Annual General Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2025 – 10:00 am

Zoom

Call to Order at 10:00 am.

1. Call to Order

Jaclyn Moody, Board Chair, called the Annual General Meeting of the Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) to order.

It was confirmed that, in total, 91 Members were present at the Meeting. Two Members were represented by proxy.

It was noted that Jackie Randle, Vice President of Operations, was appointed as the Elections Officer by the Board's Governance Committee to supervise the election of Board Directors. She was also responsible for operating polls and moderating the question-and-answer function throughout the meeting.

The panelists included Nadia Dubyk and Doug Stansbury, Co-chairs of the Finance & Risk Committee; Wendy Thompson, Chair of the Governance Committee; and Gail Di Cintio, Chair of the Human Resources Committee.

Staff panelists included Michael McDonald, Chief Executive Officer; Antoin Diamond, Vice President of Land Securement; Marsha Russell, Vice President of Fund Development; Katharine Albrecht, Director of Finance; and Adam Brylowski, Manager of Conservation and Trail.

Ryan Mickeloff, Membership Engagement Coordinator, was available to offer technical assistance. Ali Schofield, Manager of Communications, ran the slideshow and recorded the minutes.

The Chair presented the Indigenous Land Acknowledgment.

The agenda was presented. The Chair shared instructions on how and when to ask a question, pose a follow-up question, and how to raise a point of order.

2. Report from the Board Chair

Jaclyn Moody presented the Report from the Board Chair. Highlights included:

- A note from Dr. Philip Gosling, Honorary President and last living founder of the Bruce Trail.

- Gratitude to Leah Myers and Heidi Bischof for their contributions while serving on the Board of Directors.
- Gratitude to the nine Bruce Trail Club Presidents for their hard work and dedication.
- An outline of the governing structure of the BTC and general review of the activities of each Board committee.
- An outline of the work of the Board in pursuit of the BTC's mission and providing oversight to the organization.
- Gratitude for the work and collaboration of Michael McDonald in leading the BTC guided by the *2030 Strategy,* and to Michael and BTC staff for their tireless efforts in support of the BTC's mission.

3. Report from the CEO

Michael McDonald presented the Report from the CEO. Highlights included:

- Gratitude to Jaclyn Moody for her leadership and support as Board Chair.
- A summary of the financial statements. The 2024-2025 fiscal year was the most successful in the history of the BTC.
- Introduction of the BTC's new metric: time in nature.
- An overview of the 11 newly protected natural areas the BTC secured.
- Examples of the ambitious conservation and trail improvement efforts conducted by BTC staff and volunteers.
- Examples of community outreach, which continue to strengthen our commitment to building an inclusive outdoors.
- Gratitude to Landowners and Volunteers as partners in our work.
- Fundraising successes of the previous year and the impact of legacy gifts.
- Gratitude to the BTC staff, the Board of Directors and Club presidents for their dedication.
- Each Club President or their delegate, with the exception of Blue Mountains due to technical difficulties, provided highlights of the activities of their Club in the last year and expressed gratitude to their Volunteers. Michael provided a brief update on behalf of the Blue Mountains Club.

4. Motions

The procedure for motions was shared. Three business matters were addressed.

Approval of the 2023-2024 Annual Meeting minutes

A motion was put forward to approve the 2023-2024 Annual Meeting minutes. No amendments to the minutes were suggested.

BM23/10-01	Moved: Wendy Thompson	Seconded: Gail Di Cintio

To approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members held on November 16, 2024.

Motion Carried

For: 59 + 2 Proxy Votes
Abstain: 0

Appointment of the auditors and remuneration

A motion was put forward to approve the Auditors' appointment and remuneration for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

BM23/10-02 Moved: Nadia Dubyk Seconded: Lori Shalhoub

To appoint the BTC's auditors for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026 and to authorize the Directors of the BTC to fix the auditors' remuneration.

Motion Carried
For: 58 + 2 Proxy Votes
Abstain: 2

Election of Members to the Board of Directors

The Board nominees were presented. The Members were asked to elect the Directors seeking election and re-election.

- The following Clubs approved the nomination of their representatives:
  - Nadia Dubyk, seeking a second term
  - Robin Garrett (Niagara) seeking a second term
  - John Whitworth (Peninsula) seeking a one-year term
  - Liz Yeigh, Caledon Hills Club seeking a first term

- The following nominees were recommended by the Board as nominees for Director-at-Large positions:
  - Gail Dicintio seeking a second term
  - Tim Johnson seeking a second term
  - Brendan Larson seeking a first term
  - Jaclyn Moody seeking a third term
  - Wendy Thompson seeking a third term
  - Bonni Titgemeyer seeking a third term

- All nominees meet the eligibility criteria set out in the By-laws. No other individuals stood for election.

BM23/10-03 Moved: Doug Stansbury Seconded: Steven Morson

To elect as directors of the BTC those individuals listed in the Nominations Report to serve until the conclusion of the third annual meeting following this Meeting or until their successors are elected.

Motion Carried
For: 59 + 2 Proxy
Abstain: 2

All Directors were congratulated. New Directors Brendan Larson and Liz Yeigh were welcomed to the Board.

5. Q & A Session

A Member asked if the location of seed orchards will be added to the Bruce Trail app. Michael McDonald responded that there are no formal plans for this yet, but the suggestion is appreciated.

A Member asked about progress on making the Bruce Trail more easily thru-hike-able. Michael responded that this is something staff and Clubs have been working on together. A significant amount of due diligence is being done and more news will follow in the coming years.

A Member asked if approval was granted to expand the Pear Tree parking lot in the Toronto section. Adam Brylowski answered that the BTC has heard back from the region and anticipates a spring expansion of the parking lot.

A Member asked if there is any plan to integrate photo-capture in the Bruce Trail app for personal use. Michael responded that this is a great suggestion that will be shared with staff.

A Member asked if there plans to note Indigenous areas on Bruce Trail maps with icons. Michael responded that we have been adding Indigenous cultural information to the Bruce Trail Reference and Guide. The BTC also partnered with an organization to showcase these cultural areas which can be found on the BTC website.

6. Celebration of Volunteers

A video presentation including the Volunteer Awards was presented.

7. Meeting Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 11:43 am.