

**This Contractual Agreement is between
Cobequid Eco-Trails Society and
Cobequid Trail Consulting of Economy, Nova Scotia.**

Gully Lake – Nuttby Mountain Trail

**A community project by the
Cobequid Eco-Trails Society (CE-TS)
March 26, 2008**

1. Issuer

Cobequid Eco-Trails Society

C/O Mr. Norris M. Whiston, Chairman of Gully - Nuttby Trails Committee of CE-TS

Earltown, RR# 5, Tatamagouche Nova Scotia

B0K 1V0

Phone (902) 657-3476, Fax. (902) 895-9983 (Municipality of Colchester County)

Contact Email: norrisw@ns.sympatico.ca

The Cobequid Eco-Trails Society objectives are to provide support to the development of trails for non-motorized trails; to provide an opportunity to affiliate and promote their common interests; to provide a formal organization to represent trail users and unincorporated trail project groups in relationships with landowners, other organizations, and government agencies; to provide unincorporated trail project groups with cost effective services; to promote and increase awareness of trails for non motorized use; and to encourage appreciation and promote stewardship of the natural environment through trail experiences. CE-TS was incorporated June 7, 2007, with Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations in its Registry of Joint Stock Companies: Registry # 3218186.

2. Prospective Users

Nuttby, Kemptown and Earltown have an ideal location within the highest peaks of the Cobequid Mountains. The area has the only paved highway (Highway 311), north and south through the Cobequids, between route 4 in the Wentworth Valley and route 376 in Thorburn. The area is also handy to the TransCanada Highway 104, near Kemptown, 20 minutes from Truro (Truro, Bible Hill, Onslow, North River); an hour and twenty minutes from Metro Halifax using Highway 102; 20 minutes from Tatamagouche and 40 minutes from New Glasgow. Within this population base, hikers, snowshoers, cross-country skiers in some places, walkers, runners, kayakers, bird watchers, naturalists, historians, and photographers will be attracted to the trail system.

3. Trail Benefits

As a non-motorized trail, suited for hikers, snowshoers, and, in some places, cross country skiers, the trail will create an outstanding outdoor recreation infrastructure, while also offering an opportunity to celebrate, in serenity, the evolution of the North American continent when these mountain ridges and valleys were created, the aboriginal use of these forests and streams, the settlement and forestry practices of the 19th and 20th centuries, and the ecosystem re-generation in the last half of the 20th century.

This trail will support the economic vitality and quality of life of the Nuttby - Earltown – Kemptown area, bringing visitors who may also visit other attractions such as the

Sutherland Steam Mill in Denmark, the Balmoral Grist Mill; and bring customers to the Sugar Moon Farm and Pancake House, the General Store in Earltown Village and local area Bed and Breakfast operations. The proposed trail will have short looped sections to allow for a greater range of hiking abilities, and also will be part of the Cape to Cape Wilderness Trail system being established between Cape George and Cape Chignecto, which in turn will be part of the International Appalachian Trail. The proposal satisfies local community needs as well as the goals of health, tourism, and rural economic development and contributes to recreation infrastructure of Colchester County, enhancing the County's ability to sponsor events. The proposed trail system will help make one of Nova Scotia's wilderness areas easier to access and enjoy.

4. Project Description

The Gully Lake to Nuttby Mountain Trails will be part of the Cape to Cape Wilderness Trail system being established between Cape George and Cape Chignecto and, which in turn, will eventually be part of the International Appalachian Trail. The Gully Lake to Nuttby Mountain section will consist of four independent loops ranging from 5 km to 12 km. and make connections between the Cape to Cape section in Dalhousie Mountain, Pictou County, the Gully Lake Wilderness Area, Caribou Lake Brook, Taylor Lake, Earltown Lake, Rogart Mountain in West Earltown, and the look off on Nuttby Mountain, the highest mountain on the mainland of Nova Scotia. The short looped sections will allow for a greater range of hiking abilities and give a broader access to unique physical, natural, and historical features in the area. The trail will provide views of the Northumberland Strait, the Bay of Fundy, and distant villages, hills, lakes, and other geologic features. The loops and their connectors will total approximately 39 km.

Within the Gully Lake Wilderness Area, the two loops and connectors, totaling approximately 25 kilometers, will go over undulating open-spaced hardwood hills, and through coniferous woods alongside the Juniper Brook, Gully Lake Brook, Salmon River, White Brook and Caribou Lake Brook. The trail will pass by or near at least six waterfalls and will provide windows over ecologically sensitive marsh habitats. (See enclosed maps of proposed trails.)

