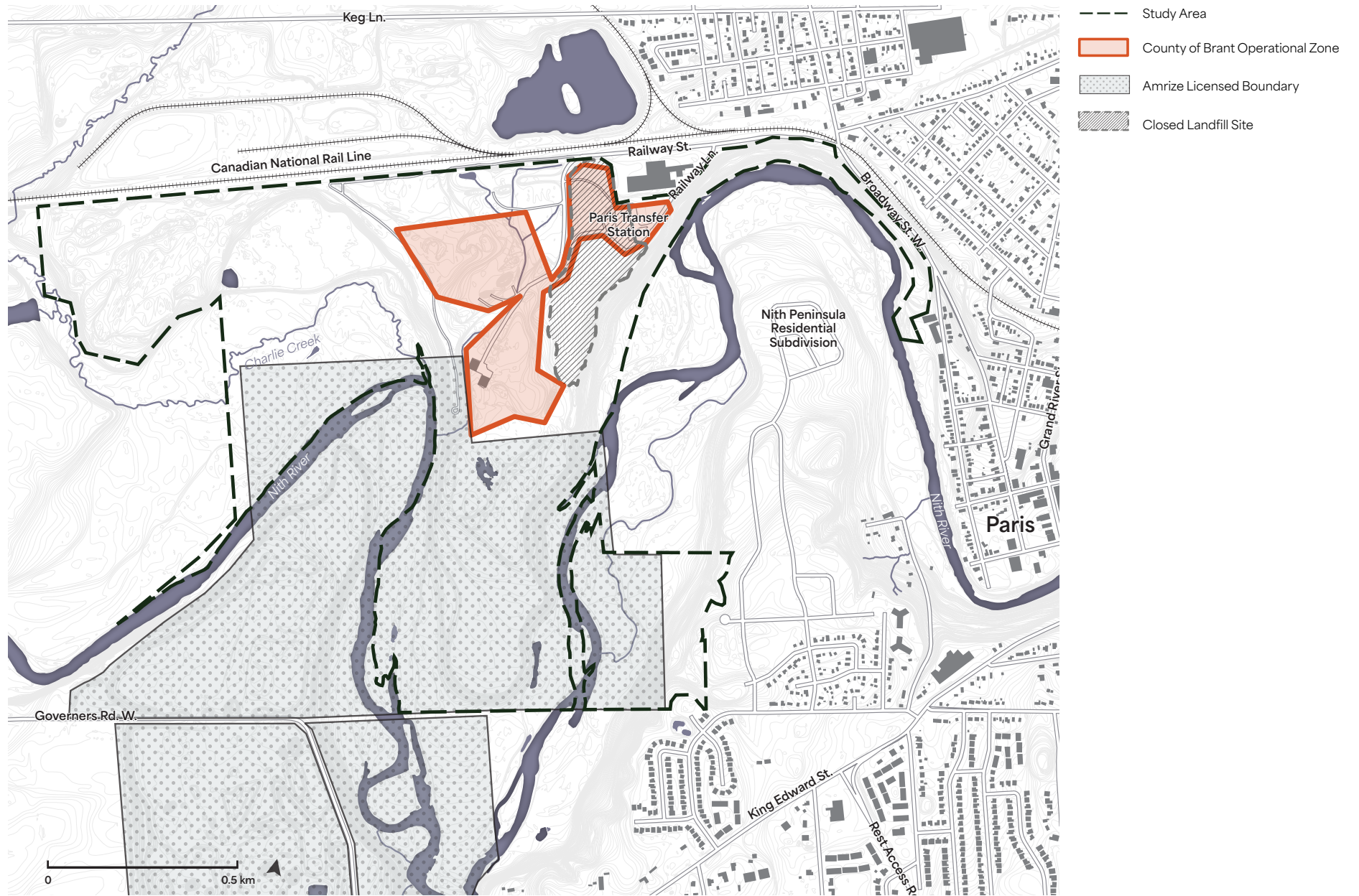


Fig 2.2 - Operational Lands & Licenses

Connectivity

Because the site is uniquely shaped as a peninsula with a rail line on the north, it is isolated from both Paris and the County of Brant.

Access

Currently, there is no formal public access to North of the Nith beyond the transfer station, and no established pedestrian or cycling routes across the river. The two existing vehicular access points into the Study Area are gated and from Railway Street and Railway Lane (the road used to access the transfer station). Access beyond Railway Street is further constrained by the steep embankment along the Canadian National Railway Company (CN) Rail Line.

An unauthorized trail currently connects North of the Nith to the Penman's Pass Trail parking lot.

The existing CN maintenance road links Railway Street to a gravel road, which is being used for unauthorized transport of ATVs into the site. Addressing these issues will be an important consideration in the development of the Master Plan.

Land Acquisition and CN Easement

The County has purchased land immediately south of the rail line adjacent to Railway Street from CN in anticipation to formalize legal and safe access into the site. In addition, an easement agreement was completed for access to an existing hydrant and snow clearing of Railway Street.

Master Plan Considerations:

- Improve the access point on Railway Street by establishing a formal public entry (Gateway Hub), with potential facilities like parking, washrooms, and signage to support future use.
- Extend and improve the Penman's Pass Trail north along the Nith River to create an additional pedestrian access point into the site.
- Explore partnership opportunities with CN to control access through their right-of-way.
- Explore additional long-term connections, such as a pedestrian/cycling bridge link to Barker's Bush and the western lands.

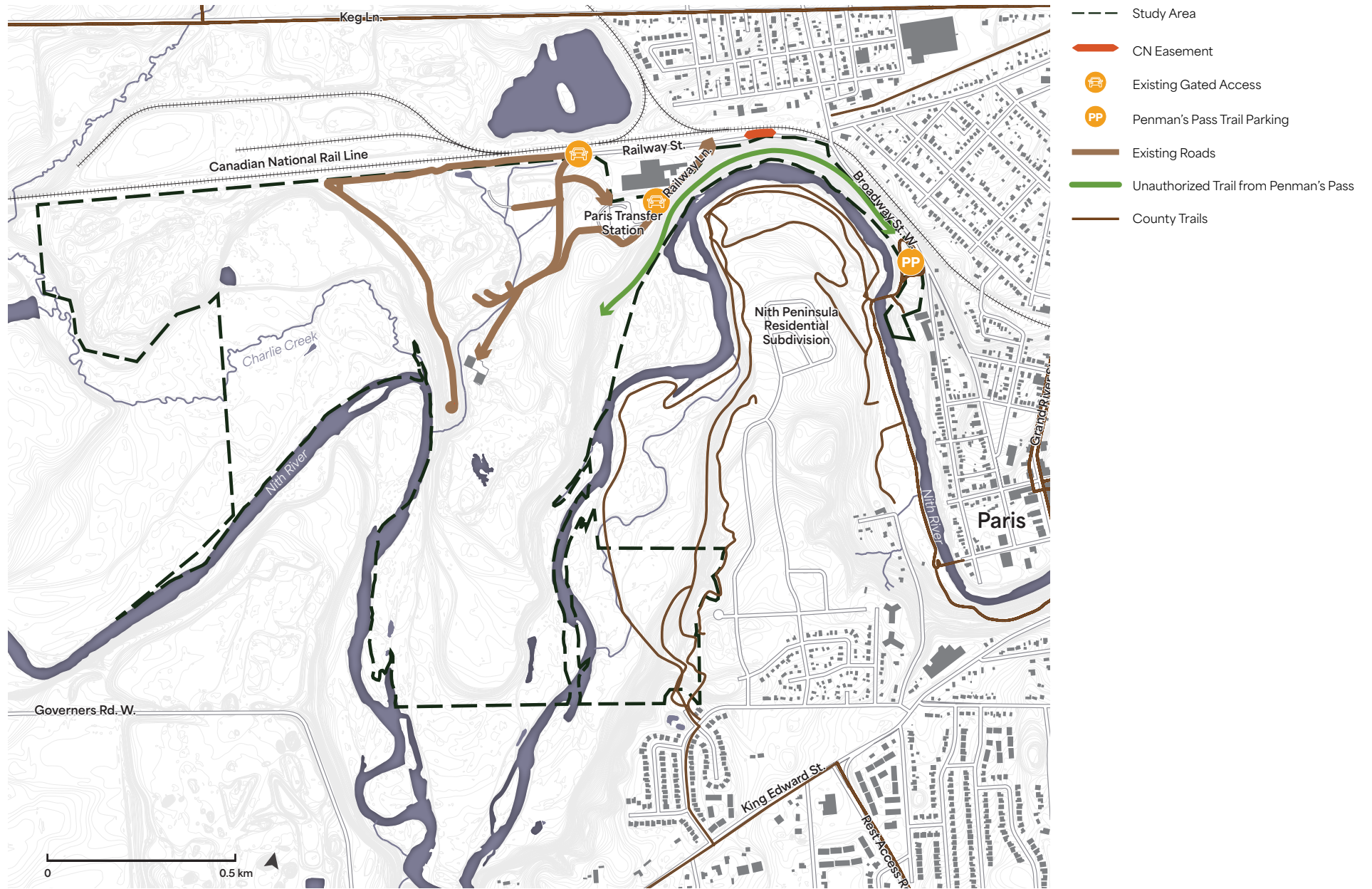


Fig 2.3 - Connectivity

Internal Movement

Unauthorized use by walkers, bikers, ATV riders, cross-country skiers, and mountain bikers in North of the Nith is creating challenges related to safety, accessibility, and environmental impacts.

Trails

There is a network of unauthorized single- and double-track trails on the property. Most of these trails are dirt paths formed by foot traffic, cycling, and off-road motorized vehicles. However, because these trails were not constructed using modern sustainable trail-building practices, some sections are steep or are being eroded by creeks, wetlands, rain events, and seasonal flooding.

The trail running along the north side of the Nith River, which connects to the Penman's Pass Trail, is particularly affected by erosion. As this trail has the potential to serve as a secondary entrance to the site in the future, stabilizing and improving accessibility along it should be prioritized.

Minor trail re-routes across the site would enhance user safety and experience, improve trail sustainability, and reduce environmental impacts.

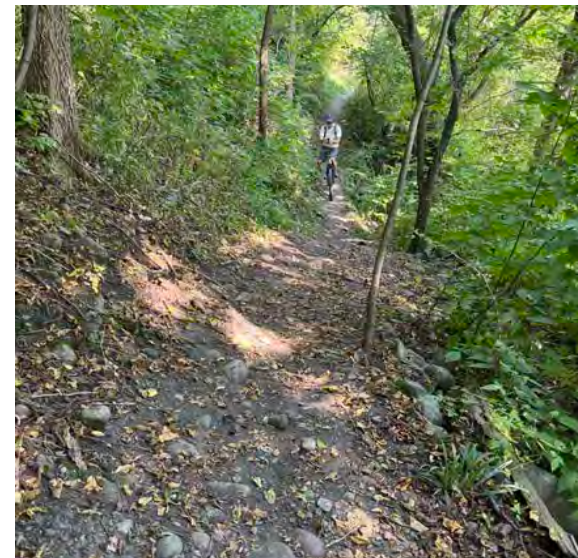


Image 7. Unauthorized trail on the north side of the Nith River.



Image 8. Rutting of the trails from motorized vehicles.

Former Gravel Pit

An area known as “The Dunes,” southwest of the CN Rail Line, was once a gravel pit. Characterized by loose sand and gravel, trails here have been eroded to a cobble base due to motorized use, making the terrain unsuitable for a formal mountain biking facility. The area is damaged by dirt bike and ATV activity, prompting discussions with the County, law enforcement, and stakeholders about the need to enforce North of the Nith as a non-motorized area and developing a County-wide strategy for motorized activities.

Closed Landfill Site

The Closed Landfill Site offers ideal terrain for a bike park without disturbing sensitive environmental areas. Upon review of relevant regulations, namely the Environmental Protection Act, Section 46, the County has determined that after September 2025 the Closed Landfill Site can be used for biking trails with minor Provincial approvals (excluding the Waste Transfer Station). Guidelines, developed as the next part of the Master Plan, will set out:

- The requirements for no disturbance of the landfill footprint and cap of the landfill;
- Protection of the groundwater monitoring and gas monitoring wells;

- Ensuring that the County Operational Zone is securely fenced with signage and additional security measures; and
- The required approvals.

North Of The Nith River - Single Track Trail Network Master Plan

In 2021, the Brant Cycling Club submitted a proposal to Council asking for North of the Nith be used as a single-track bike trail network. Their vision is a grassroots, community-led initiative that would build a single-track trail network designed for mountain bikes. The Cycling Club proposal also includes a parking lot and nature park - with the idea of allocating approximately 141 hectares (348 acres) as a nature park for conservation and use by a variety of community members. Bringing multiple recreational uses together in the space could also deter less desirable activities in the area, such as unsanctioned ATV use.



Image 9. The Dunes: Interaction between active motorized vehicle trails and early seral plant community establishment.

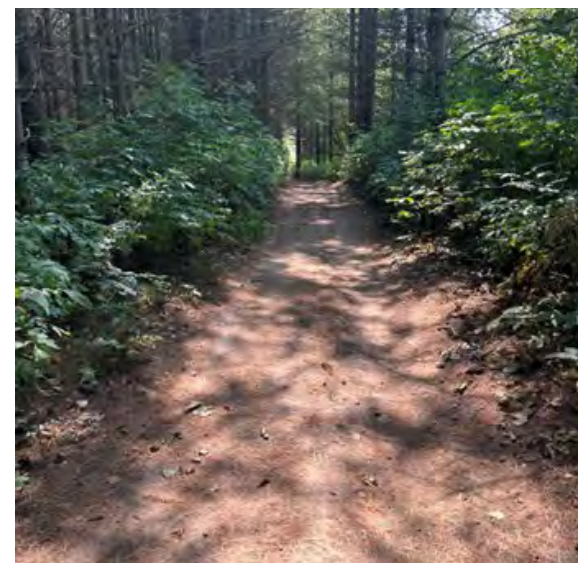


Image 10. Double-track trail.

Roads

The sub-base of the gravel road west of Railway Street is stable and could be developed into a formal park access road in the future. Portions of this road are situated in low-lying areas prone to flooding, necessitating grading adjustments or localized drainage solutions.

Master Plan Considerations:

- Consider siting the mountain bike facility on the closed landfill. It offers ideal terrain, avoids sensitive areas, requires minimum MECP approvals (as of September 2025), and has no archaeological impact. Partnering with the Brant Cycling Club could support funding, construction, and maintenance.
- Explore safe public access options for the mountain bike facility that do not conflict with the County of Brant's Operational Zone.
- Consider developing the existing gravel road connecting Railway Street into a formal park access road. Assess for grading and drainage improvements.
- Apply a light-touch approach to developing a site-wide trail network to improve user safety, user experience, trail sustainability, and minimize environmental impacts. Focus on relocating existing unauthorized trails in sensitive or hazardous areas and improving existing established trails - not building new trails.

- Where new trails are needed or existing trails need to be re-routed, undertake a terrestrial assessment to understand how best to minimize impacts on the surrounding landscape and habitats.
- Make unauthorized existing trails more sustainable by designing them with modern sustainable trail practices. The core goals of a sustainable trail are to:
 - + Protect the environment.
 - + Meet user needs and expectations.
 - + Minimize maintenance.
- Employ trail definition with signage, pathway material, and other design techniques to minimize conflict in sensitive areas.
- Incorporate interpretive elements in conjunction with a themed trail, or special feature areas along the trail to raise awareness of wildlife and natural ecosystems, landscape, or cultural heritage. The information presented should be both interesting and informative, and be oriented to building stewardship and responsibility for environmental management.
- Undertake a County-wide motorized recreation strategy.
- Slope stabilization and erosion restoration to the northern bank of the Nith River near Railway Street is recommended as a priority project.
- Trails along steep banks should be re-routed away from oversteep and toe erosion hazard areas.



Image 11. Gated gravel road west of Railway Street.



Image 12. Sideslope of the closed landfill ideal for a bike park.

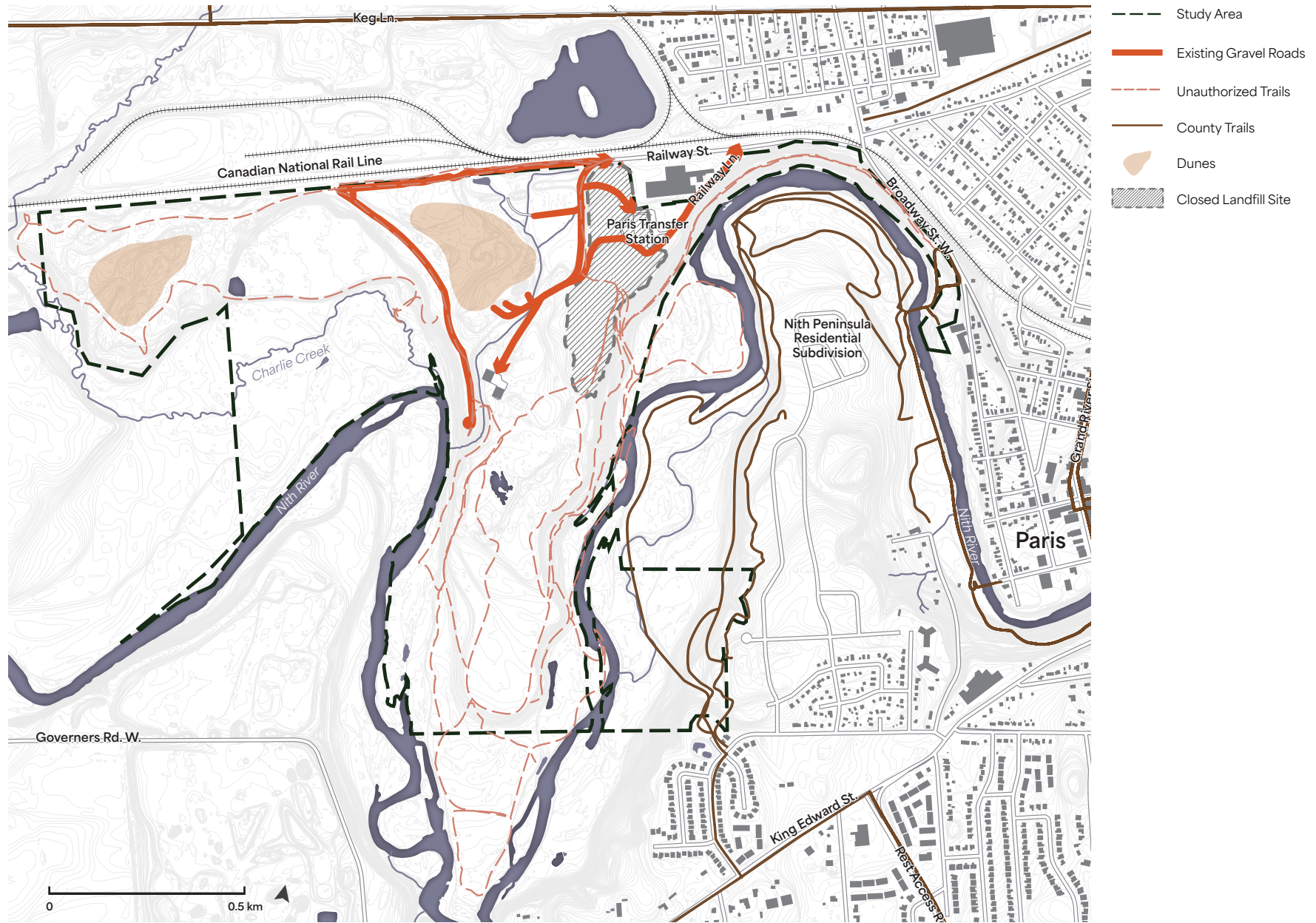


Fig 2.4 - Internal Movement

Natural Environment

North of the Nith contains a number of unique and significant natural features to be preserved and improved.

Watercourses

Nith River

The Nith River, which defines the west and east edges of the site, is a shallow, fast-flowing tributary of the Grand River. The river features cobble shoals, channel braiding, densely vegetated floodplains, and valley walls lined with riparian forests.

The lower banks surrounding the Study Area show signs of historic and on-going disturbance from motorized vehicles. Several portions of the shoreline and adjacent floodplain forests are heavily rutted from motorized traffic across saturated soils. Invasive Phragmites rapidly colonizes these disturbed areas.

Charlie Creek

Charlie Creek is a third order tributary that intersects the property uplands from the west before discharging into the Nith River, approximately 3km upstream from its confluence with the Grand River. Charlie Creek is classified as a coldwater creek, a unique and ecologically significant habitat type within the Lake Erie Lowland Ecoregion. Coldwater creeks provide a range of essential ecological services, including regulating water temperatures for downstream waterbodies,



Image 13. Nith River riparian zone with disturbed shoreline in foreground.

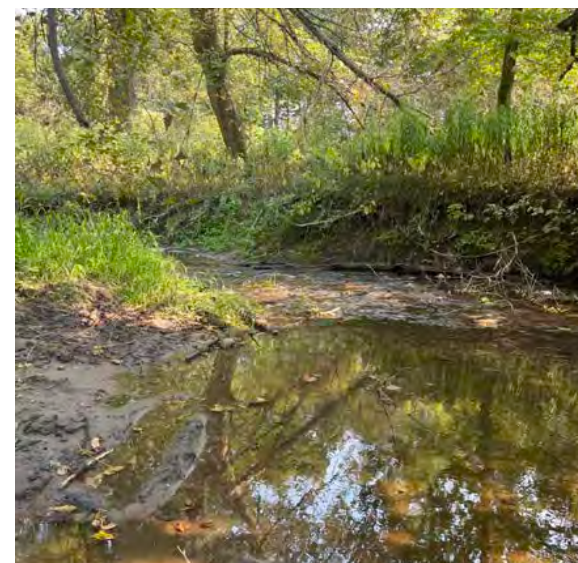


Image 14. Charlie Creek.

offering oxygen-rich spawning habitats for fish, and supporting diverse riparian ecosystems that sustain numerous migratory and resident wildlife species. Studies between 1995 - 2019 have reported adult brown trout, juvenile rainbow trout, and adult steelhead in lower Charlie Creek.

One community stakeholder pointed out that Charlie Creek's location and confluence was rerouted because of the gravel pit for water intake purposes. Aerial imagery shows the outfall was 500m upstream of its current location.

Ritchie Creek is a permanently flowing tributary which enters Charlie Creek 350m downstream from the CN Rail line. There is an earthen berm on private property along Ritchie Creek just before the confluence with Charlie Creek and forms an approximately 1.4 hectare pond.

Charlie Creek Potential To Support Coldwater Aquatic Species

Trout Unlimited (Middle Grand Chapter) undertook a study called 'Summer Temperature Trends in Lower Charlie Creek Near Paris, Ontario' (2018 and 2019). This report documents summer temperature trends in the lower reaches of Charlie Creek in 2018 and 2019, with emphasis on its current and potential ability to support trout and other sensitive coldwater aquatic species. The report identifies that the pond on lower Ritchie Creek is having a significant



Image 15. Confluence of Charlie Creek to the Nith River in 1954.

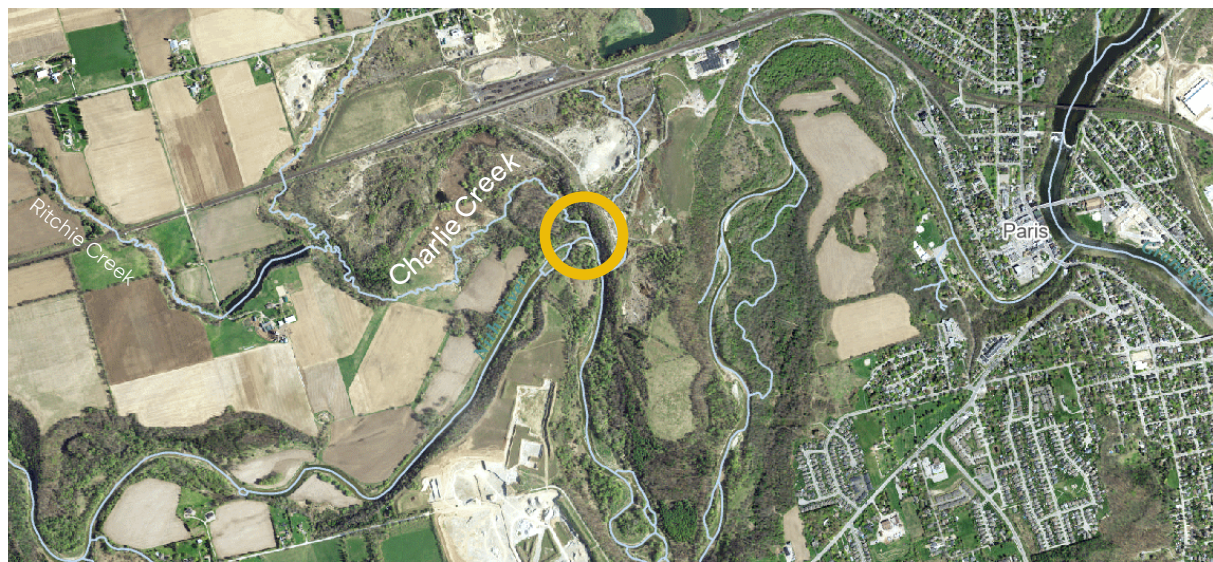


Image 16. Confluence of Charlie Creek to the Nith River in 2015.

warming influence on lower Charlie Creek, which limits the potential of trout in the creek. The report provides 4 rehabilitation options:

1. Pond/dam Removal
2. Bypass Channel Around Modified Pond
3. Bottom Draw Conversion
4. Do Nothing

Trout Unlimited has said they want to be a partner in revitalizing lower Charlie Creek.

Nith River Forest Area Of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)

In 1984, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry designated about 165 hectares of land, known as the Nith River Forest Life Science ANSI due to values related to protection, scientific study, and education. The lands consist of the Horseshoe Moraine Spillway, a flat floodplain elevated above the Nith River and consisting of almost bare sandy silt soil. The most significant feature noted is an unusual abundance of twin-leaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*), a species that is rare in southern Ontario. Development and site alteration within 50m of this ANSI is prohibited unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the features or functions.

Wildlife & Aquatic Habitats

Stakeholder feedback and a desktop review of provincial data have identified significant wildlife habitats in the area. See Figure 2.6 for location in the Study Area. These include:

- A white-tailed deer wintering area (specifically in the pine plantation)
- A concentration site for waterfowl during the winter, and
- Habitats for aquatic Species at Risk, including the Silver Shiner, Black Redhorse, and Northern Sunfish

Appendix A includes a list of mammals, amphibians, butterflies, and dragonflies observed by Community Partners on site. These findings highlight the ecological importance of the region and the need for careful consideration in planning and conservation efforts.



Image 17. White-tailed deer.



Image 18. Twin-leaf *Jeffersonia diphylla*.

Plant Species

The field assessment conducted by SMM took place in September 2024. Due to the later timing of the visit, some plant species may not have been identified. Phragmites, and common buckthorn were identified in the Study Area. Both of which are species managed under Ontario's invasive species regulations. A comprehensive list of all plant species observed during this visit is included in Appendix B. More detail on existing ecological communities on the site is described on the next page.

Community Partners also conducted detailed plant assessments in North of the Nith during June and August 2024. Their exploration also found Common buckthorn, Phragmites, Dog-strangling vine, Spotted Knapweed, and Tatarian Honeysuckle. Rare species observed in the area included Tall Boneset, Great Plains Lady's Tresses, Dwarf Chinquapin Oak, Fragrant Macewort, and Hairy Bugseed. A complete list of plant species documented during these assessments can be found in Appendix C.

Geological Formations

A Community Partner also identified a potential for tufa deposits and the possibility of bedrock karstification near this spring along Charlie Creek. Tufa deposits are a rock formation that occurs when mineral-rich water flowing over / through rocks mix with the air leaving behind solid deposits. The significance of the tufa deposits includes unique habitats for plants and animals, for educational and scientific interest, as a water quality indicator, and for cultural and historical value. More investigation is required because the karstification is not included in provincial geological data.

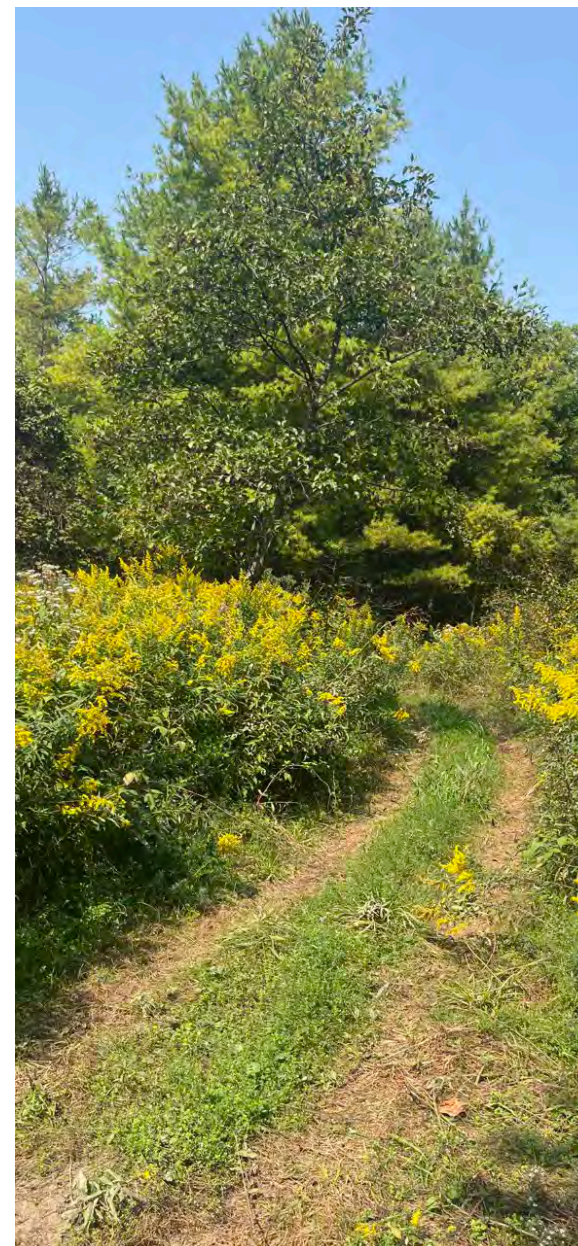


Image 19. Seed-bearing European buckthorn trees and Canada Goldenrod.

Existing Ecological Communities

Based on the field assessment and desktop analysis, existing ecological communities have been identified within and surrounding the Study Area. These are mapped in Figure 2.5 and described below.

Nith River Riparian Forest

The riparian forest environment along the project site serves as a buffer for the Nith River, with a lush deciduous tree canopy covering the valley slopes and floodplains. These riparian forests feature a high diversity of deciduous tree species at the canopy level in undisturbed areas and they support a well-developed understory composed of various shrubs, forbs, grasses, sedges, and rushes. The soils in these riparian forests are primarily coarse alluvial sediments, which are highly susceptible to erosion, particularly in areas where the vegetation has been disturbed or altered.

Upland Forest

Upland forests are found in several areas around the project site, typically transitioning from the riparian forest habitat at increasing distance and elevation from the Nith River. The condition of these forests varies considerably, largely due to both current and historical human activities. In areas with frequent motorized vehicle traffic, the forest understory has been degraded and



Image 20. Nith River riparian forest along the Nith River.



Image 21. Nith River riparian forest facing west.

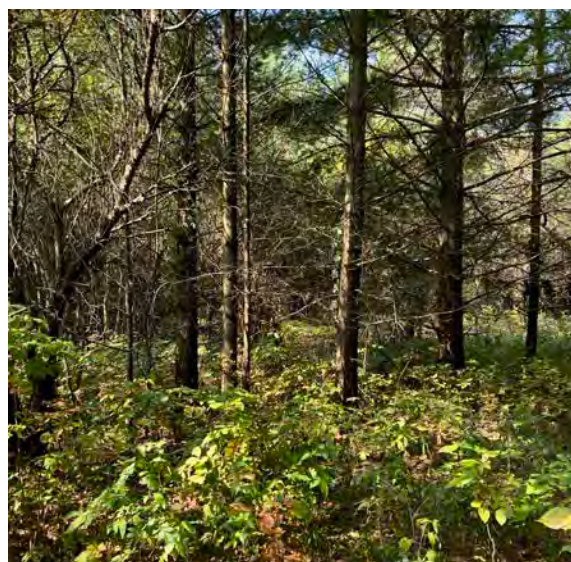


Image 22. The pine upland forest (South of the Study Area).



Image 23. A steep trail through an upland forest damaged from ATV use and erosion.

often accompanied by the encroachment of invasive plant species. Additionally, many locations show signs of past disturbances, with species such as European Buckthorn forming thickets that negatively impact local biodiversity.

Reclaimed Quarry

Historical aggregate quarry operations at the property have shaped much of the upland landscape. In recent decades, vegetation has begun to reclaim areas where human disturbance has been minimal and early/mid seral plant communities have developed. These pioneer plant species were often observed to be growing adjacent to upland forest areas, and included groundcovers of grasses, forbs, with shrubs and saplings dispersed throughout. In many cases, these areas were observed to be highly disturbed through repeated motorized vehicle traffic. The underlying coarse soils are highly erodible, and motorized vehicles have actively degrading these relatively small and susceptible plant communities.

Prairie Meadow

The project site features an 8 hectare prairie meadow in the south-central area of the property. This meadow is home to a variety of native forb species growing among a dense cover of introduced plants, reflecting past landscape disturbances. During the site investigation, Canada goldenrod and New England Aster were in full bloom,



Image 24. Early seral plant communities reclaiming former quarry area with dense upland forests shown in background.



Image 25. The prairie meadow with a view of Nith River Valley. Abundant Canada Goldenrod blooms.



Image 26. New England Aster growing in the prairie meadow.

contributing to the meadow's distinctive ecological character.

The prairie meadow is a distinctive habitat, frequently visited by people who have created a well-established perimeter trail around the field. This open prairie is bordered on all sides by dense upland forests and supports a unique plant community, with an abundance of native wildflowers. While a thorough plant inventory was not conducted during the initial site visit, the meadow has potential to host a variety of prairie indicator species, including tracked Species at Risk. To gain a deeper understanding of the local plant community and identify potential enhancement opportunities, future terrestrial assessment surveys are recommended.

Community Partners have suggested the possibility of developing a management plan that could include control burns.

Invasive Species

Phragmites

Phragmites (*Phragmites australis* subsp. *australis*) the regulated invasive species under Ontario's Invasive Species Act, was observed and prevalent across North of the Nith. This highly aggressive plant can spread rapidly through both seed dispersal and extensive root systems, forming dense monocultures that crowd out native vegetation and disrupt natural habitats.

Field observations have shown that the riparian zone along Charlie Creek is heavily colonized by Phragmites, significantly reducing the diversity of native plant species in the area.

Controlling Phragmites over large areas is challenging and labor-intensive, but a comprehensive, site-wide mitigation strategy can achieve meaningful results. The Phragmites mitigation strategy at North of the Nith should prioritize controlling this plant within high-value habitats, particularly the riparian zones along Charlie Creek and the Nith River.

Control efforts here can contribute to broader restoration goals for the creek and its surrounding ecosystems.

European Buckthorn & Japanese Knotweed

Multiple infestations of European Buckthorn and Japanese Knotweed have been observed across the project site. To enhance the ecological health of the property, it is recommended to develop a comprehensive management plan for these invasive species, aimed at controlling current infestations and gradually reducing or eradicating their presence over time.

An overview of observed Species at Risk and rare plants are included in the Appendices A, B, and C.



Image 27. Dense Phragmites establishment in a former borrow pit holding water.



Image 28. Dense European buckthorn infestation adjacent double track trail.

Environmental Impact Studies (EIS)

The County of Brant has implemented the use of Environmental Impact Studies (EIS) as a tool to encourage sustainable and managed growth. An EIS at North of the Nith may be required for development or site alterations that are within or adjacent to natural features, significant wetlands, significant wildlife habitats, fish habitats, floodplains and hazard lands, and ANSI's. Below are a list of the EIS requirements that will be followed during the implementation of the Master Plan.

Life Science ANSI - EIS within 120m
(Consultation with MNR may be required)

Wetlands - EIS within 120m (Regulated by Grand River Conservation Authority)

Significant Woodlands - EIS within 120m

Significant Wildlife Habitats - EIS within 120m

Fish Habitats - EIS within 120m

Significant Valleylands - EIS within 50m (Regulated by Grand River Conservation Authority)

Permanent & Intermittent Watercourse, Surface Water Features - EIS within 120m

Master Plan Considerations:

- Focus restoration projects on unique features such as the coldwater creek, Charlie Creek, wetlands, and grasslands.
 - Consider partnering with local groups on restoration projects.
 - Enhance the trail experience through interpretive signage, well-defined pathways, and other practices to stop users from leaving the path and damaging the natural environment.
 - Create a Phragmites mitigation strategy to prioritize controlling this plant within high-value habitats, particularly the riparian zones along Charlie Creek and the Nith River.
 - Develop strategies to improve the quality of the prairie meadow habitat with one of the goals to create a bird sanctuary as part of the habitat enhancements. Incorporate features such as birdhouses and viewing opportunities.
 - Ensure that any buildings, structures and lighting incorporate bird friendly best practices.
- Where potential Species at Risk habitat exists, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) will be consulted to determine if additional mitigation or compensation is required to address requirements under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
 - Planting plans should be in accordance with the Grand River Conservation Authority recommended plant lists as well as Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation's significant species list.



Fig 2.5 - Existing Ecological Communities



Fig 2.6 - Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest and Species at Risk

Land Use - Official Plan

North of the Nith is designated as a place centered on natural heritage preservation, supported by opportunities for thoughtful, low-impact recreational uses such as trails.

A Simply Grand Plan

The County of Brant's Official Plan 2023, A Simply Grand Plan designated the lands as Natural Heritage System and Rural Lands. Additionally, the Plan identifies a number of natural hazards near and within North of the Nith.

Natural Heritage System

The Natural Heritage System consists of areas that encompass significant natural elements, such as an ANSI, significant woodlands, significant valleylands, significant wildlife habitat, fish habitat, wetlands, vegetation protection zones, and enhancement linkages. This designation aims to prohibit development and site alterations, prioritizing the conservation of these features and lands. Non-intensive recreational uses such as non-motorized trails and benches may be considered within and adjacent to these areas provided it is demonstrated that there will be no negative impact on ecological or hydrological features or functions. The ultimate goal is to ensure permanent protection and minimize impacts, while promoting resilience in the face of climate change. The Growth Plan overlay is bigger and includes the Official Plan Natural Heritage System and Rural Lands.

Rural Lands

Rural Lands are designated areas located outside rural settlements and prime agricultural lands, typically in fringe areas where soil quality is not suitable for farming. Examples of permitted uses include institutional uses, resource-based recreational uses, and other uses that may not be suitable in settlement areas.

Natural Hazards

The plan categorizes natural hazards into three main types: flooding hazards, erosion hazards, and wetlands. To protect both life and property, development and site alteration is generally prohibited within these areas. However, non-intensive, passive recreational uses may be considered subject to approval from GRCA, although trails cannot be constructed in wetlands. See Figure 2.8 for natural hazards in the Study Area.

Mineral Extraction Operations

The County's Official Plan includes Lafarge's active licence as a Mineral Extraction Operations overlay on North of the Nith. The County is expecting written confirmation from Lafarge that no operations are planned within North of the Nith. See Section 2.1 Ownership & Operations for the location of the active license.

Master Plan Considerations:

- Consider designating the land central and along the north edge of the site to Parks and Open Spaces to support the master plan vision.
- Prioritize the protection and conservation of ecologically sensitive lands along the east, west, and south edges.
- Assess the feasibility of extending the Natural Heritage designation further north or reclassifying these areas as Core Natural Areas to strengthen the protection of sensitive habitats beyond the existing boundary.
- Obtain confirmation from Lafarge regarding the surrender of the mineral aggregate extraction license.



Image 29. A Simply Grand Plan, the Official Plan for the County of Brant.

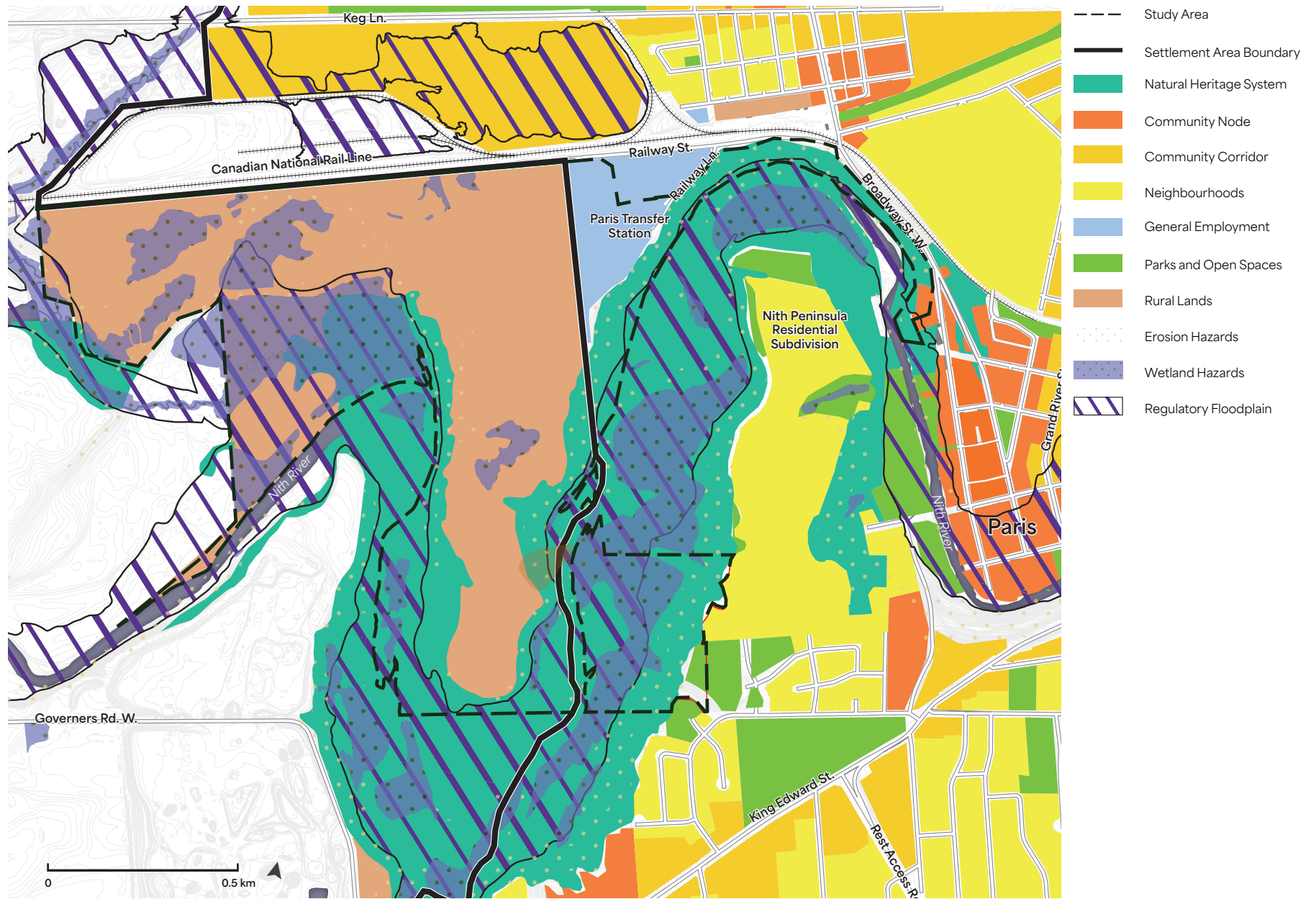


Fig 2.7 - Land Use Map - Official Plan

Conservation Authority Regulated Lands

The lands include natural hazards regulated by the GRCA, such as wetlands, floodplains, and steep slopes.

Grand River Conservation Authority

The GRCA oversees a regulation boundary that encompasses various environmental hazards, including slope erosion and flooding. North of the Nith features a range of natural elements such as wetlands, creeks, rivers, steep slopes, and floodplains. The GRCA will review all submissions and detailed designs within their regulated lands to ensure compliance with their regulations and the protection of these sensitive areas.

Wetlands

Wetlands within North of the Nith are relatively rare due to past land alterations, well-drained soils, and the rise in elevation from the Nith River valley. Instead, small wetland features include occasional ephemeral pools and depressions formed by old borrow pits. The GRCA categorizes the majority of these wetlands as swamps and most of these areas are heavily dominated by invasive Phragmites. This encroachment continues to impact the diversity of plant species present. Signs of repeated and on-going motorized vehicle traffic was noted in several of these wetland areas, impacting soils and vegetation.

