Protection, Sustainability and Maintenance of the Chapel Hill North Forest and its Trails

Part 2 of 2 – Supporting Information

Report of the
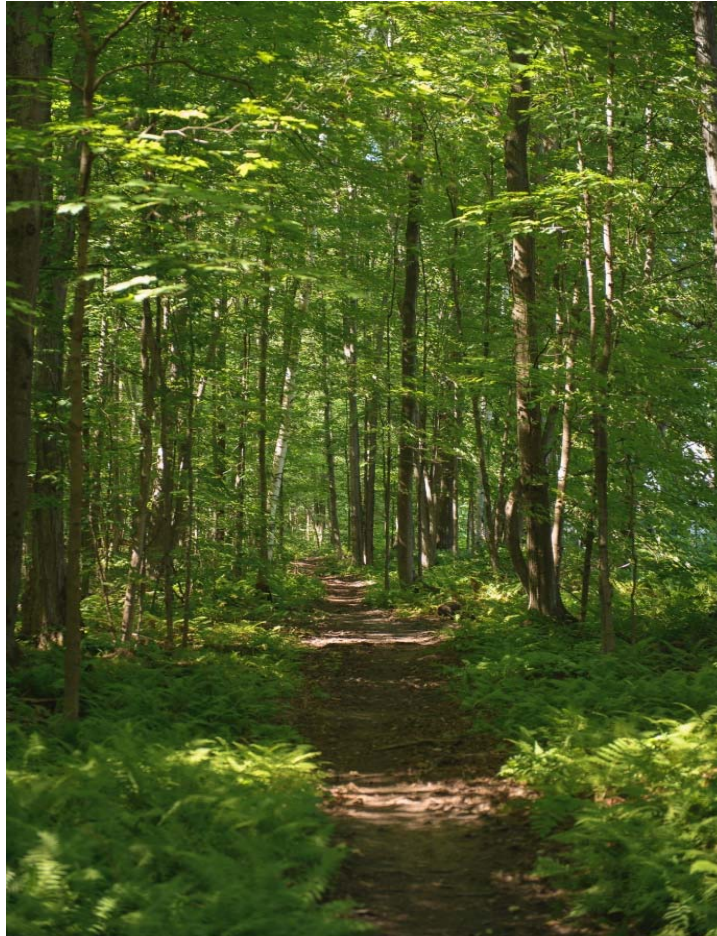**Forest Valley Trails Working Group**

Photo *Credit: ACstills*

Click here for:
FVTWG Report Part 1 of 2 - Main Report

October 22, 2018

Forest Valley Trails Working Group is an ad hoc Working Group
of the Chapel Hill North Community Association
Innes Ward 2, Orléans, Ontario

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Annex C: Summary of Priority Goals, Objectives and Recommended Actions

This Annex provides a summary of the seven Key Priorities and their Goals, Objectives and Recommended Actions as set out in Chapter 2.

Goal	Desired end-state goal, which may only be achieved over time
Objectives	Near-term objectives that form the first steps in achieving the Goal
Actions	Specific actions needed to achieve the objectives

Priority 1 – Environmental Protection

Goal

Ongoing protection, sustainability and maintenance of the high-value natural forest bordering CHN for its contribution to environmental integrity, recreation, and well-being of Chapel Hill North residents, present and future.

Objectives

- Promote the importance and benefits of protecting, sustaining and maintaining the natural environment forest in Chapel Hill North.
- Implement a phased, priority-based approach to protecting, sustaining and maintaining the CHN forest and its trails through sound environmentally-based planning and design, mitigation, remediation and other protection and conservation methods aimed at actual and potential forest damage, degradation and hazards due to human or natural causes.
- Enhance the opportunities for outreach, feedback and involvement of residents on CHN forest and trails matters, ensuring that their interests and concerns are heard and action taken, on a timely basis.
- Strengthen the community's participation and collaboration with the CHN forest landowners (City of Ottawa and NCC), the RVCA and other interested parties, on matters of protection, sustainability and maintenance of the CHN forest and its trails.
- Involve CHN residents in initiatives to support the protection, sustainability, maintenance and management of the CHN forest and its trails.

Priority 1 - Recommended Actions (9)
1. Promote the importance and value of protecting, sustaining and maintaining the CHN natural environmental area forest and its trails.
2. Promote and participate in reviews, assessments and environmental studies of CHN forest and its trails by City and NCC landowners and RVCA, including allowable and prohibited activities and uses.
3. Assist in the planning, design, development and maintenance of a sustainable nature trail in CHN forest, including trail rationalization, remediation and mitigation of actual and potential priority areas of concern in the CHN forest.
4. Sharing of notifications and information about consultations, public events, reviews, studies or reports concerning proposed alterations or developments for CHN forest and its trails.
5. Outreach by CHNCA and residents to organizations active in the protection and sustainability of trails in forested areas.

6.	Ensure CHN residents' concerns and interests are heard, tabled and considered during planning, design and maintenance for short term and long term CHN forest and trail initiatives.
7.	Preparation of CHN Forest Management Plan(s) by the City and NCC, in consultation with RVCA, CHNCA and residents.
8.	Establish mechanisms and build capacity within the community and CHNCA to consider and take action on environmental forest and trail matters.
9.	Consideration by CHNCA residents of a future Neighbourhood Stewardship Plan for tree identification and canopy inventory on private land in CHN in collaboration with the City of Ottawa.

Priority 2 – Trail Design

Goal

An easily maintained and inviting trail layout that supports the protection, sustainability and maintenance of the Chapel Hill North forest and addresses the concerns and interests of the Chapel Hill North residents.

Objectives

- Establish a collaborative relationship with the NCC, City of Ottawa and RVCA to protect, sustain and maintain the Chapel Hill North forest and its trails.
- Urge the NCC, City and RVCA to collect and analyse the appropriate topographical, hydrological, geotechnical, flora and fauna data on the Chapel Hill North forest on which to base the forest trail layout.
- Actively engage the Chapel Hill North community in the planning and design process of the trails on an ongoing basis.
- Design a trail layout with damage mitigation, rehabilitation, restoration and minimal environmental impact or footprint as its central feature consistent with environmental and recreational legislation, policies, plans and reports, and informed by other cities' urban forest guidelines and best practices.
- Encourage users and residents to monitor and inform the NCC and City on the condition of the Chapel Hill North forest and its trails particularly where environmental damage has occurred or repairs may be required.

Priority 2 - Recommended Actions (6)
1.   Consult with the NCC, City and RVCA forestry and environmental staff to determine how the Chapel Hill North residents can contribute in planning an environmentally supportive and safe Chapel Hill North forest trail layout.
2.   Encourage the NCC, City and RVCA to conduct the necessary preliminary environmental assessments before trail design begins to determine the: - current environmental condition of the Chapel Hill North forest;   - sensitive areas and flora and fauna in need of protection and locations of invasive, poisonous and noxious species to be avoided; and   - areas where trails should and should not be.

3.	Consult and engage with Chapel Hill North residents on a regular, transparent and open basis on the progress and content of consultations, studies and trail planning, design and implementation.
4.	Collaborate with the NCC, City and RVCA staffs in planning a simple, easily maintained natural forest trail layout that: • supports the protection, sustainability and maintenance of the Chapel Hill North forest; • consolidates and rationalizes existing trails to avoid trail braiding; • is consistent with the environmental designations of the area and both the letter and spirit of government legislation, policies, plans, reports and studies governing the recreational activities and work permitted in the Chapel Hill North forest and on its trails; • incorporates applicable best practices and lessons learned from other urban forests; • minimizes the environmental impact or footprint of the trail layout and recreational activities; • addresses the existing environmental degradation and concerns of local residents; • allows the unobstructed natural flow of the watercourses.
5.	City and NCC to conduct their respective "no negative impact" study of the proposed draft trail layout for its CHN forest area with adjustments to the trail layout, as necessary.
6.	Collaborate with the NCC, City and RVCA in drafting maintenance protocols and procedures describing recreational activities, user conduct and reporting.

Priority 3 – Health Benefits and Family

Goal
Maintain the natural state of the CHN forest and ensure its ongoing environmental integrity, so it continues to provide functional benefits while also supporting the physical, mental and social well-being of residents and other users.

Objectives
• Maintain the CHN forest so it continues to support the existing natural flora and fauna, and ensure limited disturbance of the natural features of this area so all may enjoy.
• Continue providing a place for residents to take advantage of the physical and mental health benefits that this natural area affords, whether as a nearby property owner or as an active user.
• Enable continued use of the trails area to pursue unstructured activities such as walking, jogging, biking, skiing, tobogganing, bird watching, photography, exploring and walking pets.

