

## TRAILS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR DIRA - April 2016.

While no new sections of trail were added to the Cross Island Trail this year the Trails Committee has been busy maintaining the trail on a regular basis. Once a week a member of our committee walk the completed trail checking its condition, cutting back brush from the trail edges and picking up litter, and for that we are grateful. However, occasionally we find a pile of horse droppings on the trail and feel that this type of litter should be kicked to the side of the trail by the horse rider and not left for public display. I understand many horse riders do clean up after their animals but a few do not, consequently we appeal to these riders to consider other trail users and clean up after your animals.

The Trails Committee, Islands Trust, DIRA and the CVRD have all appealed to the Highways Department to allow a connecting trail between the bottom of the Big Hill to the top, all to no avail. Highways states that the hill is no condition to support a trail alongside the road, and funding for repairs to the road could reach  $\frac{1}{2}$  a million dollars, that kind of money is not available. Therefore it is up to the unlucky pedestrian, to walk the hill with no connecting trail that is perhaps braving the most dangerous section of road on Denman Island.

This year working with the CVRD we hope to plan out the next section of the Cross Island Trail, this will continue down Denman Road and link up with East Road on the east side until it reaches Corrigal Road. From there it will proceed down the paved section of road and eventually reach the Corrigal Road Right of Way. It is hoped that the route will then follow the Right of Way to Lindsey Dickson Park and eventually Mallard Way. From there the trail will connect again with East Road and continue its way south.

The Trails Committee have been busy clearing fallen trees away in the latter part of last year in Boyle Point Park and clearing overgrown trails in Denman Island Park. Just recently we have cleared the start of the trail from Wren Road that leads into the new Park.

As in past years we have continued to work with the Parks Committee in the final planning for Denman Island Park. There are still a few trails that need work but eventually we hope to link up trails from Central Park with Denman Island Park making more hiking available to Denman Islanders and its visitors.

We once again appeal for some new blood to help us in our constant work to help keep Denman island trails in good condition. We are a fun group, will not work you to death but show you the amazing amount of trails on the Island. Please speak to any member of the Committee should you be interested.

I would once again like to thank all members of the Trails Committee for their dedication toward contributing to making our small Island a better place to walk and enjoy our Parks and Trails. These volunteers are:

Anne Page, Frank Frketich, Graeme Johnson, Howard Stewart, Margie Gang, Michael Gorman, Ralph McCuaig and Tim Fuchs. Thank you for all your work with the Trails Committee.

Sincerely. Allan Danks, Chair-person.