5. Trail Features

The Gully – Nuttby Trail committee will provide direction and information on places of historic, cultural, and natural significance for potential trail destinations. The proposed plan will identify interpretive opportunities that are important to the community and will be attractive to visitors. The consultant will be given historic elements from the Report on Gully Lake – Nuttby Mountain History

6. Design Criteria

Standards for proposed trails and related facilities must conform to the provincial trail manual, Developing Recreation Trails in Nova Scotia: Planning, Design, construction, Maintenance and Management. Within Gully Lake Wilderness Area, standards applicable to Nova Scotia's designated wilderness areas apply – contact Nova Scotia Environment.

7. Scope of Work

The contractor will supply all labor, equipment, and materials for the planning and design of a network of trails on the above mentioned trail system. That trail system likely includes:

Gully Lake Wilderness Area: Nova Scotia Department of Environment PID 20419602,
Caribou Lake Brook: Atlantic Star Forestry PID 20303988,
Head of Salmon River and Still Waters: Geraldine Marshall PID 20014536,
West side of Taylor Lake and east side of Earltown Lake: Linda and Bob Sutherland PID 20015673,
North Hill above Earltown Lake: Larry Marshall PID 20015475,
East Hill above Highway 311 & Kemptown Rd.: Edna Matheson PID 20015582,
Sugar Moon Farm: Scott Whitelaw and Quita Gray PID 20015566,
South side of Whitelaw Mountain and Rogart Mountain: David Smith PID 20015368
Rogart Mountain and west: Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources PID 20306676, PID 20015160
McRae Mountain and Nuttby Mountain of Atlantic Star Forestry PID 20015178,
Nuttby Mountain: Brad McNutt PID 20015293, and
Nuttby Mountain: Aliant PID 20015236.

Relevant to the above prospective trail users, trail benefits, project description, and design criteria, and in determining the scope of the work to be done with CE-TS' Gully – Nuttby committee, the contractor will:

1. Complete a formal Trail Development Plan, minimizing user conflicts, including providing expertise in micro-planning the route and flagging.
2. Identify any challenges we may face on parts of the trails relating to the special needs of hikers, snowshoers, and cross-country skiers.
3. List trail amenities such as signs, viewing platforms, plank paths, bridges, boardwalks, bollards, railings, barriers, bench, picnic shelter, and landscaping etc.
4. Develop detailed plan and construction guide for the trailhead, parking, and access points.
5. Provide advice on appropriate construction techniques and tools for construction (a prospective budget for these).
6. Identify areas of environmental concern, and consult with proper authorities.
7. Provide periodic consultations with CE-TS and its Gully Lake – Nuttby Mountain Trail Committee, with the land managers of NSDNR and NSEL, and with private land owners.
8. Recommend phases for trail construction
9. Schedule and create timeline for implementation
10. Identify the parts that can built with volunteer labor and those that would be too technical or skill based and would have to be built with hired labor.
11. Estimate cost of various phases of the project (labor and materials and other costs, based on quotations)
12. Suggest sources of funding for construction and operation/maintenance.
13. Devise a management and maintenance plan (short term and long term).
14. Supply a trail inspection checklist and standards to be followed before a trail can be open and promoted for public use.

8. Presentation of Plan (Project Deliverables)

The consultant's Trail Development Plan should include the following for community consultation presentation:

- a. Maps with existing property owners where trails may be located (to be used for community consultation);
- b. Aerial maps for assessing the location of trail linkages;
- c. 1 Bio Physical Map showing geology, soils, marsh and water systems, plants and wildlife.
- d. Topographic map
- e. Map of concept trail (from GPS points) with proposed developments, sites, linkages, community assets and features etc;
- f. 2 bound copies of the draft document, 4 bound copies of the final plan, and a digital copy which includes information and construction drawings/designs, maps, and photos of significant features;
- g. Present the trail plan to the group and, at a required open house meeting, to ensure review;

9. Start and Completion Dates:

Planning to begin April 1, 2008 and a target completion date of May 31, 2008. It is understood that there may be a need for flexibility on the completion date of a month depending on weather and unforeseen complexities of the project.

10. Level of Effort

The range of funding for this plan is not to exceed \$10,260.00 paid upon completion of above tasks.

Representative of Cobequid Eco-Trails Society name and signature _____

Position in Cobequid Eco-Trails Society _____

Representative of Cobequid Trail Consulting name and signature _____

Witness' name and signature _____

Date _____