Priority 3 - Recommended Actions (4)
1. Develop a collaborative process among CHNCA residents, NCC and the City of Ottawa that ensures ongoing engagement with respect to the protection, maintenance, usage and awareness of the CHN forest.
2. Establish a process through the CHNCA to allow for updates and communication about plans and activities involving the CHN forest, and for residents to report and identify issues that may need attention.
3. Develop a maintenance plan for ensuring a limited number of nature trails, which will meet the needs of the residents for multiple users.
4. Identify improper activities, which cause harm to the environment or lessen the value for other users, and establish protocols accessible to everybody to promote respectful compliance.

Priority 4 – Forest Entry and Exit Points, Parking and Traffic

Goal

Quiet, safe and attractive local streets that improve the living and environmental conditions for local residents.

Objectives

- Locate forest entry and exit points where they neither inconvenience local residents or pedestrians nor interfere with residential traffic flow and parking.
- Locate parking for users away from residential streets.
- Identify traffic management measures to control the volume and composition of traffic.
- Conduct regular public consultations with Chapel Hill North residents on their views and the progress of work.

Priority 4 - Recommended Actions (4)
1. Identify entry and exit points away from residential streets and fragile, environmentally sensitive or erodible terrain.
2. Obtain permission to park on NCC and City existing and planned public parking lots.
3. Request the City and NCC negotiate with owners of institutions and private parking lots to allow use by trail users.
4. Request the City investigates the installation of year-round traffic control and calming measures on local residential streets.

Priority 5 – Public Education and Awareness

Goal

Ensure broad awareness of:
- The nature and value of the CHN forest.
- The requirements to protect and maintain the environmental integrity of the area.
- Recommended protocols to promote appropriate usage and enable enjoyment by all.

Objectives

- Clarify what is appropriate vs. inappropriate usage of the trails.
- Develop and promote protocols for all users which are reasonable and practical.
- Provide information about the forest in general, its noteworthy features, forest and trail maintenance options, and ways to enable remedial action.

Priority 5 - Recommended Actions (8)
1. Develop simple, clear protocols regarding appropriate behaviour for the variety of activities and uses of the CHN forest. The information should be made available in several formats for ready access.
2. Promote standard signage for access points to both the NCC and City of Ottawa portions of the trails.

3. Promote public awareness of the environmental features of the CHN forest, develop material that can be accessible electronically, posted on websites, and be made available in print format as well.
4. Ensure proper facilities (e.g. garbage receptacles) are available to accommodate user needs.
5. Use CHNCA, NCC and City websites and other media to promote awareness. Along with NCC and City of Ottawa, develop signage for entrance areas.
6. With the NCC and City landowners, identify when it may be appropriate to mark specific areas of the forest, which present hazards to users and should be avoided.
7. Determine if/how it would be appropriate to develop signage in the forest for purposes such as wayfinding, education, off-limit areas and seasonally restricted activities.
8. Engage residents in activities and processes that will enhance forest awareness.

Priority 6 – Feedback and Consultations

Goal

Provide residents a voice and an opportunity to participate in any planning and initiatives to ensure a sustainable future for the Chapel North forest in its natural state, with an environmentally compatible trail system, in accordance with all the City, NCC, and RVCA policies regarding the forest's Environmentally Protected designation.

Objectives

- Provide an objective report on the status of the forest and what uses and activities are compatible with its environmental sustainability.
- Ensure openness and transparency with regard to information, planning and progress of maintenance work regarding the Chapel Hill North forest.
- Ensure CHN residents' interests and concerns are heard and incorporated to the extent possible in any plans for the protection and maintenance of the forest and its trails, so that it is sustainable in its natural state for current and future generations.
- Encourage engagement of CHN residents in the care of the local forest and trails, and their participation in setting future directions for these highly valuable and cherished forested lands.
- Encourage ongoing and regular consultation with the two CHN forest landowners (City of Ottawa and NCC) and the RVCA, with regard to any planning involving the CHN forest.

Priority 6 - Recommended Actions (8)
1. Present the FVTWG report to CHNCA board. Make it available to residents online, and in the form of a few hardcopies for reference at the Orleans Blvd. Public Library or the Innes Ward Councillor's office.
2. Encourage written feedback from residents over a reasonable period of time.
3. Hold a CHNCA public information and feedback session, after residents have had a chance to read and digest the FVTWG report.
4. Incorporate residents' comments into the FVTWG report in light of feedback. Submit this final FVTWG report to CHNCA.
5. CHNCA to canvas CHN residents for volunteers for an advisory working group to follow on from the FVTWG as soon as possible. See Priority 7 – Next Steps.

6.	Consult with and seek feedback from City, NCC and Innes Ward 2 Councillor, both with respect to the FVTWG Report and on an ongoing basis. The initial meeting should include members of FVTWG and any members recruited for the advisory working group (see Priority 7).
7.	Keep residents well-informed and involved with respect to any future planning or forest-and-trails-related concerns and initiatives. Look for ways of achieving more rapid and complete dissemination of information to residents, for example - timely notices from the landowners regarding proposed work in the forest.
8.	Encourage ongoing monitoring of the forest by residents and reporting of any problems to respective landowners, RVCA, Innes Ward Councillor's Office and CHNCA.

Priority 7 – Next Steps

Goal
The protection, sustainability and maintenance of the natural environment of the Chapel Hill North forest for the enjoyment and benefit of present and future generations.

Objectives
- Create an advisory working group to implement the FVTWG priorities in collaboration with the NCC, City of Ottawa and RVCA, consistent with their legislation, policies and plans and other jurisdictions' best practices for urban forest areas like the CHN forest.
- Collaborate with the NCC, City of Ottawa and RVCA in producing a Chapel Hill North forest management plan.
- Engage in government outreach programs.

Priority 7 - Recommended Actions (7)
1. CHNCA establish a new group or committee to advise and deliver on the priorities.
2. Identify the Chapel Hill North forest and trail environmental issues of concern and interest to Chapel Hill North residents.
3. Collaborate with the NCC, City and RVCA in developing a plan to implement the FVTWG Report priorities.
4. Urge the NCC, City and RVCA to develop a management plan for the CHN forest in collaboration with forest users and residents.
5. Determine options for residents and users to collaborate with the NCC, City and RVCA.
6. Encourage residents to monitor the condition of the CHN forest on a regular basis.
7. Investigate establishing an advisory group as the Chapel Hill North community point of contact for NCC, City and RVCA outreach environmental programs with respect to the Chapel Hill North forest and its trails.

Annex D: Examples of Trail Protocols

There are many examples of best management practices developed for urban forests and other public access lands, which include protocols for users. The FVTWG reviewed many of the reports and used them as examples for how similar types of protocols could be developed for the Chapel Hill North forest trails.[284]

These protocols are essentially good behaviours for trail users, intended to allow all residents to enjoy this unique green space in our community. Urban forest management is a shared responsibility.[285] The key objectives are to protect the environmental integrity of the joint NCC – City of Ottawa forest and trails area, to ensure all users can enjoy the trails for a variety of purposes, while supporting a sustainable Chapel Hill North forest environment.

Protocol Examples:

General

- **All Users.** These trails are public access trails on NCC and City of Ottawa properties. They are not planned trails but have been developed over time as a result of usage by nearby residents. In recent years, the forest and trails have been more heavily used. However, some uses can be incompatible with the designated status for this property and may interfere with the enjoyment by other users. Please respect the environment and other users.

- **Multi-user.** The trails and surrounding region are used for multiple activities. Please respect other users. No uses or users have been designated a priority.

- **Adjacent properties.** Both the NCC and City of Ottawa properties are abutting private (residential, farm) properties. Do not trespass, damage property, litter, create disturbance or excessive noise that will interfere with residents' enjoyment and use of their properties.

- **Motorized vehicles.** No motorized vehicles of any kind are permitted.

- **Natural area.** This is an environmental protected natural area. Alteration of any kind is not permitted, including digging, building up areas, cutting/chopping trees, removing vegetation, filling in areas, dumping of yard waste, brush or vegetation from other areas, or building structures.

- **Litter.** Do not litter. If you bring it in with you, bring it back out. Dispose of garbage in appropriate receptacles.