Erosion Hazards Banks

The river valley is governed by the Province and GRCA policies pertaining to slope erosion hazards, steep slopes, and valleys. The banks of this river valley include areas characterized as steep to oversteep slope erosion hazards. According to GRCA data, particular attention is required for the northern bank of the Nith River near Railway Street, which is identified as an oversteep area with a toe hazard along the bend. This section needs to be carefully managed to mitigate erosion and maintain stability as it is the only pedestrian access into the site.

Floodplains

Floodplains cover 49 hectares (36%) of the land and encompass areas around Charlie Creek and the Nith River. Due to its proximity to Paris downtown and the Grand River, North of the Nith plays a crucial role as the last line of defense against flooding for the urban settlements and existing nearby infrastructure.

Master Plan Considerations:

- Detailed designs of any new development shall be submitted to the GRCA for review and approval.
- Complete the Maintenance Agreement between the County and GRCA.



Fig 2.8 - Conservation Authority Regulated Lands

Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA)

North of the Nith had many uses over time and traces of its history can be found throughout the lands.

Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA)

83.6 hectares (206 acres) of County land south of the rail line is currently subject to an Environmental Compliance Approval. An Environmental Compliance amendment may be required for conversion of the western Dunes to open space.

Closed Landfill Site

Landfilling began in 1948 and was then purchased by the Town of Paris in 1972. The municipal landfill was then in operation from 1972 to 2000 when it reached capacity. A second waste disposal location was approved under the Environment Protection Act within the Paris Landfill property in 1996 however, no waste disposal activities occurred on the second location. In 2023 an ECA amendment application was submitted and approved to revoke the additional landfill capacity. Currently, a waste transfer station is operational at the Closed Landfill Site.

In 2012, slope stability and erosion work was completed along the bank of the Nith River adjacent to Railway Lane and the Paris Waste Transfer Station.

In 2023 WSP completed the Annual Monitoring Report of groundwater, surface water, and landfill gas for the Closed Paris Landfill Site, as required by the ECA, and submitted annually to the MECP. Monitoring

data collected over the past 20 years indicates stable or improving water quality conditions. The 2023 Annual Monitoring Report completed by WSP states that the closed landfill does not have a measurable impact on the surface water quality of the Nith River.

The former landfill's terrain is well-suited for a bike park while preserving sensitive environmental areas. The County's regulatory review confirmed that biking trails can be developed after September 2025 with minor Provincial approvals, except for the Waste Transfer Station.

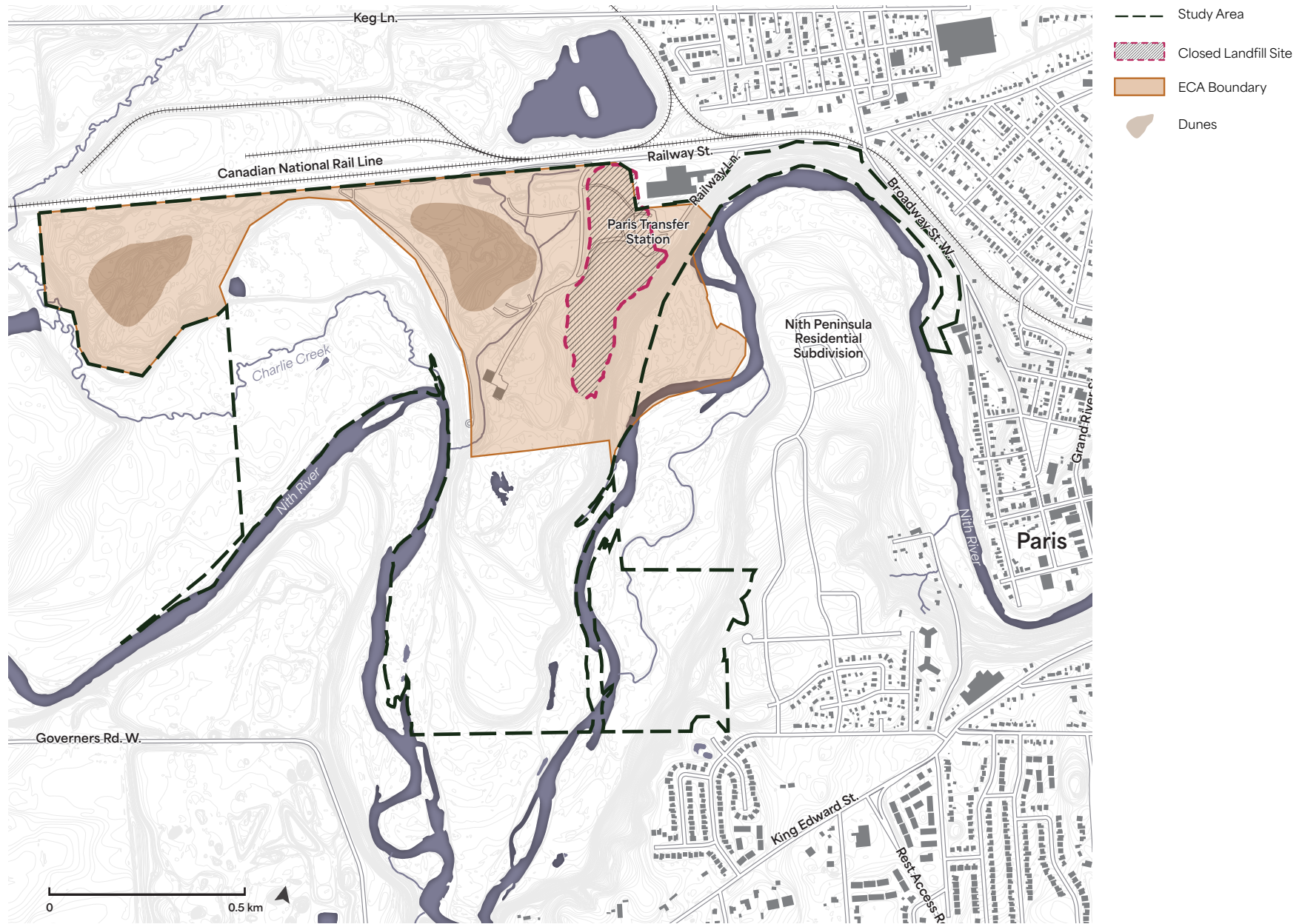


Fig 2.9 - Former Uses

Topography

The rail line, creek, and river create a unique topography which is a defining feature to North of the Nith.

The site's natural topography and past uses will greatly influence its future access and functionality. The land features varied elevations throughout, some of these perfect for lookouts. Flatter terrain is mainly found in the northern part of the site near the base of the CN embankment. Unauthorized trails currently wind along the sloped perimeter of the peninsula, while the river valley banks offer appealing lookout points with views over the Nith River.

Master Plan Considerations:

- Explore opportunities to locate lookouts along existing trails that have high points, along the river valley banks, and the Nith River shoreline.
- Locate parking on a flat site near Railway Street and the existing access road.
- Roads and trails that are in low-lying area may require culverts or bridges to prevent flooding and maintain access.
- Consider the siting of a mountain bike park on top of the capped landfill because of suitable grade and soil conditions.



Image 30. Nith River riparian zone lookout from wilderness trail.

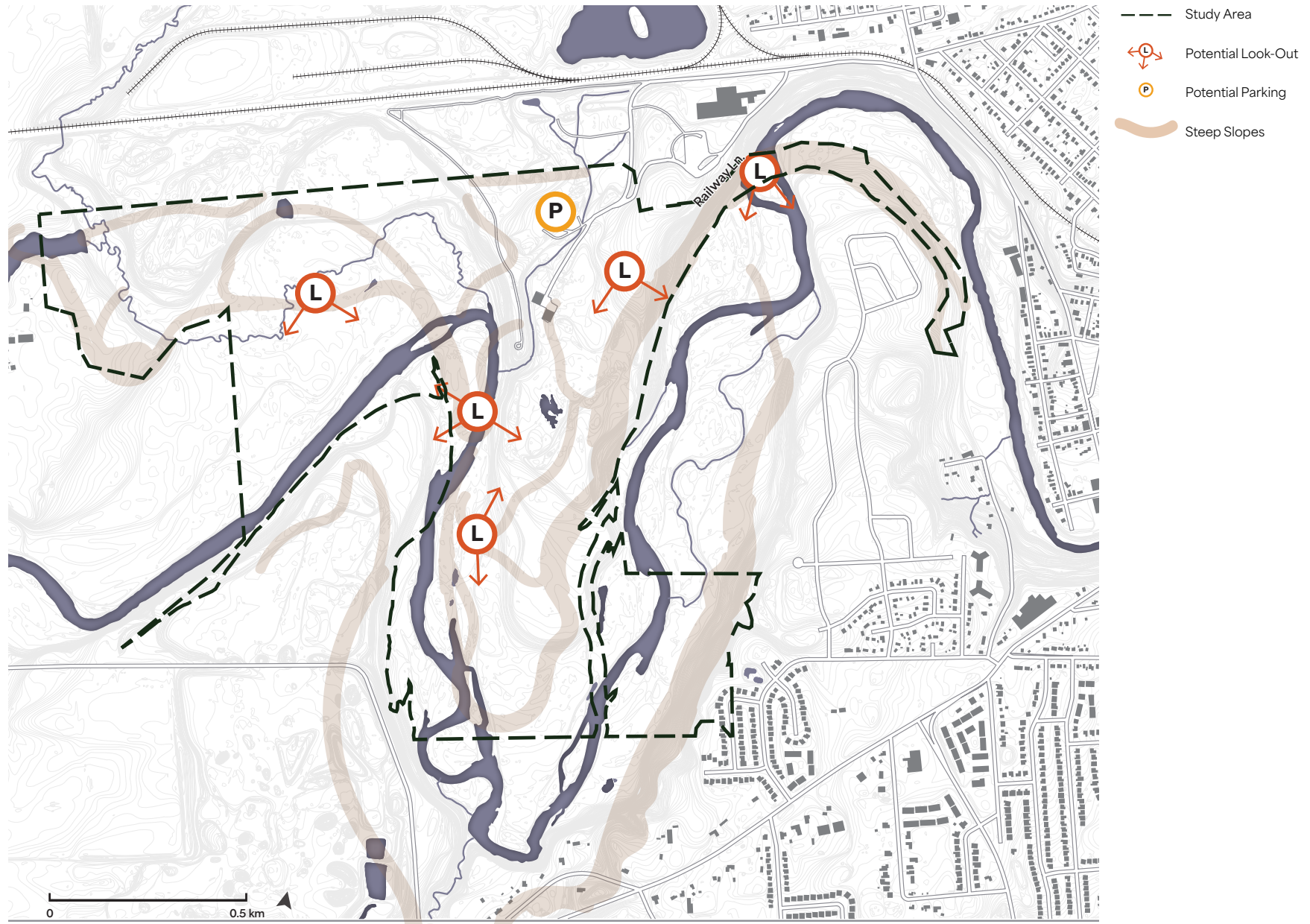


Fig 2.10 - Topography



Image 31. A flat area adjacent to existing gravel road in the disturbed area of the site ideal for parking.



Image 32. View toward Charlie Creek riparian zone with dense Phragmites establishment in the background adjacent creek.



Image 33. View looking south from atop the Close Landfill Site.

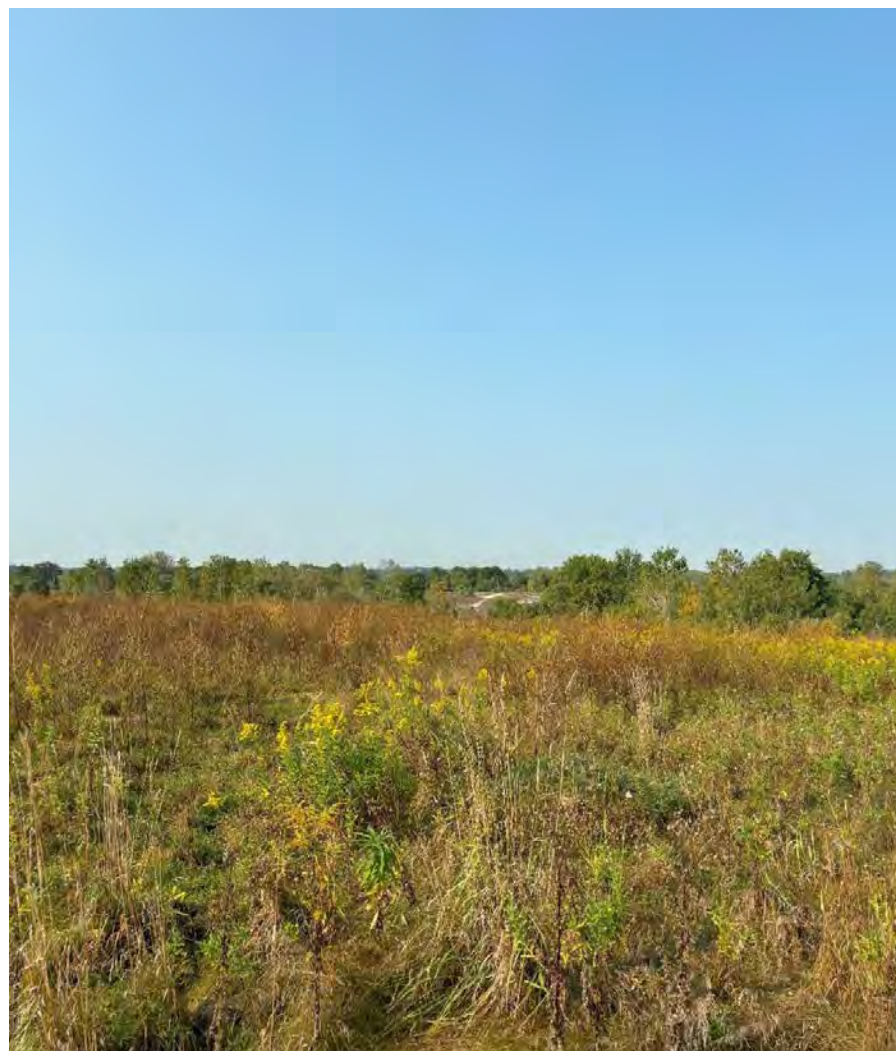


Image 34. View looking north from atop the Close Landfill Site.

Archaeological Assessment

The Stage 1 assessment indicated the property has general archaeological potential.

A Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment was submitted to the County in March 2025 by Archaeological Consultants Canada.

The report concluded:

- 55% of the site retains archaeological potential and requires Stage 2 property survey (**97.9 hectares / 242.1 acres**).
- 42% of the site has low to no archaeological potential because of major landscaping, construction, landfilling activities, is low-lying and permanently wet, or is steeply sloping topography (**75.9 hectares / 187.6 acres**).
- 3% of the site consists of watercourses and waterbodies (**5.06 hectares / 12.5 acres**).

See Appendix F for the full Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment.

Master Plan Considerations

- Conduct a scoped assessment after completing the draft Master Plan to determine the extent of Stage 2 assessment required.
- Incorporate interpretive elements to highlight the extensive First Nations history and archaeology associated with the Brant Waterways, fostering awareness, and education about the area's cultural significance.



Fig 2.11 - Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment



CHAPTER 03: WHAT WE HEARD SUMMARY

Methodology

The development of the Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan includes close collaboration with County of Brant staff, Community Partners, Indigenous communities, and the community at each phase of the process.

The master plan consultation methodology is based on a three-phase process: Understand, Explore, and Decide. The first phase of this project, Understand, which began in August 2024 and ended in December 2024, was comprised of Community Partner interviews, a public on-line survey, and an in-person pop-up event. This phase was intended to introduce the project and identify community values about the lands which will guide the future direction of the Master Plan.

Interviews

Between August 14th, 2024, and October 7th, 2024, a total of nine virtual and in-person interviews were completed with First Nation communities and Community Partners. These interviews allowed the consultants to introduce the project and team as well as provide these groups with the opportunity to share ideas, visions, and history about the site.

Online Survey

The North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan public survey aimed to collect community feedback on the future development of the area. Over a five-week period (September 4th, 2024, to October 11th, 2024), residents were invited to share their thoughts through an online survey promoted by the County on their social media accounts and Engage Brant webpage. Over a thousand

webpage visits and more than 300 online responses were received, offering insights into the community's vision, concerns, and preferences for amenities, activities, and sustainability efforts. See Appendix D for the online engagement summary.

Pop-Up In The Park Event

One in-person Pop-Up in the Park event was held on Saturday, September 14th, 2024, in Lions Park, Paris to help determine common community values, guiding principles for the project. The County began promoting the event to the public three weeks in advance and reached out to all First Nation and Community Partners who were interviewed. During the event, large format graphic panels summarized the preliminary findings and an engagement activity for community members to interact with. Approximately 100-150 people attended the Pop-Up in the Park event. See Appendix E for the Pop-Up in the Park event panels.

Key Themes

The five key themes were informed by discussions with two First Nations, Community Partner interviews, online survey results, and the Pop-Up in the Park event. The key themes align with the overarching objective of establishing a space that balances conservation and recreation.

Sustainability

Many respondents emphasized the need to keep the area as natural as possible, avoiding over-development and paved paths. Respondents from the survey as well as Community Partners stated that recreational activities should not negatively impact natural habitats.

Cycling and Mountain Biking

There is strong community interest in establishing dedicated mountain biking trails. Several respondents cited the success of similar trails in neighbouring areas like Turkey Point and The Hydrocut. The mountain biking community has also been proactive about the need and vision for mountain bike trails in North of the Nith. Many survey respondents and attendees at the public meeting indicated that the trail network should include trails for all users of all ability levels.

Environmental Impact

Protecting natural habitats and the importance of invasive species control were common concerns with respondents. Both respondents of the survey and Community Partners also raised concerns about motorized vehicles like ATVs, citing environmental damage and safety issues, and requested strict enforcement to keep them out of the area.

First Nation and Community Partners requested the following detailed studies: multi-seasonal monitoring, cold water creek restoration, and evaluation of Species at Risk and plant communities related to any proposed development.

Multi-Use Compatibility

Respondants stressed the need for a trail network that includes a range of experiences including both mountain biking and hiking, highlighting the importance of accessibility for users of all ages and abilities.

Indigenous Collaboration

The inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in the planning process was priority for some participants in the online survey, aligning with broader community values of inclusiveness and sustainability. Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation are both interested in continued consultation and involvement of Master Plan and its implementation to include Indigenous place-keeping practices.

Interview Key Findings

First Nation Partners

The Project Team had on-line conversations with Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation on September 16th, 2024. The purpose of these conversations was to introduce the project and learn how both communities want to participate in this project.

The key findings from the First Nation partner meetings were:

More environmental studies are needed.

Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation recommended comprehensive, multi-seasonal monitoring of North of the Nith. The First Nation is interested in before and after impacts, the cold-water creek, and Species at Risk.

See the land healed and restored. Both First Nation communities wish to see more conservation and restoration of the lands. As the surrounding community will grow, minimizing the human disturbance of North of the Nith is a main concern.

Indigenous involvement at every stage of the project. Both Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation would like to be involved throughout the master plan process. Indigenous place-keeping projects such as a medicine wheel and the protection of culturally important plant species were discussed during initial conversations. Additionally, there is an opportunity to partner with the Kayanase Greenhouse to support ecological restoration interventions.

Community Partners

Community Partner interviews occurred between September 2024 and October 2024. These meetings lasted one hour and occurred either in-person or virtually. Below is a list of the Community Partners.

- The Brant Cycling Club
- Brant Waterways Foundation
- Grand River Conservation Authority
- Brant Municipal Enterprise Group
- Brant Tree Coalition
- Brant for Nature
- Ducks Unlimited
- Trout Unlimited: Middle Grand Chapter
- Brant Death Racers Running Club
- Lafarge Canada Inc.

The key findings from the Community Partner meetings were:

Protection of the natural environment.

Community Partners emphasized the importance of preserving North of the Nith's biodiversity and ecological value, which is home to numerous significant and sensitive plant and animal species. One suggestion was to designate the most sensitive areas as "Core Natural Areas."

Proposed changes should prioritize sustainability, restoration, and minimal disturbance to the natural environment. Projects recommended by Community Partners included grassland and wetland restoration, enhancing flood protection, and increasing the tree canopy.

Key features highlighted for conservation included Charlie Creek, the waterfall, and the prairie meadow.

More inventory of the site is required.

Community Partners would like to see scoped studies of key plant and animal communities related to areas where potential improvements are considered.

Find a balance between conservation/preservation and passive recreation on site.

A light touch approach should be applied when identifying new trails. The Community Partners would like to see a focus on re-route existing trails in sensitive areas and improving established trails - not building new trails. As well, passive recreation activities such as non-motorized trails are desired. The cycling community supports the development of designated mountain biking trails on the capped landfill because it offers excellent topography and minimizes impact to the ecologically sensitive parts of the site.

Expansion of North of the Nith boundaries.

Numerous groups asked about the expansion of the project boundaries to include the land within the peninsula. The GRCA has advised that the 10.9 hectare southern most peninsula - beyond the project boundary and owned by GRCA - will remain outside of the project boundary for the time being. The County will continue to work with the GRCA to have open dialogue on opportunities to include this land within North of the Nith.

Leverage community involvement and stewardship. Community Partners emphasized the value of community-led operating models to maximize the park's potential, citing successful examples like Turkey Point Mountain Bike Club, rare Charitable Research Reserve, The Hydrocut, Copeland Forest Friends, and GORBA trails at Guelph Lake.

Community Partners also highlighted the importance of education and stewardship opportunities, such as interpretive signage and volunteer workshops. Organizations like Ducks Unlimited and Trout Unlimited expressed interest in leading volunteer events and educational workshops, as well as contributing to restoration projects.

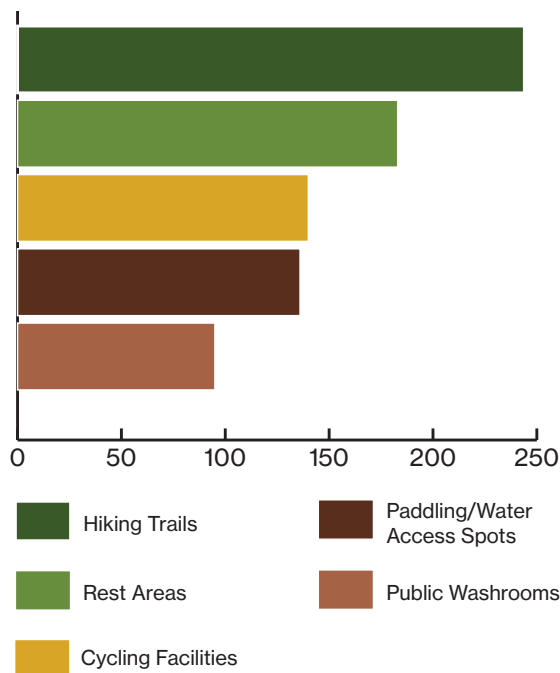
Impacts on ecosystem. Community groups identified that ATVs and disturbances from the surrounding landscape (farmer's dam west of site) are negatively impacting North of the Nith lands. Trout Unlimited highlighted 3 potential threats to the environment and Charlie Creek: People, Ritchie Creek and Seeps.

The closed Paris Landfill Site is monitored through an environmental sampling and monitoring program. A monitoring report is submitted annually to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The 2023 Annual Monitoring Report, completed by WSP, states that the closed landfill does not have a measurable impact on the surface water quality of the Nith River and the surface water sample at "Spring E" located by Charlie Creek does not indicate impacts from the closed landfill. These locations have been monitored since 2006.

Survey Findings

Community feedback from the survey strongly emphasized the desire to preserve the natural character of the area while introducing recreational amenities that align with sustainable principles. Hiking trails emerged as the most desired feature, followed by cycling infrastructure, rest areas, and water access points. Respondents expressed a preference for maintaining minimal infrastructure, such as drinking fountains and public washrooms, but cautioned against over-development.

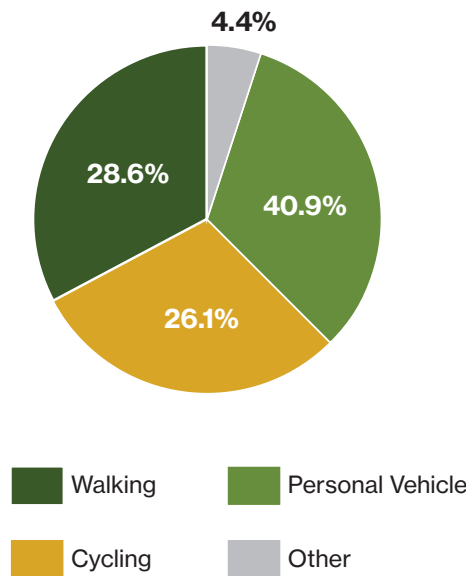
Preferred amenities:



There was significant support for environmental restoration, with many participants advocating for actions that restore native habitats and control invasive species.

When asked about how they would access the site, 40.9% of respondents indicated they would rely on personal vehicles, while 28.6% preferred walking and 26.1% favored cycling, highlighting the importance for improving trail connections and providing parking.

How would the community access the site:



Most participants indicated they would use the space throughout the year, demonstrating a need for multi-seasonal design considerations.

Key Themes from Open-Ended Responses

Sustainability: Many respondents emphasized the need to keep the area as natural as possible, avoiding overdevelopment and paved paths.

Cycling and Mountain Biking: There is strong community interest in establishing dedicated mountain biking trails. Several respondents cited the success of similar trails in neighboring areas like Turkey Point and The Hydrocut.

Environmental Impact: Protecting natural habitats were common concerns with respondents also mentioning the importance of invasive species control. A number of respondents also raised concerns about motorized vehicles like ATVs, citing environmental damage and safety issues, and requested strict enforcement to keep them out of the area.

Multi-Use Compatibility: Some feedback stressed the need for separate spaces or time restrictions for different user groups (e.g., walkers vs. cyclists) highlighting the importance of accessibility for users of all ages and abilities.

Indigenous Collaboration: The inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in the planning process was another priority for some participants, aligning with broader community values of inclusiveness and sustainability.

Pop-Up in the Park Event Findings

Support for mountain bike trails. There was a large support for mountain biking trails at the Pop-Up event based on the activity boards and conversations.

Suggestion for additional study of habitats and consider more conservation initiatives. Concerns about the lack of conservation and enhancement of the natural areas elements on the Pop-Up boards were brought up.

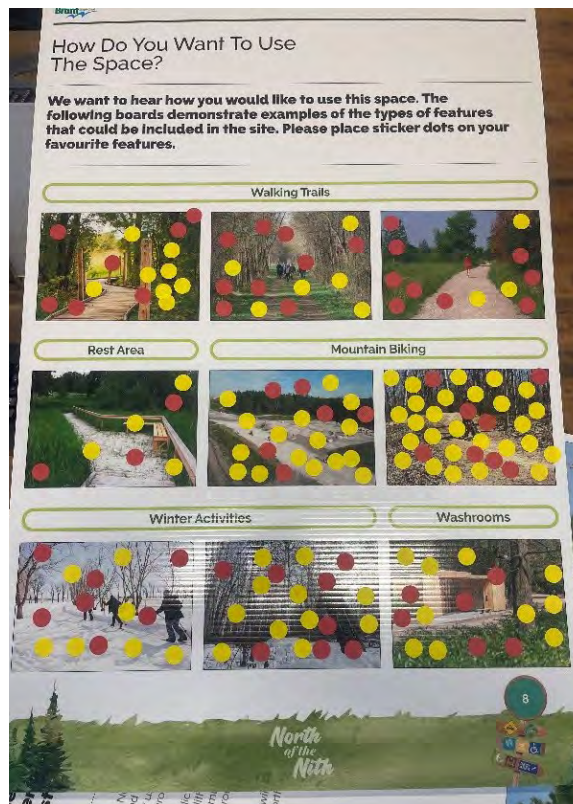


Image 35. Results from the Pop-Up in the Park event.



**CHAPTER 04:
OPPORTUNITIES &
CONSTRAINTS**

SWOT Analysis

North of the Nith is characterized by its unique positive qualities, but also by powerful constraints.

Connectivity & Access

Numerous physical barriers and the County Operational Zone impacts access. The steep topography, Nith River, and CN rail line restrict the amount of entry points into North of the Nith.

Formalizing parking at the main entrance within the site will make North of the Nith more accessible. Improving the trail connection to Penman's Pass is seen as a high priority as it provides a secondary access point that is linked to the existing regional trail network and an existing parking lot.

Program / Facilities

A strength of North of the Nith is the existing demand to use the site. Passive recreation has been happening on the site for years and community groups are interested in playing a role in the development. Formalizing the existing passive recreation, and adding rest stops and look-out points, wayfinding, and interpretive elements can enhance the experience and safety of the site for all.

Environment & Restoration

Protecting and restoring the natural environment was identified as high priority from the public engagement and Community Partner interviews. Existing threats to the environment include large patches of invasive species, erosion, motorized-vehicle use, the pond/dam to the west, and potentially the closed landfill.

Ongoing monitoring of the natural environment will continue as required by the MECP. This data can inform preservation and conservation approaches. Additionally, restoration to key natural features such as the cold-water creek, grasslands, and wetlands can be completed through partnerships with local community groups.

The following page includes the SWOT analysis chart.

	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESS	OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
Connectivity & Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Near existing County trails • Close to the Paris downtown • Across the river from Barker's Bush (new residential neighbourhood) • Existing unauthorized connection to Barker's Bush via Penman's Pass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor safety due to isolation • Limited access points • River and railway barriers • Steep topography • Currently no formal public access • Existing ATV and dirt bikes access points • Existing gravel road actively used by County of Brant Operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway Street Gateway Hub (public street connection) • Improve connection to Penman's Pass (regional trail network) and parking • Potential future secondary connections to Barker's Bush (i.e. crossing over the Nith River - long term) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOU required (GRCA / County / Community Partners)
Program & Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brant is growing (increased demand for access to open space) • Seasonal interest • Passive recreational opportunities • Physical and mental health benefits from trails and nature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seasonal limitations on use • No formal recreation or trail infrastructure • Maintenance challenges due to size and isolation of site • Servicing required • No washrooms • No formal rest areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalize access to lands for health and recreation benefits • Locate Gateway Hub near Railway Street entrance (minimize environmental impact and servicing) • Provide places to pause and rest • Incorporate environmental and cultural interpretation • Education and wayfinding • Partnerships (Community Partners) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance • MOU required (GRCA / County / Community Partners) • Conflicts between user groups (ATV/ dirt bike/hiking/mountain biking) • Conflict between operational requirement and recreational user groups
Environment & Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural heritage area close to urban centers • Importance of natural heritage space in Paris • Existing Nith River Forest ANSI • Wide variety of landscapes in one area (wetlands, forest, meadow) • Ecological succession happening in the Dunes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive species • Development limitations necessary to protect the County's active Operational Zone • Existing damage from ATV/dirt bike • Steep banks and erosion • Disturbances from past uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration using Six Nations of the Grand River First Nation Plant list and Kayanase Greenhouse (partnership opportunity) • Flood protection • Restoration (meadow restoration with Ducks Unlimited) • Invasive species removal - early master plan priority • Themed trails based on landscape typologies • Education and interpretation • Partnerships (Community Partners and Organizations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple regulatory challenges on lands • Balancing conservation with recreation • Flooding • Lack of data on natural environment (i.e. full extent of Species at Risk - more study required) • Ongoing warming of Charlie Creek • Peninsula not included in study area (people want to access water) • ATV/dirt bike use

Table 1. SWOT Analysis Chart



**CHAPTER 05:
VISION & GUIDING
PRINCIPLES**

DRAFT VISION

The vision is to create a space where people can enjoy recreational opportunities offered by the unique features of the North of the Nith while prioritizing the protection and enhancement of its natural environment.

The following six Guiding Principles, informed by the existing conditions analysis and community input, will guide the Master Plan.

Guiding Principles



Protect & Restore

- Prioritize the revitalization of ecosystems, restoring habitats, and championing biodiversity through active stewardship, education, and dedicated care.
- Site new trails and amenities away from environmentally sensitive areas.
- Conserve natural features in accordance with preservation policies, conservation, and best practices.
- Conduct ongoing studies and inventories of the natural environment, guided by Master Plan recommendations. This commitment to research and monitoring will ensure that conservation efforts are data-driven, adaptive, and responsive to the evolving needs of the ecosystem.



Safe, Accessible & Inclusive

- Create a shared community space where all visitors feel welcome.
- Link North of the Nith to Paris and the greater region through a network of well-designed trails. These connections will enhance safety, accessibility, encourage exploration, and promote active transportation, fostering a deeper relationship between people and nature.
- Improve access into the North of the Nith by establishing a formal public entry (Gateway Hub), with potential facilities such as parking, washrooms, and signage to support future use.



Enhance Visitor Experience

- Collaborate with partners to introduce diverse, year-round park experiences, that balance recreation with conservation. Thoughtfully designed activities can protect vulnerable spaces while creating new opportunities for visitors to connect with and appreciate the park in all seasons.



4

Collaboration with Indigenous Communities

- Honor the rights, responsibilities, and cultural significance of Indigenous communities through spaces for truth-revealing, gathering and ceremony.
- Incorporate Indigenous place-keeping practices through ongoing, meaningful collaboration with First Nation communities.



5

Education

- Explore opportunities to expand partnerships to deliver nature-based public programming and education within the park, including Indigenous teachings, land-based practices, and school trips.
- Incorporate interpretive elements throughout the site to tell the story of the land's cultural and natural heritage.



6

Community Involvement & Stewardship

- Create spaces that support visitor experience and enjoyment of the park, education, advocacy.
- Encourage partnerships with community groups and other organizations in the implementation and stewardship of the Master Plan.

APPENDIX A

Community Partner Assessment List - Mammals, Amphibians, Butterflies, & Dragonflies

Table 3: Mammals of Nith River project, Brant county

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank ¹	Provincial Rank ²	COSEWIC Rank ³	COSSARO Rank ⁴	Comments
<i>Dama virginiana</i>	White-tailed Deer	G5	S5			Observed 1 individual and numerous tracks
<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>	Northern Short-tailed Shrew	G5	S5			Dead

Table 4: Amphibians of Nith River project, Brant county

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank ¹	Provincial Rank ²	COSEWIC Rank ³	COSSARO Rank ⁴	Comments
<i>Lithobates pipiens</i>	Northern Leopard Frog	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Anaxyrus americanus</i>	American Toad	G5	S5			Observed tadpoles in vernal pools
<i>Lithobates clamitans</i>	Green Frog	G5	S5			Observed tadpoles in vernal pool
<i>Plethodon cinereus</i>	Eastern Red-backed Salamander	G5	S5			Observed near Charlie Creek

Table 2: Butterflies and moths of Nith River project, Brant county

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank ¹	Provincial Rank ²	COSEWIC Rank ³	COSSARO Rank ⁴	Comments
<i>Limenitis archippus</i>	Viceroy	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Cabbage White	G5	SNA			Observed
<i>Boloria bellona</i>	Meadow Fritillary	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Coenonympha californica</i>	Common Ringlet	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Pholisora catullus</i>	Common Sootywing	G5	S4			Observed
<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	European Skipper	G5	SNA			Observed
<i>Papilio interrogationis</i>	Question Mark	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Ctenucha virginica</i>	virginia Ctenucha Moth	G5	S5			Observed

Table 5: Dragonflies and damselflies of Nith River project, Brant county

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank ¹	Provincial Rank ²	COSEWIC Rank ³	COSSARO Rank ⁴	Comments
<i>Aeshna canadensis</i>	Canada Darner	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Libellula luctuosa</i>	Widow Skimmer	G5	S5			Observed
<i>Erythemis simplicicollis</i>	Eastern Pondhawk	G5	S5			Observed

APPENDIX B

Plant Species Observation List

North of the Nith Incidental Plant Species Observations

September 12-13, 2024

Common Name	Scientific Name
Mantioba maple	<i>Acer negundo</i>
Sugar maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Mountain maple	<i>Acer spicatum</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
White snakeroot	<i>Ageratina altissima</i>
Water-plantain	<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>
Giant ragweed	<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>
Big bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardi</i>
Milkweed	<i>Asclepias sp</i>
Wild asparagus	<i>Asparagus acutifolius</i>
Japanese barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>
White birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Field mustard	<i>Brassica rapa</i>
Smooth brome	<i>Bromus inermis</i>
Sedge	<i>Carex sp</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i>
Canada thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Red osier dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>
Wild carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>
Perennial wall-rocket	<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>
Barnyard grass	<i>Echinochola crus-gali</i>
Vipers Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
Autumn olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
Canada wildrye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>
Quackgrass	<i>Elymus repens</i>
Field Horsetail	<i>Equisetum</i>
American beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
Common cudweed	<i>Filago vulgaris</i>
Wild strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Green ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>
Red cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Black medic	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>
White sweet clover	<i>Melilotus alba</i>
Bergamot	<i>Monarda</i>
White mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>
Evening primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>
Eastern hophornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>
Knotweed	<i>Persicaria</i>
Reed canary grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
Timothy	<i>Phleum pratense</i>
Phragmites	<i>Phragmites australis</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>
White pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>

Scot's pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Common plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>
Kentucky bluegrass	<i>Poa pratensis</i>
White poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>
Balsam poplar	<i>Populus balsamifera</i>
Eastern cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>
Trembling aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Old field balsam	<i>Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium</i>
White oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Red oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
European buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
Staghorn sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
Black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Black raspberry	<i>Rubus occidentalis</i>
Foxtail	<i>Setaria spp</i>
Canada goldenrod	<i>Solidago canadensis</i>
Gray goldenrod	<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>
Perennial sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Calico aster	<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorum</i>
New England Aster	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>
White heath aster	<i>Symphotrichum pilosum</i>
Purple stem aster	<i>Symphotrichum puniceum</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Meadow rue	<i>Thalictrum</i>
Eastern white cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>
American basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>
Poison sumac	<i>Toxicodendron vernix</i>
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
White vervain	<i>Verbena urticifolia</i>
Wingstem	<i>Verbesina alternifolia</i>
Wild grape	<i>Vitis riparia</i>
Cocklebur	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>
Yucca	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>

APPENDIX C

Community Partner Assessment List - Plant Species

Table 1: Plants of Nith River project, Brant county

Scientific Name	Common Name	Global Rank ¹	Provincial Rank ²	Regional Rank ³	Watershed Rank ⁴	County Rank ⁵	COSEWIC Rank ⁶	COSSARO Rank ⁷	Comments
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Sugar Maple	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Manitoba Maple	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Common Yarrow	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Allium vineale</i>	Wild Garlic	GNR	SE2	RE1	LE1	CE1			
<i>Alisma subcordatum</i>	Southern Waterplantain	G5	S4?	R1	L1	C1			
<i>Alyssum alyssoides</i>	Pale Alyssum	GNR	SE5	R2	L1	C1			
<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	Annual Ragweed	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>	Great Ragweed	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Saskatoon	G5	S4?	R4	L3	C1			
<i>Anemone virginiana</i> var. <i>virginiana</i>	Tall Anemone	G5T5	S5?	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Apocynum androsaemifolium</i>	Spreading Dogbane	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	Canada Wild-ginger	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Common Mugwort	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Jack-in-the-pulpit	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Swamp Milkweed	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Bitter Wintercress	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese Barberry	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	European Barberry	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Paper Birch	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Devil's Beggarticks	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Bromus inermis</i>	Smooth Brome	G5TNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Carduus nutans</i> ssp. <i>nutans</i>	Nodding Thistle	GNRTNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Carex blanda</i>	Woodland Sedge	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Carex interior</i>	Inland Sedge	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania Sedge	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	Fox Sedge	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Centaurea jacea</i>	Brown Knapweed	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			Invasive species BMP control - Spotted Knapweed (<i>C. stoebe</i>) is available at Ontario Plant Council: https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/SpottedKnapweed_BMP.pdf
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knapweed	GNR	SE5?	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear Chickweed	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	Virginia Virgin's-bower	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Cinna latifolia</i>	Drooping Woodreed	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada Thistle	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			

<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved Dogwood	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Coronilla varia</i>	Crown Vetch	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	English Hawthorn	G5	SE4	RE1	LE1	CE1			
<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i>	Canada Honewort	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Orchard Grass	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	Deptford Pink	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Diploxys tenuifolia</i>	Slim-leaved Wallrocket	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Common Teasel	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Draba verna</i>	Common Witlow Grass	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	Spinulose Wood Fern	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Common Viper's Bugloss	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive	GNR	SE3	RE3	LE2	CE1			
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Creeping Spikerush	G5	S5?	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	Annual Daisy Fleabane	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Euonymus obovatus</i>	Strawberry Bush	G5	S4	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American Beech	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Festuca rubra ssp. rubra</i>	Red Fescue	G5T5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Fragaria virginiana ssp. virginiana</i>	Wild Strawberry	G5T5	SU	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Fraxinus americana</i>	White Ash	G5	S4	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Galium asprellum</i>	Rough Bedstraw	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Smooth Bedstraw	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Spotted Geranium	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb-robert	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Geum aleppicum</i>	Yellow Avens	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Geum fragarioides</i>	Barren Strawberry	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	False Sunflower	G5	S4S5	R3	L1	C1			
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Common St. John's-wort	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	G5	S4?	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Juncus articulatus</i>	Jointed Rush	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Juncus tenuis</i>	Path Rush	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern Red Cedar	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Common Nipplewort	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	Rice Cutgrass	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Lepidium densiflorum</i>	Dense-flowered Peppergrass	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Oxeye Daisy	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			

<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	European Privet	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	European Gromwell	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	Tatarian Honeysuckle	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			Ontario Plant Council invasive species BMP is available at: https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/invasive-plants/species/invasive-honeysuckles/
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Garden Bird's-foot Trefoil	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Lycopus uniflorus</i>	Northern Waterhorehound	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping Jennie	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Fern	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Melilotus alba</i>	White Sweet Clover	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Monarda x media</i>	(<i>Monarda didyma</i> X <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> var. <i>fistulosa</i>)	G4?	SNA	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Morus alba</i>	White Mulberry	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>	True Forget-me-not	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Eastern Hop-hornbeam	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Oxalis stricta</i>	Upright Yellow Wood-sorrel	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Pilosella caespitosa</i>	Meadow Hawkweed	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canarygrass	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Common Timothy	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	White Pine	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	English Plantain	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Poa nemoralis</i>	Eurasian Woodland Bluegrass	G5TU	SE4	RE1	LE1	C?			
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>	May-apple	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>	Salad Burnett	G5	SE4	RE3	LE2	CE1			
<i>Potentilla recta</i>	Sulphur Cinquefoil	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Balsam Poplar</i>	Balsam Poplar	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Old Switch Panicgrass	G5	S4	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Parthenocissus vitacea</i>	Thicket Creeper	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Physalis heterophylla</i>	Clammy Ground cherry	G5	S4	R3	L1	C1			
<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	Red Pine	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	Eastern White Pine	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scotch Pine	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	English Plantain	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Eastern Cottonwood	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Trembling Aspen	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Black Cherry	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Choke Cherry	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Eastern Ninebark	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Ranunculus abortivus</i>	Kidney-leaved Buttercup	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			

<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Tall Buttercup	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Ranunculus recurvatus</i>	Hooked Buttercup	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Common Buckthorn	GNR	SNA	RE5	LE5	CE5			Technical bulletin available for invasive species control: https://docs.ontario.ca/documents/3192/stdprod-104385.pdf
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	Black Locust	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora Rose	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Wild Red Raspberry	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curly Dock	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Bitter Dock	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	broad-leaved Arrowhead	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Bouncing-bet	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Salix eriocephala</i>	Heart-leaved Willow	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Salix interior</i>	Sandbar Willow	GNR	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Salix petiolaris</i>	Meadow Willow	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Salix purpurea</i>	Purple Willow	G5	SE4	RE1	LE1	CE1			
<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	Dark-green Bulrush	G5	S5?	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Silene cucubalus</i>	Bladder Campion	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	False solomon's seal	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Solidago caesia</i>	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canada Goldenrod	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	Zigzag Goldenrod	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Solidago juncea</i>	Early Goldenrod	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i> var. <i>nemoralis</i>	Gray Goldenrod	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Common Sow-thistle	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	Skunk Cabbage	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Thalictrum pubescens</i>	Tall Meadow-rue	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Taraxacum officinalis</i>	Common Dandelion	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American Basswood	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Poison Ivy	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Meadow Goat's-beard	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	GNR	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Ulmus rubra</i>	Slippery Elm	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Common Mullein	G5	SE5	RE5	LE5	CE5			
<i>Verbena urticifolia</i>	White Vervain	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Viburnum opulus</i> ssp. <i>trilobum</i>	Highbush Cranberry	GNR	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Nannyberry	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	GNR	S5	R5	L5	C5			

<i>Vincetoxicum rossicum</i>	European Swallow-wort	GNR	SE5	RE1	LE1	CE1			Dominant ground cover in abandoned fields
<i>Viola canadensis</i> var. <i>canadensis</i>	Canada Violet	G5T5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Viola pubescens</i> var. <i>scabriuscula</i>	Smooth Yellow Violet	G5T5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Viola striata</i>	Striped Cream Violet	G5	S3	R?	L?	C?			
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	Wild Riverbank Grape	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			
<i>Yucca flaccida</i>	Weak-leaved Yucca	G5	SE1	RE1	LE1	CE1			
<i>Xanthium strumarium</i>	Rough Cocklebur	G5	S5	R5	L5	C5			

APPENDIX D

**Online Engagement
Summary: North of the
Nith Trails and Open
Spaces Master Plan -
Survey Response Report**

Online Engagement Summary:

North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan

Summary

The North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan engagement aimed to collect community feedback on the future development of the area. Over a five-week period, residents were invited to share their thoughts through an online survey. Over a thousand webpage visits and more than 300 online responses were received, offering valuable insights into the community's vision, concerns, and preferences for amenities, activities, and sustainability efforts. This report is a summary of those insights.

