

Ontario is now accepting applications for the 2018 Ontario Trails of Distinction (OTD) Program.

The Ontario Trails of Distinction Program is designed to showcase and celebrate the most distinctive trails in the province and is a legacy initiative of the 150th anniversary of Ontario. The purpose of the program is to identify and promote trails of the highest degree of distinction which will:

- Raise awareness of Ontario trails
- Encourage today's generation and future generations to use trails
- Further the development and promotion of trails in Ontario

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Becoming a Trail of Distinction brings a host of benefits that include:

- Increased marketing opportunities with **Destination Ontario** and **Regional Tourism Organizations**
- Use of the Ontario **Trails of Distinction** logo
- Use of the title of "**Ontario Trail of Distinction**" for five years
- Being named on the ministry website
- A letter of recognition from the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport



HOW TO APPLY

Interested trail organizations will need to complete a **self-assessment** to determine their eligibility to apply. The self-assessment tool and more information about the program is at:

www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/sport/recreation/tod.shtml



APPLICATION DEADLINE

Deadline to apply for the 2018 OTD Program is **March 7, 2018.**



2017 ONTARIO TRAILS OF DISTINCTION

Last year, the **Trans Canada Trail Ontario, Bruce Trail, Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs Trans Ontario Provincial (TOP) Trails** and **Greenbelt Route** were named 2017 Trails of Distinction.

The **Ontario Trails of Distinction Program** is part of the *Ontario Trails Act, 2016*. The legislation allows the voluntary granting of trail easements and requires that a trails strategy be maintained and periodically reviewed. Amendments were also made to the *Occupiers' Liability Act, Public Lands Act, and Trespass to Property Act* to address liability, trespassing and protection of property issues. Ontario's trail system was largely built by volunteers and depends on the generosity of landowners. Ontario is grateful for their efforts to maintain and sustain our network of trails.

FOR MORE INFORMATION and for access to the self-assessment tool to determine eligibility to apply, visit the Ministry's website at:

www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/sport/recreation/tod.shtml