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[284] FVTWG Report Annex B Assessment Section D Best Practices of Other Urban Forests Item 14
[285] City of Ottawa, June 2017,"Putting Down Roots for the Future – Urban Forest Management Plan 2018-2037" https://ottawa.ca/en/residents/water-and-environment/trees-and-community-forests/ottawas-urban-forest-management-plan

- **Use of trails.** Cooperate with other users when using the trails. Warn other users if you are approaching quickly (e.g. biking, jogging) to avoid startling them. Allow others sufficient time to respond, for example, if they need to control their dog, children or just move to the side.

- **Insects and Plants.** Beware of ticks, especially as they are increasingly carriers of Lyme disease in this area. Also, look out for irritant plants such as wild parsnip or poison ivy.

Walkers

- Be attentive to other users. Give way to other users who wish to pass from behind, or are coming the other direction.

- Headphones, physical limitations or distractions may prevent you from hearing others coming, so be extra watchful.

Bikes

- Slow down, give way to other users, and avoid startling users, their families or pets that you may pass on the trails.

- These are not designated biking trails, nor should they be used for competitive mountain biking purposes. Do not dig, make ramps, build structures or otherwise alter the terrain.

- Stay on the existing paths, and do not widen them or create new paths that will destroy any vegetation.

- Avoid riding in excessively wet or muddy conditions, as it will likely further damage the trails for other users.

Dogs

The NCC is designated as on-leash. The City of Ottawa portion may be enforced as an on-leash area.

- Your dog(s) should be on-leash and under control at all times, particularly when other persons are approaching or passing you on the trails.

- Do not leave dog poop on or anywhere near the trails. This is also true in the wintertime, even though the snow may seem to be covering it up, temporarily. Pick it up and dispose of it in proper receptacles outside the trails area or bring it home to dispose of.

- Always ensure other persons are comfortable with greeting your animal(s) before allowing them contact. You may love your dog, but not all people will share your passion. Dogs on leash (esp. extendible leashes) may also pose a hazard to other users (e.g. elderly, joggers, bikes). Exercise caution and cede space so they may pass.

- Aggressive animals are not appreciated by other dog walkers or other users. If using the trails, choose areas and times where and when you are least likely to encounter other users.

Annex E: Maps and Photographs

Map 1: Chapel Hill North Forest

The Chapel Hill North Forest the 97 hectares (i.e. just under 1 square kilometre) of forested terrain on adjoining NCC (outlined in red) and City of Ottawa (outlined in blue) land bordered on the:

- North by St Joseph's Boulevard;
- East by Forest Valley Drive, the residences on the west side of Forestglen Crescent, Valley Field Crescent, Ridgelea Place, Rivercrest Drive, Belcastle Court, Forest Ridge Place, Meadowhill Crescent, Meadowglen Drive, Terrasse des Broussailles, Thistleleaf Crescent and Montereau Avenue;
- South by Innes Road; and
- West by the RCMP Technical Protection Operations Facility area.
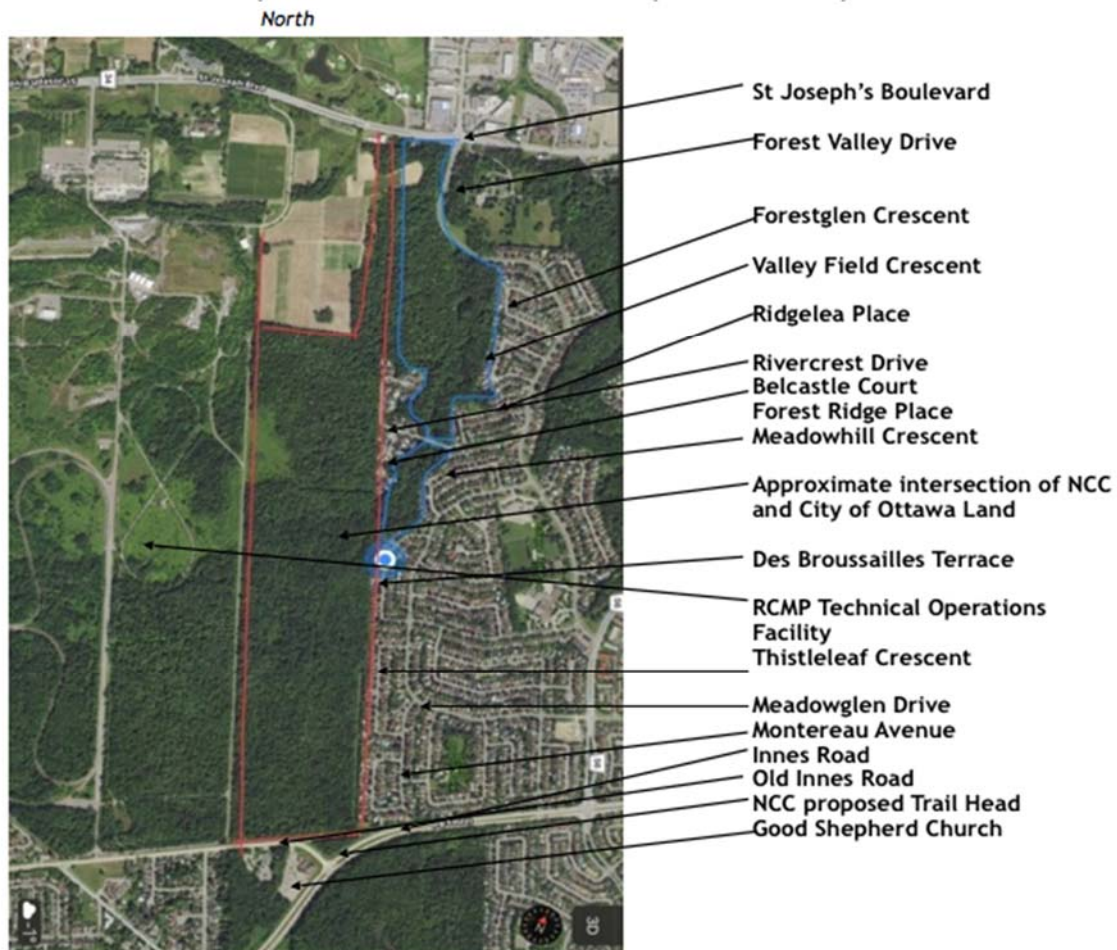
Aerial photo of Chapel Hill North Forest on western boundary of CHN.
Northern border is St. Joseph Blvd. Southern border is Innes Road.

Map 2: City of Ottawa Urban Natural Areas Environment Evaluation Study

The Urban Natural Areas Environmental Evaluation Study (UNAEES) was a comprehensive study of all Ottawa's natural areas (e.g. woodlands, wetlands and valley lands) conducted after amalgamation of the City of Ottawa in 2001. For UNAEES purposes, the City-owned portion of the Chapel Hill North forest was labelled Urban Natural Area 82 Forestglen Park. The greenspace "Forestglen parkette", located between Forestglen Crescent and Forest Valley Crescent, and land owned by the NCC were not part of the study.

The UNAEES rated the CHN forested area of environmentally "High" importance and "Ecologically Significant". It recommended the long term protection needs of the Hemlock dominated habitat and creek system to ensure appropriate management; a peripheral footpath; pre-emptive control of mountain bike traffic before impact becomes severe; and interpretative potential due to the history of land use in Ottawa and the ecological significance of the ravines.

Chapel Hill North Forest – Urban Natural Area
Owned by the City of Ottawa 2003

**Maps 3-4: Aerial Photos of Chapel Hill North in 1958 and 2017
Forests and Farms to Urban Communities**

Source: City of Ottawa geoOttawa

Map 3: Aerial photo of Chapel Hill North area in 1958

City of Ottawa geoOttawa
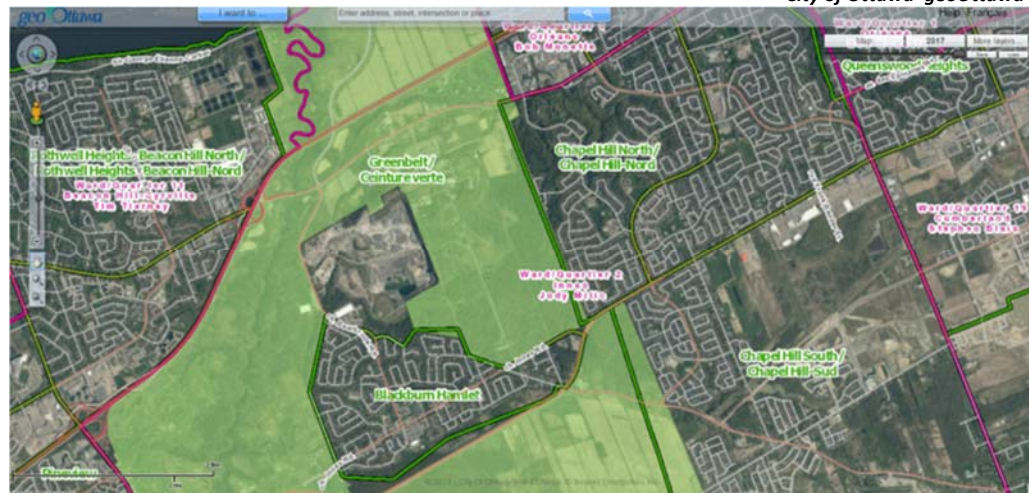
Map 4:   Aerial photo of Chapel Hill with Greenbelt overlay (in green), 2017