Engagement Demographics

The online survey was available to the general public beginning September 4 to October 11, 2024, and gathered 325 responses. The most common sources of awareness about the project included social media, word of mouth, and the County of Brant website.

The survey attracted participants across a broad age range, with the majority falling between 31 and 50 years old.

Age demographics:

- 31-40 years: 23.4%
- 41-50 years: 27.7%
- 51-60 years: 20.9%
- 61+ years: 17.8%

This diverse age representation highlights the community's widespread interest in the North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan.

In terms of community affiliation, most respondents (66.7%) reported that they were not members of any partner organizations, indicating the engagement reached a broad spectrum of the public. Among those affiliated with community groups, 13.8% were connected with the Brant Cycling Club, reflecting significant interest from local cyclists. Another 7.4% of participants were members of the Grand River Conservation Authority, further demonstrating the involvement of environmentally focused community partners in the engagement process.

Survey Findings

Community feedback strongly emphasized the desire to preserve the natural character of the area while introducing recreational amenities that align with sustainable principles. Hiking trails emerged as the most desired feature, followed by cycling infrastructure, rest areas, and water access points.

Respondents expressed a preference for maintaining minimal infrastructure, such as drinking fountains and public washrooms, but cautioned against overdevelopment.

Preferred amenities:

- Hiking trails: 244 votes
- Rest areas: 183 votes
- Cycling facilities: 140 votes
- Paddling/water access spots: 136 votes
- Public washrooms: 95 votes

There was significant support for environmental restoration, with many participants advocating for actions that restore native habitats and control invasive species.

When asked about how they would access the site, 40.9% of respondents indicated they would rely on personal vehicles, while 28.6% preferred walking and 26.1% favored cycling.

Most participants indicated they would use the space throughout the year, demonstrating a need for multi-seasonal design considerations. Afternoon (39.6%) was the most popular time for site use, followed closely by morning (31.3%) and evening (29.1%) preferences, suggesting flexible site accessibility will be essential.

Key Themes from Community Feedback

Residents provided extensive feedback through open-ended responses, highlighting the following themes:

1. **Sustainability:** Many respondents emphasized the need to keep the area as natural as possible, avoiding overdevelopment and paved paths.
2. **Cycling and Mountain Biking:** There is strong community interest in establishing dedicated mountain biking trails. Several respondents cited the success of similar trails in neighboring areas like Turkey Point and The Hydrocut.
3. **Environmental Impact:** Protecting natural habitats were common concerns with respondents also mentioning the importance of invasive species control. A number of respondents also raised concerns about motorized vehicles like ATVs, citing environmental damage and safety issues, and requested strict enforcement to keep them out of the area.
4. **Multi-Use Compatibility:** Some feedback stressed the need for separate spaces or time restrictions for different user groups (e.g., walkers vs. cyclists) highlighting the importance of accessibility for users of all ages and abilities.
5. **Indigenous Collaboration:** The inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in the planning process was another priority for some participants, aligning with broader community values of inclusiveness and sustainability.

Conclusion

Residents envision a site that offers outdoor activities such as hiking and cycling while preserving the area's natural beauty. The survey results highlight the need for thoughtful design that balances environmental preservation, community safety, and recreational use with minimal infrastructure and a focus on sustainability.

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Most participants indicated they would use the space throughout the year, demonstrating a need for multi-seasonal design considerations. Afternoon (39.6%) was the most popular time for site use, followed closely by morning (31.3%) and evening (29.1%) preferences, suggesting flexible site accessibility will be essential.

Key Themes from Community Feedback

Residents provided extensive feedback through open-ended responses, highlighting the following themes:

1. **Sustainability:** Many respondents emphasized the need to keep the area as natural as possible, avoiding overdevelopment and paved paths.
2. **Cycling and Mountain Biking:** There is strong community interest in establishing dedicated mountain biking trails. Several respondents cited the success of similar trails in neighboring areas like Turkey Point and The Hydrocut.
3. **Environmental Impact:** Protecting natural habitats were common concerns with respondents also mentioning the importance of invasive species control. A number of respondents also raised concerns about motorized vehicles like ATVs, citing environmental damage and safety issues, and requested strict enforcement to keep them out of the area.
4. **Multi-Use Compatibility:** Some feedback stressed the need for separate spaces or time restrictions for different user groups (e.g., walkers vs. cyclists) highlighting the importance of accessibility for users of all ages and abilities.
5. **Indigenous Collaboration:** The inclusion of Indigenous perspectives in the planning process was another priority for some participants, aligning with broader community values of inclusiveness and sustainability.

Conclusion

Residents envision a site that offers outdoor activities such as hiking and cycling while preserving the area's natural beauty. The survey results highlight the need for thoughtful design that balances environmental preservation, community safety, and recreational use with minimal infrastructure and a focus on sustainability.

APPENDIX E

Pop-up In the Park Event Boards

North of the Nith Trails and Open Space Master Plan

Welcome to this Pop-up in the Park for the North of the Nith Trails and Open Space Master Plan. This drop-in event is being held to give community members the chance to learn more about the project.

We invite you to provide suggestions for the future of North of the Nith by filling out the survey. You will be able to meet the project team and get answers to any questions that you have.

More Information

For more information, and to get project updates by email visit and subscribe to the project web site: ***EngageBrant.ca/NorthoftheNith.***

Scan the QR code to fill out the online survey.



Contact

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Project Overview and Timeline

The purpose of this project is to create a Trails and Open Space Master Plan for the North of the Nith lands.

Master Plan Objectives

The Master Plan will assess the feasibility of walking and cycling trails, consider additional recreational uses, and seek opportunities to protect and enhance natural features. The Master Plan will include a phased Implementation Plan to guide the future development of the site over a 20-year horizon.

Study Area

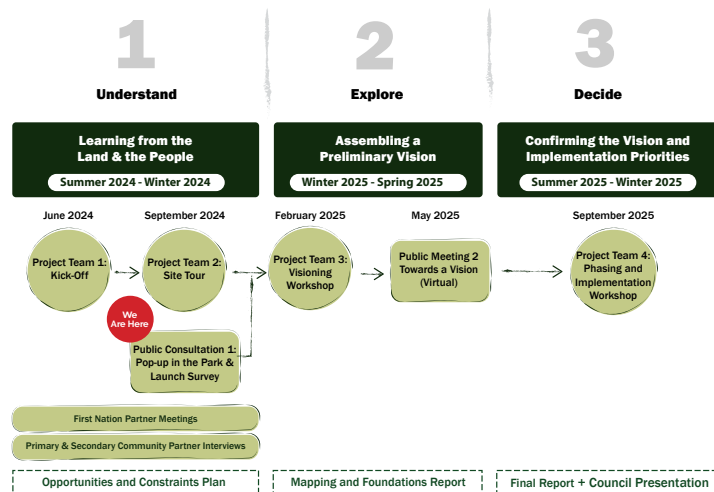
The North of the Nith is a 205-acre area of land owned by the County of Brant and the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA), which are partially within and adjacent to the settlement area of Paris, adjacent to the Nith River, CN railway, and Paris Transfer Station.



Study Area

Process

The Master Plan is being developed in consultation with the public, Indigenous Communities, and various Community Partners. The Schedule (to the right) identifies key project milestones, consultation events, and deliverables. Your feedback will assist us as we develop the Master Plan.



Schedule



Site History

The Master Plan will build upon the unique history of the site.

The Nith River lands have long been a significant ecological and cultural place.

Historically, the Grand River valley was inhabited by Indigenous peoples who used the lands for passage, trade routes, hunting, and other purposes.

By the 18th and 19th centuries, European immigrants were attracted to the fertile riverbanks for farming, and later mineral extraction. Most recently, the land has been used as a landfill/transfer station.

Prior to Settlement

The Grand and Nith Rivers were used as passage and trade routes.

1793

Deposits of gypsum are found by the British.

1856

The Town of Paris is established.

1994

Grand River and major tributaries gain Canadian Heritage River status.

2021

Brant Cycling Club creates a proposal for the lands.

1780s

Joseph Brant, some Six Nations, and Mohawk of the Upper Castle settle along the Grand River (Present-day Brantford).

1829

The village of Paris is first settled by Hiram Capron.

1874

The Penmans Textile Mill is built along the Nith River.

2000

The Paris Landfill closes while the Transfer Station continues operation.

2024

The North of the Nith Trails and Open Space Master Plan project commences.



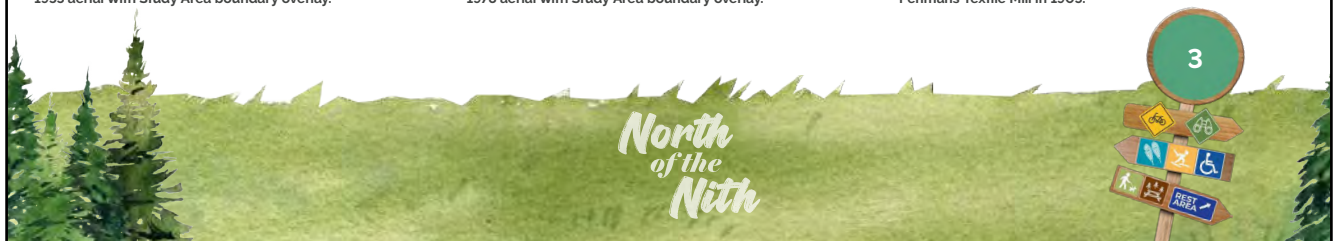
1955 aerial with Study Area boundary overlay.



1978 aerial with Study Area boundary overlay.



Penmans Textile Mill in 1905.



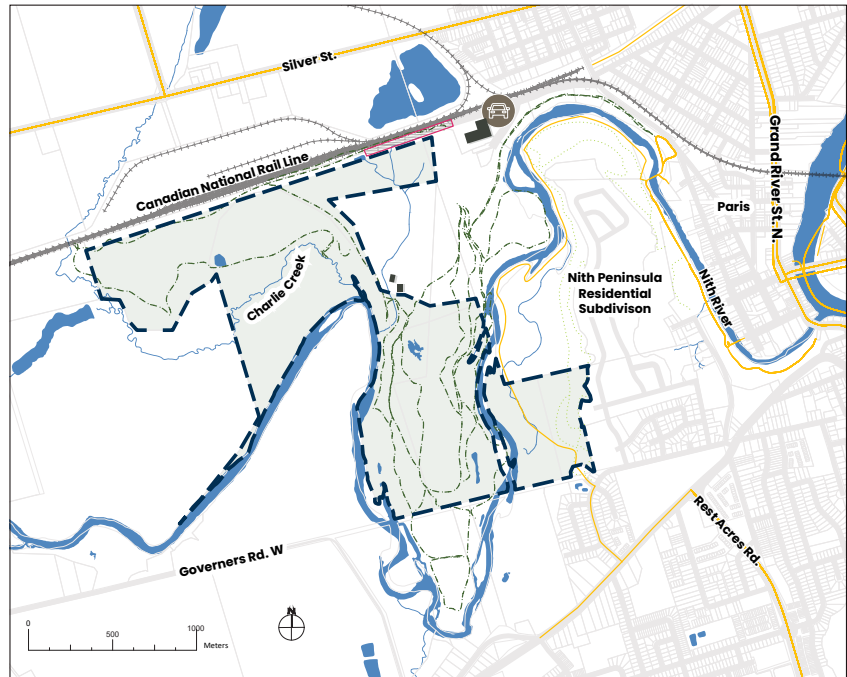
Existing Conditions: Trails

The Master Plan will consider potential future users, access points, and connections to the existing regional trail network.

Currently, North of the Nith is isolated and is not formally open for community use. Unauthorized use is occurring throughout the lands.

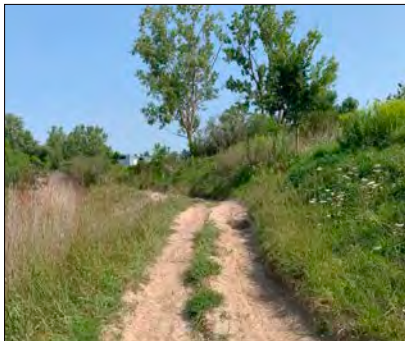
The only public street connecting North of the Nith is Railway Street. There are a number of existing and planned trails around North of the Nith.

This Master Plan will look at how to better connect North of the Nith with this network.



Legend:

- Study Area
- Waterbody
- Watercourse
- Streets
- Buildings
- CN Rail Line
- CN Rail Access Agreement
- Existing Informal Trails
- County Trails (Proposed/Active)
- Barker's Bush Trails
- Public Street connecting North of the Nith



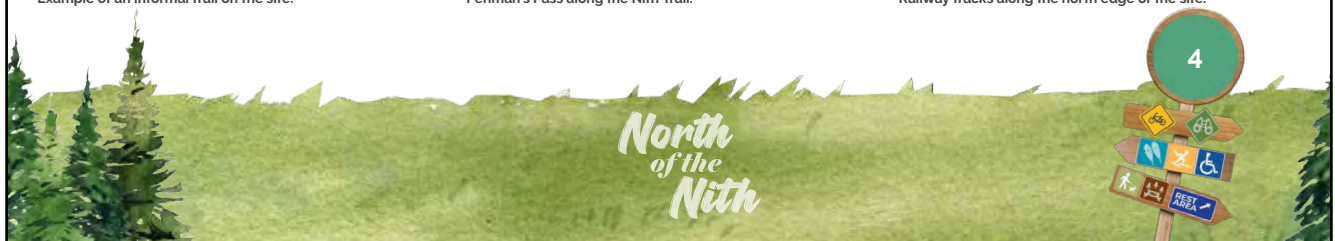
Example of an informal trail on the site.



Penman's Pass along the Nith Trail.



Railway tracks along the north edge of the site.



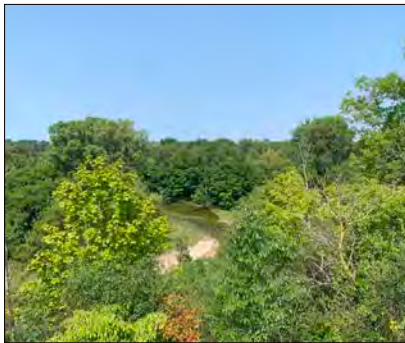
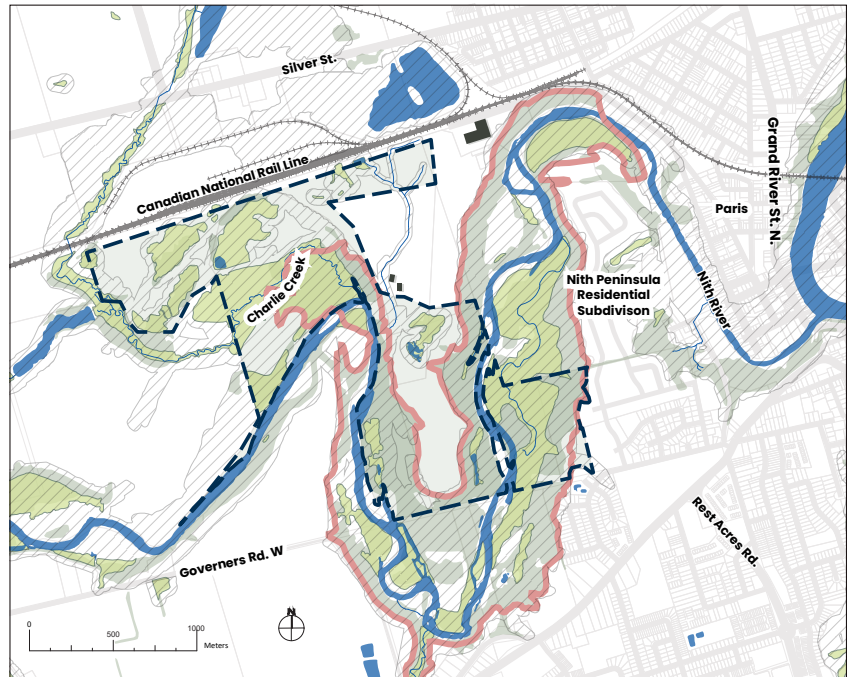
Existing Conditions: Environmental Characteristics

The Master Plan will outline how more people can enjoy the benefits of the North of the Nith lands, while simultaneously better protecting and enhancing its natural environment.

The area contains a number of natural features including the Nith River Forest (ANSI), the West Paris River Swamp, deer wintering areas, a waterfowl concentration area containing aquatic species at risk, a tributary of the Nith River, and natural hazards regulated by the GRCA.

Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI)

In 1984, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry designated about 165 hectares of land, known as the Nith River Forest Life Science ANSI due to values related to protection, scientific study, and education. The lands consist of the Horseshoe Moraine Spillway, a flat floodplain elevated above the Nith River and consisting of almost bare sandy silt soil. The most significant feature noted was as an unusual abundance of twin-leaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*), a species that is rare in southern Ontario.



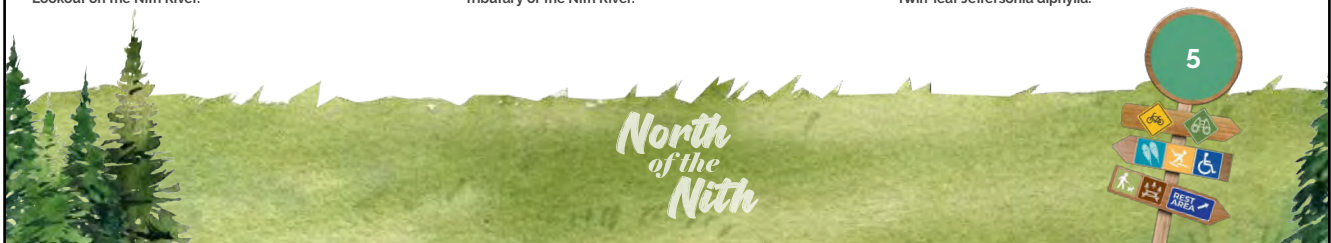
Lookout on the Nith River.



Tributary of the Nith River.

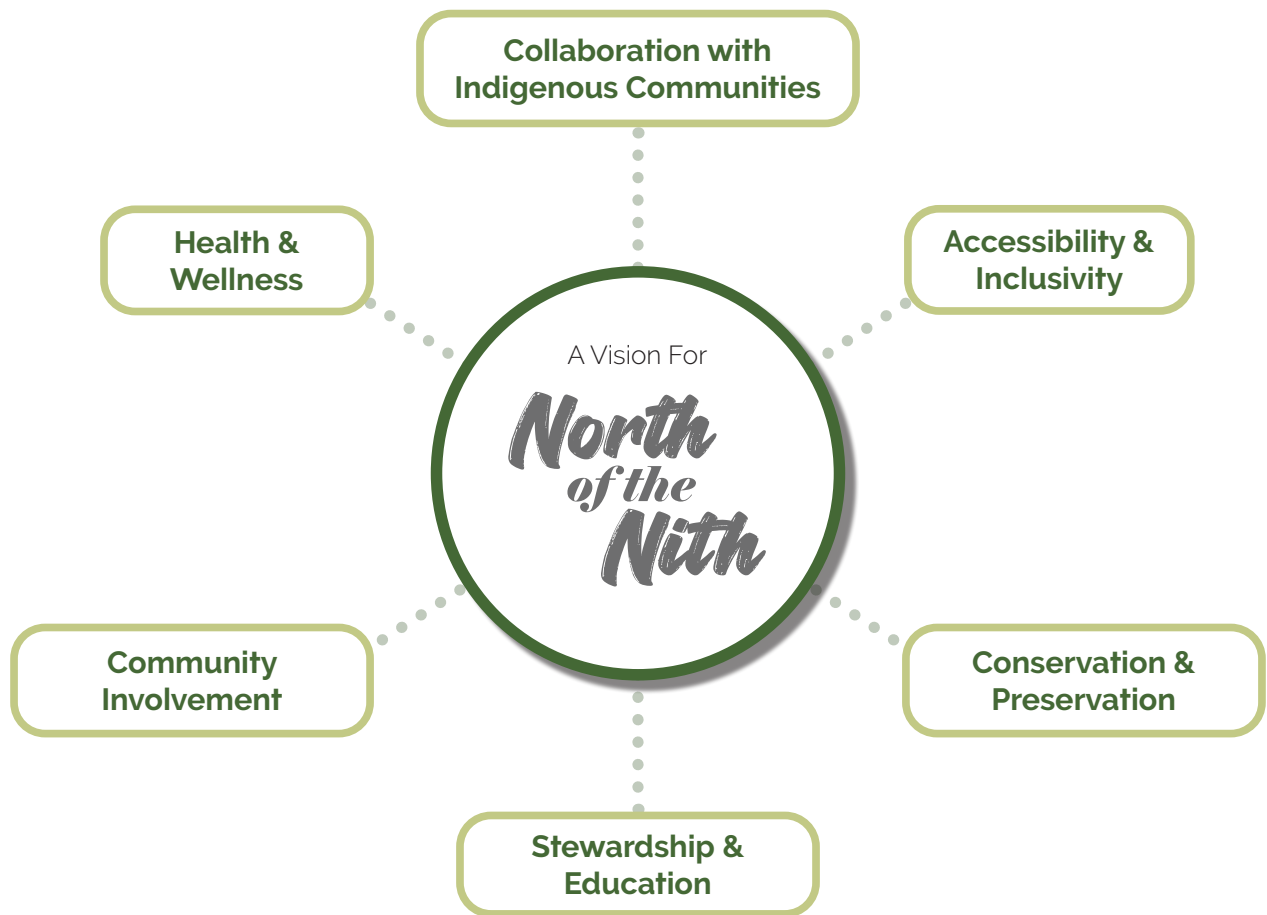


Twin-leaf *Jeffersonia diphylla*.



Draft Guiding Principles

6 broad Guiding Principles are being developed to inform the Master Plan. We want your input on the draft Guiding Principles (below) so they reflect the communities aspirations. Non-motorized recreation will be prioritized.



What We Heard (So Far)

The Master Plan involves seeking First Nations, community partners, and community input for the lands. Below is a summary of what we have heard so far.

Throughout Summer 2024, our team met with community partners including Brant Cycling Club, Brant Waterways Foundation, Grand River Conservation Authority, Ducks Unlimited, and Brant for Nature. Emerging themes for the project include:



How Do You Want To Use The Space?

We want to hear how you would like to use this space. The following boards demonstrate examples of the types of features that could be included in the site. Please place sticker dots on your favourite features.

Walking Trails



Rest Area



Mountain Biking

Winter Activities



Washrooms



Wayfinding & Interpretive Signage



Look-Out



Nature Play



Outdoor Classrooms



Public Art



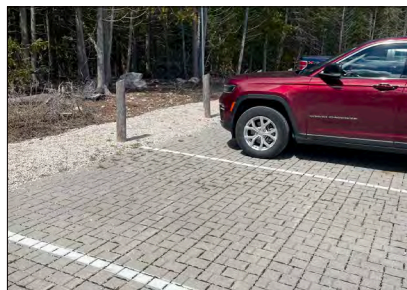
Indigenous Placekeeping



Shade Structure



Parking



APPENDIX F

Stage 1 Archaeological Report



ACC

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANTS CANADA

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed North of the Nith Development

Part of Lots 30 to 35, Concession 1 and the Gore, Geographic Township of
Dumfries, County of Brant, Ontario

Original Report

Prepared for:

Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

Prepared by:

Archaeological Licensee: Kristy O'Neal, M.A., P066

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PIF #: P066-0375-2024

Project No. 274-01-24

March 25, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Archaeological Consultants Canada (ACC) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological assessment to aid in planning for the North of the Nith Development. An archaeological assessment was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O 1990*. The assessed area, or the “subject property”, is located on Part of Lots 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Concession 1, and the Gore, in the Township of Dumfries, in the County of Brant County, Ontario (Figure 1). The subject property measures approximately 178.95 hectares (ha). The Stage 1 assessment was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P066, held by Kristy O’Neal. The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) assigned Project Information Form (PIF) number P066-0375-2024 to this project. The Stage 1 assessment was limited to desktop research, and no fieldwork was conducted for the project.

Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:

- The subject property is comprised of land that is suitable for human habitation.
- One farmstead is illustrated within the subject property and two additional farmsteads are illustrated within 100 m of the subject property in 1875 historical mapping (Page & Smith, 1875).
- Historical transportation routes are shown within the subject property and directly to the south of the subject property in 1858 and 1875 historical mapping (Page & Smith, 1875, Tremaine 1860).
- The subject property is directly south of Canadian National Railway, an early historical transportation route.
- Water sources, including Nith River and its tributaries and Charlie Creek are located within the subject property.
- Marshes and ponds, representing water sources and resource extraction areas are illustrated within the subject property on topographic mapping (see Figure 6).
- There are 110 registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the subject property, including 7 located within 300 m.

Given the above, background archival research indicates that the subject property exhibits general archaeological potential for the discovery of both pre- and post-contact Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources therefore, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is required.

Background research and mapping determined that 5.06 ha of the subject property consists of watercourses and waterbodies including ponds, the Nith River, and Charlie Creek.

75.92 ha, 42%, of the subject property has low to no archaeological potential. 50.38 ha of the subject property has been previously intensively and extensively disturbed by major landscaping

and construction activities involving grading below topsoil. 7.83 ha of the subject property is low-lying and permanently wet. 17.71 ha of the subject property has steeply sloping topography.

The remainder of the subject property, 97.97 ha, 55%, retains archaeological potential and requires Stage 2 property survey. Ploughable land makes up 12.88 ha of the subject property and should be assessed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. Woodlot and scrubland make up 85.09 ha of the subject property. As these areas cannot be ploughed, Stage 2 assessment should be completed by test pit survey at 5 m grid intervals.

The following summarized recommendations are provided for consideration by the Proponent and the MCM. Detailed recommendations are provided in Section 5.0 of this report.

1. 75.92 ha of the subject property, as shown in Figure 13 of this report, exhibits low to no potential for the recovery of archaeological resources due to previous disturbance, steeply sloping topography, or low-lying and permanently wet conditions. No on-site property inspection was conducted during this Stage 1 assessment. Therefore, Stage 2 assessment should confirm the presence and extent of these areas of low to no archaeological potential, and they should be mapped and documented by photography.
2. Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a pedestrian survey should be conducted on all ploughable lands, accounting for 12.88 ha of the subject property, as shown in Figure 13 of this report. The land to be assessed must be recently ploughed and must be disked after ploughing if the soils are heavy clay. Direction should be provided to the contractor undertaking the ploughing that the ploughing should be deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. The ploughed lands must be weathered by one heavy rainfall or several light rains to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. At least 80% of the ground surface must be visible to conduct a pedestrian survey. If the fields to be assessed do not meet the above conditions, then the land may need to be reploughed prior to survey. The ploughed lands should be surveyed at 5 m intervals.
3. Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a test pit survey should be conducted on all areas that retain archaeological potential where ploughing is not possible or viable, including scrubland and forest areas which account for 85.09 ha of the subject property, as shown in Figure 13 of this report. The test pits should be excavated by hand at 5 m intervals. Test pits should be at least 30 centimetres in diameter and should be dug into the first 5 cm of subsoil. Test pits should be conducted to within 1 m of any disturbances or until test pits show evidence of recent ground disturbance. Each pit should be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil should be screened through wire mesh with an aperture no greater than 6 millimetres to facilitate artifact recovery. All artifacts should be collected according to their associated test pit. All test pits should be backfilled unless otherwise instructed.
4. 5.06 ha of the subject property consists of watercourses and waterbodies including ponds, the Nith River, and Charlie Creek. If impacts to these watercourses are proposed, marine archaeological potential may be evaluated through a separate process following the MCM's 2016 *Criteria for Evaluating Marine Archaeological Potential* checklist.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

The following is a list of abbreviations and acronyms used throughout this report.

ACC	Archaeological Consultants Canada
ASI	Archaeological Services Inc.
CHVI	Cultural Heritage Value or Interest
cm	centimetre
Detritus	Detritus Consulting Ltd.
Golder	Golders Associates Ltd.
ha	hectares
km	kilometre
m	metre
MCM	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
OASD	Ontario Archaeological Sites Database
OHA	Ontario Heritage Act
PIF	Project Information Form
TMHC	Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc.
%	percent

PROJECT PERSONNEL

Project Manager:	Matthew Muttart, M.A., P1208
Professional License:	Kristy O’Neal, M.A., P066
Director:	Kristy O’Neal, M.A., P066
Report Preparation:	Kristy O’Neal, M.A., P066
Graphics:	Kristy O’Neal, M.A., P066

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

Proposed North of the Nith Development

Part of Lots 30 to 35, Concession 1 and the Gore, Geographic Township of Dumfries, County of Brant, Ontario

1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

Archaeological Consultants Canada (ACC) was contracted by the Proponent to conduct a Stage 1 archaeological assessment to aid in planning for the North of the Nith Development. An archaeological assessment was required under the *Planning Act, R.S.O 1990*. The assessed area, or the “subject property”, is located on Part of Lots 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Concession 1, and the Gore, in the Township of Dumfries, in the County of Brant County, Ontario (Figure 1). The subject property measures approximately 178.95 hectares (ha). The Proponent verified the subject property limits as defined within this report and provided mapping confirming the project boundaries (Figure 2).

The objective of a Stage 1 background study is to provide information about the subject property’s geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork, and current land conditions. A Stage 1 study evaluates the subject property’s archaeological potential in order to recommend appropriate strategies for the Stage 2 survey.

The Stage 1 assessment was conducted under Professional Archaeological License P066, held by Kristy O’Neal. The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) assigned Project Information Form (PIF) number P066-0375-2024 to this project. The Stage 1 assessment was limited to desktop research, and no fieldwork was conducted for the project.

All reporting was completed using MCM’s 2011 *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. This report documents the research, results, and the conclusions and recommendations based on the Stage 1 archaeological assessment. All documents and records related to this project will be curated at the offices of ACC, in accordance with subsection 66(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act (OHA)*.

1.2 Historical Context

1.2.1 Background Research

Stage 1 background research was conducted to determine the potential for finding and identifying archaeological resources including sites within the current subject property and to determine the necessity of conducting a Stage 2 survey. This is done by reviewing geographic, archaeological, and historical data for the property and the surrounding area. The background research was conducted to:

- amass all the readily available information on any previous archaeological surveys in the area.

- determine the locations of any registered and unregistered sites within and around the subject property.
- develop an historical framework for assigning levels of potential significance to any new sites discovered during fieldwork.

1.2.2 A Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

Over their thousands of years of occupation in the general region, Indigenous peoples have left behind, to a greater or lesser degree, physical evidence of their lifeway activities and settlements at many locations. Based upon a published synthesis of Indigenous cultural occupations (Wright, 1968). Table 1 is a general outline of the cultural history of southern Ontario that is applicable to the subject property. Ellis and Ferris (1990) provide greater detail of the distinctive characteristics of each time period and cultural group. This general timeline uses longstanding labels that are used to describe the archaeological record in North America. Archaeological terms like Paleoindian, Archaic, and Woodland, are used here as a way to divide time and should be treated as such.

It is likely that Ontario was occupied soon after the retreat of the Ice Age glaciers. The earliest known human occupation in the area was during the Paleoindian period (between 12,000 and 9,500 years ago) wherein small groups of nomadic peoples hunted big game such as caribou in a cool sub-arctic climate. Sites are typically found near glacial features such as the shorelines of glacial lakes or kettle ponds which would have allowed access to the low-lying environments that were favoured by caribou and other wildlife. These people were few and their small, temporary campsites are relatively rare. Paleoindian sites are recognized by the presence of distinctive artifacts such as fluted projectile points, beaked scrapers, and graves and by the preference for light colored chert, such as Collingwood chert. The Paleoindian Period is divided into two sub-periods, Early Paleoindian, and Late Paleoindian.

People during the Archaic period (*circa* 10,000 to 2,800 years ago) were still primarily nomadic hunters, but they adapted to a more temperate climate. Groups were dispersed during winter months and converged around watercourses from the spring to fall in large fishing campsites. The Archaic period is characterized by the appearance of ground stone tools, notched, or stemmed projectile points. The Archaic Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle, and Late Archaic. During the Archaic Period, groups began to establish territorial settlements and introduce burial ceremonialism. There is a marked increase in the number and size of sites, especially during the Late Archaic period.

The Woodland period is distinguished by the introduction of pottery vessels for storage and cooking. Sites of the Woodland period (*circa* 3,000 to 400 years ago) are usually the most numerous because the population levels in southern Ontario had significantly increased, especially along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. The Woodland Period is also marked by the establishment of complex long distance trading networks. The Woodland Period is divided into three sub-periods, Early, Middle and Late Woodland. During the Late Woodland Period, there is increasing sedentarism and the establishment of horticulture, a reliance on tribal warfare, and the introduction of semi-permanent villages with large protective palisades. The Late Woodland period also envelops the emergence of Iroquoian tribes and confederacies.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment
Part of Lots 30 to 35, Concession 1, and the Gore
Township of Dumfries, County of Brant, ON

The historic period (from A.D. 1650 to 1900) begins with the arrival of Euro-Canadian groups. Sites of this period document European exploration, trade, and the displacement and devastation of Indigenous people caused by warfare and infectious disease. The most common sites of this period include Euro-Canadian homesteads, industries, churches, schools, and cemeteries.

Table 1: General Cultural Chronology for Southern Ontario

PERIOD	SUBDIVISION I	SUBDIVISION II	YEARS BEFORE PRESENT	COMMENTS
PALEOINDIAN	Early Paleoindian	Fluted Point Horizon	12,000-10,500	big game hunters
	Late Paleoindian	Holcombe & Hi-Lo Horizons	10,500-9,500	small nomadic groups
ARCHAIC	Early Archaic	Side Notched Horizon	10,000-9,700	nomadic hunters and gatherers
		Corner-Notched Horizon	9,700-8,900	
		Bifurcate Horizon	8,900-8,000	
	Middle Archaic	Middle Archaic I/Stemmed Horizon	8,000-5,500	territorial settlements
		Middle Archaic II	5,500-4,500	polished ground stone tools
	Late Archaic	Narrow Point Horizon	4,500-3,500	
		Broad Point Horizon	4,000-3,500	
		Small Point Horizon (including Haldimand and Glacial Kame Complexes)	3,500-2,800	burial ceremonialism
	WOODLAND	Early Woodland	Meadowood Complex	2,900-2,400
Middlesex Complex			2,500-2,000	
Middle Woodland		SW Ontario: Saugeen	2,300-1,500	long distance trade networks
		Western Basin: Couture	2,300-1,500	
Transitional Woodland		SW Ontario:		
		Princess Point	1,500/1,400-1,200	incipient agriculture
		Western Basin:		
Late Woodland: Ontario Iroquois Tradition		Riviere au Vase	1500/1400-1200/1100	
		Early: Glen Meyer	1200/100-750/700	transition to village life
		Middle I: Uren	720/700-710/670	large villages with palisades
		Middle II: Middleport	710/670-670/600	wide distribution of ceramic styles
Late Woodland: Western Basin Tradition		Late: Neutral	600-450	
		Younge Phase	1200/1100-800	
	Springwells Phase	800-600		
HISTORIC	SW Ontario	Wolf Phase	600-450	
		Historic Period	450-350	tribal warfare
	European Contact	Initial Contact	380-300	tribal displacement
		European Settlement	200 >	European settlement
	First Nations Resettlement	200 >		

(Compiled from Adams, 1994, Ellis *et al.*, 1990, Wright, 1968)

While North America had been visited by Europeans on an increasing scale since the end of the 15th century, the first European to venture into what would become southern Ontario was Étienne Brûlé. Brûlé was sent by Samuel de Champlain in the summer of 1610 to consolidate an emerging friendship between the French and the First Nations, and to learn their languages and

customs. Other Europeans would subsequently be sent by the French to train as interpreters. These men played an essential role in communications with the First Nations (Gervais, 2004:182).

The late 17th and early 18th centuries saw the growth and spread of the fur trade, with the establishment and maintenance of trading posts along the Great Lakes. In 1754, hostilities over trade and the territorial ambitions of the French and the British led to the Seven Years' War, which ended when the French surrendered in 1760 (Smith, 1987:22). In addition to cementing British control over the Province of Quebec, the British victory over the French also proved pivotal in catalyzing the Euro-Canadian settlement process.

During pre-contact and early contact times, the vicinity of the subject property would have contained a mixture of deciduous trees, coniferous trees, and open areas. In the early 19th century, Euro-Canadian settlers arrived via easily accessible colonization routes and began to clear the forests for agricultural purposes. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the subject property and surrounding land were primarily used for agricultural purposes. Mixed farming was common, with wheat crops and beef cattle dominating the landscape (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:177).

The subject property was historically located within Part of Lots 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Concession 1, and the Gore, in the Geographic Township of South Dumfries, Brant County. In 1626 the French Catholic missionary Father Joseph de la Roche Daillon visited what is now Brant County. The county was inhabited by Neutrals, whose chief village was named Kandoucho (Kempster & Muir, 1986). This village was probably close to the location of the current city of Brantford. The Neutral settlements were destroyed by the Iroquois between 1649 and 1651 (Reville, 1920).

In 1791, the provinces of Lower Canada and Upper Canada were created from the former province of Quebec by a British parliamentary act. Colonel John Graves Simcoe was appointed as the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada and was tasked with governing and directing its settlement, as well as establishing a constitutional government based on Britain's model (Coyne et al, 1895:33).

The lands that include the current subject property were ceded in Treaty 4, the Crown Grant to the Six Nations, or the Haldimand Tract, also known as the Simcoe Patent, in 1793. This transaction resulted from the Crown purchase of lands from the Mississaugas subsequently issuing the Haldimand Proclamation later that year. The proclamation granted the Haldimand Tract to the Six Nations for their support in the American Revolution. The Haldimand Tract was surveyed by Thomas Talbot.

Brant County was formed in 1852 out of six townships that formerly belonged to Halton, Oxford, and Wentworth Counties (Carter, 1984). The county was named after Joseph Brant, the Mohawk chief who fought for the British in the American Revolution. In 1784, Brant and his followers settled in the Grand River valley where they were given a large tract of land in honour of their services to the British and in restitution for lands they lost in New York State. They settled along the Grand River near a shallow, easily traversed area, which became known as Brant's Ford, eventually the city of Brantford (Mika & Mika, 1977).

South Dumfries Township takes its name from the Scottish town of Dumfries. By 1817, 38 families had settled in the township, with the earliest arrivals locating in the area of St. George. St. George had established two mills by the 1820s, a church by 1833 (Mika & Mika, 1983:420).

The subject property was historically located directly west of the town of Paris. Paris was first settled in 1821 by William Holme, who sold plaster as fertilizer to local farmers (Mika & Mika, 1983). Hiram Capron purchased a large tract of land in the area. In 1831 he hired Lewis Burwell to survey the land and to lay out a town. In 1832 Capron built the first grist mill (Smith, 1980). The town was originally named “The Forks of the Grand River” but in 1836 the name was changed to reflect the large plaster-of-Paris beds in the region (Carter, 1984). By 1846 the town had approximately 1000 residents (Carter, 1984). Paris was incorporated as a town in 1855, hosting a hotel, post office, general store, grammar school, multiple churches, and library (Mika and Mika, 1983).

Historical records and mapping were examined for evidence of early Euro-Canadian occupation within and near the subject property in the late 19th century. Table 2 lists the landowners listed on 19th century mapping of the lots within the subject property.

Table 2: Landowners Listed in 1858 and 1875 Historical Maps of Brant County

CONC.	LOT	LANDOWNER 1858 TREMAINE	LANDOWNER 1875 PAGE & SMITH	FEATURES OF INTEREST
1	30	none	none	-railway -Town of Paris
1	31	Hiram Capron	Capron Heirs	-railway -railway depot -Town of Paris -River Canning
1	32	Hiram Capron	Capron Heirs	-railway -River Canning
1	33	Norman Hamilton	Norman Hamilton	-farm and orchard -railway -River Canning
1	34	John Barker	C. Barker Sr.	-railway -River Canning
1	34	George Simpson	James Adams	-farm and orchard -River Canning -tributary -road
1	35	John Barker	C. Barker	-railway -tributary
1	35	Mrs. Conklin	C. Barker Sr.	-railway -tributary -road
1	35	James Hallett	D. Maus	-farm and orchard -railway -tributary -road



CONC.	LOT	LANDOWNER 1858 TREMAINE	LANDOWNER 1875 PAGE & SMITH	FEATURES OF INTEREST
Gore	south of Lot 32	James Barker	J. B. Barker	-Governors Road
Gore	south of Lot 32/33	Norman Hamilton	Norman Hamilton	-River Canning -Governors Road
Gore	south of Lot 34/35	M. Showers	G. Showers	-River Canning -Governors Road
Gore	south of Lot 35	Thomas Bosworth	n/a	n/a

Tremaine's 1858 *Map of the County of Brant* shows a wagon road (now Governors Road) to the south of the subject property and a railway running directly to the north and east of the subject property. The Nith River (then the River Canning) winds through the subject property as does one of its tributaries (now Charlie Creek). There are no structures illustrated within or near the subject property, although a portion of the subject property is located adjacent to the historic limits of the Town of Paris (Figure 3).

Page & Smith's 1875 map of Brantford Township in the *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Brant* shows a wagon road (now Governors Road) to the south of the subject property and a second road running through the western portion of the subject property. A railway runs directly to the north and east of the subject property. The Nith River (then the River Canning) winds through the subject property as does one of its tributaries (now Charlie Creek). The northeast portion falls within the limits of the town of Paris. There is one farmstead and an orchard shown within the subject property and two additional farmsteads are shown just outside the subject property limits (Figure 4).

It should be noted that while there is one structure illustrated within the subject property on the historical atlas maps, it does not necessarily mean that one or more structures were not present in close proximity to the road at that time, earlier or later. Not all features of interest were mapped systematically on the Ontario series of historical maps and atlases, given that they were financed by subscription, and subscribers were given preference regarding the level of detail provided on the maps (Caston, 1977:100). Given that the subject property includes a historic road and is adjacent to another concession road there is the potential for 19th century buildings to be present adjacent to the road, depending on the level of disturbance.

1.3 Archaeological Context

1.3.1 Natural Environment

The subject property is located within the Horseshoe Moraines physiographic region (Chapman and Putnam, 1984:176-177). The Horseshoe Moraine forms a horseshoe-shaped region above and west of the highest portions of the Niagara Escarpment. The two major landforms associated with this area are irregular stone knobs and ridges as well as pitted sand and gravel terraces and valley floors filled with swamps (Chapman and Putnam, 1984). The subject property is located within a glacial spillway associated with the Grand (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, 2007).

