



Walk Around Lake Country (WALC)

Presentation to District of Lake Country Council meeting June 20, 2023

1. WALC's Mission: "To develop and promote trails in and around Lake Country".
2. WALC has been working to improve our community for 25 years.
3. We are long time collaborators with District staff; we add value, leveraging resources and getting things done respectfully, efficiently, and effectively. The \$5,000 allocated to us annually is appreciated and used to develop and promote Lake Country trails and their use.
4. We collaborate with many local groups, including schools, Lake Country Riders, High Rim Trail Society, Friends of the Rail Trail, Ribbons of Green, Shuswap Trail Alliance and Rotary.
5. Outstanding partnership with Rotary Club of Lake Country. Delivered 11 projects adding 3 km of trails, 8 kiosks and an Outdoor Learning Centre. Rotary has contributed \$95,000 which we leveraged into \$225,000 worth of projects. Rotary and WALC have contributed hundreds of hours of volunteer time.
6. Spion Kop (Crown Land) has been a major focus for WALC since 2008. We marked a trail network of 17 km for hikers, created paper maps and installed kiosks on District Land at all 4 trailheads. WALC would love to see this beautiful area in the heart of Lake Country protected by some level of Park status.
7. The 2022 Lake Country Trails Wayfinding and Mapping project, funded by a \$98,050 federal Healthy Communities Initiative grant is the biggest we've undertaken, resulting in: wayfinding kiosks, trailhead and pathway markers throughout the District as well as accessibility improvements at Jack Seaton Park.
8. The Wayfinding project also created a paper map and the new online District's Interactive Trails Map. It is at:
www.lakecountry.bc.ca/maps/trails
9. We have identified, named and rated 56 trails totaling over 73 km. 61 Km of trails within the District, of which over 40 Km to be maintained by DLC.
10. WALC is working with staff on a new Trails Maintenance volunteer program. We're looking for volunteers to work, under WALC supervision, on agreed upon trail maintenance and, possibly, as trail stewards, reporting on trail conditions.
11. Our objective is to champion trails in the District of Lake Country, to ensure they are valued, maintained, expanded as opportunities arise and, always, to promote their use.
12. Does the District have sufficient funds and resources to properly maintain these incredibly valuable assets?



WALC members: Elisabeth Dahnert, Dev Fraser (presenter), Wendy Fraser, Judy Guido, Julie Halfnights, Mandy Hicks (presenter), Brenda Johnson, Anne Wise