

Hike Nova Scotia Annual Report 2016-2017

These are just some of the highlights of progress on Hike NS's strategic directions from April 2016 to March 2017.

Advocacy

- Actively engaged in consultations on the draft Nova Scotia Trails Strategy and endorsed a final draft
- Wrote a letter to the NS Premier on the importance of protected areas
- Wrote a letter to the NS Premier and Natural Resources Minister on clearcutting near Kejimikujik National Park
- Made submissions to HRM on the need for the Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes regional park and the Urban Wilderness Park in the Purcell's Cove Backlands
- Provided input on a new Framework for Physical Activity for Canada
- Provided input on the Parks Canada Let's Talk Parks, Canada! consultation



West Hants Parks and Recreation organized the Irishman's Road Haunting Hike in Gypsum Mines, Windsor on October 26 as part of the Fall Guided Hike Series.

Promotion

- Offered the Fall Guided Hike series with 30 hikes for 580 participants with 29 partner groups
- Offered the Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike series with 47 hikes for 940 participants with 32 partner groups
- Offered 9 Outdoor Council of Canada courses to over 100 people across NS
- Offered 8 Re-Connecting with Nature workshops for 155 people across NS



Naturally Active Victoria County organized a snowshoe hike on Smokey Mountain, Victoria County on March 26 as part of the Winter Guided Snowshoe Hike Series.



Adventure in Every Step

- Offered instructor training courses for the Field Leader - Hiking course and the Re-Connecting with Nature workshop
- Won a rebranding contest offered by Bits.co (see our new logo above)
- Co-hosted a talk in Halifax by Michael Haynes with Goose Lane Editions in April attended by 200 people



Participants take a Re-Connecting with Nature workshop in Halifax in June 2016.

Leadership

- Participated in meetings and consultations affecting the Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in Nova Scotia and the draft Nova Scotia Trails Strategy
- Provided various letters of support to groups in support of trails and outdoor initiatives
- The International Appalachian Trail AGM was held in April in Mabou, NS with attendees from inside and outside of Canada

Strong Organizational Presence

- Increased Hike NS's membership by 25% over the previous year
- Saw 175 people attend the Hiking Summit in Digby in April 2016
- Awarded the Summit Awards to Larry Goodwin and to the Fundy Erratics hiking group
- Continued partnerships with the NS Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, The Trail Shop, the Outdoor Council of Canada, Leave No Trace Canada, the International Appalachian Trail, Hike Canada, NS Trails and many others



Hike NS thanks the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage for its ongoing support.