The *Soil Survey of Brant County* (Acton, 1989) indicates that there are four dominant surface soil types within the subject property, Burford soil, Stayner soil, Alluvium, and urban land (Figure 5). Burford soil, found over most of the subject property, is a fluvial gravelly sand that drains well and rapidly. Within the subject property this soil has level to gently sloping topography in most areas but near watercourses it is steeply sloping. Stayner soil consists of decomposed organic material over sandy textures that drains poorly. Stayner soil is found in the north-central portion of the subject property and has generally level topography. Alluvium is found in the floodplain areas of Nith River and Charlie Creek. This type of soil consists of medium- to coarse-textured sandy and gravelly to loamy floodplain deposits with variable drainage and level to very gently sloping topography. Urban Land consists of unmapped residential, industrial, and recreational areas. Within the subject property a gravel pit (now a landfill area) and waste lagoon are characterized as urban land.

Water has been identified as the major determinant of site selection and the presence of potable water is the single most important resource necessary for any extended human occupation or settlement. Primary water sources include, among others, lakes, rivers, creeks, and streams. Secondary water sources include intermittent streams, creeks, springs, marshes, and swamps. Past water sources, such as raised beach ridges, relic water channels, and glacial shorelines are also considered to have archaeological potential. Swamps and marshes are also important as resource extraction areas, and any resource areas are considered to have archaeological potential. The subject property lies within the Grand River watershed. The Nith River is located partially within the subject property and runs to the east, south, and west of parts of the subject property. Charlie Creek is located along the northwest edge and through the north-central portion of the subject property. Figure 6 shows the water sources within and surrounding the subject property on a topographic map. It shows that there are marshes and ponds within the subject property, which would have been used as resource extraction areas. The Grand River is located approximately a half kilometre (km) east of the subject property.

1.3.2 Recent Land Use

Figure 7 provides the current land use of the subject property. The subject property is largely wooded, with smaller agricultural fields. currently consists largely of wooded areas with small agricultural fields. There are quarries present in the northwest corner and in the north-central portion of the subject property. The Nith River runs partially within and partially along the edges of the subject property. The Canadian National Railway is located directly to the north and east. The Paris Waste Transfer and Recycling Station is located within the subject property. To the east a new subdivision is under construction, and beyond that are residential areas within the Town of Paris.

Figure 8 provides a 1954 aerial image of the subject property. The subject property and surrounding area, including the limits of the town of Paris, look largely the same; however, the landfill was not present at that time and the quarries cover larger areas. The 1954 image also shows a tributary of the Nith River running through the southeastern portion of the subject property (University of Toronto, 1954).

Figure 9 provides a 1963 topographic map of a portion of the subject property. The quarries are shown in the northern portion of the subject property and steeply sloping banks along the Nith River are also shown (Town of Paris, 1963).

Figure 10 provides a 1966 aerial image of the subject property. The quarries are shown in the northern portion of the subject property and disturbance has expanded eastward and south into the central portion of the subject property (Spartan Air Service Ltd., 1966).

Figure 11 provides a 1978 aerial image of the subject property, again illustrating the limits of the disturbed quarry area (Northway Gestalt Corporation, 1978).

No fieldwork was conducted for this Stage 1 assessment.

1.3.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations

1.3.3.1 Registered Archaeological Sites

Previously registered archaeological sites can be used to indicate archaeological potential. To determine if any previous assessments have yielded archaeological sites, either within or surrounding the current subject property, two main sources were consulted. These include the *Ontario Archaeological Sites Database* (OASD) and the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*, both of which are maintained by MCM.

The OASD contains archaeological sites registered within the Borden system (Borden, 1952). The Borden system divides Canada into 13 km by 18.5 km blocks based on longitude and latitude. Each Borden block is designated with a four-letter label and sites identified within the block are numbered sequentially as they are registered. The subject property is located within the *AhHc* Borden block.

According to the OASD, 110 sites have been registered within 1 km of the subject property (MCM, 2024a). Of these, none are within the subject property. One site, AhHc-403, is 50 m from the subject property, and eight additional sites are within 300 m of the subject property, the nearest of which is 120 m away. Sites of Euro-Canadian cultural affiliation include homesteads, log cabins, farmsteads, middens, refuse areas, and scatters. Sites of Indigenous cultural affiliation include villages, campsites, scatters, and findspots.

The absence of registered sites within the subject property may not necessarily be an accurate indication of cultural occupation, but rather it may reflect the lack of systematic archaeological surveys in the area.

Table 3 lists the sites within 1 km along with the current Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI) for each site. CHVI is a term used by MCM and consultant archaeologists to describe archaeological resources that meet one or more criteria that recommend further fieldwork in MCM's *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*. Under the OHA and its regulations, archaeological resources that have been determined to possess CHVI are protected as archaeological sites under Section 48 of the act. Information in Table 3 is provided by MCM through the OASD (MCM, 2024a).

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Table 3: Registered Archaeological Sites within 1 km of the Subject Property

REG. #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	SITE TYPE	STATUS
AhHc-25	Cochrane	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-34	Cochrane 2	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
AhHc-36	Puttown	Woodland	Indigenous	village	unknown
AhHc-43	Nunan	Woodland, Early, Woodland, Middle	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-50	Lee	Archaic, Early, Archaic, Middle, Archaic, Late, Woodland, Early, Woodland, Middle Woodland, Late	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-63	Carr 1	Archaic, Late, Woodland, Early	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-64	Carr 7	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	Further CHVI
AhHc-65	Carr 6	Archaic	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-66	Carr 3	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	Further CHVI
AhHc-67	Carr 4	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
AhHc-68	Lee 1	Woodland, Late	Iroquoian	findspot	unknown
AhHc-70	Lee 3	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
AhHc-71	Kelly 1	Archaic, Late	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-72	Carr 5	Archaic	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-73	Carr 2	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	No Further CHVI
AhHc-80	Poland 1	Archaic	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-109	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-110	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-112	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-132	Leschuk-Weisz	Archaic, Early, Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	camp/campsite	unknown
AhHc-133	-	Woodland, Middle	Indigenous	findspot	No Further CHVI
AhHc-134	-	Pre-Contact, Post-Contact	Indigenous, Euro-Canadian	findspot, scatter	No Further CHVI
AhHc-145	-	Other	unknown	findspot	unknown
AhHc-146	-	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-147	-	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	scatter	unknown
AhHc-148	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	dump, scatter	unknown
AhHc-149	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	unknown
AhHc-150	-	Archaic, Late	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter	unknown
AhHc-151	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	cabin, house	unknown
AhHc-152	-	Archaic, Early, Archaic, Late	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-153	-	Archaic, Early	Indigenous	scatter	unknown
AhHc-154	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	unknown



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REG. #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	SITE TYPE	STATUS
AhHc-155	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	unknown
AhHc-156	-	Archaic, Middle, Woodland, Early	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-157	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-158	Park Lot	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	unknown
AhHc-159	Wells	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	house	unknown
AhHc-160	-	Woodland, Early	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-161	-	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-166	Dunk 1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	findspot, homestead	unknown
AhHc-167	Dunk 2	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	midden	unknown
AhHc-168	Dunk 3	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
AhHc-169	Dunk 4	Post-Contact	unknown	unknown	No Further CHVI
AhHc-170	Watt's Pond 1	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	farmstead	No Further CHVI
AhHc-171	Watts Pond 2	Woodland	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-172	Watt's Pond 3	Archaic, Late	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-173	Watts Pond 4	Pre-Contact, Post-Contact	Indigenous, Euro-Canadian	unknown	unknown
AhHc-174	Watt's Pond 5	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-175	Watt's Pond 6	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-176	Location 1	Woodland, Late	Indigenous	findspot	No Further CHVI
AhHc-177	Location 4	Archaic, Late	Indigenous	findspot	No Further CHVI
AhHc-178	Location 5	Archaic, Early	Indigenous	camp/campsite	Further CHVI
AhHc-182	Kulmatycky 1	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-183	Kulmatycky 2	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-184	Kulmatycky 3	Archaic, Late	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-185	Kulmatycky 4	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-186	Location 6	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-187	Kulmatycky 7	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-188	Kulmatycky 10	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-235	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-236	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite	No Further CHVI
AhHc-237	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-238	-	Archaic, Middle, Woodland, Early	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-239	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter	No Further CHVI
AhHc-240	-	Woodland	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-241	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	unknown
AhHc-242	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite	No Further CHVI
AhHc-243	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	house, log	No Further CHVI
AhHc-245	Location 1	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown



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REG. #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	SITE TYPE	STATUS
AhHc-246	P1	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-247	-	Woodland, Early	Indigenous	findspot	unknown
AhHc-248	Petit	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown
AhHc-249	-	Woodland, Middle	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-250	Location 8	Post-Contact		farmstead	Further CHVI
AhHc-251	Location 9	Archaic, Early	Indigenous	unknown	unknown
AhHc-254	Location 6	Pre-Contact	Euro-Canadian	unknown	unknown
AhHc-255	-	Archaic, Early, Archaic, Late, Post-Contact		camp/campsite, refuse	No Further CHVI
AhHc-256	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite	No Further CHVI
AhHc-257	-	Post-Contact	unknown	unknown	Further CHVI
AhHc-258	-	Woodland, Early, Post-Contact	Indigenous, Euro-Canadian	scatter, farmstead	No Further CHVI
AhHc-259	-	Pre-Contact, Post-Contact	unknown	scatter, unknown	No Further CHVI
AhHc-260	Canning	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-261	P5	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	findspot	No Further CHVI
AhHc-262	Nith	Woodland, Early	Indigenous	scatter	No Further CHVI
AhHc-304	Knoll	Archaic	Indigenous	camp/campsite, hunting	No Further CHVI
AhHc-305	Water's Edge	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite, hunting	No Further CHVI
AhHc-306	Laneway Scatter	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	butchering, hunting	No Further CHVI
AhHc-307	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-308	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-309	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-310	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-315	Bendemere	Archaic, Middle, Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	scatter, farmstead	No Further CHVI
AhHc-321	-	Post-Contact	unknown	unknown	No Further CHVI
AhHc-323	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	No Further CHVI
AhHc-324	-	Archaic, Middle	Indigenous	camp/campsite	Further CHVI
AhHc-328	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	scatter	Further CHVI
AhHc-329	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	house	Further CHVI
AhHc-330	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	cabin	Further CHVI
AhHc-339	Joseph Steele	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	Further CHVI
AhHc-340	Titanium North	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	camp/campsite	No Further CHVI
AhHc-341	Thomas Murray	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	No Further CHVI
AhHc-352	Location 1	Woodland, Late	unknown	camp/campsite	Further CHVI
AhHc-353	Location 2	Pre-Contact	unknown	unknown	Further CHVI



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REG. #	NAME	TIME PERIOD	CULTURAL AFFILIATION	SITE TYPE	STATUS
AhHc-354	Location 3	Archaic, Late, Archaic, Middle, Woodland, Middle	unknown	camp/campsite	Further CHVI
AhHc-356	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	homestead	No Further CHVI
AhHc-390	-	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	Further CHVI
AhHc-402	-	unknown	unknown	unknown	Further CHVI
AhHc-403	-	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	farmstead	No Further CHVI
AhHc-404	Location 1	Pre-Contact	Indigenous	unknown	Further CHVI
AhHc-405	Location 2	Post-Contact	unknown	manufacturing	Further CHVI

Information concerning specific site locations is protected by provincial policy and is not fully subject to the *Freedom of Information Act*. The release of such information in the past has led to looting or various forms of illegally conducted site destruction. Confidentiality extends to all media capable of conveying location, including maps, drawings, or textual descriptions of a site location. MCM will provide information concerning site location to the party or an agent of the party holding title to a property, or to a licensed archaeologist with relevant cultural resource management interests.

Nine registered archaeological sites are located within 300 m of the subject property (MCM, 2023a). A summary of each of these sites is provided below.

- Archaeological site AhHc-34, the Cochrane 2 Site, is located 150 m from the subject property. The site was recorded in field notes by Charles Nixon in 1982. There is little information about the site aside from its location (MCM, 2024a). The site has unknown CHVI (MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AhHc-132, the Leschuk-Weisz Site, is located 290 m from the subject property. The site was documented by Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc. (TMHC), who first documented the site during a pedestrian survey (TMHC, 2002). Stage 3 assessment and Stage 4 block excavation were conducted at the site, yielding 3,386 lithic artifacts from a 10 m by 12 m area (THMC, 2003). THMC determined the site represented an Early to Middle Archaic period campsite (TMCH, 2003). The site has been fully excavated and has no further CHVI (TMHC, 2003)
- Archaeological site AhHc-133 is located 255 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a pedestrian survey conducted by TMHC and consists of a single Middle Woodland period projectile point (THMC, 2002). The site was determined to represent an isolated findspot and has no further CHVI (TMHC, 2022, MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AhHc-134 is located 200 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a pedestrian survey conducted by TMHC and consists of 18 Euro-Canadian and Indigenous artifacts within a 40 m by 50 m area (TMHC, 2002). The Euro-Canadian component was determined to date to after 1870 and the Indigenous component consisted of a findspot. The site was determined to have no further CHVI (TMHC, 2022, MCM, 2024a).

- Archaeological site AhHc-182, the Kulmatycky I Site, is located 180 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a pedestrian survey conducted by Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder) and consists of a biface and a retouched flake found 3 m apart. The site was determined to represent an isolated findspot and has no further CHVI (Golder, 2012a, MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AhHc-184, the Kulmatycky 3 Site, is located 120 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a pedestrian survey conducted by Golder and consists of a Late Archaic period projectile point. The site was determined to represent an isolated findspot and has no further CHVI (Golder, 2012a, MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AhHc-185, the Kulmatycky 4 Site, is located 190 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a pedestrian survey conducted by Golder and consists of a biface fragment and flake. The site was determined to represent an isolated findspot and has no further CHVI (Golder, 2012a, MCM, 2024a).
- Archaeological site AhHc-188, the Kulmatycky 10 Site, is located 95 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a pedestrian survey conducted by Golder and consists of 11 flakes found within a 15 m by 20 m area (Golder, 2012a). Golder conducted additional excavations at the site, and it has been fully excavated (Golder, 2012b).
- Archaeological site AhHc-403 is located 50 m from the subject property. The site was documented during a test pit survey conducted by Detritus Consulting Ltd. (Detritus). A total of 49 Euro-Canadian artifacts and one Indigenous flake were recovered from a 23 m by 7 m area. The site was determined to have further CHVI (Detritus, 2024). Detritus conducted a Stage 3 assessment at the site, recovering 738 artifacts from test units dug across a 36 m by 11 m area. Detritus determined the site was occupied between 1850 and 1950, with the bulk of the artifacts dating to around 1890. Due to the recent nature of the artifacts, Detritus recommended the site had no further CHVI and recommended no further fieldwork (Detritus, 2025). The Stage 3 report has not been entered into the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*. Therefore, at this time, the site has further CHVI.

1.3.3.2 Previous Archaeological Reports

A review of archaeological reports within the *Public Register of Archaeological Reports* indicated that there are no archaeological reports detailing previous archaeological fieldwork within the subject property. However, six reports documenting fieldwork within 50 m of the subject property have been entered into MCM's register at the time this report was written (MCM, 2024b). Reports were searched based on registered site information, historic lots and concessions, and nearby streets. Figure 12 shows the location of these assessments in relation to the current subject property.

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Southwest Paris Urban Settlement Area Class Environmental Assessment, Water and Wastewater Servicing, Town of Paris, County of Brant, Ontario. Archaeological Services Inc. Report dated 2005. PIF P057-164.

Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) conducted a Stage 1 archaeological assessment of lands encompassing much of the southwestern portion of the Town of Paris as part of a wastewater servicing study. Stage 1 background research for the overall area, including lands directly south of the current subject property, indicated general archaeological potential (ASI, 2005). A more

detailed Stage 1 assessment, including property inspection, was conducted within specific areas that were proposed for wastewater servicing development. Stage 2 assessment was recommended for these areas; however, none of the areas to be developed are within 50 m of the current subject property.

Stage 1 & 2 Archaeological Assessment, County of Brant Subdivision, Part of Lots 31 and 32 Concession 1, and Part of Gore Town of Paris, Ontario. Golder Associates Ltd. Report dated 2012. PIF P001-531-2009.

Stage 4 Archaeological Assessment, County of Brant Subdivision, Part of Lots 31 and 32 Concession 1, and Part of Gore Town of Paris, Ontario. Golder Associates Ltd. Report dated 2012. PIF P001-554-2009.

Golder conducted a Stage 1 & 2 assessment of lands located directly to the east of the current subject property as part of a subdivision development. Ten locations were documented during Golder's Stage 2 survey, including seven that were registered in the OASD as AhHc-182 to AhHc-188 (Golder, 2012a).

Four of the registered sites documented by Golder were within 300 m of the current subject property, as discussed above. Three of these four sites, AhHc-182, AhHc-184, and AhHc-185, were all findspots that were not recommended for Stage 3 or 4 assessment (Golder, 2012a). AhHc-188, a lithic scatter, was recommended for further assessment (Golder, 2012a).

Sites recommended for additional work were subject to Stage 4 mitigation and have now been fully mitigated (Golder, 2012b).

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment, Municipal Class EA, Cleaver Road and Governors Road, Parts of Lots 1-7, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Brantford, Part of Gore, Geographic Township of South Dumfries, and Part of Lot 1, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Burford, Brant County, Ontario. Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants Inc. Report dated June 13, 2019. PIF P321-0381-2019.

TMHC conducted a Stage 1 archaeological assessment of 46.04 ha of lands located 50 m to the southwest of the subject property in advance of the potential re-opening of the intersection at Cleaver Road and Governors Road. Map-based review and archival research indicated the property retained archaeological potential. A property inspection was conducted, which determined portions of the property exhibited low to no potential due to sloping topography, low-lying and wet conditions, and disturbance. Stage 2 was recommended for the remainder of the subject property and a cemetery investigation was recommended for lands immediately adjacent to Conworth Cemetery (TMHC, 2019). The lands within closest proximity to the current subject property were determined to have low to no archaeological potential as they were steeply sloped or low-lying and permanently wet (TMHC, 2019: Map 11).

Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment, Part of 66 Banfield Street, Paris, Part of Lot 31, Concession 1, Geographic Township of South. Dumfries, Lot 18 South of Banfield Street Part of Jury Street, (Closed), Former Town of Paris, County of Brant, Ontario. Detritus Consulting Ltd. Report dated September 12, 2024. PIF P017-1098-2024.

Stage 3 Archaeological Assessment, Site, AhHc-403, County of Brant Subdivision, 66 Banfield Street, Paris, Part of Lot 31, Concession 1, Geographic Township of South. Dumfries, Lot 18 South of Banfield Street Part of Jury Street, (Closed), Former Town of Paris, County of Brant, Ontario. Detritus Consulting Ltd. Report dated 2025. PIF P1263-0032-2024.

Detritus conducted a Stage 1 & 2 assessment of lands located 50 m to the northeast of the current subject property, to the northeast of the Canadian National Rail Line, as part of a proposed land severance. Site AhHc-403 was documented during the assessment and was noted to extend across Detritus' entire assessment area. The site was recommended for Stage 3 assessment (Detritus, 2024).

Detritus conducted Stage 3 assessment at AhHc-403. A total of 738 artifacts largely associated with a Euro-Canadian farmstead were recovered from 28 test units excavated across the property, including along the property line adjacent to the current subject property. The site was interpreted as dating to approximately 1890 and was not recommended for further fieldwork and was determined to have no further CHVI (Detritus, 2025). The Stage 3 report is not entered in MCM's *Public Register of Archaeological Reports*.



2.0 FIELD METHODS

An optional visual property inspection was not conducted for this Stage 1 archaeological assessment. The property was documented through map-based review and background research of the geography, topography, and current condition of the property. This research was sufficient to identify the presence or absence of features of archaeological potential, and to make recommendations regarding further fieldwork.

Results and recommendations of the Stage 1 assessment are shown in Figure 13.

3.0 RECORD OF FINDS

The subject property measures 178.95 ha. Watercourses and waterbodies, including the Nith River, Charlie Creek, and several ponds located within the subject property account for 5.06 ha, 3 percent (%), of the subject property.

3.1 Areas of Low Archaeological Potential

Areas of low to no archaeological potential include lands that have been previously disturbed, lands that have steeply sloping topography, and lands that are low-lying and permanently wet.

Based on background research and 20th century aerial imagery, 50.38 ha, 28%, of the subject property, has been previously disturbed for construction of laneways, roads, previous and existing quarrying areas, and a landfill. These lands were determined to have been intensively and extensively disturbed by major landscaping activities involving grading below topsoil.

Based on background research, 7.83 ha, 4%, of the subject property, is low-lying and permanently wet. These marsh areas are found primarily near or surrounding watercourses and waterbodies within the subject property.

An area of steeply sloping topography, characterized by slopes in excess of 20 degrees, is located along the west and north bank of the Nith River in the northeastern portion of the subject property. Based on aerial imagery and topographic mapping, this area accounts for 17.71 ha, 10%, of the subject property.

Figure 13 shows the areas that have been identified during background research as having low to no archaeological potential.

3.2 Areas of Archaeological Potential

97.97 ha, 55%, of the subject property retains archaeological potential as there is no evidence for previous ground disturbance that would have damaged or removed archaeological resources from the subject property.

Based on background research, 12.88 ha, 7%, of the subject property is made up of ploughable land. According to Section 2.1.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011), pedestrian survey is required in actively or recently cultivated fields or on lands that can be ploughed. Therefore, Stage 2 archaeological assessment in these areas should be conducted by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals.

According to 2.1.2 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011), test pit survey is required on terrain where ploughing is not viable, such as wooded areas, properties where existing landscaping or infrastructure would be damaged, overgrown farmland with heavy brush or rocky pasture, and narrow linear corridors up to 10 m wide. Wooded areas and scrubland account for 85.09 ha, 45%, of the subject property. These portions meet the requirements of Section 2.1.2 1e of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists*, that ploughing or cultivation is not viable. Because these portions of the property cannot be ploughed, the Stage 2 assessment of these areas should be completed by test pit survey at 5 m grid intervals.

Figure 13 shows the areas that have been identified during background research and property inspection as retaining archaeological potential and requiring Stage 2 assessment.

3.3 Documentary Record

All research documents were kept, including notes and observations and maps. A detailed list of records is presented in Table 4. All digital items have been duplicated and all paper items have been scanned and stored as digital documents. All items are housed in the corporate offices of ACC.

Under Section 6 of Regulation 881 of the OHA, ACC will keep in safekeeping all objects of archaeological significance that are found under the authority of the license and all field records that are made in the course of the work authorized by the license, except where the objects and records are donated to His Majesty the King in right of Ontario or are directed to be deposited in a public institution under subsection 66 (1) of the OHA.

Table 4: Inventory of Documentary and Material Records, Stage 1 Assessment

PROJECT INFORMATION		
ACC project number	274-01-24	
Licensee	Kristy O’Neal	
MCM PIF number	P066-0375-2024	
DOCUMENT/MATERIAL	NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
research notes	2	pages (paper, with digital copies)
maps	1	sketch maps of the subject property
	2	historical maps
	4	aerial photographs of the subject property
	2	topographic maps

4.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Potential for Archaeological Resources

Archaeological potential is defined as the likelihood of finding archaeological sites within a subject area. For planning purposes, determining archaeological potential provides a preliminary indication that significant sites might be found within the subject area, and consequently, that it may be necessary to allocate time and resources for archaeological survey and mitigation.

The framework for assigning levels of potential archaeological significance is drawn from provincial guidelines found in the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011: Sections 1.3.1 and 1.3.2). The following are features or characteristics that can indicate archaeological potential:

- previously identified archaeological sites
- water sources (It is important to distinguish types of water and shoreline, and to distinguish natural from artificial water sources, as these features affect site locations and types to varying degrees.)
 - primary water sources (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams, creeks)
 - secondary water sources (e.g., intermittent streams and creeks, springs, marshes, swamps)
 - features indicating past water sources (e.g., glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised sand or gravel beach ridges, relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography, shorelines of drained lakes or marshes, cobble beaches)
 - accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamp or marsh fields by the edge of a lake, sandbars stretching into marsh)
- elevated topography (e.g., eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaus)
- pockets of well-drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground
- distinctive land formation that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases. There may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings.
- resource areas, including:
 - food or medicinal plants (e.g., migratory routes, spawning areas, prairie)
 - scarce raw materials (e.g., quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert)
 - early Euro-Canadian industry (e.g., fur trade, logging, prospecting, mining)
- areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement. These include places of early military or pioneer settlement (e.g., pioneer homesteads, isolated cabins, farmstead complexes),

early wharf or dock complexes, pioneer churches and cemeteries. There may be commemorative markers of their history, such as local provincial, or federal monuments or heritage parks

- early historical transportation routes (e.g., trails, passes, roads, railways, portages)
- property listed on a municipal register or designated under the OHA or that is in a federal, provincial, or municipal historic landmark site
- property that local histories or informants have identified with possible archaeological sites, historical events, activities, or occupations

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present for either the entire property or parts of it when the area under consideration has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that have severely damaged the integrity of any archaeological resources. This is commonly referred to as “disturbed” or “disturbance” and may include:

- quarrying
- major landscaping involving grading below topsoil
- building footprints
- sewage and infrastructure development
- activities such as agricultural cultivation, gardening, minor grading, and landscaping do not necessarily affect archaeological potential.

4.2 Discussion

Section 1.3.1 of the *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (MCM, 2011) lists criteria indicative of archaeological potential. Stage 1 background research indicated that the subject property has general archaeological potential due to the following factors:

- The subject property is comprised of land that is suitable for human habitation.
- One farmstead is illustrated within the subject property and two additional farmsteads are illustrated within 100 m of the subject property in 1875 historical mapping (Page & Smith, 1875).
- Historical transportation routes are shown within the subject property and directly to the south of the subject property in 1858 and 1875 historical mapping (Page & Smith, 1875, Tremaine 1860).
- The subject property is directly south of Canadian National Railway, an early historical transportation route.
- Water sources, including Nith River and its tributaries and Charlie Creek are located within the subject property.
- Marshes and ponds, representing water sources and resource extraction areas are illustrated within the subject property on topographic mapping (see Figure 6).



- There are 110 registered archaeological sites within 1 km of the subject property, including 7 located within 300 m.

Given the above, background archival research indicates that the subject property exhibits general archaeological potential for the discovery of both pre- and post-contact Indigenous and Euro-Canadian archaeological resources therefore, a Stage 2 archaeological assessment is required.

Background research and mapping determined that 5.06 ha, 3%, of the subject property consists of watercourses and waterbodies including ponds, the Nith River, and Charlie Creek. If impacts to these watercourses are proposed, marine archaeological potential may be evaluated through a separate process following the MCM's 2016 *Criteria for Evaluating Marine Archaeological Potential* checklist.

75.92 ha, 42%, of the subject property has low to no archaeological potential. 50.38 ha of the subject property has been previously intensively and extensively disturbed by major landscaping and construction activities involving grading below topsoil. 7.83 ha of the subject property is low-lying and permanently wet. 17.71 ha of the subject property has steeply sloping topography.

The remainder of the subject property, 97.97 ha, 55%, retains archaeological potential and requires Stage 2 property survey. Ploughable land makes up 12.88 ha of the subject property and should be assessed by pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals. Woodlot and scrubland make up 85.09 ha of the subject property. As these areas cannot be ploughed, Stage 2 assessment should be completed by test pit survey at 5 m grid intervals.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Subject to acceptance of the results and approval of the recommendations, MCM is requested to deem this report compliant with ministry requirements for archaeological fieldwork and reporting and to issue a letter accepting this report into the *Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports*.

The following recommendations are provided for consideration by the Proponent and the MCM:

1. 75.92 ha of the subject property, as shown in Figure 13 of this report, exhibits low to no potential for the recovery of archaeological resources due to previous disturbance, steeply sloping topography, or low-lying and permanently wet conditions. No on-site property inspection was conducted during this Stage 1 assessment. Therefore, Stage 2 assessment should confirm the presence and extent of these areas of low to no archaeological potential, and they should be mapped and documented by photography.
2. Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a pedestrian survey should be conducted on all ploughable lands, accounting for 12.88 ha of the subject property, as shown in Figure 13 of this report. The land to be assessed must be recently ploughed and must be disked after ploughing if the soils are heavy clay. Direction should be provided to the contractor undertaking the ploughing that the ploughing should be deep enough to provide total topsoil exposure, but not deeper than previous ploughing. The ploughed lands must be weathered by one heavy rainfall or several light rains to improve the visibility of archaeological resources. At least 80% of the ground surface must be visible to conduct a pedestrian survey. If the fields to be assessed do not meet the above conditions, then the land may need to be reploughed prior to survey. The ploughed lands should be surveyed at 5 m intervals.

When archaeological resources are found, the survey intervals will be decreased to 1 m intervals over a minimum of 20 m radius around the archaeological find to determine if it is an isolated find or part of a larger scatter. The 1 m interval survey should continue until the full extent of the surface scatter has been identified.

3. Stage 2 archaeological assessment in the form of a test pit survey should be conducted on all areas that retain archaeological potential where ploughing is not possible or viable, including scrubland and forest areas which account for 85.09 ha of the subject property, as shown in Figure 13 of this report. The test pits should be excavated by hand at 5 m intervals. Test pits should be at least 30 centimetres in diameter and should be dug into the first 5 cm of subsoil. Test pits should be conducted to within 1 m of any disturbances or until test pits show evidence of recent ground disturbance. Each pit should be examined for stratigraphy, cultural features, or evidence of fill. All soil should be screened through wire mesh with an aperture no greater than 6 millimetres to facilitate artifact recovery. All artifacts should be collected according to their associated test pit. All test pits should be backfilled unless otherwise instructed.

When artifact bearing, or “positive”, test pits are found, the survey grid should be continued to determine whether there are further positive test pits. This may produce sufficient archaeological resources to meet criteria for requiring a Stage 3 archaeological

assessment. When insufficient archaeological resources are found through continued grid survey to meet criteria for Stage 3 assessment, survey coverage around the positive test pit should be continued, by means of eight additional test pits and one or more 1 m by 1 m square test unit placed above the positive test pit.

4. 5.06 ha of the subject property consists of watercourses and waterbodies including ponds, the Nith River, and Charlie Creek. If impacts to these watercourses are proposed, marine archaeological potential may be evaluated through a separate process following the MCM's 2016 *Criteria for Evaluating Marine Archaeological Potential* checklist.



6.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

The following advice on compliance with current legislation is provided for consideration:

- a. This report is submitted to the Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c O.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.
- b. It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such a time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeological Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- c. Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- d. The *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act*, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33 (when proclaimed in force) requires that any person discovering human remains must notify the police or coroner and the Registrar, Burials Unit, at the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and Procurement.
- e. Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological license.

7.0 CLOSURE

This report was prepared for the exclusive use of the Proponent, unless otherwise expressly stated in the report or contract. This report documents work that was performed in accordance with the accepted professional standards at the time and location in which the services were provided.

The report is based solely on data and information collected during the archaeological assessment as described in this report. All information received from the Proponent or third parties in the preparation of this report has been assumed by ACC to be factual and accurate. ACC assumes no responsibility for any deficiency, misstatement, or inaccuracy in information received from others. ACC disclaims any obligation to update this report for events or information that becomes available to ACC after the assessment has been completed.

Conclusions made within this report consist of ACC's professional opinion as of the time of the writing of this report and are based solely on the scope and extent of work described in the report, the limited data available, and the results of the work. The conclusions are based on the conditions encountered by ACC at the time the work was performed. Due to the nature of archaeological assessment, which consists of systematic sampling, it is possible that unforeseen and undiscovered archaeological resources may be present within the assessed area. ACC does not warrant against undiscovered environmental liabilities nor that the sampling results are indicative of the condition of the entire property. No other representations, warranties, or guarantees are made concerning the accuracy or completeness of the data or conclusions contained within this report, including no assurance that this work has uncovered all potential archaeological resources associated with the identified property.

Any use of this report by any third party is prohibited. This report is not to be given over to any third party, for any purpose whatsoever, without the written permission of ACC, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. Any use which a third party makes of this report, in whole or in part, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on any information and conclusions in the report, are the responsibility of the third party. ACC assumes no responsibility for losses, damages, liabilities or claims of any kind whatsoever, howsoever arising, from third party use of this report.

ACC makes no other representations whatsoever, including those concerning the legal significance of the report's findings, or as to other legal matters touched on in this report, including, but not limited to, ownership of any property, or the application of any law to the facts set forth herein.

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9.0 FIGURES

See the following pages for detailed assessment mapping and figures.



Figure 1: Location of the Subject Property on a 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Map

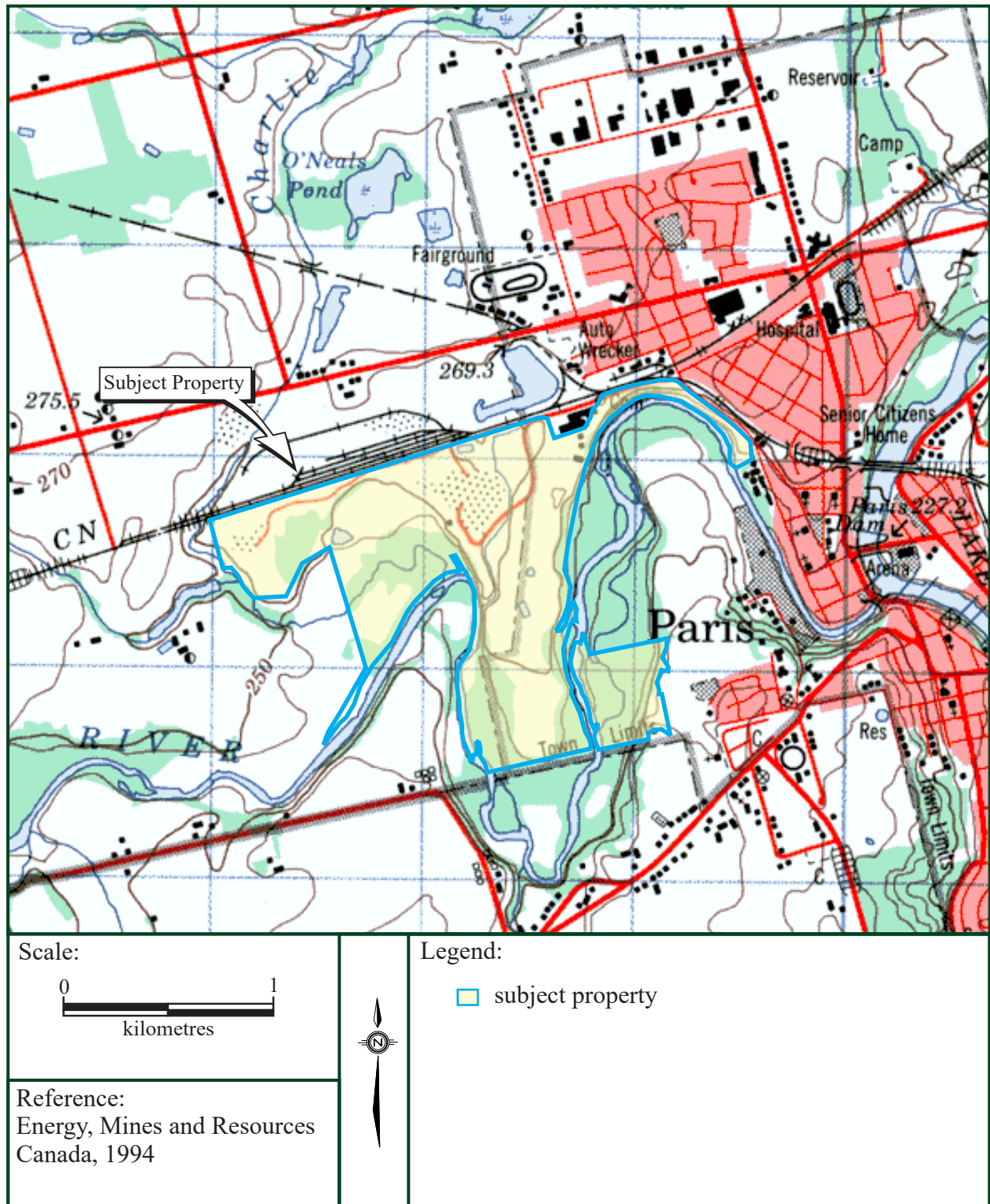


Figure 2: Limits of the North of Nith Project Subject Property, Provided by the County of Brant

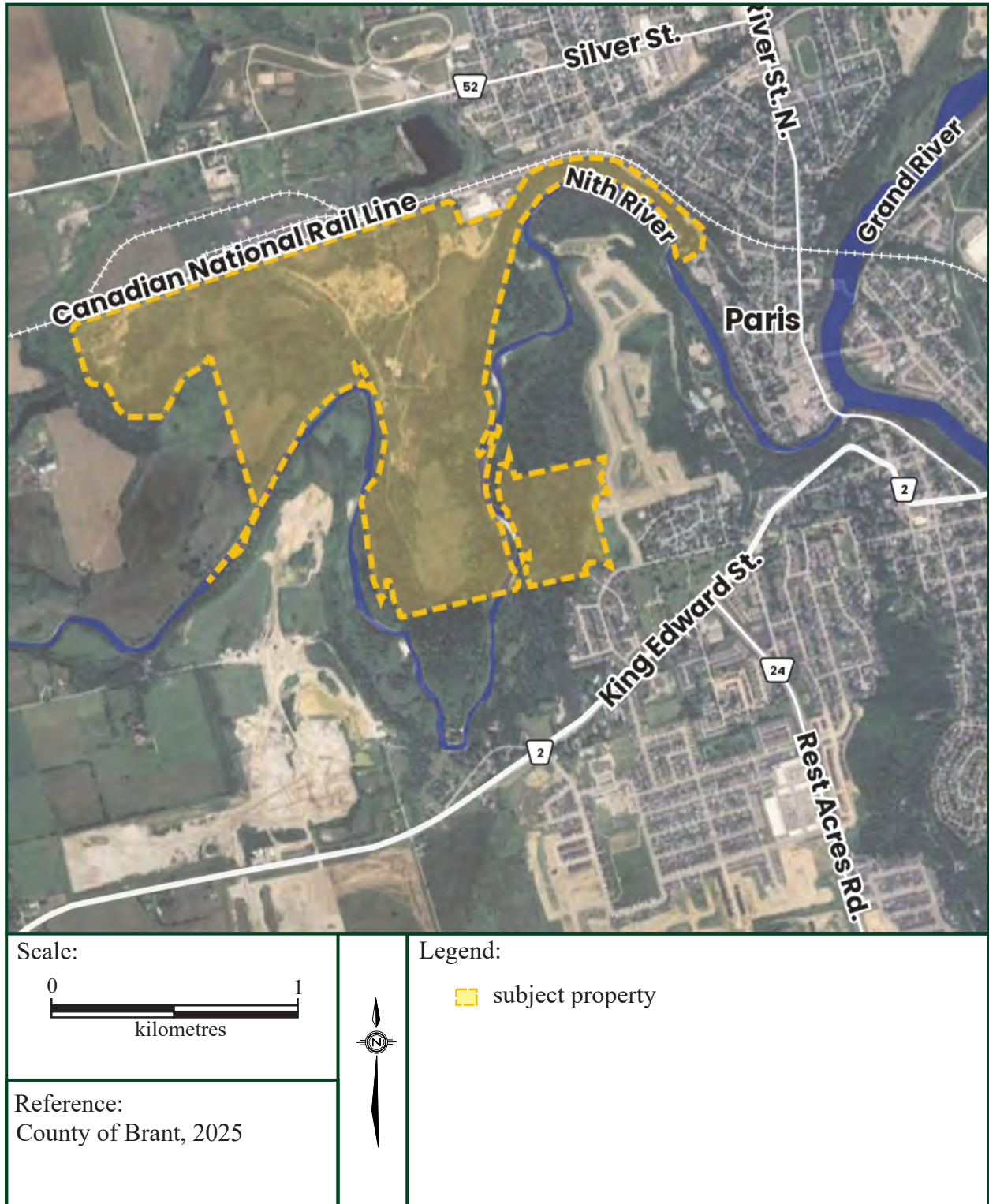


Figure 3: Location of the Subject Property on Tremaine's 1858 Map of the County of Brant, Canada West



Figure 4: Location of the Subject Property on Page & Smith's 1875 Illustrated Historical Atlas Map of South Dumfries Township, Brant County