Maps 5-6: National Capital Commission (NCC)
Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan (2013)
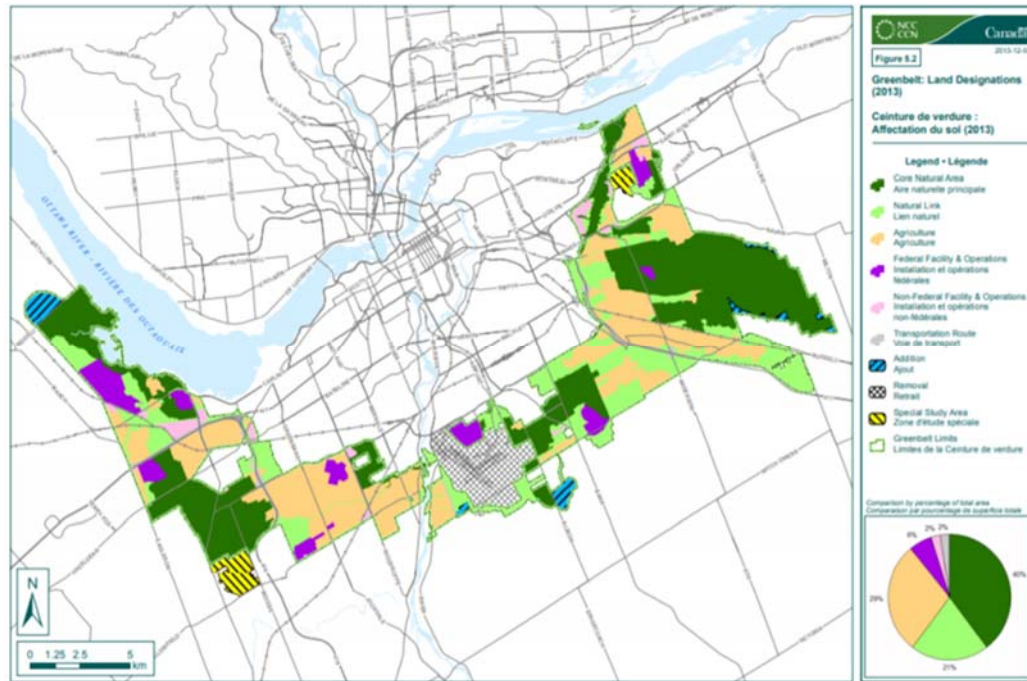
Map 5: NCC Greenbelt Land Designations (2013) - Chapel Hill North Forest is designated Core Natural Area and is situated in the northeast corner of the Greenbelt along the western boundary of Chapel Hill North community.

Map 6: NCC Greenbelt Master Plan: Green's Creek Sector.
Chapel Hill North Forest - Section B (NCC) and Section F (City of Ottawa)

Chapel Hill North Forest and Trails - Examples of 14 Forest Features

Forest Feature #1: General - Chapel Hill North Forest

Photo: ACstills

Photo: ACstills

CHN 1: NCC forest and nature trail

CHN 2: City forest hummocks

Photo: ACstills

Photo: ACstills

Photo: ACstills

CHN 3: City forest towering trees

CHN 4: NCC forest trail

CHN 5: City forest

Forest Feature #2: Access Points

Photo: ACstills

Photo: ACstills

CHN 6: Community walkway to NCC forest

CHN 7: NCC entrance and signage

Forest Feature #3: Forest Users

Walkers, hikers, dog-walkers, runners, snowshoers, cross-country skiers, cyclists, nature watchers, etc.

Photo: ACstills

Photo:ACstills

Photo: S.Davies

CHN 8: Walking under trail hazard

CHN 9: City By-law sign

CHN 10: Hiking in NCC wet area

Forest Feature #4: Informal Trails

Photo:ACstills

Photo:ACstills

CHN 11: Trail intersection and braiding

CHN 12: City forest fallen tree across hilly trail

Forest Feature #5: Topography

Photo:ACstills

Photo:ACstills

Photo:ACstills

*CHN 13: City forest
Voyageur Creek*

*CHN 14: NCC-City forest
permanent vernal pool*

*CHN 15: City forest Eastern
Hemlocks, Maples, Pines, Beech*

Forest Feature #6: Trees and Vegetation

Photo:ACstills

Photo:S.Davies

CHN 16: NCC forest

CHN 17: NCC forest Wild Parsnip
along NCC-RCMP fence line

Forest Feature #7: Wildlife and Habitats

Photo:S.Davies

Photo:S.Davies

CHN 18: NCC forest birdhouses

CHN 19: NCC open wet area
Bulrushes and invasive Purple loosestrife

Forest Feature #8: Ravines and Ridges

Photo:S.Davies

Photo:S.Davies

CHN 20: City forest ridge erosion near Forestglen entrance
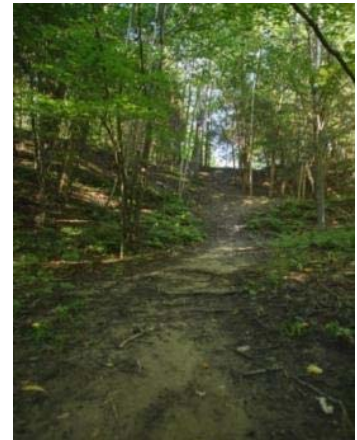
CHN 21: City forest trail
On steep fall line

Forest Feature #9: Erosion

Photo:ACstills

CHN 22: City forest erosion at Forestglen entrance

Photo:ACstills

CHN 23: City forest root exposure in bike berm

Forest Feature #10: Dry Areas

Photo:ACstills

CHN 24: NCC forest trail "walkaround" due to wet area

Photo:ACstills

CHN 25 NCC and City forest trails along NCC fence line

Forest Feature #11: Wet Areas

Photo:ACstills

CHN 26: City forest saturated muddy trail, displaced soil, erosion and tire ruts

Photo:R.Northey

CHN 27: NCC forest saturated trail with tire ruts

Forest Feature #12: Unauthorized Structures

Photo:ACstills *Photo:ACstills* *Photo:ACstills*

CHN 28: City forest mountain bike structure along NCC fence

CHN 29: City forest pits

CHN 30: City forest boardwalk in vernal pool

Forest Feature #13: Authorized Structures

Photo:ACstills

CHN 31: NCC bridge and fence over Voyageur Creek along City boundary

Forest Feature #14: Garbage

Photo:ACstills *Photo:ACstills*

CHN 32: City Forestglen Park poop bag

CHN 33: City Forestglen Park poop bags in garbage bin

Chapel Hill Forest - Old Growth Supporting New Growth

Photo:ACstills

CHN 34: NCC forest

Photo: S.Davies

CHN 35: City forest Voyageur Creek
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Voyageur Creek Sub-watershed.

Chapel Hill North Forest is in part owned by the NCC, the other part by the City of Ottawa.
It is one of ten NCC Greenbelt High-Value Ecosystems and Habitats.

Chapel Hill North Forest is zoned EP-Environmental Protected,
considered a "significant woodland", and designated a Natural Environmental Area
with Urban Natural Features.

Chapel Hill North Forest and its Trails – Protection, Sustainability and Maintenance.

