

# Connecting the Trans Canada Trail in Alberta

Since 1992, the Trans Canada Trail has evolved from a dream to just over 17,000 kilometres of free, multi-purpose recreational Trail, linking nearly 1,000 communities from coast to coast to coast.

Now, the TCT is determined to develop the final 25% of the Trail by 2017, the 150th anniversary of Confederation.

In Alberta, the Trans Canada Trail will feature some of the nation's most stunning and thrilling vistas. The province's 3,000-km Trail will include a challenging hiking and cycling route through the majestic Rocky Mountains, a historic paddling route through northern Alberta to the Northwest Territories, and a number of easily accessible urban trails.

Alberta's Trail is only 59% connected, leaving an ambitious 1,200 km to connect at a cost of \$26 million.

With your generous support, bolstered by the enthusiasm of countless volunteers, the commitment of all levels of government, and the dedication of our provincial Trail partner, Alberta TrailNet, we can reach this bold goal.

Here are just a few of the spectacular projects you can support in Alberta, helping us to achieve the full connection of our magnificent national Trail.



**1**  
Athabasca River Trail  
(Athabasca to NWT border, via Fort McMurray)

**2**  
Athabasca Landing Trail  
(Fort Saskatchewan to Athabasca)

**4**  
Bluebird Trail  
(Blindman River to Wetaskiwin County Line)

**3**  
Red Deer County Trail  
(Penhold to Red Deer)

**5**  
High Rockies Trail  
(South of Banff to BC border)

- Operational Land Trail
- Proposed Land Trail
- Operational Water Trail
- Proposed Water Trail
- Featured Trail Name
- Historic Site
- City-Town
- Provincial or National Park





# 1 Athabasca River Trail

Imagine the journey: kayaks gliding down a majestic, untamed river, voyaging through the very heart of Canada. Historical sites dot the banks, recalling the First Nations, fur traders and settlers who were the first intrepid travellers on our Canadian journey. Help make this section of the TCT Arctic Water Route a reality by supporting the development of portage trails, campsites and landings from Athabasca to the Northwest Territories.

**Route:** Athabasca to the Alberta-NWT border via Fort McMurray

**Recommended Uses:** Paddling

**Approximate Length:** 825 kilometres



# 2 Athabasca Landing Trail

Dubbed the *100-Mile Portage*, the Athabasca Landing Trail is steeped in Canadian history. Whether on horseback or on foot, Trail users can travel back in time by retracing the route taken by Hudson Bay Company traders as they opened the gateway to Canada's North. With your support, the TCT can complete this historic Trail section.

**Route:** Fort Saskatchewan to Athabasca, linking to the TCT's Arctic Water Route

**Recommended Uses:** Walking/Hiking, Cycling, Horseback Riding, Cross-Country Skiing, Snowmobiling

**Approximate Length:** 40 kilometres



# 3 Red Deer County Trail

Red Deer County Trail is more than a trail; it's a way of life. On this paved, urban trail in the dynamic Calgary-Edmonton corridor, families can enjoy some good, old-fashioned exercise and fresh air by cycling in their communities and the nearby countryside. With your help, this scenic Trail section will connect Red Deer to the hamlet of Springbrook, onward to Penhold and, later, Bowden.

**Route:** Red Deer to Penhold

**Recommended Uses:** Walking/Hiking, Cycling, Cross-Country Skiing

**Approximate Length:** 15 kilometres

Photo: Andrew Penner



# 4 Bluebird Trail

The TCT from Lacombe to Blindman River is a model Trail section. This thoughtfully designed, multi-use trail connects several rapidly growing communities via the beautiful rural landscape of central Alberta. Local communities are eager to complete the Trail all the way to the county line and strengthen their connection to one another—at human speed!

**Route:** Blindman River to Wetaskiwin County Line

**Recommended Uses:** Walking/Hiking, Cycling, Cross-Country Skiing, Horseback Riding

**Approximate Length:** 36 kilometres



# 5 High Rockies Trail

Kananaskis Country is blessed with the kind of stunning, otherworldly beauty that attracts legions of local, national and international Trail users. Once fully connected, the spectacular High Rockies Trail will be a world-class destination trail connecting Alberta to British Columbia. The Government of Alberta has committed \$1.3 million to this project, complementing donations made by TCT supporters.

**Route:** From the trailhead of the East Goat Creek Trail to Elk Pass on the Alberta-BC border

**Recommended Uses:** Walking/Hiking, Cycling, Cross-Country Skiing

**Approximate Length:** 72 kilometres

Photo: Andrew Penner



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