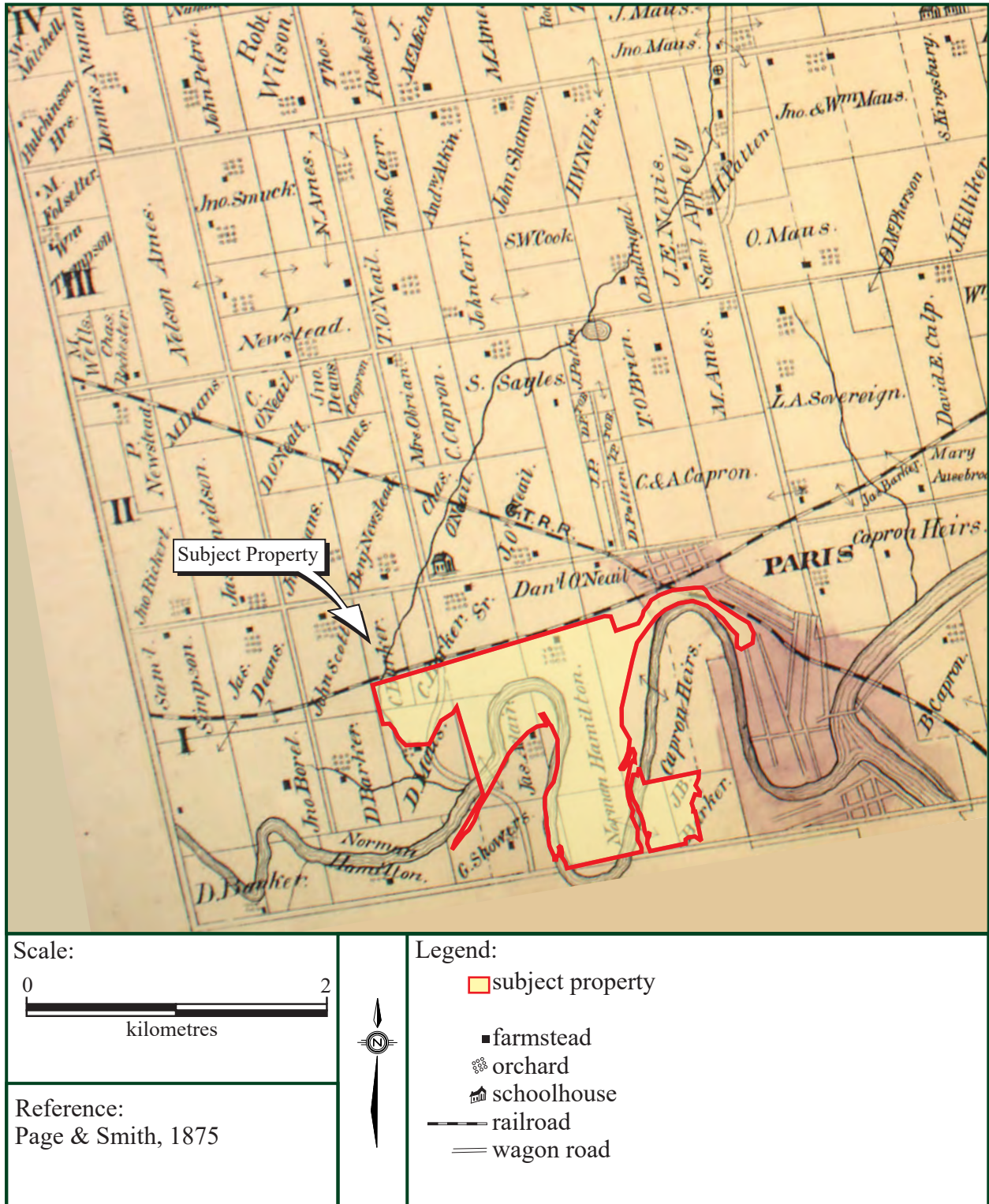


Figure 5: Location of the Subject Property on a Map of Brant County Soils

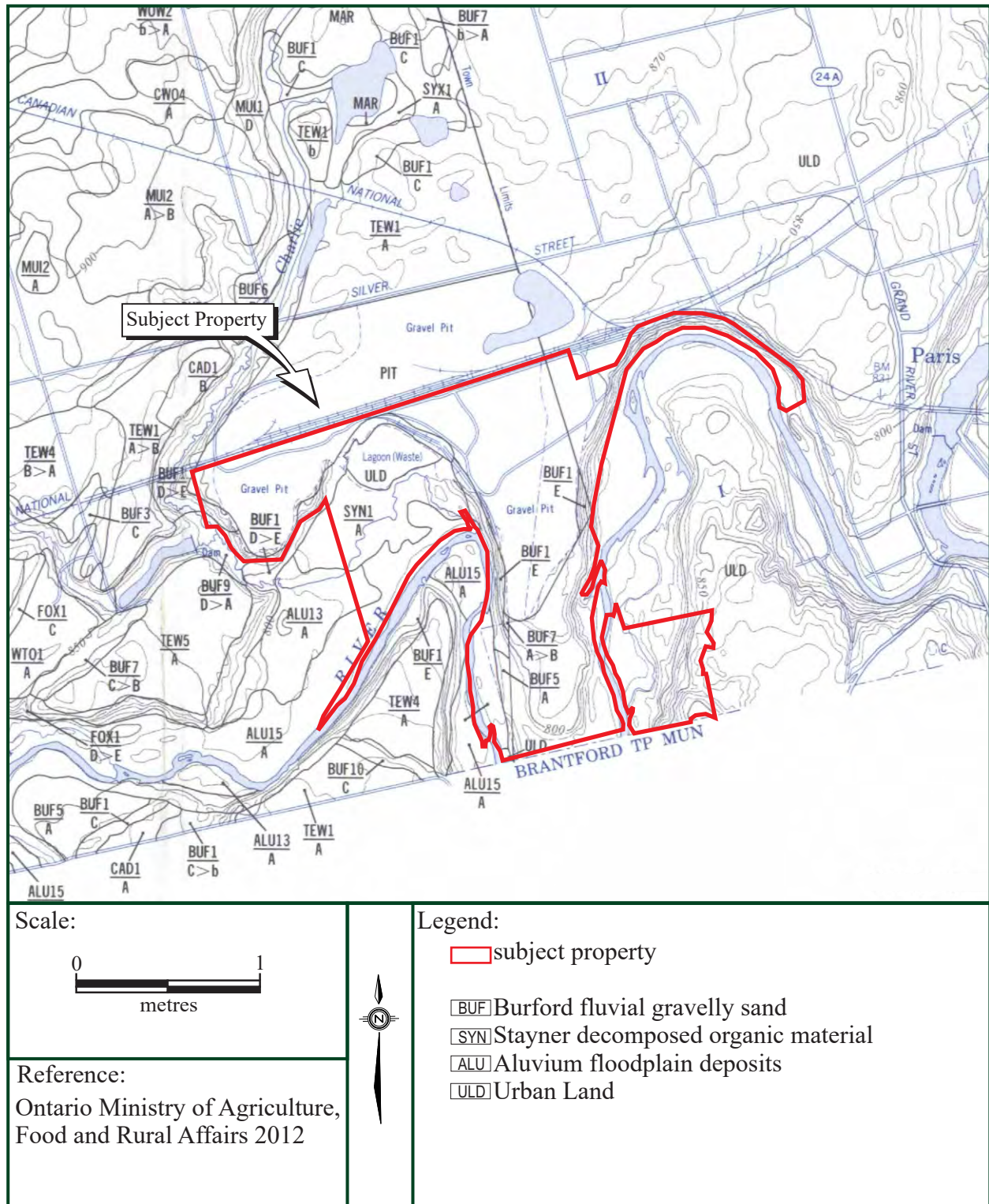


Figure 6: Topographic Map Showing Watercourses Near the Subject Property

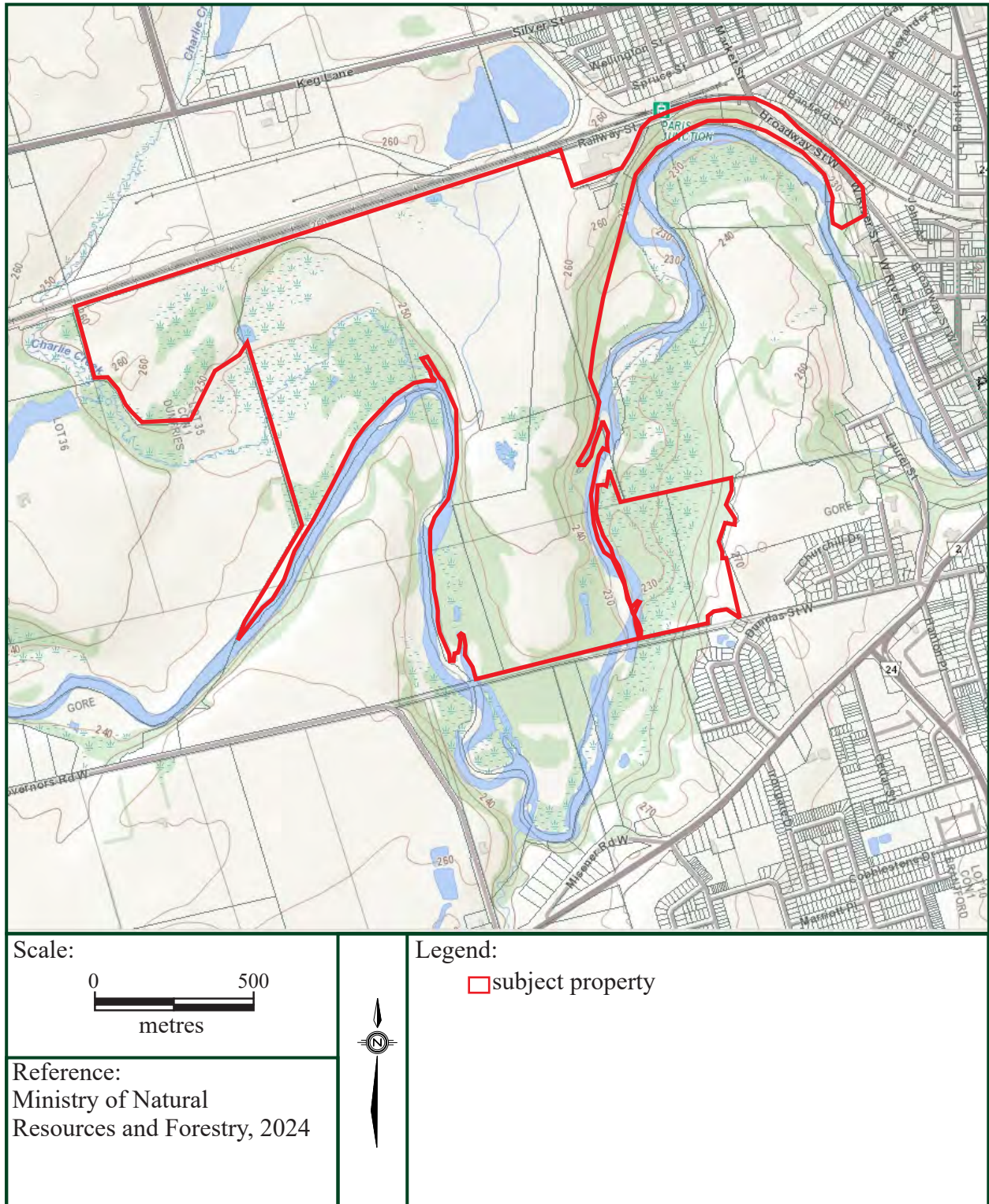


Figure 7: Current Land Use of the Subject Property



Figure 8: 1954 Aerial Imagery Showing the Subject Property

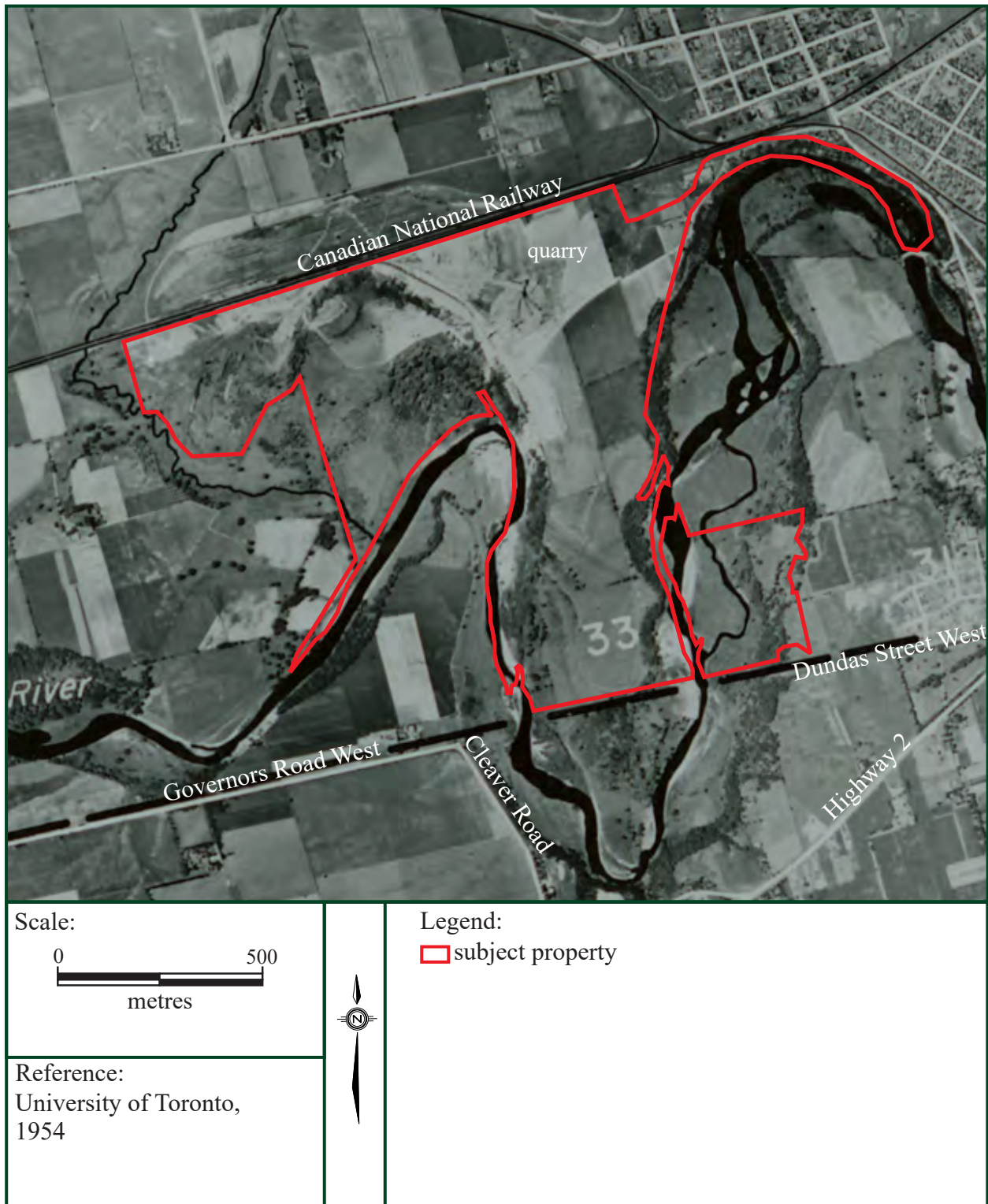


Figure 9: 1963 Topographic Map Showing the Subject Property and Quarry Areas

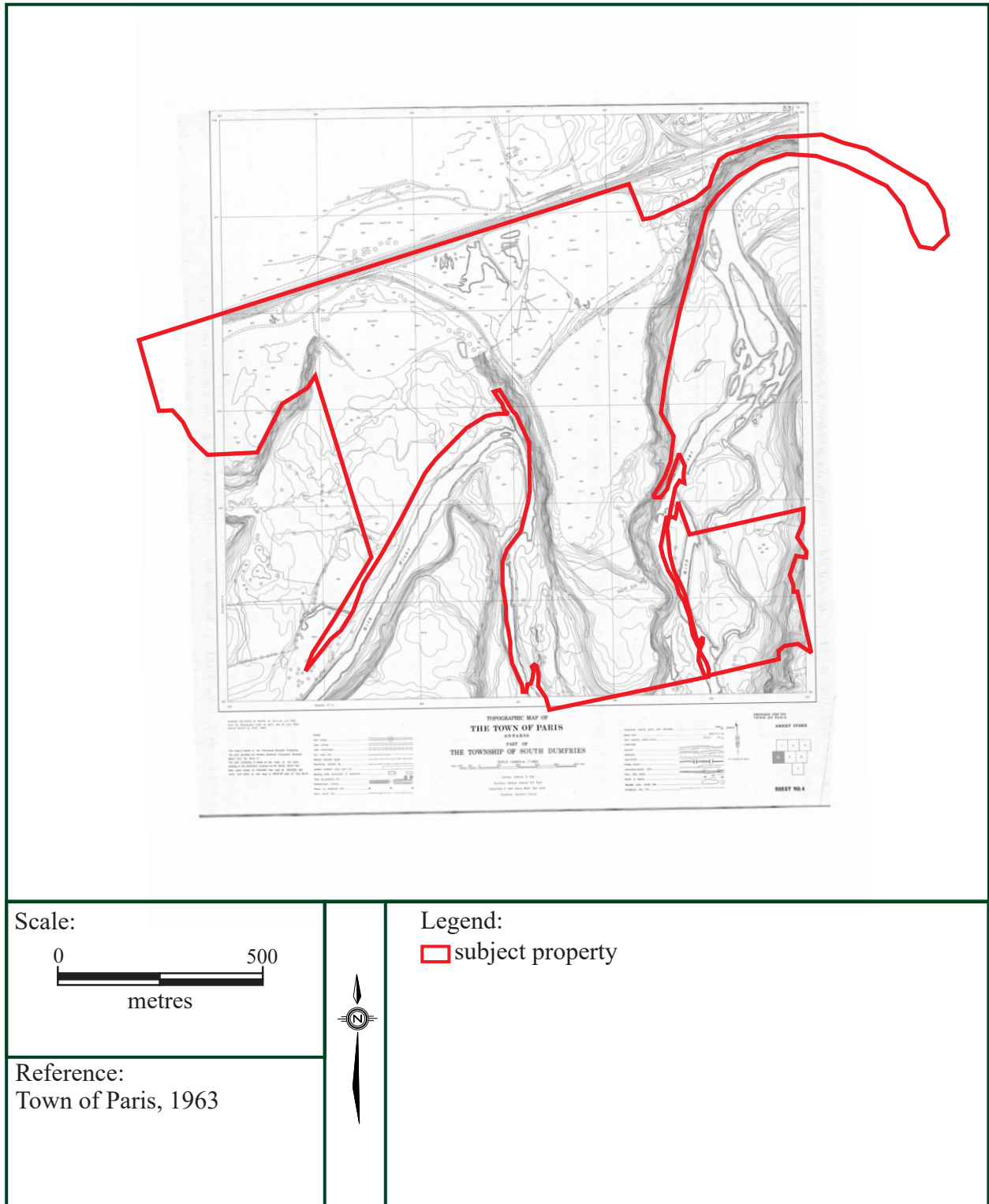


Figure 10: 1966 Aerial Imagery Showing the Subject Property, Landfill, and Quarry Areas

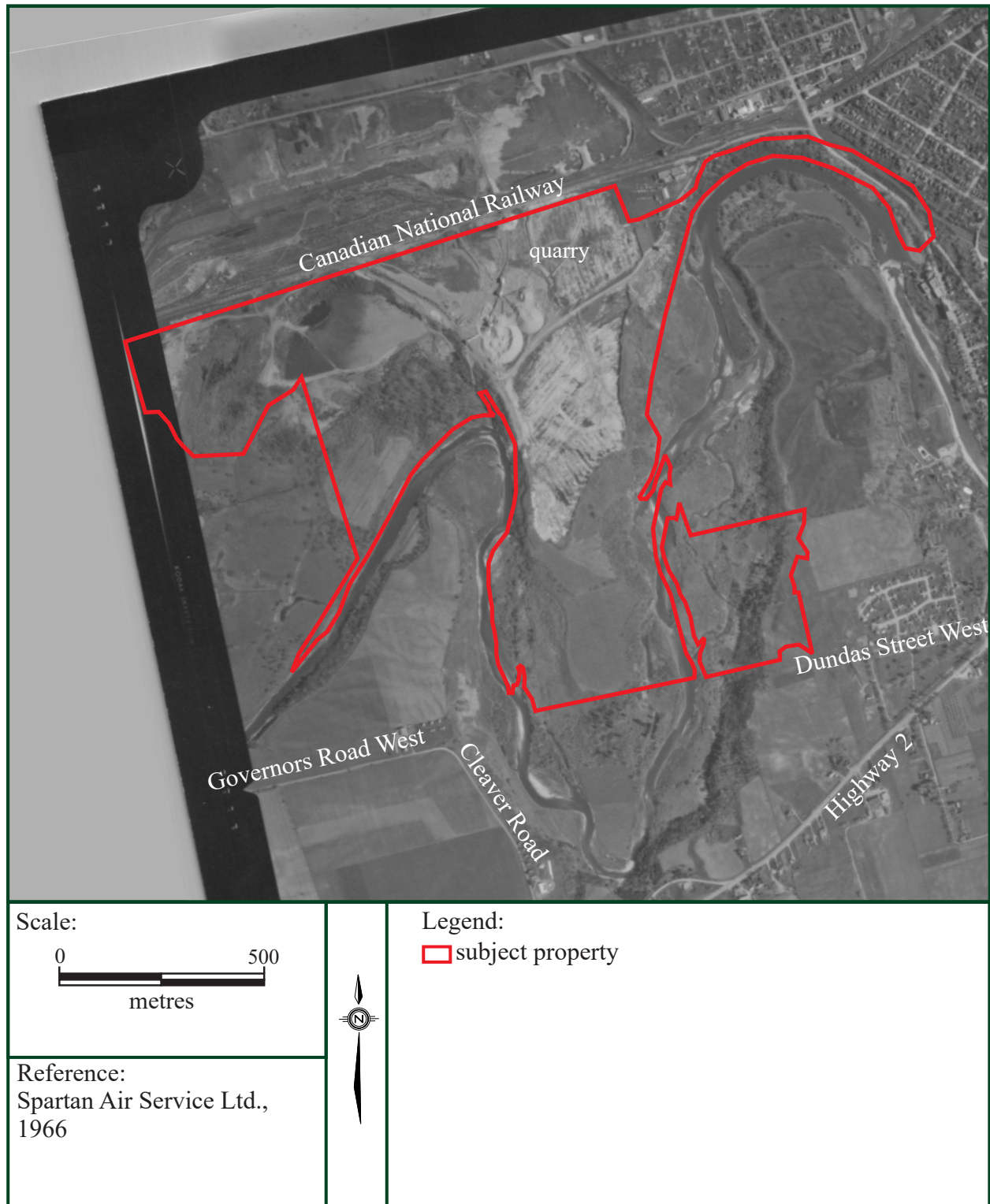


Figure 10: 1978 Aerial Imagery Showing the Subject Property, Landfill, and Quarry Areas

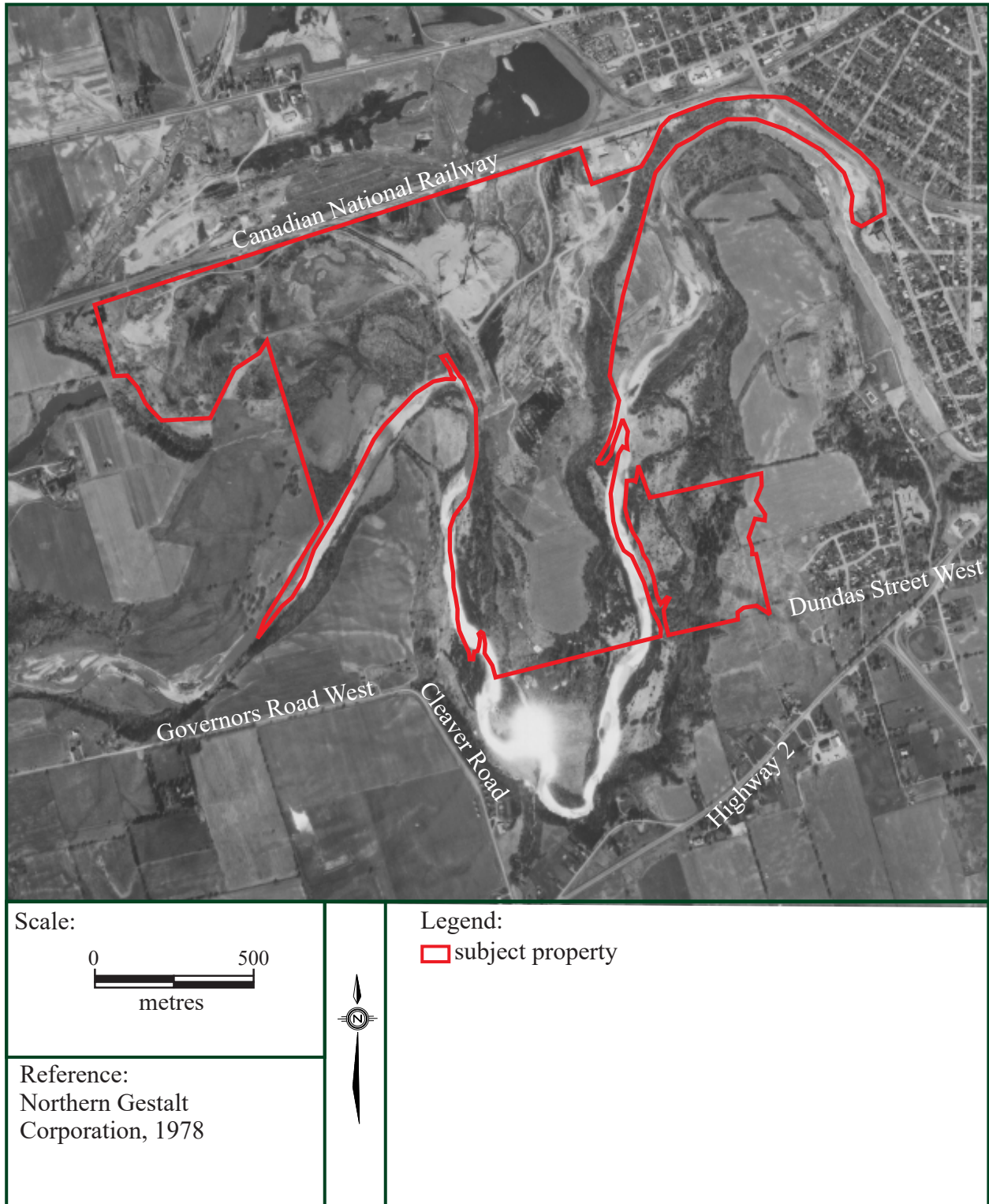


Figure 12: Location of Archaeological Assessments Conducted within 50 m of the Current Subject Property

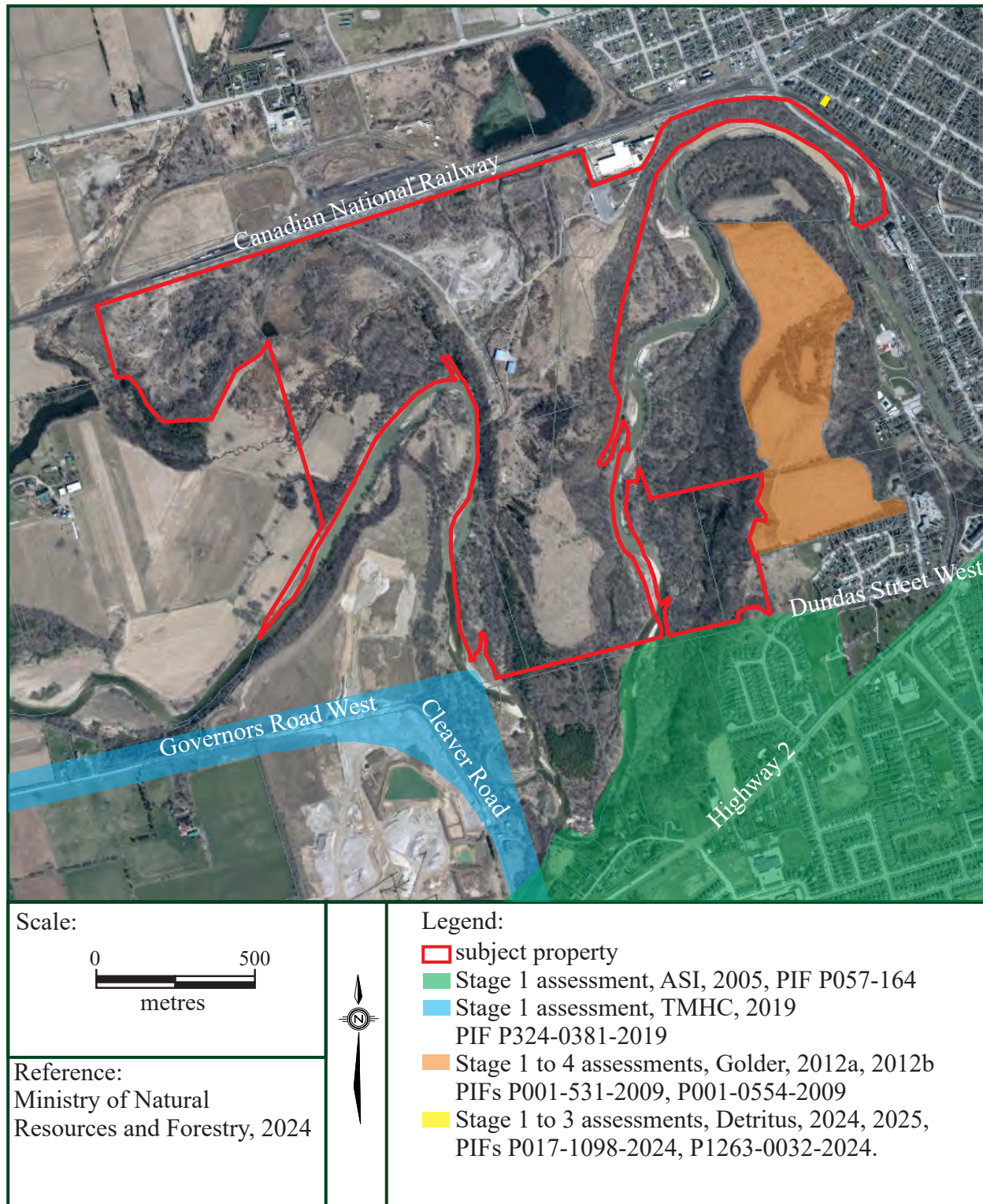
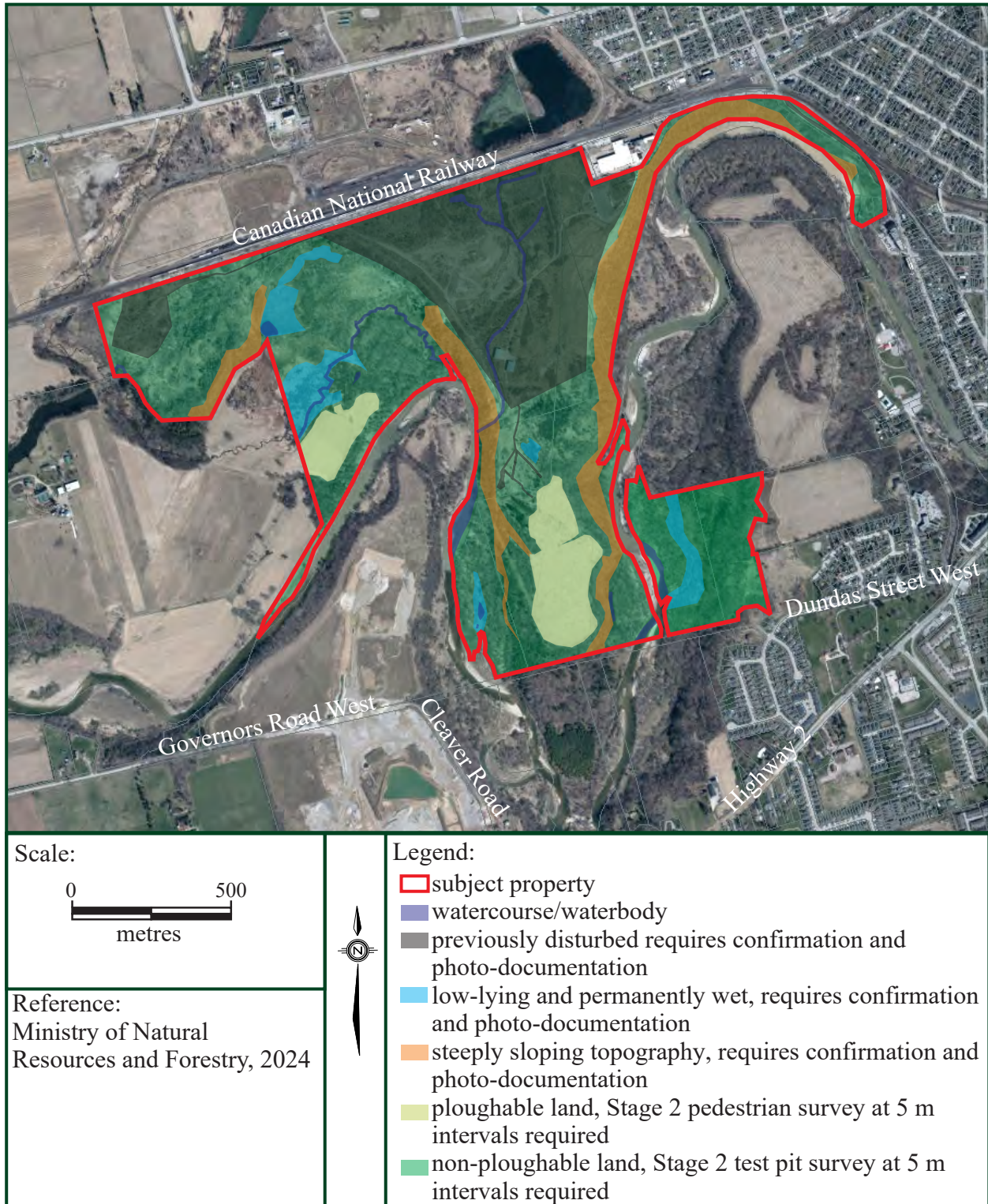


Figure 13: Results of the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment of the Subject Property



APPENDIX B

North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan Survey Results

North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

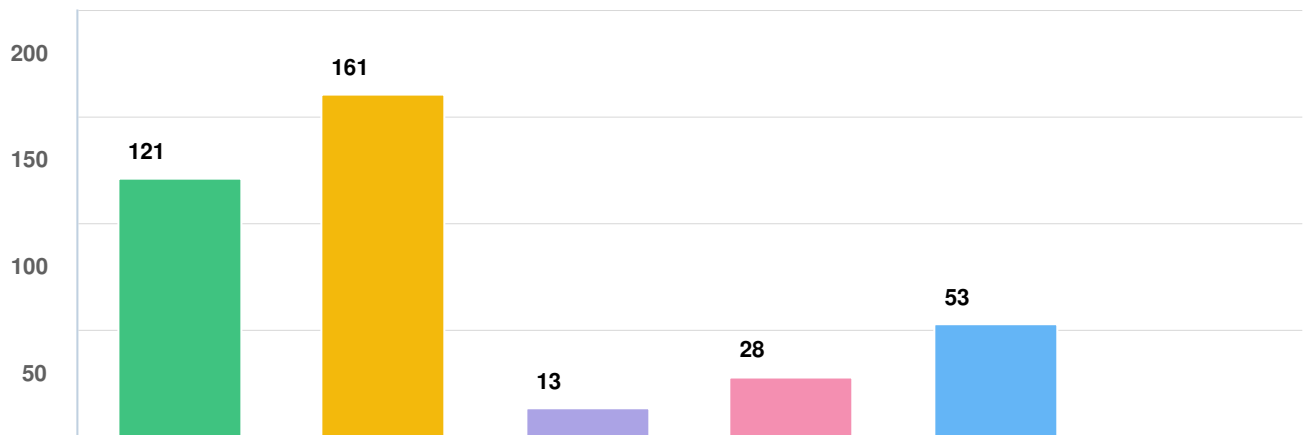
04 September 2024 - 11 October 2024

PROJECT NAME:

North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 How did you hear about the project?

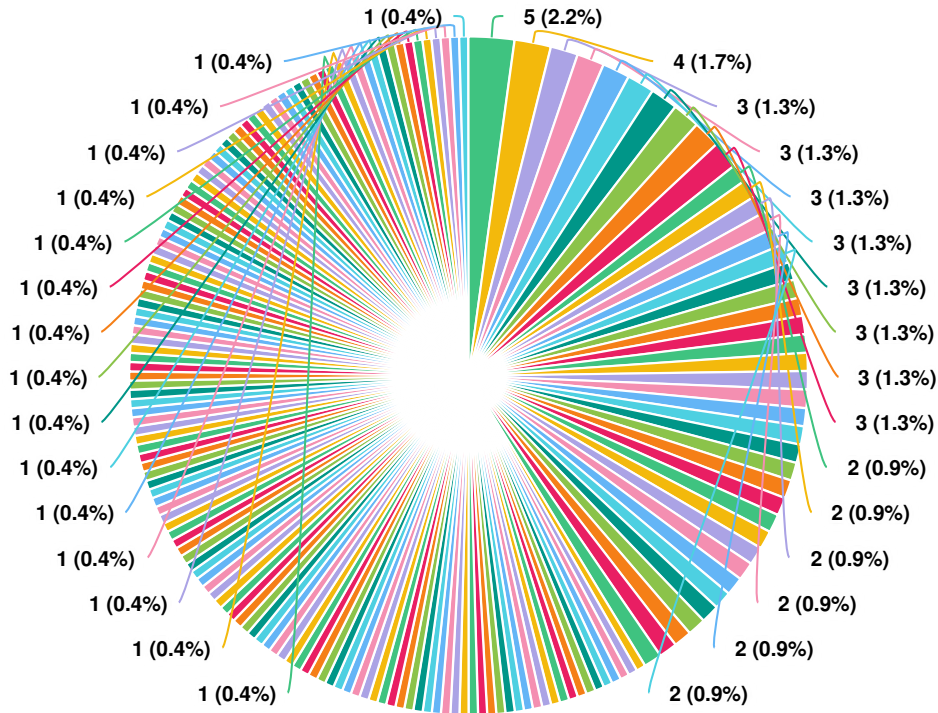


Question options

- Word of mouth
- Social media
- County of Brant website
- Engage Brant
- Other (please specify)
- Poster

Optional question (325 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q2 What is your postal code? It may take a moment to load the location.



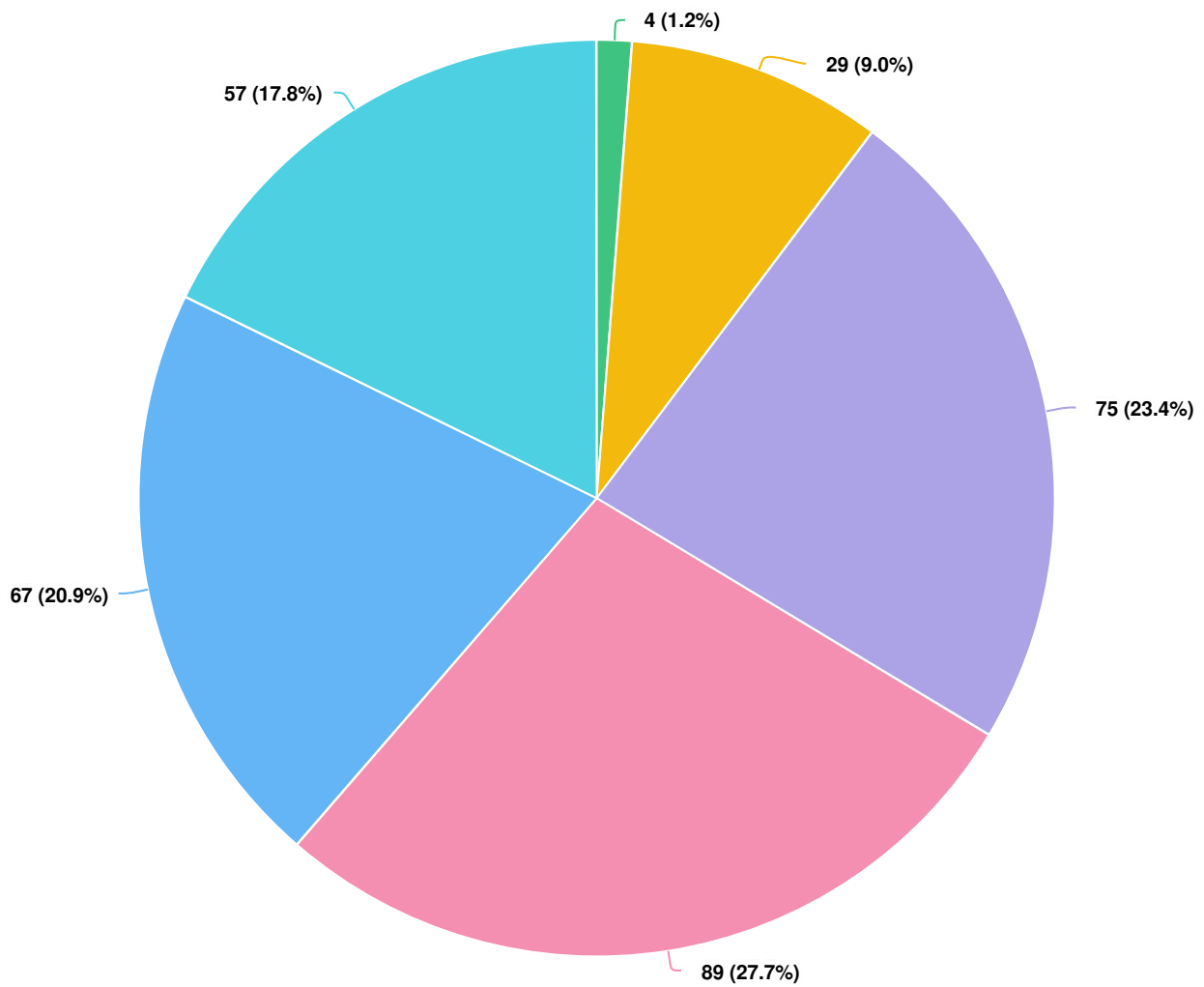
Question options

- Scotland, ON, N0E1R0
- Paris, ON, N3L2H1
- Paris, ON, N3L2B2
- Paris, ON, N3L0B3
- Paris, ON, N3L3E1
- Paris, ON, N3L0C6
- Paris, ON, N3L3K7
- Paris, ON, N3L2A7
- Paris, ON, N3L2J1
- Paris, ON, N3L2V1
- Princeton, ON, N0J1V0
- Paris, ON, N3L4H2
- Waterford, ON, N0E1Y0
- Brantford, ON, N3T5L9
- Paris, ON, N3L0A8
- Paris, ON, N3L4H3
- Paris, ON, N3L3E3
- Paris, ON, N3L1C3
- Paris, ON, N3L1V6
- Paris, ON, N3L0A4
- Paris, ON, N3L0H4
- Paris, ON, N3L0B6
- Paris, ON, N3L1J1
- St George Brant, ON, N0E1N0
- Brantford, ON, N3T4E7
- Paris, ON, N3L1M9
- Paris, ON, N3L0A7
- Brantford, ON, N3T5L5
- Ayr, ON, N0B1E0
- Paris, ON, N3L3E2
- Paris, ON, N3L3L7
- Paris, ON, N3L2A6
- Paris, ON, N3L1W2
- Paris, ON, N3L4C1
- Paris, ON, N3L2L7
- Jerseyville, ON, L0R1R0
- Paris, ON, N3L1H4
- Paris, ON, N3L1S8
- Paris, ON, N3L3J7
- Paris, ON, N3L2J7
- Paris, ON, N3L3X2
- Paris, ON, N3L2X2
- Paris, ON, N3L2V4
- Paris, ON, N3L0B1
- Paris, ON, N3L1N1
- Paris, ON, N3L2E4
- Paris, ON, N3L3P9
- Brantford, ON, N3R0B8
- Paris, ON, N3L3A9
- Paris, ON, N3L0A1
- Paris, ON, N3L4A7
- Paris, ON, N3L1P8
- Paris, ON, N3L1P1
- Brantford, ON, N3T0M9
- Paris, ON, N3L1E9
- Paris, ON, N3L4B3
- Brantford, ON, N3T4T8
- Brantford, ON, N3T4N8
- Brantford, ON, N3R1Z2
- Brantford, ON, N3R6X5
- Brantford, ON, N3P1K9
- Paris, ON, N3L2K7
- Paris, ON, N3L3T3
- Brantford, ON, N3R3C6
- Brantford, ON, N3S5A5
- Paris, ON, N3L4A2
- Paris, ON, N3L2C9
- Paris, ON, N3L2A5
- Burford, ON, N0E1A0
- Vittoria, ON, N0E1W0
- Paris, ON, N3L3T4
- Norwich, ON, N0J1P0
- Brantford, ON, N3T0M3
- Ancaster, ON, L9H5E2
- Windham Centre, ON, N0E2A0
- Brantford, ON, N3R2B2
- Paris, ON, N3L0G6
- Paris, ON, N3L2Y7
- Paris, ON, N3L2T2
- Paris, ON, N3L1K4
- Paris, ON, N3L2L3
- Glen Morris, ON, N0B1W0
- Paris, ON, N3L2L4
- Brantford, ON, N3S6W7
- Paris, ON, N3L2B7

▲ 1/3 ▼

Optional question (230 response(s), 97 skipped)
Question type: Region Question

Q3 What age group do you belong to?

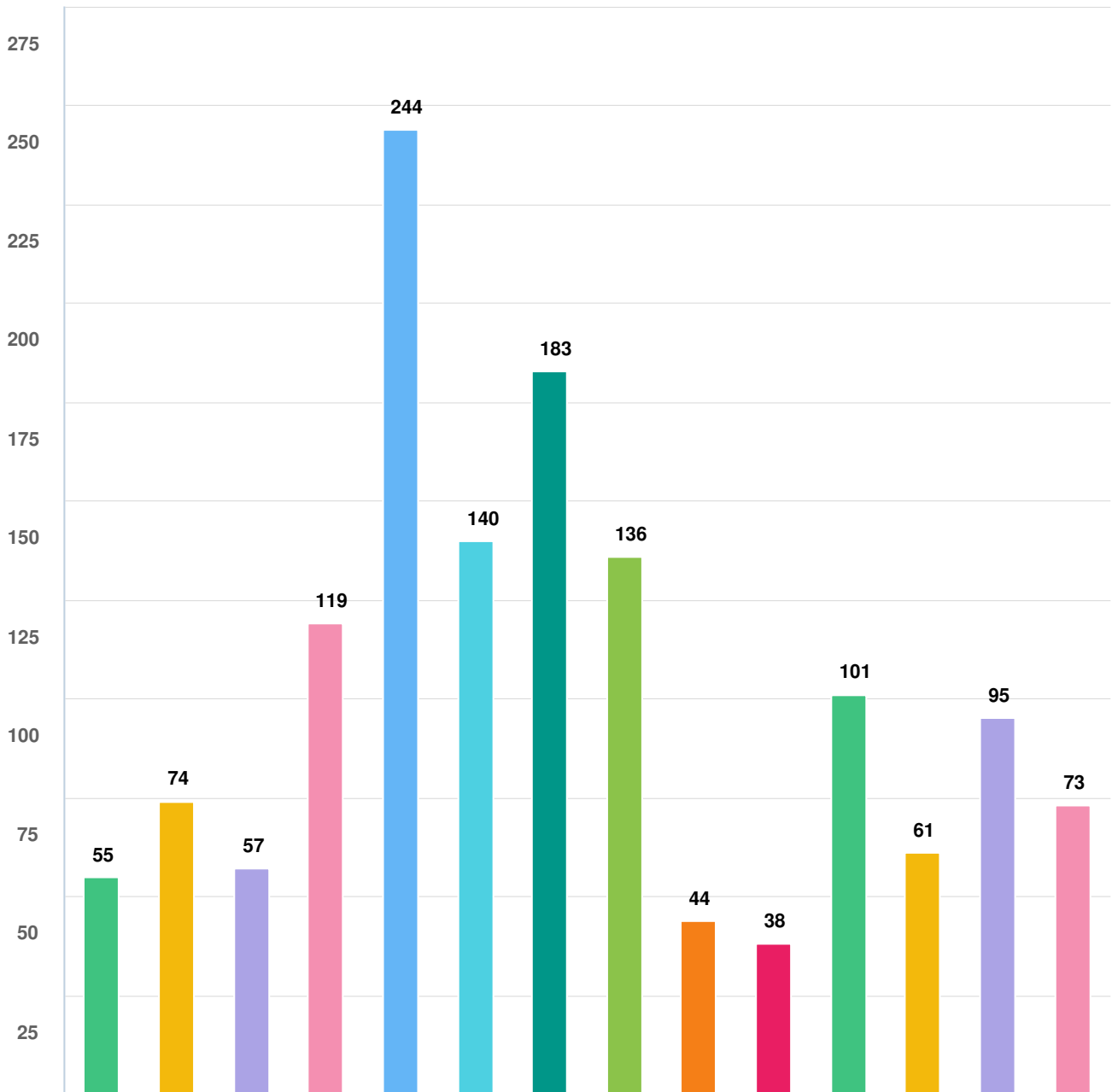


Question options

- Under 18
- 19-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-60
- 61+

Optional question (321 response(s), 6 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q4 Let us know what programs or amenities you would like to see in this space. Select all that apply.