Annex F – FVTWG Members and Milestones

Members

Member	Start	End
Andre Landry [1, 3]	2017-06-07	2018-05-14
Pascal Laverdure [1,4]	2017-06-07	2018-06-30
Susan Davies [5]	2017-07-12	Ongoing
John Dick	2017-07-12	Ongoing
Chris Ratcliffe	2017-07-12	Ongoing
David Trus	2017-07-12	Ongoing
Julie St-Jacques	2017-07-12	2018-05-11
Ghislain St-Jacques	2017-07-12	2018-05-11
Patrick Brazeau	2017-07-12	2018-04-30
Robert Hutchinson	2017-07-12	2017-02-22
Michel Lepage	2017-07-12	2017-08-31

Notes:
1. *June 7, 2017 - Chapel Hill North Community Association (CHNCA) Annual General Meeting. A motion was passed to create a Forest Valley Trail Working Group (FVTWG). Two residents volunteered as FVTWG Co-chairs.*
2. *June 22, 2017 - Call for FVTWG Members was posted on the CHNCA Blogsite and CHNCA Facebook. FVTWG members are volunteers and residents of Chapel Hill North.*
3. *June 7, 2017 to May 14, 2018 - A. Landry Co-chair.*
4. *June 7, 2017 to May 14, 2018 - P. Laverdure Co-chair, then Chair until June 30, 2018.*
5. *July 1, 2018 to present - S. Davies Chair.*

Milestones

Date	Meetings and Events
2017	
January	Ottawa Mountain Bike Association (OMBA) prepares Proposed Master Plan for the Forest Valley Trails Network
January	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – update on OMBA Forest Trails proposal
Feb. 28	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – guest Cameron Ketchum, President Carlington Community Association – Carlington Hill Mountain Bike Park
Mar. 28	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – update on OMBA proposal – City of Ottawa Parks & Rec signals they are ready for public info meeting with CHN community
May 17	Public meeting at Forest Valley Public School to present OMBA Proposed Master Plan for the Forest Valley Trails Network, attended by Innes Ward Councillor Jody Mitic, CHNCA, OMBA, National Capital Commission (NCC), City of Ottawa and Chapel Hill North residents
June 7	**CHNCA Annual General Meeting**. Motion passed to create a Forest Valley Trail Working Group. Two co-chairs volunteered. CHNCA was informed that a petition against the OMBA proposal was ongoing.

Date	Meetings and Events
2017 (cont'd)	
June 22	CHNCA online Call for Members of FVTWG. Deadline: June 30th
July 7	Revised deadline - Call for Members of FVTWG
July 12	FVTWG meeting #1
Aug. 2	Innes Ward Councillor Jody Mitic receives petition signed by 633 CHN residents
Aug. 8	CHNCA President informed by Innes Ward Councillor's office that the Councillor had withdrawn his support from the OMBA proposal
Aug. 12	FVTWG meeting #2
Aug. 30	Innes Ward Councillor Jody Mitic replies to OMBA President informing that he cannot support the OMBA proposal moving forward. Letter copied to NCC, City of Ottawa, CHNCA, and petition proponent.
Aug. 31	FVTWG meeting #3
Sept. 20	FVTWG meeting #4
Sept. 25	Forest Walkabout in CHN forest area owned by City of Ottawa. 12 participants: Experts from City of Ottawa (4), RVCA (1), Greenspace Alliance (1), CHNCA President and FVTWG members (6).
Sept. 26	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – FVTWG provided update
Oct. 30,	FVTWG meeting #5
Nov. 20	FVTWG meeting #6
Nov. 28	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – FVTWG provided update
Nov. 30	FVTWG meeting with NCC
Dec. 13	FVTWG meeting cancelled due to weather
2018	
Jan. 10	FVTWG meeting #7
Feb. 21	FVTWG meeting #8
Feb. 27	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – FVTWG provided update
Apr. 10,	FVTWG meeting #9
Apr. 24	FVTWG meeting #10
May 9	FVTWG meeting #11 attended by CHNCA President.
May 14	FVTWG meeting #12
May 15	**CHNCA Annual General Meeting** – FVTWG provided 4-page Update Report
May 23	FVTWG meeting #13
June 4	FVTWG meeting #14
June 18	FVTWG meeting #15
June 25	FVTWG meeting #16
July 17	FVTWG meeting #17
Aug. 9	FVTWG meeting #18 attended by CHNCA President. FVTWG provided Draft Report
Aug. 26	FVTWG Report version August 25, 2018 sent to CHNCA Board of Directors
Sept. 13	FVTWG Report version August 29, 2018 in web format sent to CHNCA Board of Directors
Sept. 16	CHNCA Board sent feedback on Report to FVTWG
Sept. 24	**CHNCA Residents' Meeting** – FVTWG provided update. CHNCA Board of Directors asked about certain parts of the August 29, 2018 version of the FVTWG Report
Oct. 22	FVTWG Report version October 22, 2018

Annex G – Acknowledgements

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> Federal Government
> > Banff National Park
> > National Capital Commission
> > > Capital Stewardship – Greenbelt and Natural Resources
> > > Operations, Facilities and Programs
> > Natural Resources Canada
> > Parks Canada
> > Rouge National Urban Park
>
> Municipalities
> > Cities of Mississauga and Toronto
> > City of Ottawa
> > > Economic Development Services - Natural Systems & Environmental Protection
> > > Innes Ward 2 Councillor Jody Mitic and staff
> > > Ottawa Public Library Orleans Branch
> > > Parks, Forestry and Stormwater Services – Forestry Planning and Protection
> > > Recreation, Culture and Facility Services – Parks and Recreation
> > > Transportation Planning Service – Policy and Networks, Sustainable Transportation
>
> Non-governmental Organizations
> > Chapel Hill North Community Association
> > Eastern Ontario Model Forest
> > Ecology Ottawa
> > Glebe Community Association
> > Gloucester Historical Society
> > Greenspace Alliance of Canada's Capital
> > Nature Conservancy Canada
> > Ontario Landowners Association
> > Ottawa Mountain Bike Association
> > Ottawa Stewardship Council
>
> Photography
> > ACstills
>
> Province of Ontario
> > Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
> > Rideau Valley Conservation Authority
> > Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
>
> United Counties of Leeds and Grenville - Limerick Forest
>
> United Counties of Prescott and Russell

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Annex I: Glossary of Terms

The origin of each term is shown in brackets. Main sources for the terms are found in:

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- National Capital Commission, Building a Greener Capital, Annual Environment Report 2016-2017
- City of Ottawa Official Plan 2003 (including updates in 2013 and 2016)
- City of Ottawa Park Development Manual 2nd Edition 2017
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- City of Ottawa Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Guidelines 2015
- Government of Ontario, Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) 2014
- International Mountain Bicycling Association Canada (IMBA Canada)

Term	Meaning
Appropriate Use (NCC)	Carefully planned land use, considering the global availability of productive lands and waters and protecting and allocating them appropriately to ensure long-term biocapacity. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan 2013 Section 2.3.1. Our Global Environment, Concepts for a greener economy #4.* NCC's Land Designations provide a description, primary objectives, desired experience and characteristics, policies, and a list of allowable and prohibited uses, for each of the five land designations (e.g. Core Natural Area). They are supported by policies to guide stewardship and management. These policies are designed to help the NCC and all stakeholders achieve positive benefits and avoid negative impact. By providing direction for all decisions related to the Greenbelt, they are meant to ensure that it becomes a showcase of best management practices that demonstrate leadership in stewardship and sustainability. *Source: NCC Greenbelt Master Plan 5.1 Land Designations. See also: Preventative Management Practices.*
Berms and Technical Trail Features (TTF) (IMBA Canada)	A berm is a mound of dirt piled along the outside of a corner to create a banked surface that allows the rider to ride through tighter turns at higher speeds without sliding. Technical Trail Features are generally man-made (e.g. ladder bridges, drops, jumps, log rides, etc.). There is a difference between "natural obstacles" (e.g. trees, roots, weeds, bushes, rocks, hills, streams) and "technical trail features – TTF" (objects added to the trail e.g. rocks, bridges, logs, elevation, curves, berms, jumps). *Source: https://www.imbacanada.com/*
Best Practices (American Trails Glossary for Trails, Greenway and Recreation)	Those that offer exemplary or model planning guidelines, design standards, development strategies, and management programs that lead to successful trails and programs. *Source: http://atfiles.org/resources/info/glossary.html*
Buffer Zone (NCC)	"Natural Area Buffer" was a land designation in the 1996 Greenbelt Master Plan. In the 2013 Greenbelt Master Plan, the term "buffer zone" refers to lands that buffer natural areas from adjacent uses such as facilities, roads, etc. without referring to a specific land designation. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.139.*

