

20 20

Impact Report

TRAILS YOUTH INITIATIVES



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Charitable Registration No. 13505 0755 RR0001

Success in the midst of a pandemic

SHIFTING STRATEGIES, UNWAVERING COMMITMENT



OUR MISSION & VISION

Our mission is to challenge, equip and empower vulnerable youth from at-risk areas of Toronto to become contributing members of the community. Our vision is to break the cycle of poverty and systemic racism.

148 **89%**

of Youth Participants
in 2019-2020

of participants identify
as BIPOC

100%

of participants supported throughout COVID-19, with phone call check-ins, virtual programming, City Day Camps, Family Camp, financial assistance, online seminars, Instagram challenges, tutoring, and devices to connect with Trails and their schools. In addition, courses were moved online and 55 high school credits were earned at Trails last year.

"I was bored at home and because of COVID, I had nothing to do. I wasn't allowed outside. Because of Trails, I had something to look forward to every day."

Mumtahana, Year 1

"Regardless of privilege, we are proving that nature, connection and community are accessible to everyone, wherever we are, even in the heart of the city."

MELISSA MILLWARD, PRESIDENT
SPEAKING ABOUT TRAILS CITY DAY CAMPS



YEAR IN REVIEW

The year started like most others. Learning and growing in the outdoors during fall and winter weekends. We celebrated the holidays together on a very snowy Saturday in December and March Break programs were finalized and ready to go. Plans for Summer 2020 were well underway. Forty new Year 1 participants had completed their applications, and an epic LIT trip down the Missinaibi River was anticipated.

On March 12, that all changed. New COVID protocols meant Trails was unable to provide transportation or overnight accommodation to our participants. The program team immediately pivoted, providing ongoing support and community while re-imagining what summer camp could look like. With in-person fundraising events cancelled, we launched a COVID Relief Fund and you responded, with over \$20,000 raised to date.

In July and August, Trails City Day Camps empowered youth to explore Toronto's urban wild and experience essential developmental challenges as they canoed on the Humber River and spotted wildlife on hikes in Morningside Park. Families were welcomed to the Trails Lakeside on the weekends to experience "camp" with one another. This fall, we are resuming programs at Trails Lakeside, engaging our participants in outdoor challenges and experiences for one Saturday each month.

"Before Trails, I had never even seen stars or fireflies. I was very quiet and to myself, I didn't know how to communicate or explain my mental and family issues. No matter what situation I'm in, I can escape once a month to a place where I feel accepted. Trails taught me I can help not just myself, but to pay it forward to others in my community."

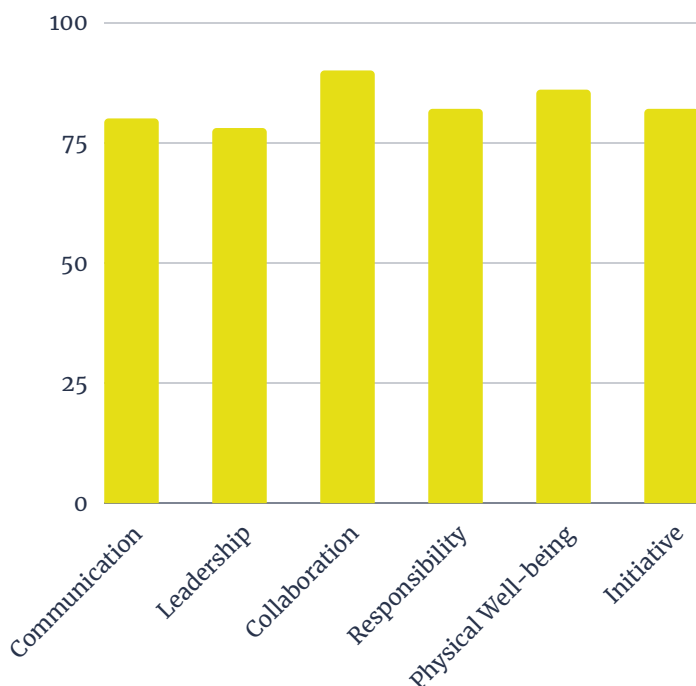
Vanessa, Year 4

Our Impact in Numbers

THANK YOU FOR CHANGING LIVES IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

SUMMER PROGRAM EVALUATIONS

Upon completion of the Trails City Day Camps, participants were asked to rate whether they developed the following skills. This represents the percentage of participants who agreed or strongly agreed.



CORPORATIONS

BLG Foundation, Bank of Montreal, CI Investments, CIBC, Ecosystem, Intact Foundation, KPMG, Mackenzie Investments, Nemar Ltd, Polar Asset Management, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, RBC, Scotiabank, Summit Energy, The Digitalist, TD Bank Group, Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund, Travel Edge

FOUNDATIONS

All One Fund, Arthur & Audrey Cutten Foundation, Brookfield Partners Foundation, Buchman Fund*, Collumbin Family Fund*, Deacon Legacy Grant*, Gandy Charitable Foundation, Greygates Foundation (Vancouver Foundation), Howard & Diane Taylor Family Fund*, Jackman Foundation, Jacma Foundation, Jalynn H. Bennett Foundation, Kopas Family Foundation, Mags & Andrew Moor Foundation*, MDRT Foundation, MLSE Foundation, Murray & Susan Armitage Foundation*, Nature Canada, Ontario Realtor's Care Foundation, Peter Gilgan Foundation, R. Howard Webster Foundation, Raymond Chang Foundation, Regent Family Foundation, Robert Kerr Foundation, Rotary Club of Toronto Eglinton Foundation, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, The Canavan Family Foundation, The Catherine & Maxwell Meighen Foundation, The Delaney Family Foundation, The George Lunan Foundation, The Greig & Carolyn Clark Foundation, The J & B Carroll Family Foundation, The Junior League of Toronto, The Philip Smith Foundation, The Slight Family Foundation, Susan, Sarah and Nicholas Latremaille Fund*

**Funds distributed through Toronto Foundation*

MAJOR GIFT DONORS

Andrew Pringle, Anthony Rubin, David Kerr, Diane Horton, Greig & Carolyn Clark, Jack Cockwell, John McIntosh, Larry McFadden, Pat Jacobsen, Paul Brink, Rob Krajcarski, Susan Armitage, Trish Fonberg, Vance Cooper

500+

graduates since 1992. Alumni include PhD candidates, teachers, lawyers, oncologists, architects and coaches.

100%

of our youth graduate high school and give back to the community, a percentage far greater than their peers.

72%

of our youth go on to post-secondary school, including 37 this year with the help of the Trails Dion Bursary.

1.3M

is the cost per year, all raised through events and donations from individuals, foundations and corporations.