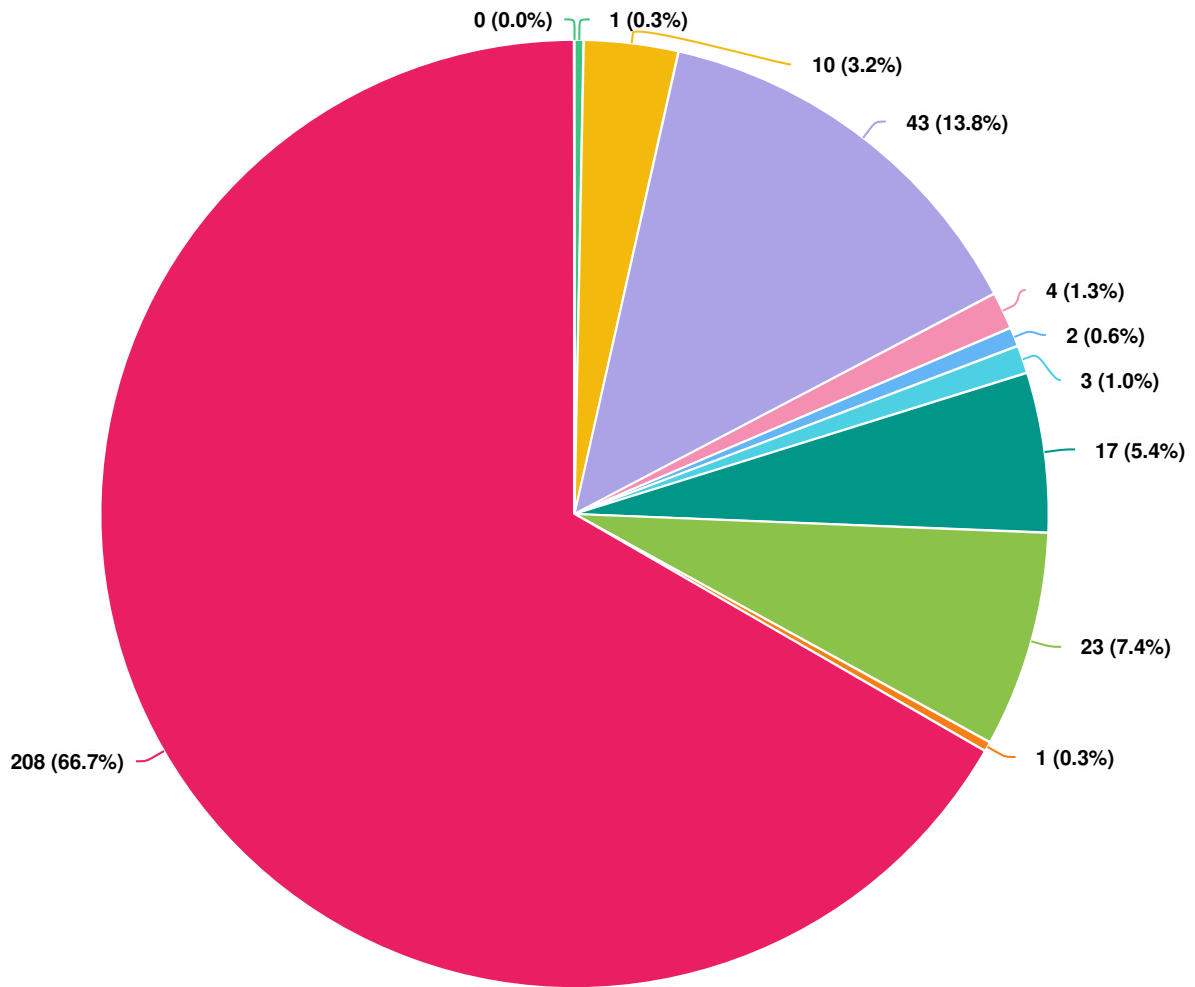


Question options

- Places to gather (example, picnics, cultural events or celebrations)
- Educational opportunities (example, interpretive panels, plaques) ● Rest areas ● Look-outs
- Hiking trails and walking loops ● Winter activities (example, cross country skiing)
- Cycling facilities (example, paved connections, challenge features, trails, bike storage, etc.)
- Paddling and/or water access spots ● Play features for children and youth ● Lighting ● Public washrooms
- Drinking fountains ● Parking ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (321 response(s), 6 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q5 Are you a member of any of the Community Partner Organizations?

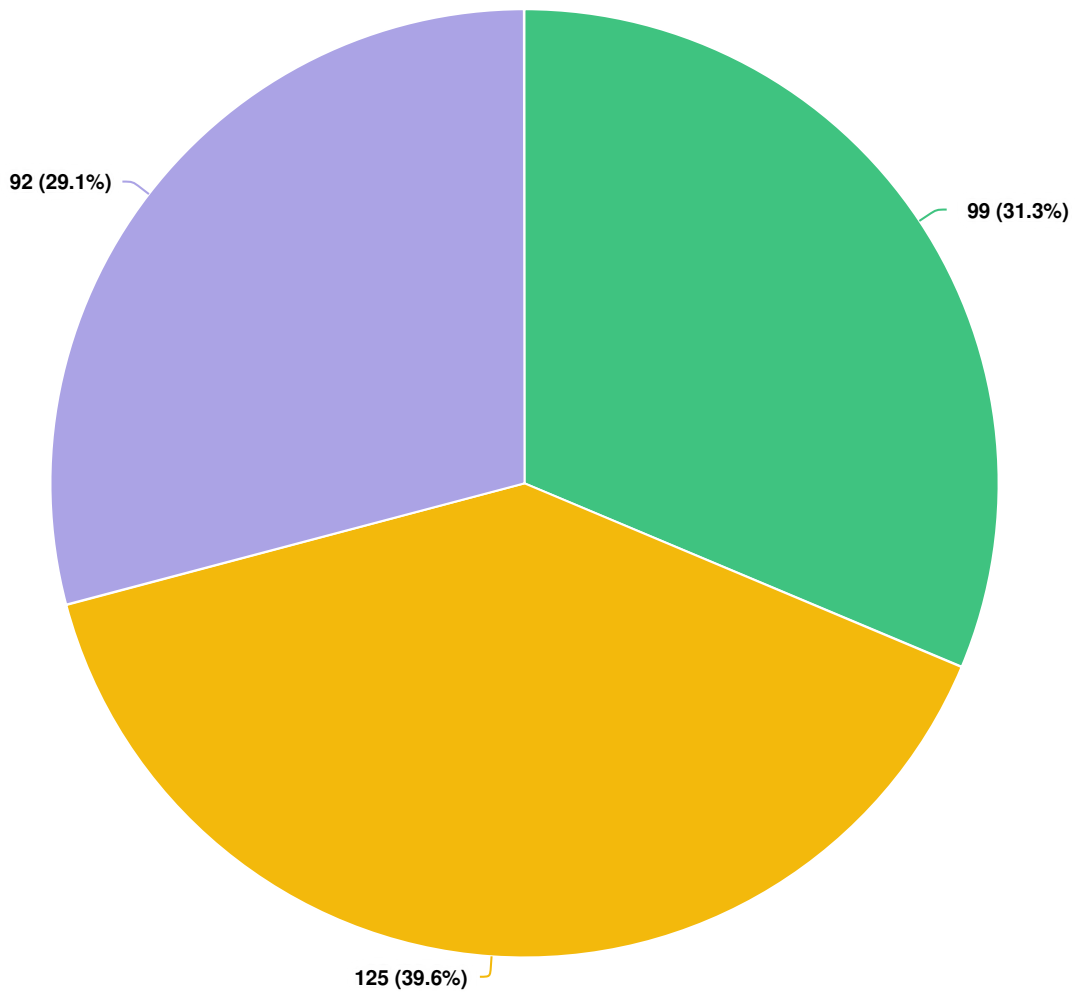


Question options

- Six Nations of the Grand River
 ● Brant Waterways Foundation
● Brant Cycling Club
- Grand River Conservation Authority
 ● Ducks Unlimited
● Brant Tree Coalition
● Brant for Nature
- Brant Death Races Running Club
 ● Trout Unlimited - Middle Grand Chapter
● Not a member
- Mississaugas of the Credit

Optional question (312 response(s), 15 skipped)
 Question type: Radio Button Question

Q6 What time of day would you most use the site?

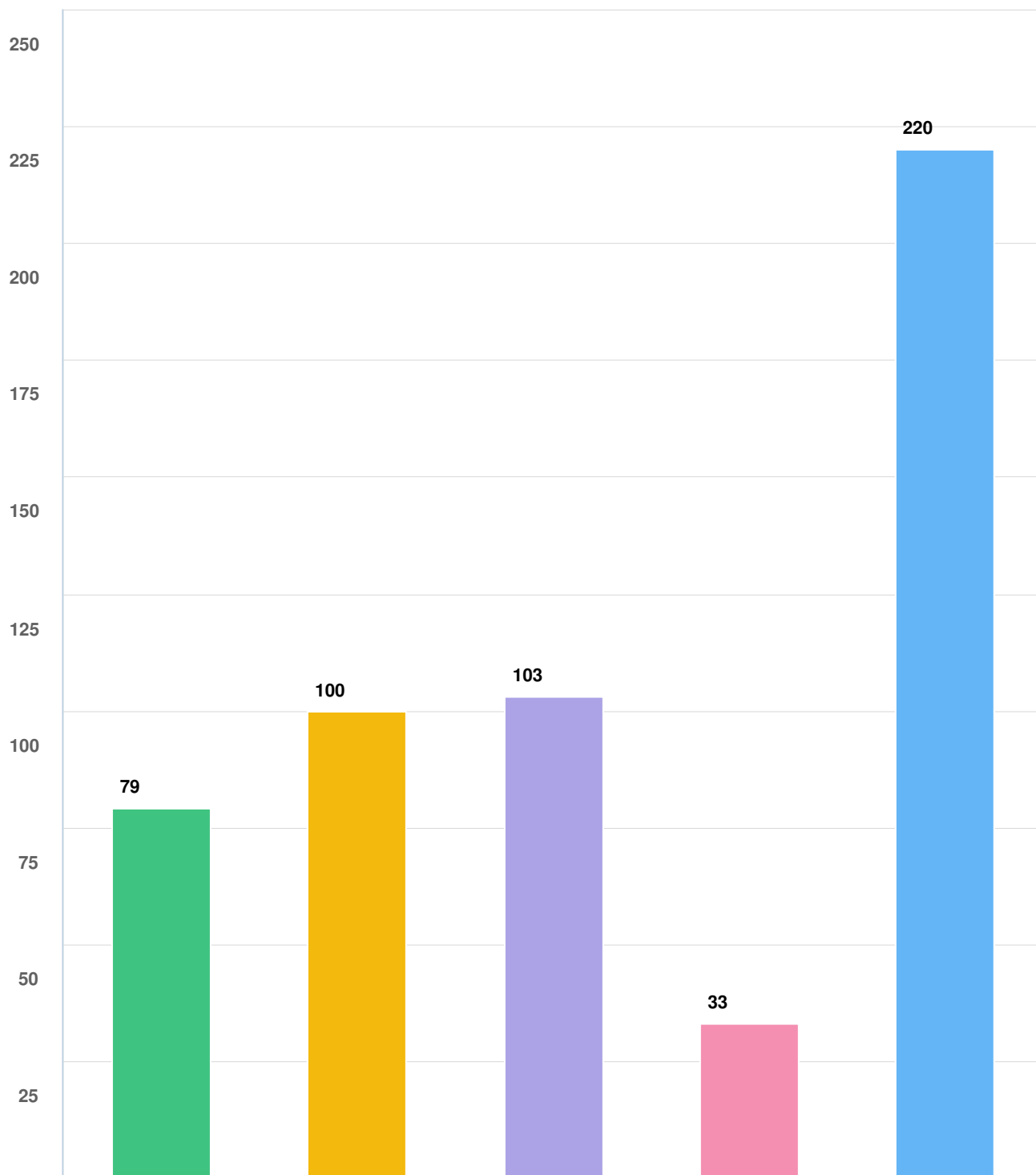


Question options

- Morning
- Afternoon
- Evening

*Optional question (316 response(s), 11 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question*

Q7 During what season do you think you would use the site most?

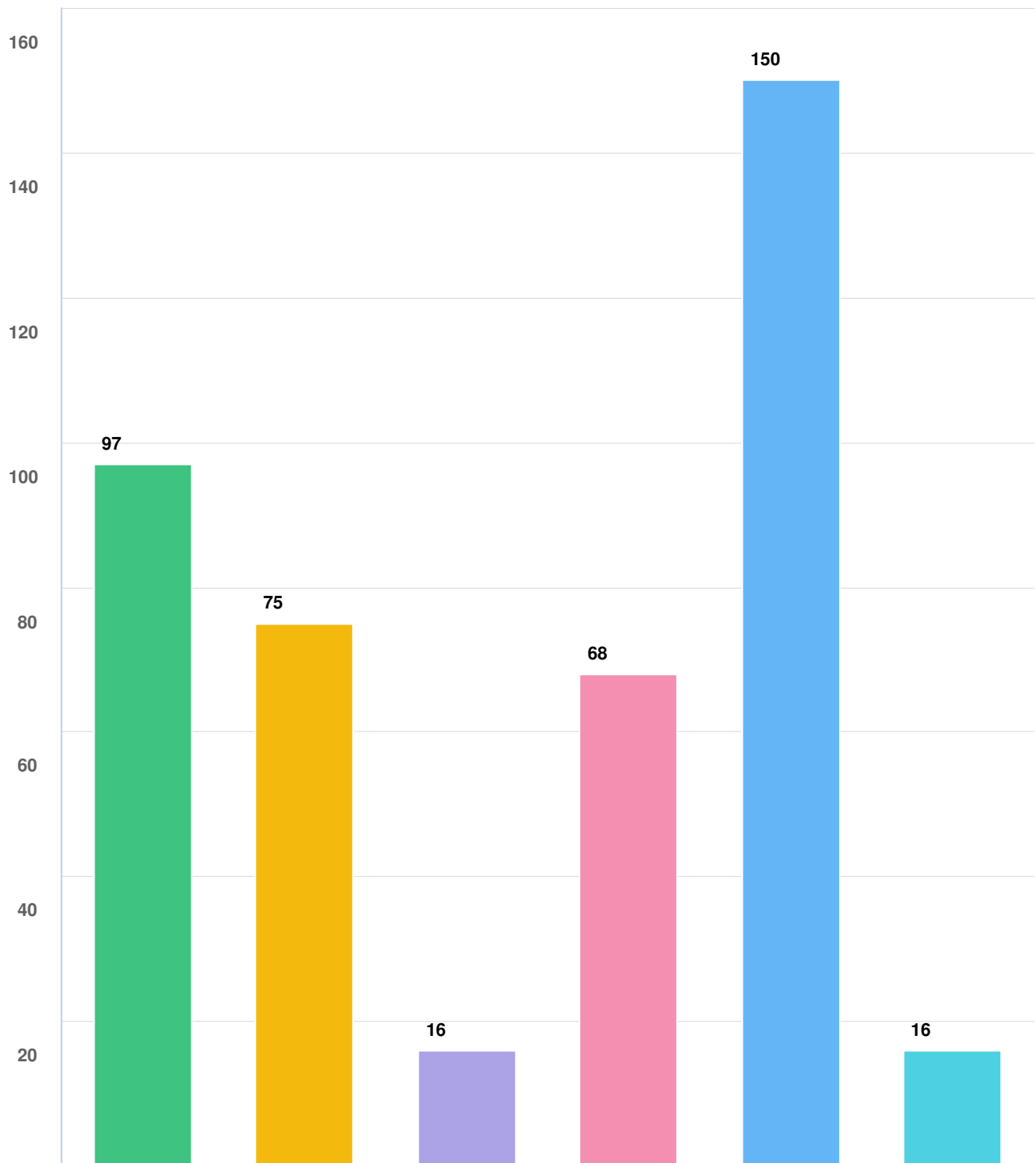


Question options

- Spring
- Summer
- Fall
- Winter
- All of the above

Optional question (317 response(s), 10 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q8 Using this image, please tell us where you will typically access the site.

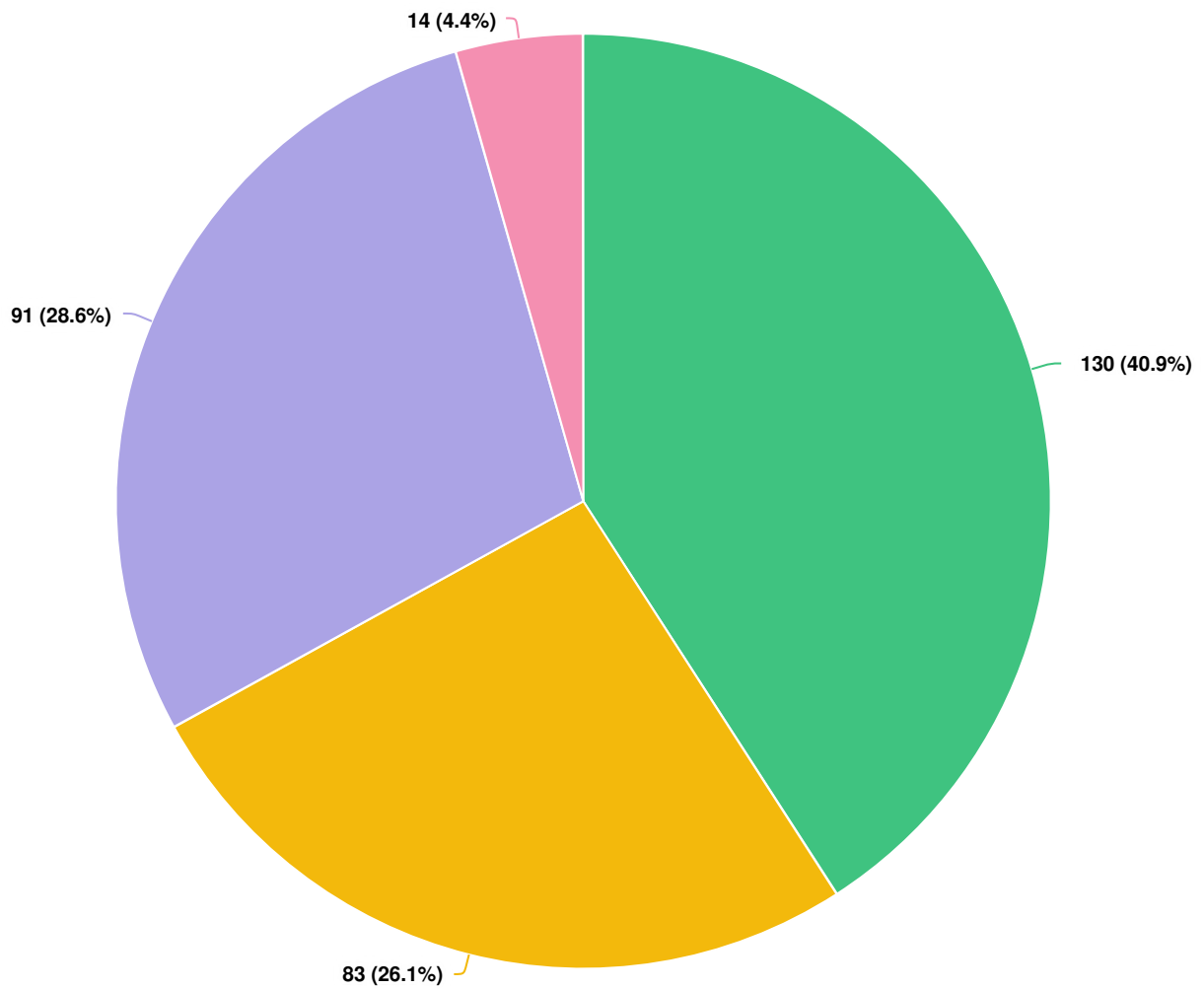


Question options

- North
- South
- West
- East
- Penman's crossing trail head
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (310 response(s), 17 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q9 How will you typically travel to the site?

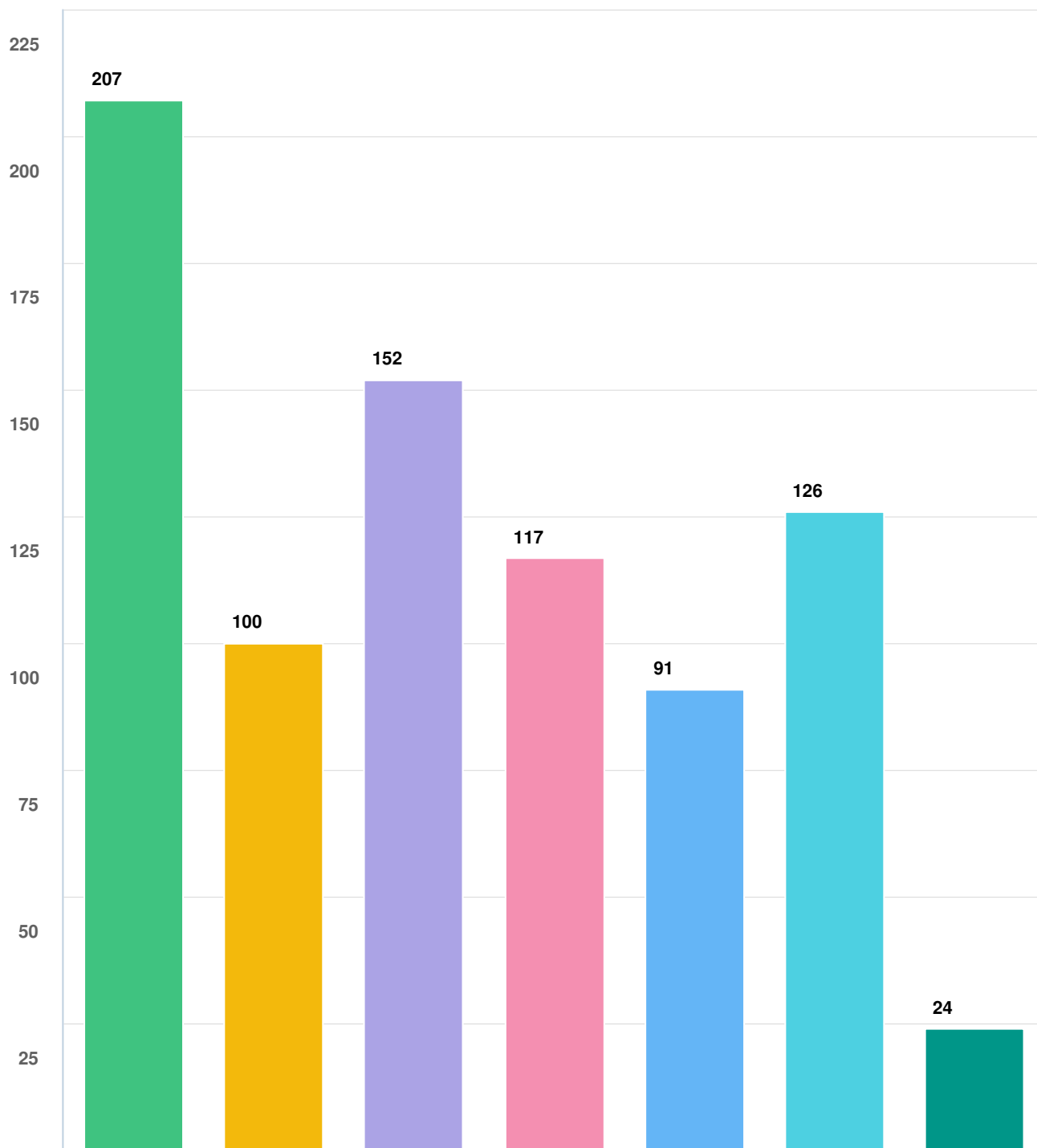


Question options

- Personal vehicle
- Cycling
- Walking
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (318 response(s), 9 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q10 What type of trails are you most interested in?

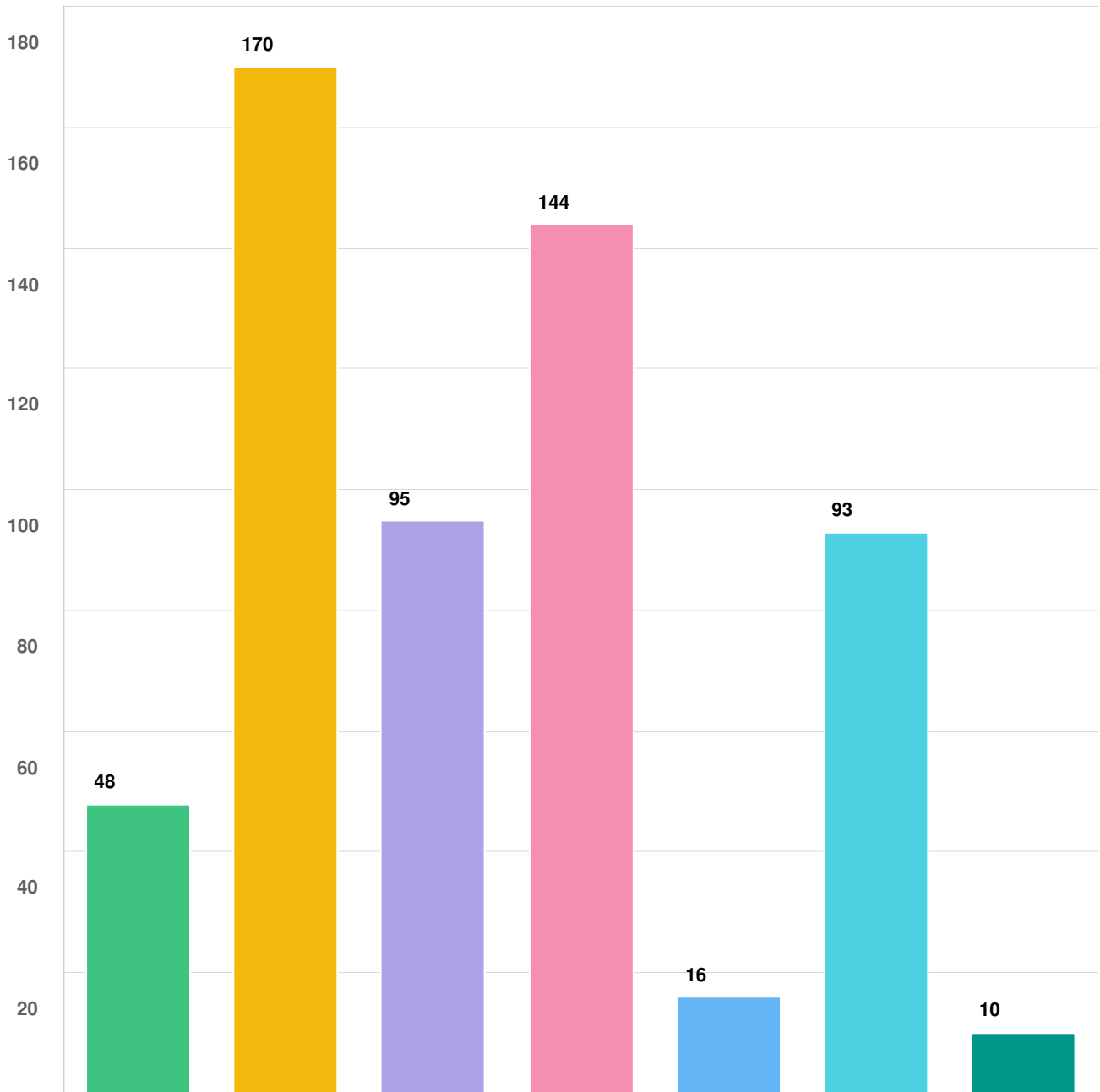


Question options

- Trails for nature
- Trails for leisure family bike rides
- Trails for mountain biking
- Trails that provide river access
- Trails for leashed dog walking
- Trails for use in the winter
- Other (please specify)

*Optional question (317 response(s), 10 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q11 | What guiding principles are your two highest priorities for this space?



Question options

- Community safety and wellbeing
- Protection of natural features
- Environmental restoration
- Increased recreational opportunities for the community
- Incorporation of Indigenous communities' perspectives and traditional knowledge
- Intergenerational sustainability (Making decisions and taking actions today that ensure future generations can meet their needs and enjoy a healthy environment, just like we do now.)
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (314 response(s), 13 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q12 | Do you have any additional comments or ideas you would like to share with us about this project?

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:31 AM

This is a fantastic use of the space wherein the natural environmental will remain protected and in turn respected and also offer further connections to the overall trail system of Paris. Way to go County Staff and Team!

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:46 AM

Much of this area is considered an area of natural and scientific interest, so I would really hope to see that an EIS is completed for the area prior to undertaking any project work and ensuring that disturbance is limited and restoration of natural heritage features is the priority.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:53 AM

If the areas are going to be bringing in more people, please have the proper garbage cans and restrooms available. The current Penman's trail has trash being thrown on the ground and also in the river. Parking areas will also have to be created. I live on West River Street and people utilizing the Penman's Pass trail and bridge trail, park in our parking lot and walk through the parking lot to gain access to the trail. It would be nice if some better signage was posted at the entrance or exits of trail heads to let them know where they are going, i.e. into someone's private parking lot.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 10:07 AM

Having lived in Paris for 35+ years I have used the North With areas for hiking and previously biking also to access Nith River fishing. My biggest concern is still the far end of this area where a local deer herd still uses the Pine forest area. It would please me the most to make this area a non-motorized vehicle area.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 10:13 AM

Please give Brant county some dirt bike and atv opportunities!! Keep the kids on bikes and atv's off the streets and give them a place to be safe and outside of the residential areas

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 10:32 AM

Recreation for all ages including seniors

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 10:47 AM

Planting any native trees and plants in areas that need restoration, keeping the ecosystem healthy and safe.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 10:51 AM

I would like to be involved as a volunteer for this project.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:11 AM

Has the county considered the financial impact this type of project will drive? Have a look at what the City of Hamilton has to deal with at Webster's Falls, Tew's Falls, and any popular hiking trails for that matter. The county already cannot handle the traffic from the increase in population and tourism; this project will drive more people to this area. What impact will this project have on surrounding neighbourhoods? How will overflow traffic and parking impact on neighbourhoods be handled?

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:57 AM

I am excited and delighted about this development. I think it's a wonderful idea and look forward to seeing it and enjoying it with friends and family in the future. Please think about making inclusive spaces that are comfortable for all people. So many parks are not ideal for adults to be in without small children.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 12:37 PM

Use would be on weekends at any time of day. Weekdays in the evening.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 01:19 PM

giant hogweed population locations are available for public viewing at <https://www.eddmaps.org/distribution/viewmap.cfm?sub=4536>

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 02:29 PM

Looking forward to hearing the findings of this survey. Also note the question about which group you're a part of should be a checklist for those of us who belong to more than one.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 03:37 PM

Cross country ski trails would be amazing!

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 05:49 PM

I would like it to be very simple. There is no need for the county to spend a lot of money on features that are already available at Lions Park.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 07:13 PM

Barkers bush has very much been taken over by leisure walkers . It is no longer a bike trail! Please keep the north side of the river for cyclists and MTB! Add amenities to barkers bush and lions park, keep the north side rustic, natural and urban!! I have walked my animals in the bush for decades on the north side, I'm sad to see it becoming developed at all, but at the very least I hope it can be bike trails only.

Also keep the quads out!

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:43 PM

Disc golf

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 09:45 PM

Let's do this!

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 10:21 PM

Mountain bike trails are of utmost importance as we lack them completely in the area. Motorized vehicles accessing the area is a major concern for me both for safety as well as their environmental damage they create. As well, equestrian use on trails is damaging to the trails. As well, their manure they leave is very annoying

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:50 PM

Not everything has to be accessible to all. There can be some sections that are a challenge to bike or hike through.

Screen Name Redacted

9/04/2024 11:59 PM

Please have connectivity to inroad shared cycling facilities and to the grand river and rail trail systems.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 12:32 AM

I just really hope this is a serious consideration as current councils have allowed the majority of our town's outdoor green and recreational spaces be decimated by development.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 02:45 AM

Thank you for involving the community

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 08:21 AM

This is a great idea. If serious Mountain Bike riders (ie Death Racers etc) will be using the park, they should have their own dedicated section.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 08:45 AM

I've been walking this space for 30years, preserving wildlife is critical as many whom have been hiking through this area over the years utilize this space for observation of wildlife, challenge hikes without concrete and man made structures.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 08:58 AM

I'd like a safe place to ride my mountain bike away from cars and motorized vehicles.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 09:16 AM

MOUNTAIN BIKING!!!! This community spends a great in local communities and all stakeholders surrounding the area are positively affected.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 10:05 AM

I really do not want to see this area impacted by paved trails and built up areas. Doing this would increase the amount of people in the area and it would ultimately impact nature as more people = more garbage. Lions park in paris is an area that is close and is more developed and people can continue to use that space for their paved areas with playgrounds. The new housing that is going around Lions park should have playgrounds and community spaces built into the developments. Leave the north of the Nith Trails untouched by machines and developments. It needs to stay as nature My hope is to see this as multi-use biking and walking trails similar to Christie lake or the hydrocut. These create spaces for nature to continue to grow, while allowing people to use the areas. It also ensure minimal impact on the environment as you can build trails with shovels and rakes instead of needing to bring in bulldozers and big machines.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 10:52 AM

There are few natural trail areas downtown anymore. Barker's bush and North of the Nith are great for hiking a walkable distance for a majority of the residents of Paris. North of the Nith serves the north end of town, while Barker's is more accessible for people on Rest Acres and the South Ward. Seeing these spaces preserved is at the top of mind for a young family like ours. While pavement is accessible, we shouldn't shy away from having some more challenging hiking areas as well that provide a level of remoteness.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 11:02 AM

There is significant desire/need for singletrack mountain biking in the area. There is a large and growing community of mountain biking enthusiasts living in Brant county and currently traveling outside the county (Turkey Point, Waterloo, Woodstock) to do what we love. Creating singletrack mountain bike trails here would draw business to local coffee shops, breweries and restaurants.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 11:13 AM

Single track mountain bike trails would be excellent

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 11:48 AM

Just don't ruin the space and build any houses like what happened in Barkers Bush.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 11:54 AM

We are an organized group of ladies that walk weekly/multiple days a week within Brant/Brant County and would love more local accessible

trails for all. Walking, running, biking, stroller and accessible for different abilities.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 10:04 AM

I really do not want to see this area impacted by paved trails and built up areas. Doing this would increase the amount of people in the area and it would ultimately impact nature as more people = more garbage. Lions park in paris is an area that is close and is more developed and people can continue to use that space for their paved areas with playgrounds. The new housing that is going around Lions park should have playgrounds and community spaces built into the developments. Leave the north of the Nith Trails untouched by machines and developments. It needs to stay as nature My hope is to see this as multi-use biking and walking trails similar to Christie lake or the hydrocut. These create spaces for nature to continue to grow, while allowing people to use the areas. It also ensure minimal impact on the environment as you can build trails with shovels and rakes instead of needing to bring in bulldozers and big machines.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 01:31 PM

I very much enjoy the Puslinch Tract trails, where there is a trail through the centre for dog walking and adjacent mountain bike specific trails.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 03:09 PM

the mix of mountain bike trails and environmentally sustainable areas that promote biodiversity and indigenous participation

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 06:42 PM

I would consider separation of activities in the planning for recreation/community use (walking paths vs. bike vs. sport/trail vs. family/youth etc.) A riverside (or walking trail-based) off-leash dog area would be amazing too. Good luck!

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 07:54 PM

Leave it alone. Increase bylaw enforcement to deter people using trails with motorbikes and quads

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 08:22 PM

Looking forward for a space for people in our community to get outside and be active

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 08:24 PM

Please don't make it dogoff leash. So many problems with dogs off leash in Barkers and LionPark. Mountain bike tracks are huge for the community and for youth to get involve with something positive. Great for mental well being of kids. The brantford bike park attracts people from all over. Charge a small fee/ membership to be be able to ride it.

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 08:59 PM

A designated mountain bike area would be amazing for everyone or a pump track/ dirt jumps for kids!

Screen Name Redacted

9/05/2024 11:46 PM

Restrict areas where motorized vehicles (ATV's / Dirtbikes) can go. There have destroyed so much already.

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 09:47 AM

Riverside bike trails; mountain biking with family

Screen Name Redacted

9/06/2024 12:46 PM

Ensure multi-use compatibility, continued community engagement with the active and engaged volunteers that have a demonstrated record of environmental sensitivity such as many/all of the groups listed in #5. Engage the groups with design, construction, and maintenance - many of them are already doing so.

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 09:08 AM

this project is long overdue. many of us have been using this area for recreation all our lives

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 01:34 PM

I have been aware of this project for a while. I am an avid mountain biker. I ride the trails in Kitchener (hydrocut) and Woodstock (the pines) more than 50 times a year. A premier mountain bike trail system in Paris would be a truly amazing project for our community. We currently having nothing of the sort in all of Brant county. We have many cycling options such as the rail trail but make no mistake - there is no mountain biking option in Brant. In order for a trail to be suitable and enjoyable for mountain biking it needs to be purpose built for mountain bikes. In order to make a trail system truly a premier site it also needs to have many trails covering many kilometres. If you decide to go the route of mountain bike trails it is important you understand this. If you try to make a compromise and put in just a couple trails it will not ever be used by anyone who actually considers themselves a mountain biker. Unfortunately you can't effectively compromise on this. You also need to dedicate such trails to mountain biking only. I have ridden on mountain bike specific trails where people walked their dogs before. Complete disaster. Mountain bike trails in the forest are often blind and ridden fast. This works great if they are one way and you don't have to worry about people walking. You have an opportunity with the topography that exists north of the nith to make a world class mountain bike trail network (at least as far as Ontario is concerned) but in order to do it you need to dedicate a very large portion of it to mountain biking only. I realize that is not easy to do from a political standpoint but let me

point out the following. Brant county has a plethora of options for cyclists, dog walkers, campers, canoeists, runners, and people who simply like to enjoy nature. It is has absolutely zero options for mountain bikers. It shouldn't be hard to justify a single site for them. It is also one of the faster growing activities post-Covid, an excellent way to get kids off screens and in shape and will bring meaningful revenue to the downtown core without significant additional parking requirement because riding a mountain bike from the area in question to downtown is a lay up. Do something cool for Paris.

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 02:16 PM

Would be willing to volunteer as part of a community maintenance group

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 03:15 PM

We feel further investigation into motorized vehicle use should be a priority

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 04:00 PM

Please keep more of this protected green space for future generations. Too many are converted into development sites and we need to preserve nature as is

Screen Name Redacted

9/07/2024 11:59 PM

Walking trails and biking trails would be most welcome. As a nurse and active person, I have high hopes that this project will open up more opportunities for the public (and particularly our youth) to engage in outdoor physical activity, connect with others and ourselves, and enjoy (and respect) the beauty of Brant County's natural environments. I'd rather my child be out mountain biking on these new park trails than sitting on the couch playing a video game about mountain biking! If we want a healthy, vibrant, community, we need to "pave the path" (pun intended) for residents to WANT to jump onto it; it should be visible, welcoming, attractive, fun and easily accessible. Thank you for seeking our input-it's much appreciated. Good luck on the project.

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 08:57 AM

I am a very avid mountain biker. In order to ride, I have to regularly leave the county to ride as there are no trails available. The county has built beautiful facilities for soccer, baseball, hockey, disc golf, however this is not a need that has come any where near being met. It's very disappointing. I hope this is yet again something that is not passed over. I also live close to the proposed area. I'm disgusted at constantly hearing dirt bikes and quads destroying the area. They are reckless and unsafe. I've personally seen them drive through town and from my neighborhood

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 09:37 AM

This development should be mountain bike focused. It is a growing sport since the pandemic and there is a lack of dedicated mountain bike trail systems in the region. There are plenty of multi-use trails already available to hikers, dogwalkers and casual bike riders. The rail trail provides hundreds of kilometers for this purpose, as do conservation areas such as Pinehurst, Sudden Tract, Dryden Tract, Bannister Lake, FWR Dickson Wilderness Area...etc. Mountain bikers are consistently overlooked in communities. We have a skatepark at Syl Apps for skateboarders but nothing for mountain bikes. There is also an economic argument to be made. You should consult with the volunteers who operate The Hydrocut trails in Waterloo. That trail system brings in people to the local economy from hours away in all directions (London to GTA predominantly). I grew up in Paris mountain biking in Barker's Bush. Now it's a liability to ride in there due to all the off-leash (and ON leash) dogs and it seems we mountain bikers keep getting pushed out of these places due to pedestrian volume.

Screen Name Redacted

9/08/2024 12:51 PM

Bike trails are so very needed

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 08:52 AM

Really getting tired of seeing dirt bikes and motorized recreational vehicles alike using the area.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 09:57 AM

Ensure there are walkable connections from the community, not just parking lots.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 04:18 PM

Great opportunity to provide river access and make this a legacy site for Brant. So much of the river access is private. Connecting this to other trails in the area would really make this a destination and improve utility.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 07:44 PM

Projects like this make for a great community and great place to live.

Screen Name Redacted

9/09/2024 08:47 PM

Please take this opportunity to clean up the old dumping ground along the river bank by railway st. There is so much old trash and scrap metal along the bank here it is a safety hazard

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 06:24 AM

I'm so pleased to hear this project is moving forward. Brant is well known for its recreational trails and bike paths. Creating more while protecting green spaces is wonderful.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:51 AM

This can be a good area for walking and biking! Give thought on how to achieve this safely - it can be done!

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 04:14 PM

There are many significant natural heritage features on this site. Please do a thorough assessment of them, including inventories of rare and endangered species and plant communities. Consider how significant features can be protected while maintaining accessibility. The City of London has management guidelines for trails in their ESAs which begin with the identification of significant NH features - I highly recommend reviewing the work they have done in their ESAs.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 04:51 PM

I use the trail morning, afternoon and evening. Wasn't an option for all of the above! Really hope this happens, it's much needed!

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 07:37 PM

Be mindful of an aging population requiring accessibility for engaging in the out of doors. A sensory trail like the one at Lions Park would be nice as well as a Fitness Station trail made out of natural materials.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 07:59 PM

Don't upset the wildlife that live there. Way too much of their natural habitat has been destroyed already. Stop destroying Paris for new developments.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 08:54 PM

Disc golf can exist with cycling and walking paths. All 3 are easy to install and keep the area most intact. Less trees removed and keeps maintain costs low

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:14 PM

Regardless of what happens this is good, but would love another great disc golf course.

Screen Name Redacted

9/10/2024 09:16 PM

A second disc golf course in the area would have a lot of benefits. More out of town visitors. Potential to have larger tournaments in the area when paired with the Greenland course.

Screen Name Redacted

9/11/2024 12:09 PM

Brant needs dedicated mountain biking trail network.

Screen Name Redacted

9/11/2024 01:44 PM

Would love to see most of the tree kept and both cycle and disc golf could achieve this.

Screen Name Redacted

9/11/2024 04:51 PM

Please provide activities the entire family can do, cycling and disc golf my family and other families I know really enjoy these type of activities.

Screen Name Redacted

9/11/2024 09:16 PM

So glad to see that this land will be kept wild yet accessible for the community - and out of reach for developers... We need to protect what we have left. Thank you

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 08:39 AM

It would be a great feature for County to have cycling area as we are lacking one. And this will help save the areas natural environment, currently being damaged by rogue ATV use

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 11:08 AM

Add the dump peninsula to the proposed development, there are a number of important cultural artifacts there and it is an important reminder that we once dumped garbage straight into the river

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 01:05 PM

Lots of walkable/bikable access from town, PLEASE!