Term	Meaning
Canopy (Forestry Canada)	The more or less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the crowns of adjacent trees. *Other sources: City of Ottawa Urban Forest Management Plan 2018-2037; and City of Ottawa Park Development Manual 2nd Edition 2017 Section 5.2 Glossary p.94*
Capital Pathways (NCC)	This network is comprised of the pathways that connect to each other within the Capital and to regional and national trails such as the Rideau and Trans Canada Trails. *Sources: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan - Capital Pathways Network - Greenbelt Concept: Capital Context, Figure 3.2, p.25; and NCC Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary, p.139.*
Chapel Hill North Forest (FVTWG) (NCC)	The forested area encompassing NCC and City of Ottawa owned land in the area the NCC calls the Green's Creek Sector, the City calls the Voyageur Creek Valley and the RVCA calls the Voyageur Creek Subwatershed. It is bordered: • on the north by St Joseph's Boulevard; • on the east by Forest Valley Drive, the rear property line of houses on the west side of Forestglen Crescent, Valley Field Crescent, Ridgelea Place, Belcastle Court, Forest Ridge Place, Meadowhill Crescent, Meadowglen Drive, Des Broussailles Terrace, Thistleleaf Crescent and Montereau Avenue; • on the south by Innes Road; and • on the west by the RCMP Technical Protection Operations Facility area. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Section 7.7 Green's Creek Sector – Chapel Hill Woodland Core Natural Area and Chapel Hill North Forest.*
Conservation (Gov't of Ontario)	Management of the human use of the biosphere so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generations while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations, and includes the preservation, maintenance, sustainable utilization, restoration and enhancement of the environment. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*
Conservation Land (NCC)	Land specially designated by federal, provincial/territorial or local bodies to protect fragile or important ecosystems, habitats and species at risk. *Source: NCC "Building a Greener Capital" Annual Environment Report 2016-2017 Glossary p.29.*
Cumulative Effects (NCC)	The combination and interaction of individual human activities that result in aggregate effects upon a landscape unit or ecosystem and that may be different in nature or extent from the effects of the individual activities. Ecosystems cannot always cope with the combined effects of human activities without fundamental functional or structural changes. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p. 140.*
Development (City of Ottawa)	The construction, re-construction, erection or placing of one or more buildings or structures on land or the making of any material change in the use or intensity of the use of any building or land. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*
Ecological features (NCC)	Naturally occurring land, water and biological features that contribute to ecological integrity. *Source: NCC Capital Urban Lands Plan 2015 p.95.*
Ecological Integrity (NCC)	Condition of ecosystems in which the structure, composition and function of the ecosystems are unimpaired by stresses from human activity; natural ecological processes are intact and self-sustaining; and ecosystems are able to evolve naturally. *Source: NCC Capital Urban Lands Plan 2015 p.95.*

Term	Meaning
Ecological Sustainability (NCC)	The ability of natural features and functions to survive, thrive and evolve indefinitely. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.140*
Ecosystem Management Based Approach (NCC)	An approach to human activity and land management that considers all aspects of the landscape and ecosystem, on a watershed basis, and provides for protection of natural features and the processes that support them. The Greenbelt and its watershed are treated as an interconnected system, using best available science, consideration of cumulative impacts, and recognizing that a healthy environment is necessary for a healthy Capital community and economy. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.140.*
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (City of Ottawa)	An assessment of the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project. It documents the existing natural features on and around the proposed project site, identifies the potential environmental impacts of the project, recommends ways to avoid and reduce the negative impacts, and proposes ways to enhance natural features and functions. The preparation of an EIS is an important step in the development application process. The EIS helps in both planning and decision-making. As a planning tool, an EIS that is begun early can help to develop a plan that avoids negative environmental impacts by identifying areas with sensitive natural features or ecological functions for preservation. As a decision-making tool, the EIS provides agencies with the information they need to determine whether a proposed project complies with existing policies, or if further changes are necessary. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary Environmental Impact Study; City of Ottawa Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines, October 2015. https://documents.ottawa.ca/sites/documents.ottawa.ca/files/documents/eis_guidelines2015_en.pdf; and City of Ottawa Urban Forest Management Plan Chapter 4. Current Practices and Opportunities in Ottawa*
Environmental Management Plans (City of Ottawa)	The main purpose of an environmental management plan is to consider the impacts of any land-use activities on natural features, develop a plan to mitigate adverse effects, and protect, enhance or restore the natural system for the pleasure of all. *Sources: City of Ottawa, Greenspace - Environmental Management Plans; and City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 2 Strategic Directions.*
Environmental Showcase (NCC)	With evolution of the Greenbelt to become an environmental showcase, the range of land uses, management activities and facilities will demonstrate how humans can work, live and play in a manner that indefinitely maintains the environmental health of Greenbelt natural features and systems. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.140.*
Environmentally Sound (NCC)	Facility management and operations approaches and practices that are intended or strive to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, recycle resources, and conserve resources. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.140*
Forest inventory (Gov't of Ontario) (City of Ottawa)	A survey of an area to determine such data as area, condition, timber, volume, and species, for specific purposes such as planning, purchase, assessment, evaluation, management, or harvesting. *Sources: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry; and City of Ottawa Urban Forest Management Plan Chapter 4. Current Practices and Opportunities in Ottawa*

Term	Meaning
Fragmentation (NCC)	A process whereby large contiguous ecosystems are transformed into smaller patches surrounded by disturbed areas. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.141.*
Greenspace (City of Ottawa)	The preservation of the natural environment and environmental systems and the provision of recreation and leisure opportunities for the use and benefit of the public. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary; and City of Ottawa Greenspace Master Plan 2006.*
Habitat (NCC)	The place where an organism lives, and/or the conditions of that place, including the soil, vegetation, water, and food. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.141.*
Habitat (Gov't of Ontario)	An area with the combination of resources (food, over, water) and environmental conditions (temperature, precipitation, presence or absence of predators and competitors) that promotes occupancy by individuals of a given species (or population) and allows those individuals to survive and reproduce. *Source: Government of Ontario, Natural Heritage Reference Manual (NHRM) for Natural Heritage Policies of the Provincial Policy Statement 2014.*
Heritage Forest (NCC) (City of Ottawa) (Gov't of Ontario)	A stand can be an example of an Older Heritage Forest. A Forest area, either a Plantation or a Natural stand, that would resemble, in composition and size of trees, the original forests that occurred along the Ottawa River prior to settlement. The criteria for the Heritage Forest are: • A good mixture of native species with emphasis on Red and White Pine. • The potential, through selective forest management over a period of 30 years, to resemble the Heritage forests of the late 1800s. • Can be distinguished and protected as a forest stand within the boundaries of the Greenbelt. *Sources: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.141; City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary; and Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definitions "Heritage Attributes" p.43.*
High-impact Recreation (NCC)	Recreation activities which disrupt natural processes or fragment habitats, cause erosion, etc. Examples include the use of motorized recreational vehicles on natural lands and the development of permanent sports fields, etc. Impacts are associated with high intensity activities including recreation that requires permanent infrastructure and equipment, to accommodate large groups of people. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.141.*
High-Value Ecosystems and Habitats (HVEH) (NCC)	An ecosystem or habitat that is considered important for the maintenance of biodiversity because it has some combination of the following characteristics: a large diversity of species, habitat for species at risk and/or migratory species, and intact natural processes likely to support increased genetic diversity. *Sources: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan, Chap.5 Greenbelt Primary Role: Natural Environment Section 5.2 Core Natural Areas p.53-59; and NCC "Building a Greener Capital" Annual Environment Report 2016-17, Glossary p.30.*
Land Designation (NCC)	A geographically based categorization that reflects the desired use and characteristics for a specified area of land. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.141.*

