



NEWS RELEASE

“Going the Next Kilometre”: Goettler Family Foundation Supports Extension of the Heritage Trail

For Immediate Release

July 4, 2025

The Town and the Heritage Trail Committee are proud to share that through a generous donation by the Goettler Family Foundation, the Heritage Trail is being restored from Line 3 Road to Line 4 Road, improving the pathway into a multi-purpose trail that will serve future generations.

The Town recently invited community feedback on the design concept for the next phase of the Heritage Trail Rehabilitation Project, which spans from Line 3 Road to Line 8 Road. The next step will see approximately 4.22 kilometres of trail upgraded with limestone screenings, closely following the existing route.

The Town, its Heritage Trail Committee, and the Goettler Family Foundation greatly support the protection of this historic trail and look forward to seeing it enjoyed by residents and visitors for generations to come.

About the Heritage Trail Committee

The Heritage Trail Committee was formed in 2019 to preserve and rehabilitate the trail that follows the historic Erie and Ontario Railroad along Concession 1. This was one of the first railroads in the province and was used for over 100 years. The Heritage Trail fundraising group continues to seek donations toward upcoming phases of this important community initiative. Donations can be made online via PayPal, Debit, MasterCard and Visa, or sent to: The Heritage Trail Committee c/o of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, PO Box 100, Virgil, Ontario, L0S 1T0. Donations of \$25 and more will receive a charitable tax receipt. To learn more information about the Upper Canada Heritage Trail, visit heritagetrail.ca.

Quotes

“On behalf of Council, thank you to the Goettler Family Foundation for this generous donation to fund another kilometre of the Heritage Trail, and to the Heritage Trail Committee for their dedication in seeing this project throughout its various stages. I look



forward to seeing the trail continue to provide recreational opportunities to the community.” – **Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa**

“The Town is proud to support the preservation and long-term maintenance of the newly restored Heritage Trail, and remains committed to protecting and maintaining this much-loved trail for years to come, ensuring it remains a safe and scenic route for everyone to enjoy. Thank you to Staff for their continuous support.” – **CAO Bruce Zvaniga**

“The Heritage Trail Committee members are committed to extending this legacy trail and its protection. The Committee knows that the restoration of this abandoned rail line into a restored multi-purpose trail will protect it for future generations.” - **Vice Chair of the Heritage Trail Committee Tony Chisholm**

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