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 01:55 PM

This project should preserve the area for native flora and fauna as much as possible. We don't need another "playground" in the area. As Paris continues to sprawl and develop into previously pristine wooded and watershed areas, we have seen displaced wildlife making their way into our neighbourhoods. We need to stop cutting into these natural areas for our "amusement".

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 02:56 PM

Should be multi use.

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 02:59 PM

Community natural spaces are very important for all ages to enjoy regardless of activity. I feel these areas can teach core values for everyone to learn respect for nature

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 10:13 PM

Allowing user groups to maintain this area once it is developed is critical. We want to do it. We know how to do it. We have a lot of people who want to help us do it. Thanks!

Screen Name Redacted

9/12/2024 10:47 PM

Would cool to see another top level disc golf course in the area

Screen Name Redacted

9/13/2024 08:40 PM

Is there a way to incorporate a discgolf course there? Green Lane has one but it would be nice to have one in a more natural setting like the one at Christie Lake conservation area.

Screen Name Redacted

9/13/2024 11:28 PM

The area should be kept natural. No cars, no buildings, no shelters... And no hunting.

Screen Name Redacted

9/14/2024 08:46 AM

The previous focus of this has been for cycling only which in previous discussions was a contentious issue. Hikers used this space before cyclists. Ageism was also implied. Cyclists and hikers can mutually use the trails. This area should not become one of commercial tourism lead by cycling clubs. As a member of the executive of Brant Pedalers and Paddlers we made it clear to cycling club that we would only support initiatives if hikers were welcome on all trails. Let's face it, this is a push for mountain bikers. GET THE ATVS OUT OF THERE!!!!!!!!!!

Screen Name Redacted

9/14/2024 10:31 AM

It would be great to have progressive trails for mountain biking to continue building physical fitness and technical skill set!

Screen Name Redacted

9/14/2024 12:07 PM

If you put paved paths & lighting throughout the forest you will ruin it.

Screen Name Redacted

9/14/2024 06:25 PM

The Hydro cut , the Pines , Turkey point Dundas Valley, Puslinch. Every city has a mountain bike area. It's not mixed with a bunch of other stuff. It's their own area. I don't know why this would be any different so I don't know why we're asking other people what they want to use the space for we have plenty of all the other stuff everywhere in Paris and Brantford

Screen Name Redacted

9/15/2024 06:41 AM

I'm wondering how the boarders will be marked. This area leads right into our farm. Thanks.

Screen Name Redacted

9/15/2024 12:13 PM

It should be kept as natural as possible

Screen Name Redacted

9/15/2024 03:21 PM

Make sure the amenities (ie., washrooms, running water , benches , etc.) Ate situated in open, we'll lit, easily patrolled areas . If not, you'll be inviting tent cities to sprout up with all their encumbent problems!

Screen Name Redacted

9/15/2024 03:53 PM

Something that all ages can use.

Screen Name Redacted

9/15/2024 08:08 PM

I didn't select washroom and drinking fountain options above because I fear that will be lumped together with higher impact uses like playgrounds, sports fields and large artificially maintained spaces. I would however support a comfort station with bathrooms and drinking water at an entrance attached to the main parking area if it didn't mean that these would be large turf areas and other manicured spaces thrust into the area.

Screen Name Redacted

9/16/2024 09:44 AM

Apart from making this a great project for the surrounding community. Would love to include research on projects like these and restore habitat, limit the spread of invasive plants, and support the local community. This way we can show this project as something greater than a community initiative and use it as a case study for other municipalities to follow.

Screen Name Redacted

9/16/2024 09:58 AM

I'm hopeful that use of the area will not include fees, other than our taxes. For winter walking, I'm also hopeful for a free walking track at the newly revised Brant Sports Complex (especially for seniors who are at substantial risk of falls and resulting decline when walking outdoors in the winter. Thanks for allowing community input.

Screen Name Redacted

9/16/2024 10:16 AM

I feel disc golf would be great for this area as it is great for community's and is a sport for everyone.

Screen Name Redacted

9/16/2024 01:40 PM

Any public washroom must be accessible for all. Family washroom that accommodates caregiver ,large wheelchair turning radius electric change table that accommodates all ages. Family style washroom for accessibility.

Screen Name Redacted

9/16/2024 02:41 PM

Please read my comments above (question 4). Keep the area natural!
No parking lots!!!

Screen Name Redacted

9/17/2024 11:43 AM

It would also make an amazing location for disc golf. With the various landscapes and vegetation present and the fact that disc golf requires very little maintenance, please consider adding to the plans.

Screen Name Redacted

9/18/2024 07:23 AM

Having biking areas separate from regular walking areas would benefit both groups. Allowing no motorized vehicles is also a huge plus.

Screen Name Redacted

9/18/2024 02:43 PM

Anything will be better than the current ATV mess.

Screen Name Redacted

9/18/2024 03:48 PM

Please leave it natural!!!! Only improvement to how it already is would be mesh (no slip) over the wooden bridges and patrolling for ATVs and off leash dogs. Please consider the roles of trees and other plants in fighting climate change and the dwindling space for wildlife when making your decisions.

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 07:36 AM

I think it would be a shame to have paved paths in the only remaining "wild" area of Paris. Using resources on controlling invasive species would be a better investment in my opinion. Keeping it as natural as possible would be the vote for the many people who regularly now, as is

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 11:07 AM

Please stop building houses and taking out trees

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 03:46 PM

Please note this respondent also identified a third response for question 11. "Increased recreational opportunities for the community."

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 03:49 PM

Please note this respondent had selected all three responses for question number six (6).

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 03:55 PM

Mountain Biking trails with loops and trailhead. Please note the following for this respondents answers: Question 6: Selected both Afternoon and Evening Question 9: Selected both Personal Vehicle and Cycling

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 03:58 PM

Please note the following: On question 5 this respondent added their own square/organization and checked that they were apart of the Brant Peddlars and Paddler Organization

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:00 PM

Please note that this respondent also checked the following: For Question 6: Afternoon For Question 11: Environmental Restoration

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:03 PM

The cycling infrastructure in Turkey Point and Hydrocut are heavily used which emphasizes importance of having something locally. The Bike park in Brantford has been a huge success and has been positive for the region at large. Please note the respondent also checked the following: Question 6: Evening Question 9: Personal Vehicle

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:12 PM

Please note this respondent also checked: Question 6: Afternoon and Evening Question 9: Walking Question 11: Incorporation of Indigenous communities' perspectives and traditional knowledge.

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:14 PM

Please note this respondent only filled out the first page of the survey and noted their postal code as "N3L Paris"

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:22 PM

Please don't have it constructed to be an over-walked trail that dissuades bird & wildlife from living there. It reduced wildlife and at least 3 bird species from Barker's Bush. Please note this respondent also checked the following: Question 9: Walking Question 11: Incorporation of Indigenous Communities' perspectives and traditional knowledge.

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:25 PM

Please note this respondent also checked the following: Question 5: Brant Death Races Running Club Question 6: Afternoon and Evening Question 9: Walking

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:26 PM

Please note this respondent also checked the following: Question 5: Brant Death Races Running Club Question 6: Evening

Screen Name Redacted

9/19/2024 04:29 PM

Please note this respondent also checked: Question 5: Grand River Conservation Authority Question 6: Evening Question 9: Personal Vehicle

Screen Name Redacted

9/20/2024 02:36 PM

Please note the following: This respondents postal code is actually N3L 0N2 - it was not recognized I entered a postal code for the nearest address on Court Drive that was recognized using Canada Post Postal Code Lookup. The respondent also checked the following answers: Question 6: Beside Morning Noted WEEKEND, Afternoon-WEEKEND, Evening Question 9: Other - CAR Question 11: Increased Recreational opportunities for the community

Screen Name Redacted 9/21/2024 07:07 AM	Minimalist behave. We don't need to pave down paradise to put in a parking lot.
Screen Name Redacted 9/21/2024 07:53 AM	Please try to keep the area as natural as possible.
Screen Name Redacted 9/22/2024 01:18 PM	Clean up trash along existing existing trails
Screen Name Redacted 9/23/2024 06:52 AM	I feel mountain biking tourism can be a huge benefit to paris's growing economy while also just improving the Trails we already have so everyone of all riding capabilities can learn and challenge themselves. Mountain biking is amazing
Screen Name Redacted 9/23/2024 06:57 AM	Biking keeps me feeling young
Screen Name Redacted 9/23/2024 03:44 PM	I think it would be a great idea to include the landfill (red area above) as part of the project area. This would be a great area to restore for the mountain bikers.
Screen Name Redacted 9/23/2024 04:10 PM	A disc golf course fits beautifully in forests. Plus disc golfers are pro environment and tend to plant and help the environment.
Screen Name Redacted 9/23/2024 04:56 PM	The County and the Community have a rare opportunity to protect and enhance the natural features of the area. Protect the unique ecosystem and the plants and animals that live on this very special isolated peninsula.
Screen Name Redacted 9/23/2024 05:29 PM	do not develop
Screen Name Redacted 9/24/2024 03:36 AM	Are you connecting with other mtb trail organizations to assist in the planning? What kind of funding is there and how much with that sway the decision of what goes into this area?
Screen Name Redacted 9/24/2024 10:36 AM	Thank you for protecting this very important natural area in Paris and for planning to make it a very valuable asset to our community.

Screen Name Redacted

9/24/2024 11:17 AM

I'd like to see this space be accessible and safe for both walkers and cyclists, requiring some kind of separation between the 2 activities. It could be time restrictions or access restrictions but safe for all.

Screen Name Redacted

9/24/2024 07:00 PM

River lookout A platform where seniors with mobility issues can sit and enjoy the river and take in nature.

Screen Name Redacted

9/25/2024 02:48 AM

Keeping the majority of it wooded/treed trails would be wonderful, with one or two main access points where there is parking, river access, covered pavilions, bathroom (can be portapotty) picnic tables etc. that enter allow for entry into the trails but otherwise the ability to just go hike in peace with nature.

Screen Name Redacted

9/25/2024 06:31 PM

We have a need for more wheel chair and mobility parking spots, downtown in Lions Park.

Screen Name Redacted

9/26/2024 05:35 PM

Keep ATVs and dirt bikes out.

Screen Name Redacted

9/27/2024 08:48 AM

As stated above, my concern is that this project is mostly driven by a certain group (cyclist) to the exclusion of other groups who enjoy the outdoors in Brant County. There is also an agism aspect to this in that trails proposed are " for old" people. WE over 60's like a good challenging unpaved unsigned undeveloped trail too!

Screen Name Redacted

9/27/2024 04:45 PM

Legal access point. I don't think this area should be developed for tourism, I have walked in that area for the last 15 years. Much quieter spot then having to go to the busy barkers bush trail. In my opinion leave it be the way it is.

Screen Name Redacted

9/28/2024 09:36 AM

A few additional points: 1. I would have chosen Intergenerational sustainability, but I don't believe we have a healthy environment at the moment. 200 years of damage to the land and ecosystems will take generations to heal. 2. We should be leveraging indigenous wisdom in this process. 3. Site security will be a major issue. 4. If cyclists/hikers/ATVs use the property, there should be a program for reducing the spread of invasive species. 5. Take your time, there should be no need to rush 6. What about developing the closed landfill for recreational opportunities, similar to many other places in North America?

Screen Name Redacted

9/28/2024 02:29 PM

This is awesome and I'm excited to see what comes of it!

Screen Name Redacted

9/28/2024 09:16 PM

Leave the trails as is! Maybe minimal signage like you have for the Barker's Bush main loop but NOTHING more! These trails are perfect as is, and while it's great more people will enjoy them, the usage needs to be balanced with what is already there. Encouraging more people can lead to more pollution, more degradation, more invasive species, more informal trail creation. If it goes forward you need to focus on trail etiquette, trail maintenance, keeping it NATURAL NOT URBAN, and increasing an understanding and appreciation for nature. Further, it is disappointing not to see the tip of the peninsula below the project area excluded. This area is the gem of the system and needs to be protected. More boardwalks, like the ones created by some cyclists, would be welcome in some areas. Treat it from a conservation perspective.

Screen Name Redacted

9/29/2024 09:02 AM

Stay away from the last real publicly developed area. To be clear.... Leave it alone

Screen Name Redacted

9/29/2024 04:13 PM

This is a special area that needs to be carefully planned to ensure that the unique biodiversity is preserved and enhanced. Have you considered involving University biology/environmental departments in studying the area or supporting the master plan?

Screen Name Redacted

9/30/2024 08:22 AM

There are already trails through the area. Hoping that some of these are left as is, to allow nature be as it is. Do not want to see the area ruined eg. by making it ALL paved, or some kind of concrete jungle gym.

Screen Name Redacted

9/30/2024 03:16 PM

Environmental preservation of the area should be key. Too much development of ecotourism would spoil the area.

Screen Name Redacted

10/01/2024 07:50 PM

We have a Paris Ladies walking group that travels around to all the trails every single Monday night all year long our group is growing and we love the trails thank you!

Screen Name Redacted

10/01/2024 08:36 PM

I think thos would be a great idea. I belong to a walking group and I also walk my dog and do walks on my own. I would love another area to walk in.

Screen Name Redacted

10/02/2024 08:04 AM

I'd have liked to have heard about this long before it was fait a compli. Please try harder to educate residents of major plans like this. Overall, it looks like a great idea but these decisions affect a lot of things and it appears insider developers and speculators could benefit strongly from inside knowledge on this. That's borderline criminal.

Screen Name Redacted

10/02/2024 08:43 AM

It would be nice if it did not take years to move forward

Screen Name Redacted

10/02/2024 08:54 PM

I would like for the area to remain largely unconstructed - we need spaces away from the sights and sounds of urban living, spaces in which we can breath among the flora and fauna.

Screen Name Redacted

10/03/2024 10:42 AM

The very first thing that needs to be done immediately is to stop the use of the lands my motorized vehicles. There has been severe degradation of the natural areas on these lands by the ATVs and motor bikes and their use of the property is inconsistent with all other uses.

Screen Name Redacted

10/03/2024 10:44 AM

Love the idea of this project. I look to the Waterloo Regional Hydrocut and hope to have something like this close to home that the community can engage and help to build, maintain and enjoy!

Screen Name Redacted

10/03/2024 05:47 PM

Maybe finish the half assed projects you've already started...grand River street north is a disaster.

Screen Name Redacted

10/03/2024 11:53 PM

I would like to see this as part of the tail system around Paris and connected to it specifically Barker's Bush

Screen Name Redacted

10/04/2024 10:19 AM

This is a special space whose value is increased following the unfortunate development of the Nith peninsula and greenwashing of that process. I am concerned that "development" of this space and functioning informal network of trails will degrade the value that it currently has. This proposed process, while laudable, must be undertaken very carefully with the interests of the sensitive ecosystems and public (not private enterprise and landscaping developers) in mind. Restoration of the gravel pits to forested lands should be priority as well as restricting motorized vehicles (although perhaps not even possible) which are currently destroying the trails and affecting other users' ability to enjoy them. Nature first.

Screen Name Redacted

10/04/2024 12:09 PM

I would like to see us try and keep as much of this natural area untouched so we can enjoy some hiking and walking trails, maybe go for a kayak, but without discouraging nature (flora or fauna). We've developed so much of our natural spaces already - I would like to see us designate this as a conservation area and treat it with respect

Screen Name Redacted

10/06/2024 11:17 AM

A dedicated mountain biking trail would be very valuable to the area (since we don't have one). This would be great for local riders and would bring in tourists. Walking trails could be added as well.

Screen Name Redacted

10/06/2024 10:38 PM

Picnic tables and benches would be very much appreciated throughout (same for Barkers Bush)

Screen Name Redacted

10/07/2024 02:00 PM

There needs to be more water sport activities encouraged by the county/parks and rec forestry.

Screen Name Redacted

10/07/2024 04:47 PM

Respect and maintaining wildlife habitat.

Screen Name Redacted

10/09/2024 09:11 AM

I have enjoyed hiking and running in this area and appreciate the large, old trees as well as the option for some steep climbs and descents.

Screen Name Redacted

10/09/2024 11:41 AM

The area should stay as natural as possible. No high intensity recreational uses or buildings. Historical or environmental interpretive plaques could help to educate users about the community and this specific area of town. It means a lot to those of us that have been here our whole lives. Lots of memories!

Screen Name Redacted

10/11/2024 12:18 AM

There are plenty of family spaces at lions park area so this side of the river would be best for nature and trails. It's great to protect the area from development of buildings etc.

Screen Name Redacted

10/11/2024 03:56 PM

If MTB, will there be volunteer opportunities and trail building days like Turkey Point or Hydrocut? What about fat biking during winter?

Optional question (158 response(s), 169 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

APPENDIX C

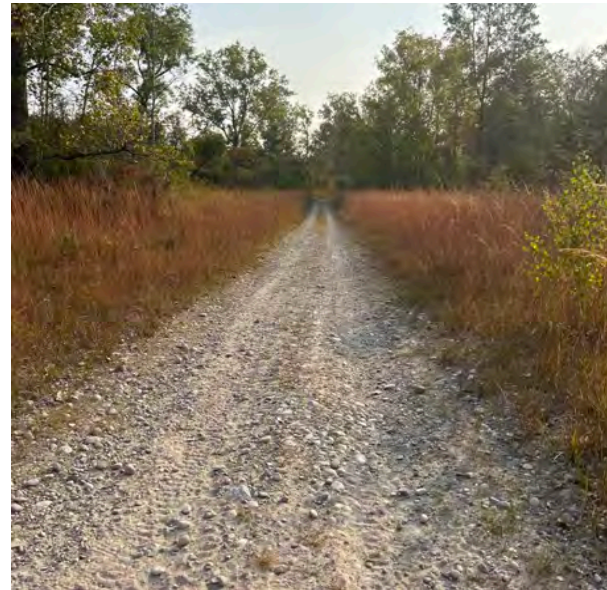
Draft Master Plan and Implementation Strategy Presentation

NORTH OF THE NITH

TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES

MASTER PLAN

PHASE 2: DRAFT MASTER PLAN & IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



OCTOBER 21, 2025

SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY

Agenda

6:00pm Welcome (10min)

6:10pm Land Acknowledgement (5min)

6:15pm Presentation – Draft Master Plan and Draft Implementation Strategy (30-45min)

7:00pm Questions and Discussions (30min)

7:30pm Wrap Up and Next Steps (5min)

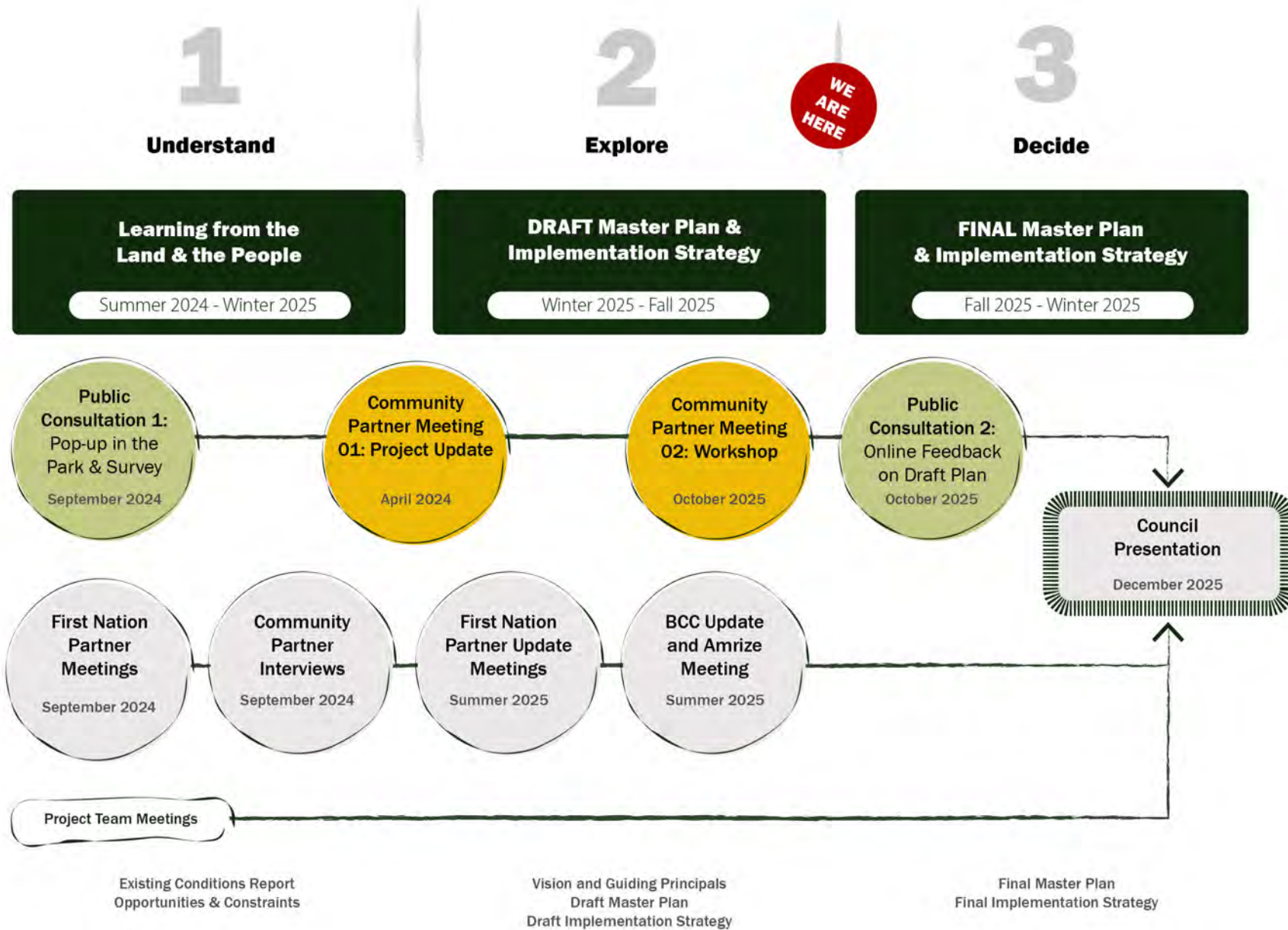
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we meet on the lands and territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River, and the traditional territory of the Attiwanderonk.

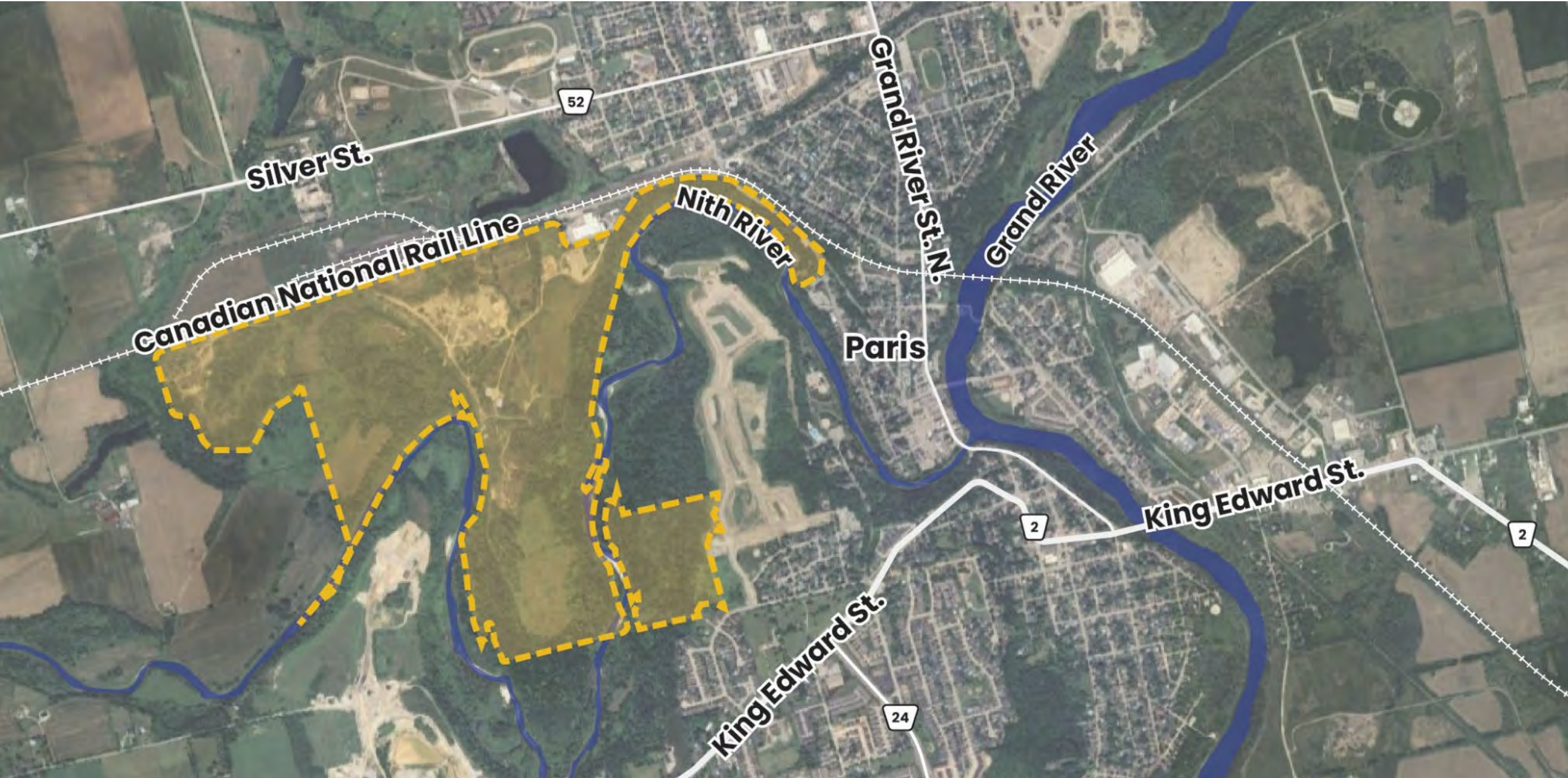
We remind ourselves that the County of Brant is situated on lands that are full of rich Indigenous history and home to many First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people today; we recognize the significance of their contributions to the past, present, and future of this land.

As a County, we have a shared responsibility for the stewardship of the land on which we live and work and a commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation calls to action. We commit to continue learning, reflecting on our past, and working in allyship.

Project Timeline



Study Area (436 Acres/176 Hectares)



North of the Nith Trails and Open Space Master Plan

What is it?

- **Defines the future vision** for North of the Nith
- Includes a phased **Implementation Strategy** for projects

Timeline

- Guides development over a **20-year horizon**

Who is involved?

- County of Brant, Community Partners, and the public
- Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Six Nations of the Grand River
- Community Partners were identified in the Project Charter April 2024*

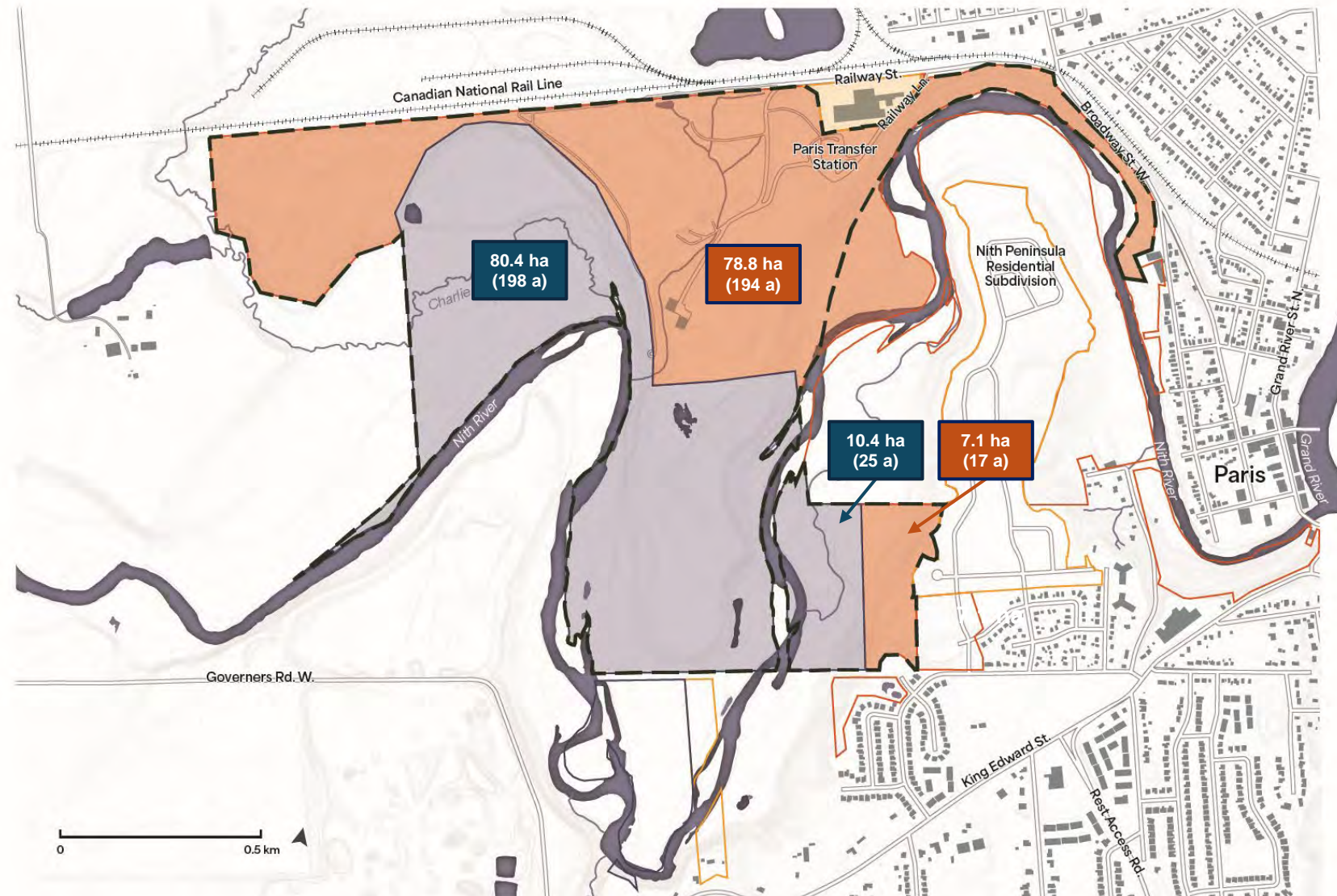
What is it not?

- Future projects will **require detailed design and approvals**
- Additional studies and inventories may be required for specific projects

*Project Charter April 2024 defines needs, benefits, and outcomes for the Master Plan.

Ownership

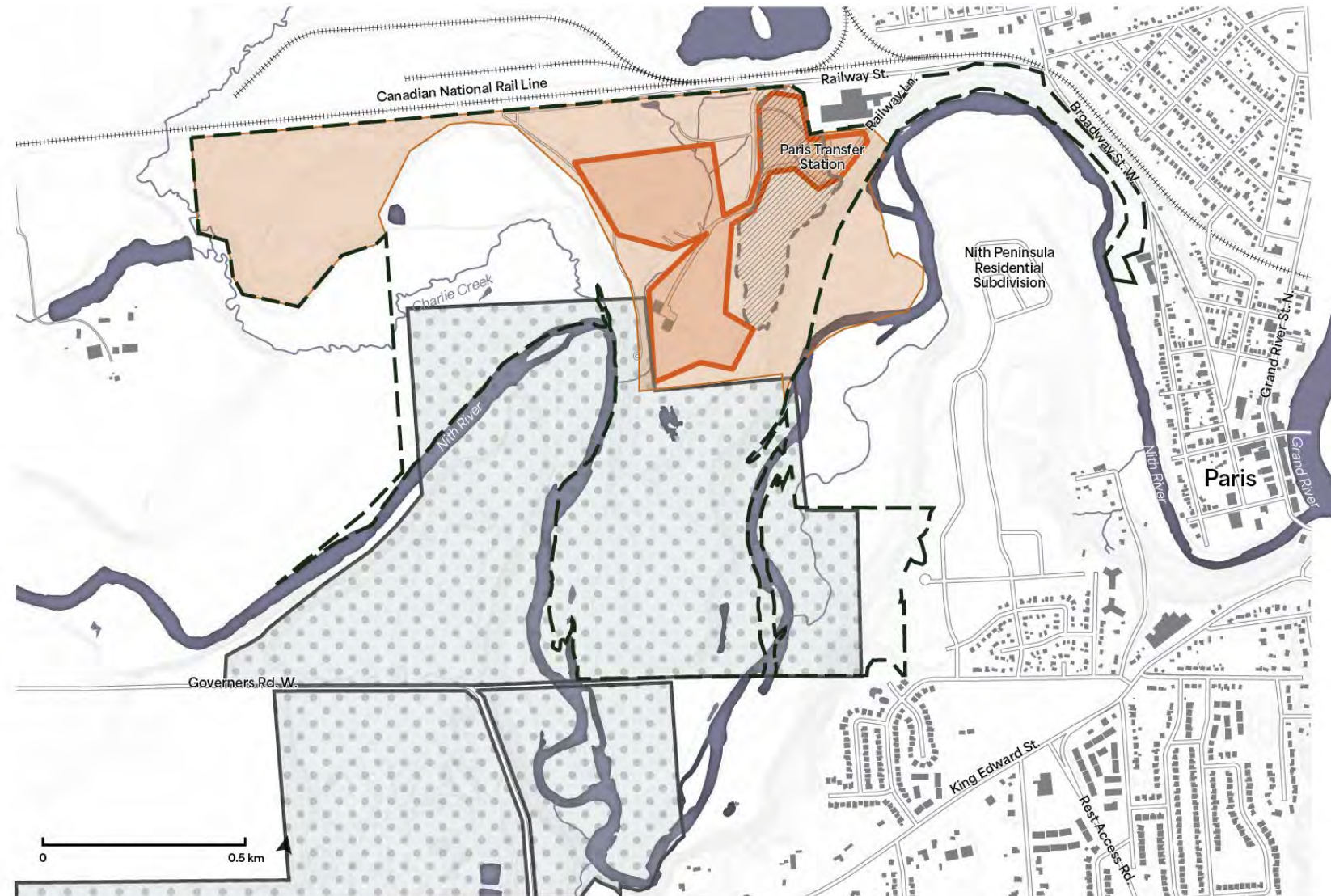
- County of Brant
- Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)
- Southern Peninsula - Private Landowner (outside Study Area)
- Maintenance Agreement being discussed between County and GRCA



Operational Lands, Active Licenses, & Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA)

- County Operational Lands
- Amrize active license – ongoing discussions
- Capped landfill
- Northern part of site is under an ECA

- Study Area
- County of Brant Operational Area Zone
- Amrize Licensed Boundary
- Closed Landfill
- ECA Boundary



01

Existing Conditions Summary Report

First Nations and Community Partners

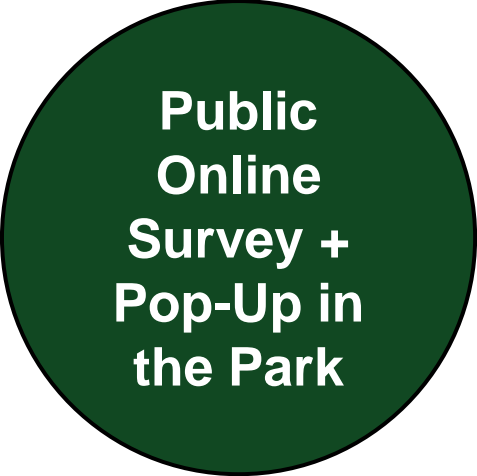
2 First Nations



10 Community Partners



Phase 1 & 2: Engagement Activities



Public Online Survey + Pop-Up in the Park

1. Online Survey: Sept. 4th – Oct. 11th, 2024
2. Pop-Up in the Park: Sept. 14th, 2024



First Nation Interviews

Interviews: Sept. 16th, 2024



Community Partner Interviews

Interviews: Aug. 14th – Oct. 7th, 2024



Community Partner Meetings & Workshop

1. Workshop: April 9th, 2025 (all)
2. Meeting: June 11th, 2025 (Amrize)
3. Meeting: August 27th, 2025 (Brant Cycling Club)

Engagement: Pop-Up in the Park

How Do You Want To Use The Space?

We want to hear how you would like to use this space. The following boards demonstrate examples of the types of features that could be included in the site. Please place sticker dots on your favourite features.

Walking Trails

Rest Area

Mountain Biking

Winter Activities

Washrooms

8

North of the Nith

Wayfinding & Interpretive Signage

Look-Out

Nature Play

Outdoor Classrooms

Public Art

Indigenous Placekeeping

Shade Structure

Parking

9

North of the Nith

What We Heard: Key Themes



TRAILS

- Plan for a mix of trails (dedicated mountain bike trails, shared trails, hiking trails)
- Incorporate signage and wayfinding



SUSTAINABILITY

- Balance preservation and passive recreation
- Avoid paved paths and over-development



INDIGENOUS COLLABORATION

- Partnership opportunities on restoration projects
- Incorporate Indigenous storytelling through wayfinding, interpretive signage, and place-keeping initiatives
- Explore ceremonial space opportunities



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Restore native habitats
- Control invasive species
- ATV and dirt bike enforcement needed



MULTI-USE COMPATIBILITY

- Include accessible design that supports users of all ages and abilities
- Ensure safety for all users

Existing Conditions Summary Report

NORTH OF THE NITH TRAILS AND OPEN SPACES MASTER PLAN

**PHASE 1:
EXISTING CONDITIONS SUMMARY REPORT**

FEBRUARY 2025

COUNTY OF Brant Simply Great SCATLIFF • MILLER • MURRAY

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Existing Conditions Analysis Mapping

Movement



- Study Area
- CN Easement
- Existing Gated Access
- PP Penman's Pass Trail Parking
- Existing Roads
- Informal Trail From Penman's Pass Trail
- County Trails

Former Uses



- Study Area
- ▨ Closed Landfill
- Environmental Compliance Approval Boundary
- Dunes

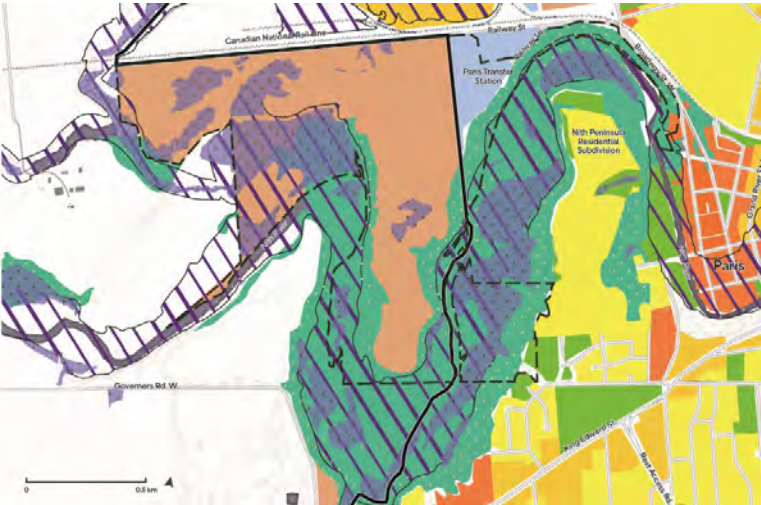
Conservation Authority Regulated Lands



- Study Area
- Watercourse
- Wetlands
- Erosion Hazards
- Floodplains
- ▨ GRCA Regulation Boundary

Existing Conditions Analysis Mapping

Land Use – Official Plan



Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest and SAR



Existing Ecological Communities



- Study Area
- Settlement Area Boundary
- Natural Heritage System
- Community Node
- Community Corridor
- Neighbourhoods
- General Employment
- Parks and Open Spaces
- Rural Lands
- Erosion Hazards
- Wetland Hazards
- ▨ Regulatory Floodplain

- Study Area
- ~ ANSI Boundary
- White-tail Deer Wintering Area
- Aquatic Species at Risk / Species of Interest
- Waterfowl Concentration

- Study Area
- Nith River Riparian Forest
- Prairie Meadow
- Upland Forest
- Reclaimed Quarry

Existing Conditions Analysis Mapping

Archaeological Assessment



Legend:

- subject property
- watercourse/waterbody
- previously disturbed requires confirmation and photo-documentation
- low-lying and permanently wet, requires confirmation and photo-documentation
- steeply sloping topography, requires confirmation and photo-documentation
- ploughable land, Stage 2 pedestrian survey at 5 m intervals required
- non-ploughable land, Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m intervals required

Recommendations (Based on What We Heard and Analysis)

Connectivity & Access

- Improve sustainability and safety of existing trail network (light touch approach)
- Reroute / remove trails in sensitive environmental areas
- Parking needed
- Two main entrances: Penman's Pass and Railway Street
- Wayfinding and signage needed (interpretation, orientation, and First Nation place-keeping)

Program & Facilities

- Focus on passive recreational uses (trails, education, etc.)
- Improve trail experience and safety (look-outs, rest areas, wayfinding)
- Locate Bike Trail Park on capped landfill to minimize environmental impact
- Locate Gateway Hub at north end to announce arrival (consider outdoor classrooms, accessible trail, washrooms, welcome signage)
- Install County Operational Zone fencing and access

Environment & Restoration

- Identity studies for preserving and enhancing sensitive habitats
- Undertake guided invasive species control
- Restrict motorized vehicles
- Identify local community partnerships for restoration projects
- Partner with Amrize on restoration plans and alignment with Master Plan goals

Draft Vision

The vision is to create a space where people can enjoy the unique benefits of the North of the Nith while prioritizing the protection and enhancement of its natural environment.