Term	Meaning
Land Stewardship (NCC)	Responsible planning and management of lands to achieve a desired outcome for Greenbelt lands that is consistent with the Strategic Statements. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.141.*
Low Impact Recreation (NCC)	Recreation activities which do not disrupt natural processes, fragment habitats, or cause irreversible damage to sites or their infrastructure. Low-impact is associated with recreational activities of low intensity, including observing nature, walking and cross-country skiing, primarily on existing trails or boardwalks, as well as cycling on official trails and pathways designed for this purpose. *Source: NCC Capital Urban Lands Plan 2015 p.98.*
Maintenance (Gov't of Ontario) (City of Ottawa)	The forest management activities of tending and protection. *Sources: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry; and City of Ottawa Urban Forest Management Plan.*
Maps and Signs (IMBA Canada)	Signs are the most important communication vehicle between land managers and trail users. A well-implemented and maintained signage system has the potential to greatly enhance the user experience, navigating visitors through the trail network and providing information about an area. Signage also plays a critical role in managing risk and the rapid and efficient deployment of emergency services. *https://www.imbacanada.com/resources/maps*
Mitigation (NCC) (City of Ottawa)	The third choice in the hierarchy of response to management of cumulative effects from transportation infrastructure upon the Greenbelt. Transportation projects that have the potential to impact upon core natural areas, natural links and agriculture will identify measures to alleviate their adverse environmental effects. Such measures could include wildlife crossing underpasses or overpasses, speed breakers, slope stabilization, etc. *Sources: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.142; and City of Ottawa Environment Impact Statement Guidelines 2015, Appendix 10 Standard Mitigation Measures for the City of Ottawa.*
Multi-Use Path (NCC) (City of Ottawa)	Multi-use paths (MUP) are designed to accommodate the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, in-line skaters, cross-country skiers, strollers, wheelchairs, etc., allowing for a wide range of uses and large volume of users. It can be paved with asphalt with a yellow centre line, has a wide buffer areas on either side of the pathway, can be connected to LRT, BRT, O-Train, Park and Ride facilities, may be lit by street lights in congested, urban sections or at intersections, and forms a part of the cross-Ottawa cycling network (considered part of Ottawa's transportation policy) composed of largely off-road pathways, and often connected to regional and national trails, e.g. Rideau trail, Trans-Canada trail, Russel-Glengarry trail. *Sources: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan; NCC Capital Pathway Network Strategic Plan; City of Ottawa Park Development Manual 2nd Ed. 2017 Section 5.2 Glossary p.95; and City of Ottawa Greenspace Master Plan 2006.*
Multi-Use Trails (IMBA Canada)	Trails that are shared by different types of users (as permitted). For example: hikers/walkers, bicyclists, mountain bikers, skiers, snowshoers, dog walkers, equestrians. *Source: http://www.imbacanada.com/resources/trail-building/multi-use-trails*
Natural Corridors (City of Ottawa)	The naturally-vegetated or potentially revegetated areas that link or border natural areas and provide ecological functions such as habitat, passage, hydrological flow, connection or buffering from adjacent impacts. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*

Term	Meaning
Natural Environment Area (City of Ottawa) (NCC)	Land having a high environmental value as assessed through federal, provincial and municipal studies. Lands typically contain several components of the City's natural heritage system, including wetlands, significant woodlands, and wildlife habitat. These areas are among the most significant in Ottawa in terms of maintaining biodiversity and ecological functions. As such, development within and adjacent to these areas could unduly stress significant natural features and their ecological functions and careful management, restoration and enhancement are required. Natural environment areas within the Greenbelt were identified by the NCC. Restoration and enhancement of natural features and functions are the primary objective of management plans for publicly-owned land. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Schedules A and B; and NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan 2013 Section 5.2 Core Natural Area.*
Natural Environment Trail (City of Toronto)	The City of Toronto is currently addressing issues similar to the ones facing the Chapel Hill north forest. According to their Natural Environment Trail Strategy (NETS), a Natural Environment Trail is described as "an extensive network of informal natural-surface (dirt) trails within natural area parkland and ravines, referred to as natural environment trails. These trails are heavily used by hikers, dog-walkers, school and day-camp groups, nature enthusiasts and mountain bikers, and are highly valued as an important part of Toronto's recreational trail system." The NETS focuses on these types of trails which are in addition to paved and granular multi-use trails. *Source: City of Toronto, Natural Environment Trail Strategy https://www.cip-icu.ca/Files/Awards/Planning-Excellence/City-of-Toronto-Natural-Environment-Trail-Strategy.asp.*
Natural Features (City of Ottawa)	Physically tangible elements of the environment including wetlands, forests, ravines, rivers, valleylands, and associated wildlife habitat areas along the edge of, or which support significant ecological functions within, the natural feature. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan 3.2.3. – Designations and Land Use – Urban Natural Features; and City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*
Natural Heritage (NCC)	The flora and fauna of natural areas that have been inherited from the past and conserved for present and future generations. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.142.*
Natural Heritage Feature (City of Ottawa) (Gov't of Ontario)	Any component of the City's natural heritage system identified in accordance with the policies in Section 2.4.2 of the Official Plan, as amended from time to time. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan 3.2 Designations and Land Use; and Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definitions p.45.*
Natural Heritage System (Gov't of Ontario)	A system made up of natural heritage features and areas, and linkages intended to provide connectivity (at the regional or site level) and support natural processes which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species, and ecosystems. These systems can include natural heritage features and areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, other natural heritage features, lands that have been restored or have the potential to be restored to a natural state, areas that support hydrologic functions, and working landscapes that enable ecological functions to continue. The Province has a recommended approach for identifying natural heritage systems, but municipal approaches that achieve or exceed the same objective may also be used. *Source: Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definitions p.45.*

Term	Meaning
Natural Land (City of Ottawa)	Natural lands such as forests and waterway corridors are tied to established ecosystems that are essential to their existence. If these ecosystems are healthy, these greenspaces are self-regulating and require little human intervention. In an urban context, this is rarely the case. Natural lands cannot be artificially created or easily recreated once they are destroyed. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*
Nature Trail (City of Ottawa)	Nature Trails are paths that serve various forms of non-vehicular movement and connect to points of interest. They are low-impact paths located in sensitive environmental areas such as forests, and adjacent to wetlands or watercourses. Nature trails are designed to address the more passive recreation needs of pedestrians, and cross-country skiers, among other users. *Source: City of Ottawa Park Development Manual 2nd Edition, 2017 Section 2.5.3. Pathway Classification – Nature Trail; and Section 5.2 Glossary p.96.*
Negative Impact (City of Ottawa) (Gov't of Ontario) (NCC)	Degradation that threatens the health and integrity of the natural features or ecological functions for which an area is identified. *Sources: City of Ottawa Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines, October 2015; and Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definitions p.45.* Core Natural Areas - Main/Supporting Policies/Strategies #5. Apply preventive management practices, notably regarding potential negative impacts from human activities. Source: *NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Section 5.1 p.59.* NCC Natural Link prohibited activities and uses are those that would negatively impact or interfere with existing and developing natural link functions. Seasonal restrictions may occur for some of the listed allowable activities and uses. *Source NCC Greenbelt Master Plan Section 5.3 p.60.* Some examples cited: natural vegetation, soil, habitat, water systems and visual quality. *See also Significant Urban Woodlands No Negative Impact Test.*
Open Space (City of Ottawa)	Public parks, gardens, play areas, outdoor sports fields and land containing pathways. These lands are characterized by a cultured landscape with trees, turf and other vegetation, along with buildings. *Sources: City of Ottawa Zoning By-laws, Open Space and Leisure Zones; City of Ottawa Official Plan 3.3. - Designations and Land Use- Open Space; and City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*
Pathway (Multi-use Pathway) (City of Ottawa)	A dedicated shared use pathway for use by pedestrians and cyclists within or outside of the road right-of-way. Pathways are often shared between cyclists and pedestrians only, although some may permit additional uses such as equestrian. Pathway surface can be paved or unpaved, and more heavily used pathways may have a centerline painted to facilitate two-way travel. *Sources: City of Ottawa Pedestrian Plan; Greenspace Master Plan: Strategies for Ottawa's Urban Greenspaces; NCC Multi-Use Pathways in the Capital*
Planning Committee (City of Ottawa)	A Committee of City Council that reviews most development applications and policy matters related to planning and development of all property within the city. *Source: City of Ottawa, Planning and Development*

Term	Meaning
Preventive Management Practices (NCC)	Use of scientifically proven practices in management of human activities and land uses so as to prevent impacts upon wildlife and plant species, natural features and functions. In choosing the preventive practices to be adopted, consideration is given to the total system or ecosystem as an integral part of developing the appropriate management approach. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p.143.*
Recreational Path (City of Ottawa)	Recreational Paths are primarily intended for recreational purposes and provide opportunities for safe, off-street movement throughout the City of Ottawa. They are designed to accommodate the needs of a wide range of users and provide links to the City's wider pathway system as well as the on-street sidewalk system. Recreational Paths address the needs of walkers, joggers, hikers, cyclists, strollers and wheelchairs. *Source: City of Ottawa Park Development Manual 2nd Edition, 2017, Section 2.5.2 Pathway Classification, Recreational Path; and Section 5.2 Glossary p.97.*
Re-naturalization (NCC)	Restoration of a previously disturbed or built site to a more naturally vegetated state through site preparation and planting of indigenous species matched to the soils. The plant species will establish and thrive over time to become a functioning natural feature. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan 2013 Glossary p.143.*
Rural Area (City of Ottawa)	The part of the city not intended for urban development. It contains a number of important natural resources and is characterized by the dominance of the natural rather than the built environment and the relatively low density of development. Villages are the focus for development in the rural area. *Sources: City of Ottawa Zoning By-laws, Rural Zones; City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary; and City of Ottawa Official Plan, Designations and Land Use*
Separate Trails (IMBA Canada)	Trails that are designated for certain types of users, such as: mountain bikers or motorized vehicles or hikers/walkers or equestrians.
Significant - when applied to natural features and functions (City of Ottawa) (Gov't of Ontario)	Significant means ecologically important in terms of natural features and functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of a defined natural area or system. In regard to areas other than Wetlands and features, significance is determined through application of criteria or assessment methods in the context of systematic studies such as those described in Section 2.4.3 (Watershed and Subwatershed Plans) and Section 3.2.2 (Natural Environment Areas), Section 3.2.3 (Urban Natural Features) and Section 3.2.4 (Rural Natural Features). *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary; and Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definitions pp.48-49.*