Guiding Principles



Protect & Restore



Safe, Accessible, & Inclusive



Enhance Visitor Experience



Collaboration with Indigenous Communities



Education



Community Involvement & Stewardship

02

The Draft Master Plan

5 Big Moves



**Penman's Pass
Extension**



**The Mountain
Bike Trail Park**



**Environmental
Restoration and
Protection**














**The Gateway
Hub**



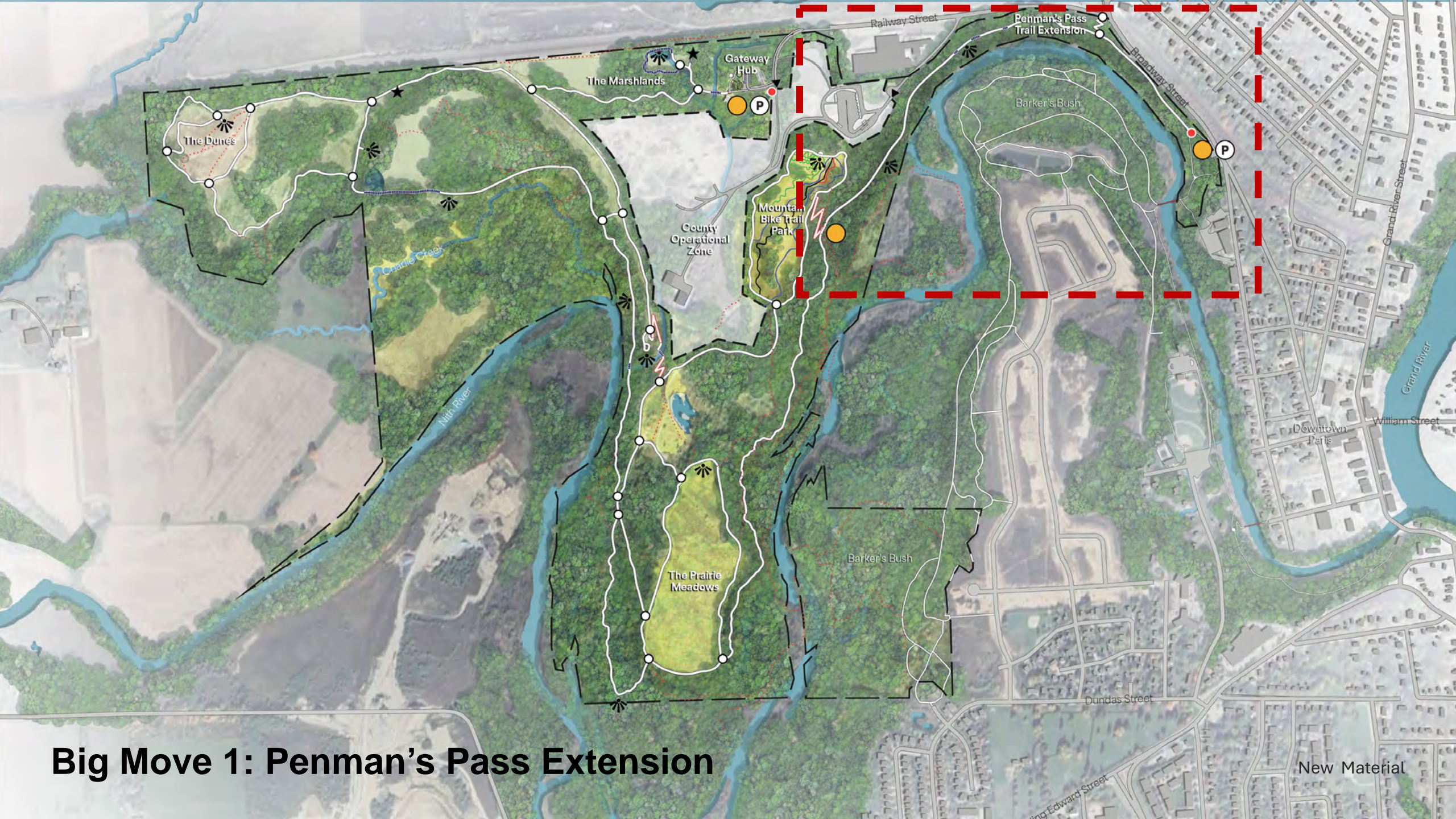
Loops & Links



-  Trailhead
-  Entrance Signage
-  Trail Signage
-  Industrial Relic
-  Look-Out Point
-  Parking
-  Slope Stabilization / Switchback
-  Boardwalk / Bridge
-  Decommissioned Trail
-  Operational Zone Fence
-  County Operational Zone Entrance

Draft Master Plan

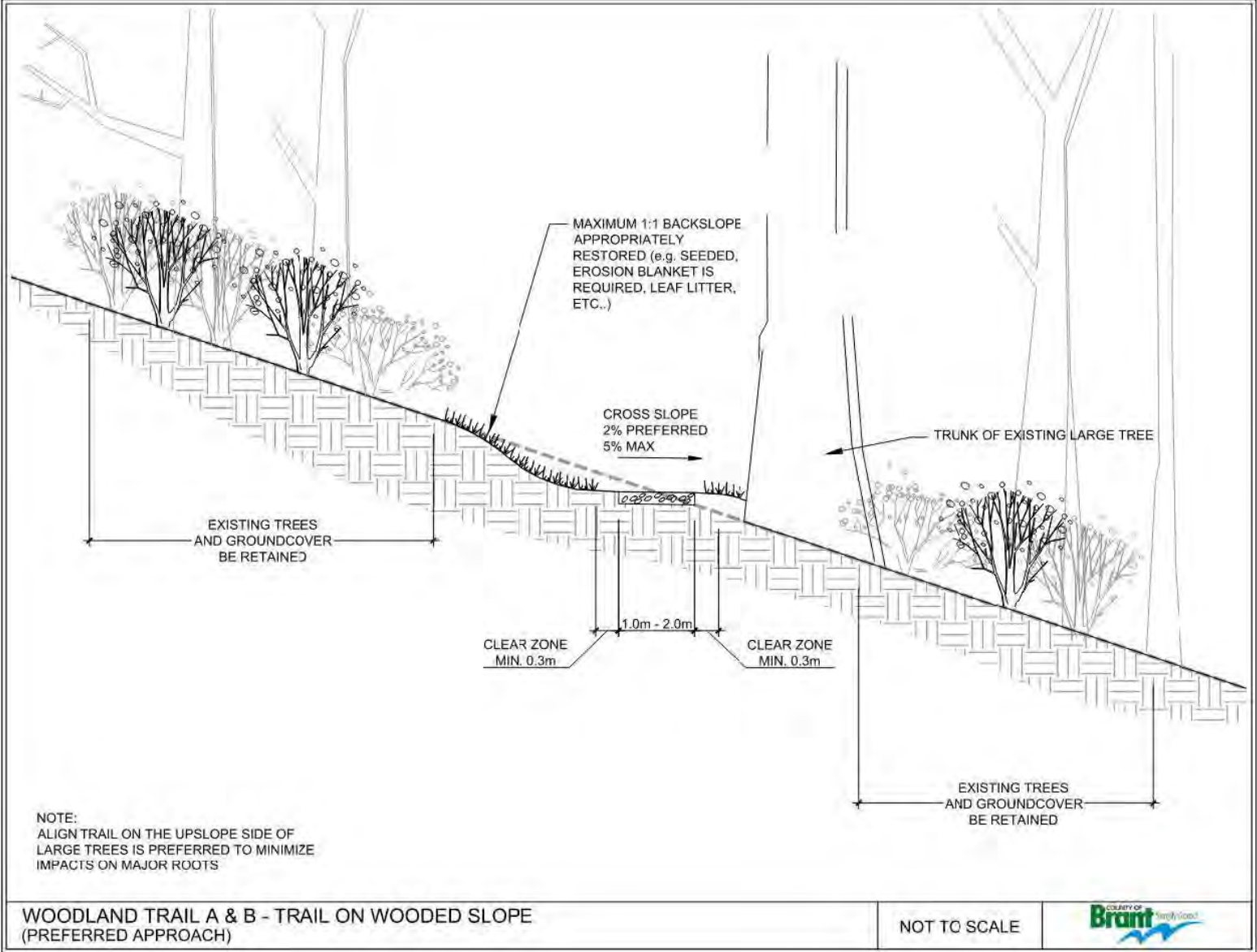
New Material



Big Move 1: Penman's Pass Extension

New Material

Penman's Pass Extension – Cross Section



Penman's Pass Extension Precedent Images









Big Move 2: Mountain Bike Trail Park

New Material

Mountain Bike Trail Park (10 Acres/4 Hectares)

Colour	Trail Difficulty	Length
	Green	890m
	Blue	775m
	Black Diamond	458m
	Double Black Diamond	90m
Total Proposed Trails		2,213m

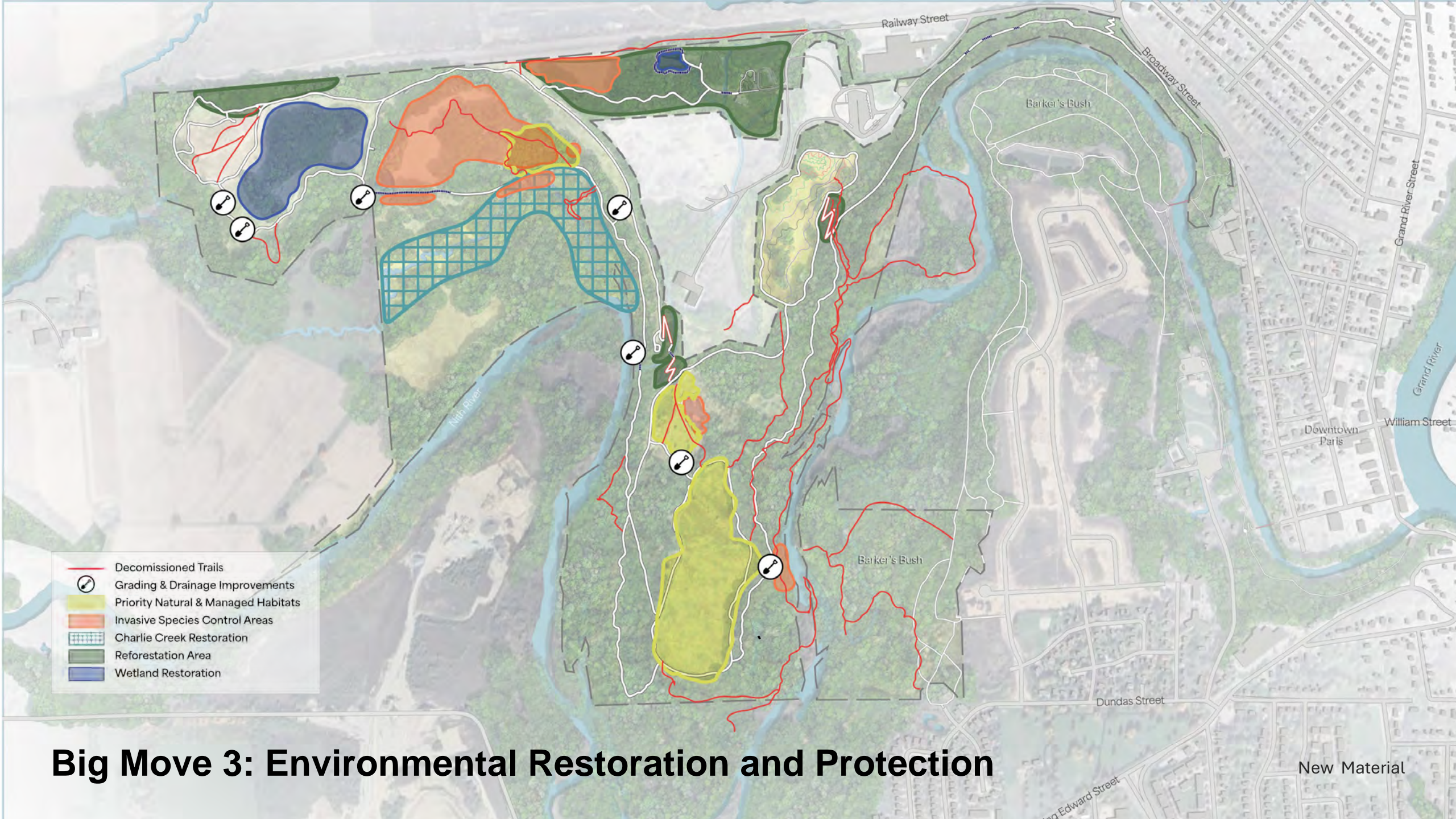


Mountain Bike Trail Park Precedent Images





The Mountain Bike Trail Park Concept



- Decommissioned Trails
- Grading & Drainage Improvements
- Priority Natural & Managed Habitats
- Invasive Species Control Areas
- Charlie Creek Restoration
- Reforestation Area
- Wetland Restoration

Big Move 3: Environmental Restoration and Protection

New Material

Restoration Precedents

- a) European Buckthorn Removal
- b) Japanese Knotweed Removal
- c) Phragmites Removal
- d) Dog Strangling Vine Removal
- e) Meadow / Grassland Restoration
- f) Cold Water Creek Restoration
- g) Reforestation
- h) Wetland Restoration





Big Move 4: The Gateway Hub

New Material

The Gateway Hub Concept Plan



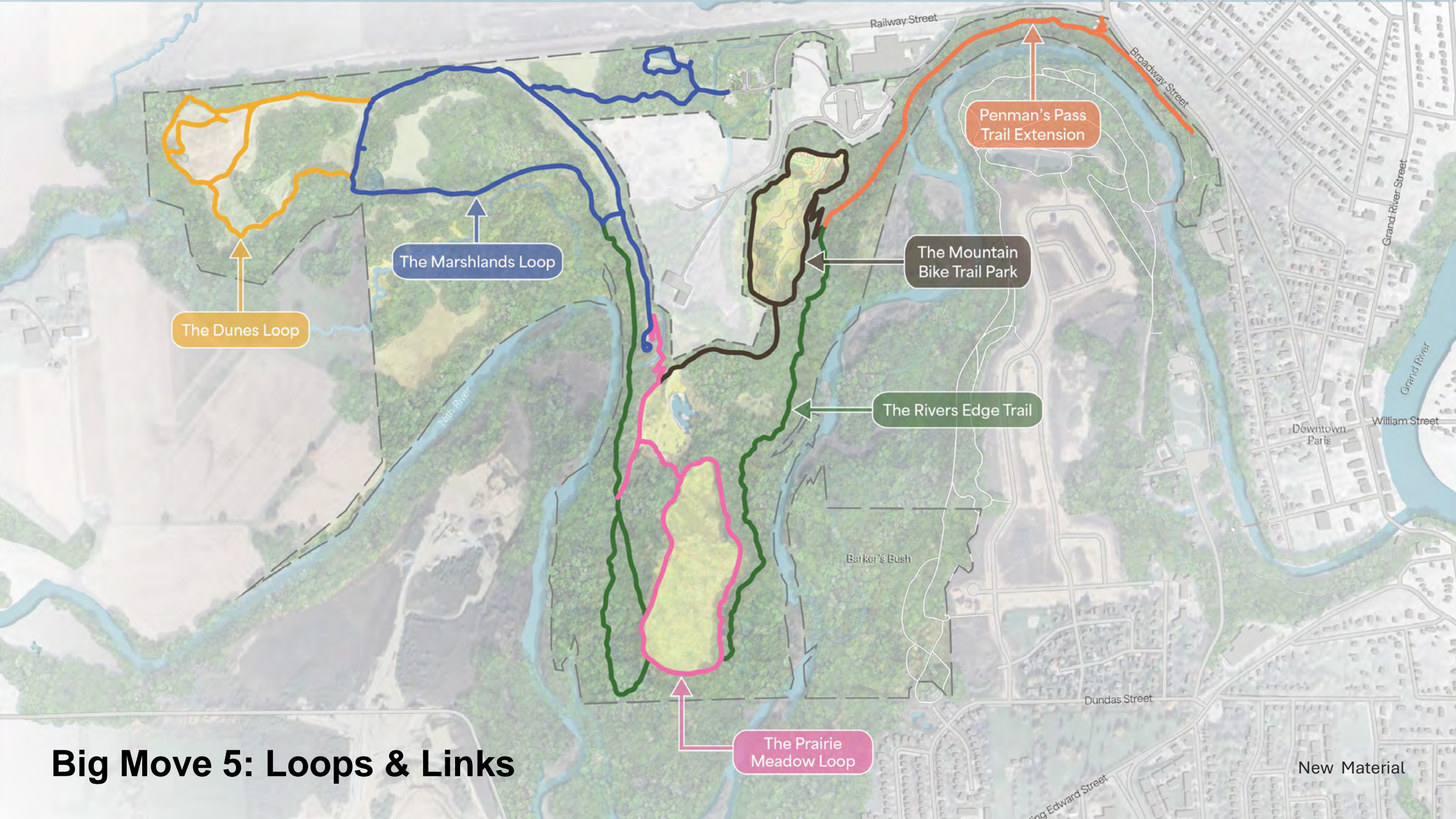
The Gateway Hub Precedent Images





The Gateway Hub Concept

New Material



The Dunes Loop

The Marshlands Loop

Penman's Pass Trail Extension

The Mountain Bike Trail Park

The Rivers Edge Trail

The Prairie Meadow Loop

Big Move 5: Loops & Links

New Material

4 Distinct Loops



Precedent Images





The Marshland Loop Concept

Site Specific Guidelines (included in the Master Plan)

- County of Brant Operational Zone
- 4 Loops and Links
- Penman's Pass Extension
- The Gateway Hub
- The Mountain Bike Trail Park
- Charlie Creek Restoration



Non-Site Specific Guidelines (included in the Master Plan)

- Decommissioning Trails
- Wayfinding and Interpretive Signage System
- Lookouts and Observation Points
- Trail Switchbacks and Slope Stabilization
- Boardwalks
- Indigenous Place-keeping



Will Milne

03

Draft

Implementation Strategy

Implementation Strategy

27 Total Projects
And Initiatives

3 Phases

Short (1-5 Years)

Medium (6-10 Years)

Long (11+ Years)

Estimated Improvements Per Phase

\$1.9M

Short Term
(1-5 years)

\$3.2M

Medium Term
(6-10 years)

\$4.8M

Long Term
(11+ years)

Potential Key Partners Include:

- Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation
- Six Nations of the Grand River
- GRCA
- Brant Cycling Club
- Brant Waterways Foundation
- Brant for Nature
- Ducks Unlimited
- Freshwater Conservation Canada
- Kayanase
- Amrize



1.4

1.3

1.2

1.5

1.1

1.6

SITE-WIDE STUDIES/PROJECTS
A1 A2 A3 A4 A5 A6

Short Term Projects (1-5 Years)

New Material

Short Term Project List (1-5 Years)					
Number	Title	Description	Project Lead	Partnership Opportunities	Cost
A1	Agreements - Maintenance, Access, Partnership, Stewardship	Finalize the maintenance agreement with the GRCA. Develop an access agreement with Amrize. Initiate and formalize partnership and/or stewardship agreements with key Community Partners. These initiatives must be completed before any project work can begin.	County of Brant - Community Services & Legal Services	Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA), Amrize, Community Partners	\$25,000
1.1	County of Brant Paris Landfill Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) Amendment	Update ECA based on Master Plan Recommendations. Must be completed before any work on the Mountain Bike Trail Park and any other project begins.	County of Brant - Operations	N/A	\$10,000
1.2	County of Brant Operational Zone Fence	This is the top priority project and must be completed first. Security upgrades are essential as parts of the North of the Nith lands remain operational. The project includes a perimeter fence, signage, and a new gated entrance on Railway Street, with a vegetated buffer to block views, screen operations, and maintain the natural trail character.	County of Brant - Operations	N/A	\$350,000
1.3	Penman's Pass Trail Extension to the Mountain Bike Trail Park	Formalize the existing trail from the Penman's Pass trailhead along the river's north bank (approximately 1195m total). Minor upgrades—such as drainage, boardwalks, erosion control, and slope stabilization—will improve safety, usability and maintenance. The trail will connect Penman's Pass and its parking area to the North of the Nith, linking the site to the broader trail network. Apply the County's Woodland Trail standards (1–1.5 m width). Conduct site-specific assessments to pinpoint priority areas along the river's north bank (south of Railway Street) where slope stabilization erosion are needed to ensure trail safety and long-term durability. Monitor trail use at 1 and 3 years to assess if further improvements are required based on volume of users.	County of Brant - Operations	GRCA, BCC, Kayanase	\$400,000-\$600,000
1.4	CN Fence	The County is currently installing a new fence along the CN property line at the site's northern boundary. As part of this project, the existing trail located south of the fence should be formally decommissioned and closed with appropriate signage, planting, and boulders to ensure public safety and prevent future use.	County of Brant - Community Services	CN	\$100,000 (In-progress, approved in 2025 capital budget)

A2	Invasive Species Removal Strategy	Address invasive species—including Phragmites, European Buckthorn, and Japanese Knotweed—across the North of the Nith lands by implementing a comprehensive removal strategy. Prioritize control of existing infestations and phased reduction over time. Direct restoration efforts to key areas, including wetlands, trail corridors, Big Move areas, and grasslands. Establish this framework to guide ongoing invasive species management and long-term ecological restoration across the site. Follow the Ontario Invasive Plant Council's Best Management Practices for invasive species treatment.	County of Brant - Community Services	Brant for Nature (BFN), GRCA, Kayanase, Brant Waterways Foundation (BWF)	\$5,000-\$10,000 Removal Strategy Study Undertake a focused study to identify and prioritize removals. Implementation carried out by community members and volunteers under the supervision of Community Services.
1.5	Mountain Bike Trail Park	Develop the park on the capped landfill, transforming approximately 7 acres of open space into a high-quality mountain bike trail facility accessible from Penman's Pass. This phase includes the design and construction of mountain bike trails, access from Penman's Pass Extension via a switchback, installation of wayfinding signage, and a shade structure. Secure an ECA Amendment prior to development and coordinate staging access with County Operations via the existing access road. Trails and facilities may be built incrementally. The Bike Trail Park entrance will be from the Penman's Pass Extension, so improvements to Penman's Pass must be timed to open concurrently with the Bike Trail Park.	County of Brant - Operations	BCC, Amrize	\$250,000 – Foundational (starter trail network, limited mileage, functional amenities). \$500,000 – Enhanced (more extensive trail system, higher quality features) \$800,000 – Destination (top-tier facility with a large, interconnected network, amenities, and a distinctive character that attracts regional visitors).
A3	EIS Scope / Environmental Studies Assessment	Assess the master plan project list and determine which projects require an EIS and/or additional environmental studies with the goal of narrowing the focus of the subsequent environmental analysis to master plan improvements/project areas.	County of Brant - Policy Planning	GRCA	\$10,000
A4	Turtle Preservation and Enhancement Study	This study focuses on the assessment, preservation, and enhancement of turtle habitats in areas affected by the proposed trail development. The primary objectives are to protect local turtle populations, ensure connectivity between habitats, and minimize the ecological impact of trail construction.	County of Brant - Community Services	Six Nations of the Grand River, Kayanase, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA, BWF	\$10,000

A5	Deer Habitat Preservation and Enhancement Study	Per above, but with focus on deer habitat enhancement and preservation.	County of Brant - Community Services	Six Nations of the Grand River, Kayanese, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA	\$10,000
A6	ATV and Dirt Bike Enforcement Strategy	Collaborate with local law enforcement, and key stakeholders to develop and implement a strategy to restrict dirt bike and ATV activity. The strategy should enforce North of the Nith as a non-motorized area, or alternatively, explore the feasibility of creating a designated motorized recreation zone elsewhere in Brant. The goal is to integrate low impact recreational uses (hiking, cycling, etc.) within the site to increase activity, discouraging unsanctioned ATV use.	County of Brant - Bylaw	Brant OPP	\$10,000
1.6	Southern Peninsula	Continue conversations with GRCA to include peninsula lands in the trails and open spaces plan.	County of Brant - Community Services	GRCA, Private landowner	Action



SITE-WIDE STUDIES
B1

Medium Term Projects (6-10 Years)

New Material

Medium Term Project List (6-10 Years)					
Number	Title	Description	Project Lead	Partnership Opportunities	Cost
2.1	The Gateway Hub Entrance / Parking Lot Phase 1	Create a welcoming gateway into North of the Nith with facilities to support future use. Potential amenities include a 16-stall gravel parking lot, composting washrooms, prominent park entry signage, an outdoor classroom, an educational discovery walk trail, trailhead signage, a picnic area, and Indigenous art or a welcome wall. Protect space for future expansion of the parking lot and for the siting of the Education Centre Building. Upgrade the access road from Railway Street to establish a formal public entry. Consider adding a protected multi-use path along one side, using boulders or other low-impact materials.	County of Brant - Community Services	Amrize, Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA, BWF, BCC	\$1.6-\$2.2M
2.2	First Nation Gateway Art Commission	Create a signature feature to mark arrival at North of the Nith and celebrate the Indigenous significance of the land. Engage Indigenous communities in advisory and creative roles throughout the design process. Explore opportunities to connect these themes with wayfinding and interpretation to create a cohesive interpretive experience.	County of Brant - Community Services	Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation	\$200,000-\$250,000
2.3	The Dunes Loop	Improvements include trail upgrades, a new lookout point, interactive thematic programming, decommissioning select trails, and reforestation to restore and stabilize the ground while deterring unauthorized ATV access.	County of Brant - Community Services	BFN, Kayanase, Brant Waterways Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, BCC, GRCA, BWF	\$70,000-\$100,000
2.4	North of the Nith Primary Entrance Signs (Penman's Pass and Gateway Hub)	Develop 2 prominent entrance signs to establish a strong sense of arrival. Signs should be large, highly visible, and designed to reflect the character of the park.	County of Brant - Community Services	Amrize, Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA, BWF	\$130,000-\$150,000
2.5	The Marshlands Boardwalk and Loop	Construct a boardwalk and interpretive trail with a mix of elevated and at-grade pathways to connect visitors to the marsh, highlight historical relics, and showcase wetland restoration. Incorporate lookouts, seating, and interpretive panels to enhance the visitor experience. Decommission the existing trail through the wetland and floodplain near Charlie Creek, and complete signage, fencing, and remediation to protect and restore the area.	County of Brant - Community Services	Ducks Unlimited, Kayanase, BWF	\$250,000-\$300,000
2.6	Floodplain Trail Removal	Decommission trails along the eastern edge within the sensitive floodplain and remediate the damaged areas.	County of Brant - Community Services	GRCA, BWF, Kayanase	\$30,000.00

2.7	West Switchback	This link is essential to connect the Marshlands Trail Loop with the Prairie Meadow, but the existing slope exceeds 10% and is subject to erosion. Design and construct a switchback to reduce grades, provide runoff outlets, and stabilize the trail. This will require grading, signage, barriers, and careful alignment to minimize environmental impacts, but it is critical for accessibility, long-term durability, and protection of the surrounding landscape.	County of Brant - Community Services	BFN, BCC, BWF, Amrize	\$60,000-\$80,000
2.8	Charlie Creek Restoration - Action Plan	Partner with Freshwater Conservation Canada to develop and implement a plan informed by their Summer Temperature Trends in Lower Charlie Creek Near Paris, Ontario Study (2018–2019) to enhance the cold water habitat. Priorities include wetland restoration in the old pond basin, reconnecting cold water flows, and creating habitat. Tufa deposits have been observed by community partners near the area where Charlie Creek intersects groundwater seeps, and further investigation of these formations will be included as part of the Charlie Creek restoration project.	County of Brant - Community Services	Freshwater Conservation Canada, Kayanase, BWF	\$20,000 - \$30,000
B1	Wayfinding and Interpretive Signage System	Develop a North of the Nith specific wayfinding and signage system to integrate interpretive, wayfinding, and educational content, including multi-lingual support.	County of Brant - Community Services	Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA	\$100,000-\$130,000



Long Term Projects (11+ Years)

New Material

Long Term Project List (11+ Years)					
Number	Title	Description	Project Lead	Partnership Opportunities	Cost
3.1	Education Centre Building	Reserve space for a future Education Centre that can serve as the front door to North of the Nith. The facility is envisioned as a small pavilion that is welcoming, functional, and ecologically sensitive, providing space for visitor orientation, discovery, and educational programming. It should also accommodate accessible public washrooms and administrative support functions. Servicing could be extended from Railway Street when required. The site should remain protected during early phases of work to ensure this opportunity can be realized as visitation grows and parking demand expands.	County of Brant - Community Services	GRCA, BWF, Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation	\$3-\$4M
3.2	The Prairie Meadow Loop	Implement The Prairie Meadow Loop improvements, including trail upgrades, a new lookout point with interactive thematic programming, and the removal of select trails. Restore cultural meadows to native meadows to enhance habitat diversity, provide foraging and nesting habitat for grassland birds and pollinators, and manage invasive species. Develop a stewardship plan. This work may be scheduled for Phase 2, depending on Amrize timing.	County of Brant - Community Services	Ducks Unlimited, BFN, BCC, BWF, Amrize	\$50,000-\$75,000
3.3	The Rivers Edge Loop	The Rivers Edge Loop trail runs through the most ecologically sensitive areas of the site. Planned improvements include trail upgrades, a new lookout, interactive thematic programming, decommissioning of select trails, and reforestation to restore and stabilize the ground while discouraging unauthorized ATV use. Given the sensitivity of these areas, both design and implementation must be carried out carefully, with construction scheduled for a later phase to allow Amrize to complete their activities first.	County of Brant - Operations	BCC, BWF, Amrize, GRCA, Kayanase	\$50,000-\$75,000
3.4	Decommission Trails South of the Prairie Meadow Loop	The South Peninsula is not currently included in this master plan; however, discussions with the GRCA and the private landowner regarding potential inclusion are ongoing. As these lands are among the most ecologically sensitive areas and are experiencing continual unauthorized use by ATVs and motorbikes, existing trails should be decommissioned in accordance with the established guidelines.	County of Brant - Community Services	GRCA, BFN, Ducks Unlimited, BWF, Amrize	\$40,000-\$50,000

3.5	Gateway Hub - Phase 2: Parking Lot Expansion	Based on measured visitor volumes, add 16 additional parking spaces. The timing of this expansion may be coordinated with the planning and construction of the Education Centre.	County of Brant - Community Services	Amrize, Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA, BWF	\$200,000-300,000
3.6	First Nation Ceremonial Spaces	Identify and designate spaces for Indigenous ceremony and community gatherings, exploring opportunities for co-management and capacity building with Indigenous communities. Develop new spaces for dedicated Indigenous use, which may include features such as a sunrise/sunset lookout or fire circle, potentially at multiple locations. Engage Indigenous communities in advisory, creative, and construction roles throughout the design of these features to ensure cultural authenticity and meaningful participation.	County of Brant - Community Services	Six Nations of the Grand River, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, GRCA	\$300,000 - \$350,000

All construction projects require detailed design and design approval prior to construction.

Costs are Class D level of accuracy and subject to detailed design.

Costs are based on the existing master plan to date and do not consider Amrize's plan.



GRCA HAZARD OVERLAY PLAN (DRAFT)

- ① Project
- ▨ GRCA Regulatory Boundary (ANSI, Wetlands, Regulated Floodplains, Erosion Hazard Banks)

GRCA Overlay

New Material

Questions and Discussion

Have we missed any master plan considerations, or do you have any implementation strategy refinements?



Next Steps

Post Draft Master Plan and Implementation Strategy online for public input



Collect and integrate public and Community Partner feedback



Finalize Master Plan Report and Implementation Strategy

Target end of 2025

For project updates, visit [the project page here.](#)

APPENDIX D

Community Partner and First Nation Meetings and Workshop Summaries

SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY

visionary urban design + landscapes

Meeting Notes: North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan Phase 1 Project Update

Project Name: North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan

Date: Wednesday, April 9th, 2025, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Client: County of Brant

Location: TF Warren Group Cainsville Community Ctr (15 Ewart Ave, Brantford ON)

Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Organization</i>
Chuck Beach (CB)	Brant Tree Coalition Chair	Brant Tree Coalition
Tom Sitak (TS)	President	Brant for Nature
Chris McCurdy (CMC)		Brant for Nature
Jeff Leader (JL)	Director	Brant for Nature / Freshwater Conservation Canada
Barry Bushwald (BB)	Project Director	Freshwater Conservation Canada
Chris Meilleur (CME)	Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) Representative	GRCA
JS Esposito (JE)	Member	Brant Cycling Club / Brant Death Racers
Mike Grupstra (MG)		Brant Cycling Club
Duncan Ross (DR)	TIRA Chair	Brant Waterways Foundation / Brant Cycling Club
Dana Darnbrough (DD)	President	Brant Waterways Foundation
Bill Hyne (BH)	Director at Large	Brant Waterways Foundation
David Clement (DC)	Director at Large	Brant Waterways Foundation
Councillor John Bell	Councillor	Count of Brant
Darryl Lee (DL)	Chef Executive Officer	Brant Municipal Enterprises
Sean Yacoub (SY)	Director, Energy	Brant Municipal Enterprises
Stacey Ellins (SE)	Director of Parks and Recreation	County of Brant
Dana McKelvey (DM)	Administrative Coordination of Community Services	County of Brant
Philip Mete	General Manager of Community Services	County of Brant
Chris Veres (CV)	Landscape Architect	Scatliff + Miller + Murray (SMM)
Josh Paull (JP)	Landscape Designer & Planner	Scatliff + Miller + Murray (SMM)

Purpose of the Meeting: To present the findings from the Existing Conditions Summary Report to Community Partners.

Item	Description	Action By
1.0	Introductions	Action By
1.1	SE provided an update on the current coordination between the County and Lafarge, the GRCA, and the archaeological assessment.	Information
2.0	Presentation of Phase 1 Findings	Action By
2.1	CV presented a summary of the Existing Conditions Report. See <i>attached</i> .	Information
2.2	It was confirmed by the County the Operational Zone will be enclosed with a fence and the southern peninsula will also be excluded from the Study Area for now.	Information
3.0	Guiding Principles Workshop	Action By
3.1	Councillor Bell suggested safety be included to the “Accessible and Inclusive” guiding principle to reflect the need to provide safe access for cyclists and pedestrians.	SMM to revise Guiding Principles
4.0	Questions, Clarifications, & Comments	Action By
4.1	Red-backed Salamanders have been observed along the banks of Charlie Creek.	SMM to include salamander in list of species observed.
4.2	Q. Councillor Bell asked why the parcel east of the Nith River was included in the Study Area. A. JL mentioned it was left out of the Barker’s Bush Trails Master Plan because it is partially owned by the GRCA. CV asked whether the Study should consider a long-term bike and pedestrian bridge connection connecting Barkers Bush and North of the Nith.	Information

4.3	JL advised that Charlie Creek was rerouted for water intake purposes.	SMM to revise Existing Conditions Report
4.4	Q. CB asked why the southern peninsula is not included as it has the worst ATV damage. A. PM advised that this land is owned by the GRCA and a private landowner. There are discussions with the GRCA to include this land in the future. Discussions with the private landowner are planned.	Information
4.5	Q. DR asked about the letter of support from the GRCA to include the peninsula in the Study Area. A. Currently, the County is working with the GRCA to develop a Maintenance Agreement. The GRCA needs to better understand the proposed uses for the lands before anything is formalized. Council approval of the Master Plan is also required before any agreement can be signed.	Information
4.6	Q. Why does the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) cover the northern portion of the Study Area? A. PM stated the ECA applies to the whole parcel of land because the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks set regulations and environmental site controls on a parcel basis.	Information
4.7	Q. Are there any talks about giving up the County's Operational Lands? A. PM stated given the existing and future uses planned, this is not possible.	Information
4.8	Q. DD ask if remediation to the unauthorized trails require a Stage 2 Archaeological Study and what amount of site alteration would trigger a Stage 2 study. A. CV stated this would need to be confirmed with the archaeological consultant. But according to the County's Official Plan and the Site Alteration By-laws, if archaeological potential is identified in Stage 1, a Stage 2 is required unless it is confirmed there is no potential.	SMM to confirm with archaeological consultant.
4.9	Q. DC asked how users would access the capped landfill. A. CV stated options are to be explored in Phase 2.	Information
4.10	Q. Were there any bird surveys or assessments completed? A. CV stated it was not included in the original scope. Surveys and assessments are standard protocols for Species at Risk before construction can take place.	Information
4.11	Q. CB asked about the plan to stop ATV/dirt bike use in the Study area. It was suggested that the OPP are included as a stakeholder and/or there a meeting to discuss this specific issue is suggested.	Information

A. This issue may need a county-wide strategy. PM stated that the County will work with By-law and possibly the OPP to enforce it. A weeklong blitz was also suggested.

4.12 DD wanted to see “how” the vision is related to the guiding principles.

A. CV suggested visually showing connection between the draft Vision and Guiding Principles in the report.

SMM to make connection between Vision and Guiding Principles clearer.

4.13 DR asked who will be responsible for implementing the master plan and managing the site.

PM responded by stating due to the existing County uses, the overall Study Area will need to remain in the jurisdiction of the County.

Information

Please review the above and notify the writer immediately of any errors, omissions or discrepancies. For the sake of clarity, the discussion items shown above have been organized and therefore may not reflect the order in which they occurred.

Per: **SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY**
Josh Paull. Landscape Designer & Planner

SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY

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Meeting Notes: North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan Draft Master Plan and Implementation Strategy

Project Name: North of the Nith Trails and Open Spaces Master Plan

Date: Tuesday October 21st, 2025, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Client: County of Brant

Location: TF Warren Group Cainsville Community Ctr (15 Ewart Ave, Brantford ON)

Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Organization</i>
JS Esposito (JE)	Member	Brant Cycling Club / Brant Death Racers / Brant Waterways Foundation
Graham Chittenden (GC)	Member	Brant Cycling Club
John MacApline (JM)	Councillor, Ward 1	County of Brant
Steve Howes (SH)	Councillor, Ward 2	County of Brant
David Clement (DC)	Director at Large	Brant Waterways Foundation
Emmett Vanson (EV)	Land Use and Stewardship Technician	Six Nations of the Grand River
Dana Darnbrough (DD)	President	Brant Waterways Foundation
Chris McCurdy (CM)		Brant Tree Coalition
Chuck Beach (CB)	Brant Tree Coalition Chair	Brant Tree Coalition
Bill Hyne (BH)	Director at Large	Brant Waterways Foundation
Dana Steane (DS)	Public Consultation Specialist	County of Brant
Michelle Schaefle (MS)	Senior Environmental Planner	County of Brant
Stacey Ellins (SE)	Director of Parks and Recreation	County of Brant
Dana McKelvey (DM)	Administrative Coordination of Community Services	County of Brant
Philip Mete (PM)	General Manager of Community Services	County of Brant
Chris Veres (CV)	Landscape Architect	Scatliff + Miller + Murray (SMM)
Josh Paull (JP)	Landscape Designer & Planner	Scatliff + Miller + Murray (SMM)

Purpose of the Meeting: Collect feedback on the draft Master Plan and Implementation Strategy from Community Partners and First Nation groups.

Trail Design and User Experience

- Community partners emphasized the need for intentional trails that considers diverse user needs (shared, pedestrian-only, bike-only)

- Shared trails were generally supported, but there was interest in designing some trails specifically for pedestrian comfort (e.g., Wetland Walk, Discovery Trail) and others for mountain biking (e.g., Mountain Bike Trail Park).
- A balance between recreation and restoration was requested, with a call for more mountain biking opportunities
- Mountain bike trail features should be engaging for bikers while discouraging use on pedestrian-focused paths.

Planning and Governance

- The Master Plan should:
 - Clearly define primary trail networks
 - Include guidelines for each type of trail
 - Allow for flexibility in implementation and future adjustments
 - Include a review process every few years
- The creation of a Trail Committee composed of select community partners, with County oversight, was recommended. The committee would be responsible for guiding secondary trail placement throughout the site.

Community Involvement

- There was strong interest in community-led initiatives, planned and implemented by the community partners.
- Examples include volunteer-led tree planting, trail creation, and restoration projects.

Access and Infrastructure

- Concerns were raised about parking capacity: 15 stalls were deemed insufficient; 30 stalls were recommended for Phase 1, with potential for future expansion north.
- Water access should be maintained, even without a formal boat launch. Monitoring river access points in Phase 1 was suggested.

Environmental and Cultural Considerations

- A partner noted that the Nith River near Penman's Pass Extension was previously altered and should be considered "disturbed." County to review with archaeology.
- Community Partners agreed the extent of invasive species removal projects would require more resources and funding. Not ideal for volunteer projects.

Timeline

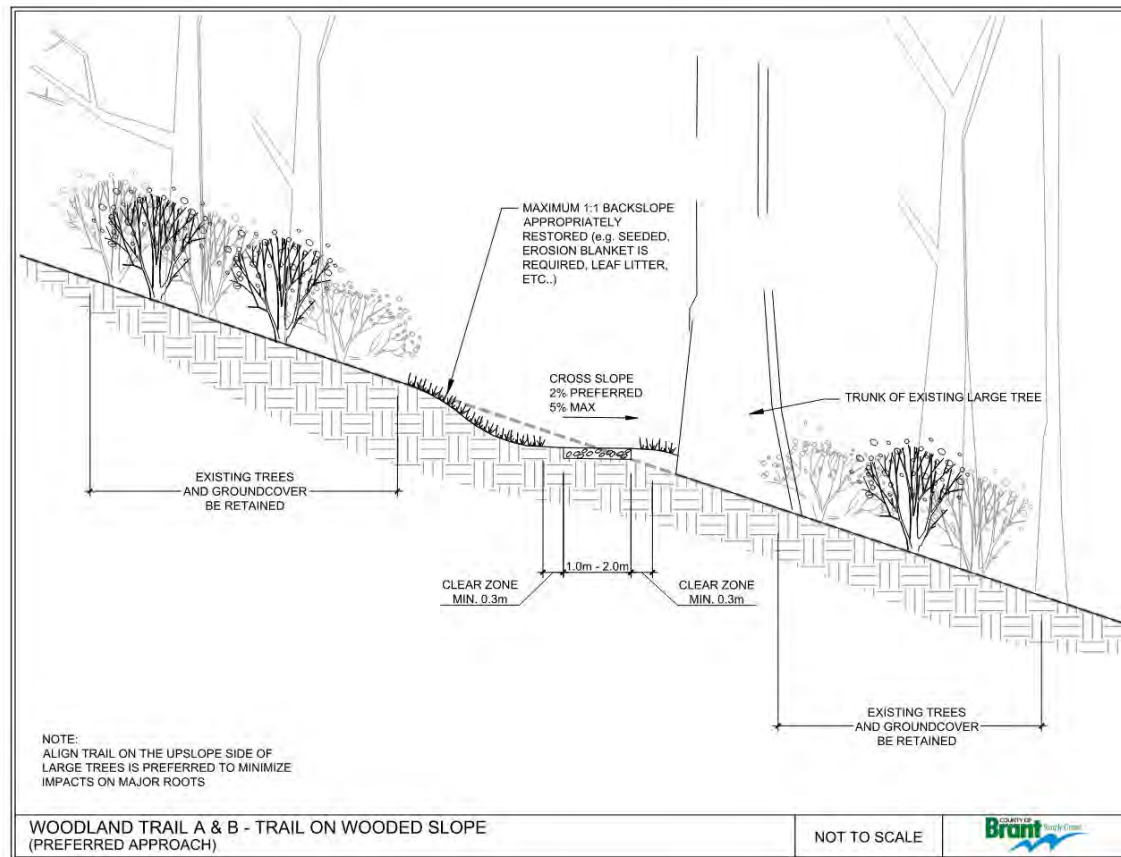
- General agreement to wrap up planning by December.

Please review the above and notify the writer immediately of any errors, omissions or discrepancies. For the sake of clarity, the discussion items shown above have been organized and therefore may not reflect the order in which they occurred.

Per: **SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY**
Josh Paull, Landscape Designer & Planner

APPENDIX E

Woodland Trail A - Trail on Wooded Slope Detail

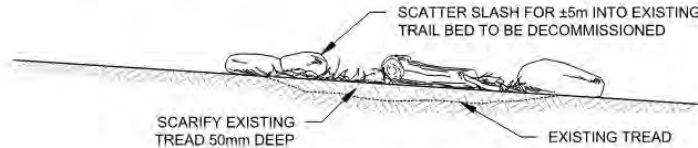
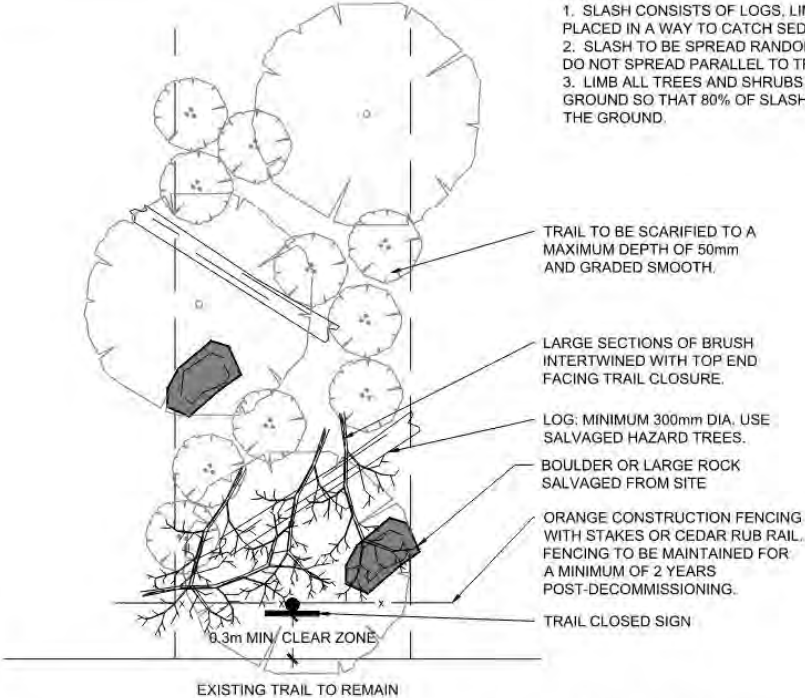


NOTE: Trail surfacing shall be natural surfacing or a compacted granular base to support multiple users and sustainable trail practices.

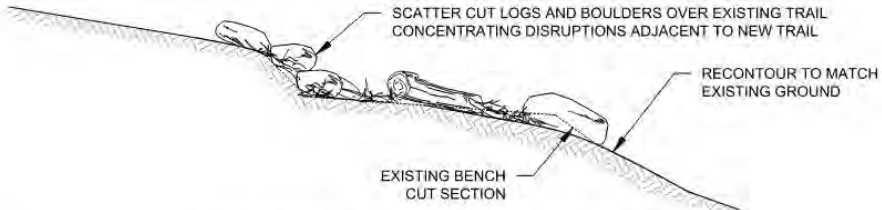
APPENDIX F

Trail Decommissioning Detail

- NOTES:
1. SLASH CONSISTS OF LOGS, LIMBS, BRUSH, AND ROCKS PLACED IN A WAY TO CATCH SEDIMENT MOVEMENT.
 2. SLASH TO BE SPREAD RANDOMLY ACROSS TRAIL BED. DO NOT SPREAD PARALLEL TO TRAIL SURFACE.
 3. LIMB ALL TREES AND SHRUBS AND TAMP SLASH INTO GROUND SO THAT 80% OF SLASH IS IN CONTACT WITH THE GROUND.



SCARIFICATION AND SLASH PLACEMENT SECTION



RECONTOUR & SLASH PLACEMENT SECTION