Term	Meaning
Significant Urban Woodlands (City of Ottawa) (NCC)	Any woodland in the urban area that is 0.8 ha in size or larger and 40 years of age or older is defined as "significant" with respect to the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) and Ottawa's Official Plan. The definition assumes that any such woodland meets the economic and social functional values criteria in Ontario's Natural Heritage Reference Manual 2010. Significant woodlands are subject to the no negative impact test under the PPS. This test states that development and site alteration shall not be permitted in… significant woodlands… unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions. The no negative impact test is applied according to the Council-approved Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines. Ottawa's EIS Guidelines are currently being updated. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan December 2016; City of Ottawa Urban Forest Management Plan 2018-2037; City of Ottawa Environmental Impact Statement Guidelines; and NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan 2013 Glossary p.144. See also Negative Impact.*
Significant Valleylands (Gov't of Ontario) (NCC)	Significant valley lands consist of streams, valleys and associated stream derived features (i.e. floodplains, valley slopes, and meander belts) of either glacial or post glacial origin). *Sources: Provincial Policy Statement 2014; and NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan Glossary p. 144.*
Site Alteration (Gov't of Ontario)	Activities such as grading, excavation and placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site. *Source: Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definitions p.49.*
Singletrack Trail (IMBA Canada)	"A singletrack trail is one where users must generally travel in single file. The term "hiking trail" is an improper synonym for singletrack, because it defines a type of user, not the physical structure of the trail. The tread of a singletrack trail is typically 18- to 24-inches wide, though it can be as narrow as 6 or as wide as 36 inches. Singletrack trails tend to wind around obstacles such as trees, large rocks, and bushes. As compared to roads, singletrack trails blend into the surrounding environment, disturb much less ground, and are easier to maintain. The tread of singletrack is almost always natural surface, in contrast to the gravel or pavement of roads…" *Source: IMBA Canada Mountain Bike Trail Building and Design. http://www.imbacanada.com/resources/trail-building/importance-singletrack*
Stakeholder (NCC)	Any group of people, organized or unorganized, who at times may share a common interest, but always have a vested stake in a particular issue or system. A stakeholder can occupy any level or position in society, from global, national and regional down to the household or individual, and be groups of any size and aggregation. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan 2013 Glossary p.144.*
Sustainability (NCC)	The capacity of a thing, action, activity, or process to be maintained indefinitely. *Source: NCC Canada's Capital Greenbelt Master Plan 2013 Glossary p.144.*
Sustainable Development (City of Ottawa)	A strategy that requires the integration of economic growth, social equity, and environmental management to ensure a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary; and City of Ottawa, Planning and Development, Greenspace Master Plan 2006.*

Term	Meaning
Trail Building and Design (IMBA Canada)	"There's more to building a trail than moving rocks and dirt. Trails are usually part of larger systems that are the result of careful and diligent planning and collaboration. These trail systems must serve the needs of multiple user groups and take environmental and geographical factors into account. While land managers and other administrators are ultimately responsible for land planning processes, committed trail users and community groups have important roles to play as well. Planning, after all, is ultimately about the big picture, and that picture includes not only the forest and the trees, but also the entire trails community ..." *Source: IMBA Canada Mountain Bike Trail Building and Design. http://www.imbacanada.com/resources/trail-building*
Trail Difficulty Ratings (IMBA Canada)	A basic method used to categorize the relative technical difficulty of recreation trails. The IMBA Trail Difficulty Rating System can: • Help trail users make informed decisions • Encourage visitors to use trails that match their skill level • Manage risk and minimize injuries • Improve the outdoor experience for a wide variety of visitors • Aid in the planning of trails and trail systems. *Source: IMBA Canada Trail Difficulty Rating System. http://www.imbacanada.com/trail-difficulty-rating-system*
Trail Management Plan (IMBA Canada)	Factors to include: • overall goals and objectives • land use policy • trail authorization process • trail capacity • other trail users • risk management • environmental impacts • inspection schedule and maintenance • funding model The plan should clearly identify who is responsible for carrying out each part of the plan and include a system for recording and reporting results. The plan should also be based on Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are well documented by IMBA. *Source: https://www.mbta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Mountain-Bike-Tourism-TBE-Destination-BC.pdf*
Unstable Slope/Land (City of Ottawa) (NCC)	Slope of land that has potential to collapse or slide if development occurs on, or adjacent to, such an area. The landslide condition can result from a variety of reasons, such as the geological makeup of the soil or rock, steepness of slope, the degree of erosion occurring due to natural causes, or as a result of human activities and the amount of natural vegetation present in the area. Any single condition or combination of the above conditions may cause slope instability. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.* Green's Creek's features are characterized by naturally unstable stream banks, a situation which has been exacerbated by surrounding and upstream urban development. *Source: NCC Greenbelt Master Plan Chapter 7.7 Green's Creek Sector, Context p. 121.*
Watercourse (City of Ottawa)	A naturally occurring drainage channel, which includes rivers, streams and creeks. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*

Term	Meaning
Watershed (City of Ottawa) (Gov't of Ontario)	A watershed is also known as a catchment or basin. It is the land/area drained by a river and its tributaries. It is separated from adjacent watersheds by a land ridge or divide. A subwatershed is usually a smaller area of land draining to a single tributary of a larger river. CHN forest is in the Ottawa East Watershed and the Voyageur Creek Subwatershed (Ref: Ottawa Official Plan Annex 2A map). The purpose of a watershed or subwatershed plan is to provide environmental direction to land use planning. These plans attempt to balance environmental protection, conservation and restoration with development and land-use practices to ensure the long-term health of the watershed. In some cases, the need for more detailed studies such as environmental management plans or environmental impact statements is identified for specific areas or sites of future development. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Annex 2A and Section 8 Glossary; and Provincial Policy Statement 2014 Definition p.50.*
Watershed Plan (City of Ottawa)	A plan developed in partnership with municipalities, agencies and residents dealing with broad water management issues in the area of land drained by a particular river and its tributaries. It will provide general direction and objectives for the watershed area and more specific direction for the preparation on subwatershed or site management plans. It will include the components outlined in Official Plan Section 2.4.3. Maintaining Environmental Integrity – Watershed and Subwatershed Plans. *Sources: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 2 Strategic Directions; and City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.*
Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat (City of Ottawa) (Gov't of Ontario)	Wildlife refers to flora and fauna. Wildlife habitat means areas where plants, animals and other organisms live and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific wildlife habitat of concern may include areas where species concentrate at a vulnerable point in their annual or life cycle and areas which are important to migratory or non-migratory species. *Sources: City of Ottawa Wildlife Strategy 2013; and Provincial Policy Statement 2014, Definitions p.50; and City of Ottawa Environment Impact Statement Guidelines 2015, Appendix 9 Characteristics of Significant Wildlife Habitat.*
Woodlands (City of Ottawa) (PPS)	Treed areas, woodlots or forested areas. *Source: City of Ottawa Official Plan Section 8 Glossary.* Treed areas that provide environmental and economic benefits to both the private landowner and the general public, such as erosion prevention, hydrological and nutrient cycling, provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, provision of wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational opportunities, and the sustainable harvest of a wide range of woodland products. Woodlands include treed areas, woodlots or forested areas and vary in their level of significance at the local, regional and provincial levels. Woodlands may be delineated according to the Forestry Act definition or the Province's Ecological Land Classification system definition for "forest". *Source: Provincial Policy Statement 2014, Definitions, p.50*