



BC Trail Fund Recommendations

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A close-up photograph of a vibrant green leaf, heavily covered with numerous clear water droplets. The droplets vary in size and are scattered across the leaf's surface, which shows detailed vein patterns. The background is softly blurred, creating a bokeh effect with out-of-focus light spots.

Agenda

1. BC Trails Review
2. Jurisdiction Reviews
3. Recommendations

1. BC Trails Review

Who does BC trail work?

LAND MANAGEMENT ENTITIES

Recreation Sites and Trails BC (20,000 km)

BC Parks (7,400 km)

Municipal Governments (9,000 km)

Regional Districts (1,000 km)

Parks Canada (1,000 km)

First Nations (unknown)

Private Landowners (unknown)

Who maintains BC trails?

LAND MANAGEMENT ENTITIES

Recreation Sites and Trails BC (20,000 km)

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Municipal Governments (9,000 km)

Regional Districts (1,000 km)

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First Nations (unknown)

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NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS

Hundreds

BC Trails Survey: Trail Work Conducted

	2018	Number of respondents	2019	Number of respondents
Volunteer Hours	62,310 hours	50	62,970 hours	56
Value of Volunteer Hours (\$15 - \$25 per hour)	\$934,650 - \$1,557,750	50	\$944,550 - \$1,574,250	56
Km of trail maintained	8300 km	83	8527 km	83

BC Trails Survey: Need for Trail Funding



50% unable to take on trail projects due to a lack of funding



Extremely likely to apply for trail funds



Collecting funds and resources is generally perceived to be **hard**

BC Trails Survey: Weighted Trail Costs 2018 and 2019

FUND SOURCE	TOTAL SUM	TOTAL PERCENTAGE	NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS
Our organization's membership fees	\$ 608,659.78	14%	55
Federal government funding	\$ 187,956.50	4%	5
Provincial government funding	\$ 1,052,628.77	24%	35
Regional district or municipal government funding	\$ 825,920.85	19%	20
Corporate sponsors or partners	\$ 370,641.56	9%	27
User fees (such as park entrance fees, parking fees, etc.)	\$ 122,200.00	3%	8
Donations	\$ 348,072.39	8%	40
Trust or Foundation grants	\$ 618,927.50	14%	17
Other	\$ 180,274.65	4%	12
Total	\$ 4,315,282.00		73

Summary of funding

LAND MANAGEMENT ENTITIES

Budgets,
partnerships

NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND
VOLUNTEERS

Grants, Partnerships,
Sponsors,
Membership fees,
etc.




2. Jurisdiction Reviews

Iceland



Iceland



Tourism

Environment

Western Australia

Western Australia

Collaboration

Planning

Government

New Zealand



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Summary

Other jurisdictions have clear goals that help guide trail development. Goals are tied to the benefits of trails.



3. Recommendations

Recommendations Overview



RECOMMENDED FUND
CHARACTERISTICS



RECOMMENDED
ACTIONS



FUND SOURCE OPTIONS

Fund Characteristics

Diversified	Build a sustainable fund with diversified sources
Representative	Represent a unified voice on macro-level issues and goals
Neutral	Manage the fund through a neutral third party or a representative group
Long term	Ensure the fund has accountability measures and long-term viability
Volunteers	Prioritize trail volunteers and not-for-profit organizations
Flexible	Make the fund flexible and accessible

Fund Source Options

Provincial
Government

Regional District

Tourism

Commercial
Outdoor
Recreation
Stakeholders

Corporations

Community
Gaming Grants

Federal
Government

Natural Resource
Industry

Users

Events

Film & Marketing

Environment

Safety



Provincial Government

Funding from different parts of government including partnerships or grants applications.

- Environment and Climate Change Strategy
- FLNRORD
- Health
- Tourism, Arts & Culture
- Transportation & Infrastructure **Infrastructure grants*

Approaches:

- 1) Large one-time contribution
- 2) Long term periodic funding
- 3) Special appropriations account



Regional District

For local projects

Fund may require ability to earmark



Tourism

Approaches:

- 1) Partnerships
- 2) Donations or Sponsorships
- 3) Government Enforced Fees or Taxes

Potential Collaborators:

- Municipalities or regional districts in areas with high tourism
- Tourism organizations (such as boards or associations)
- Provincial marketing agency (Destinations BC)
- Commercial tour operators
- YVR (partnered with BC Parks Foundation)



Commercial Outdoor Recreation Stakeholders & Corporations

1. Commitment of profits
2. Donations / sponsorships



Community Gaming Grants

Must meet requirements

Can not be considered initially



Federal Government

Opportunity for growth

Gas Tax Fund



Natural Resource Industries

Ideas:

- 1) A shift of values in forestry from resource extraction to conservation/recreation
 - Forest Enhancement Society has been mentioned
- 2) Asking resource extractors to support trails
 - Ex. Funding resource roads
- 3) Receiving fee or tax revenue from the resource sector



Users

Opportunity for growth

Barriers:

- 1) How will user fees be collected?
- 2) What will be the cost of the system?
- 3) Will BC residents support user fees?.
- 4) Will trail volunteers need to pay?

Next Step: Further research on user groups and behaviours



Events

Trail events, races, etc.



Film & Marketing

Fees and taxes on material that uses BC nature

“Can new taxes/fees be created or can existing taxes/fees be redirected to trails?”

*BC Parks and governments have permits

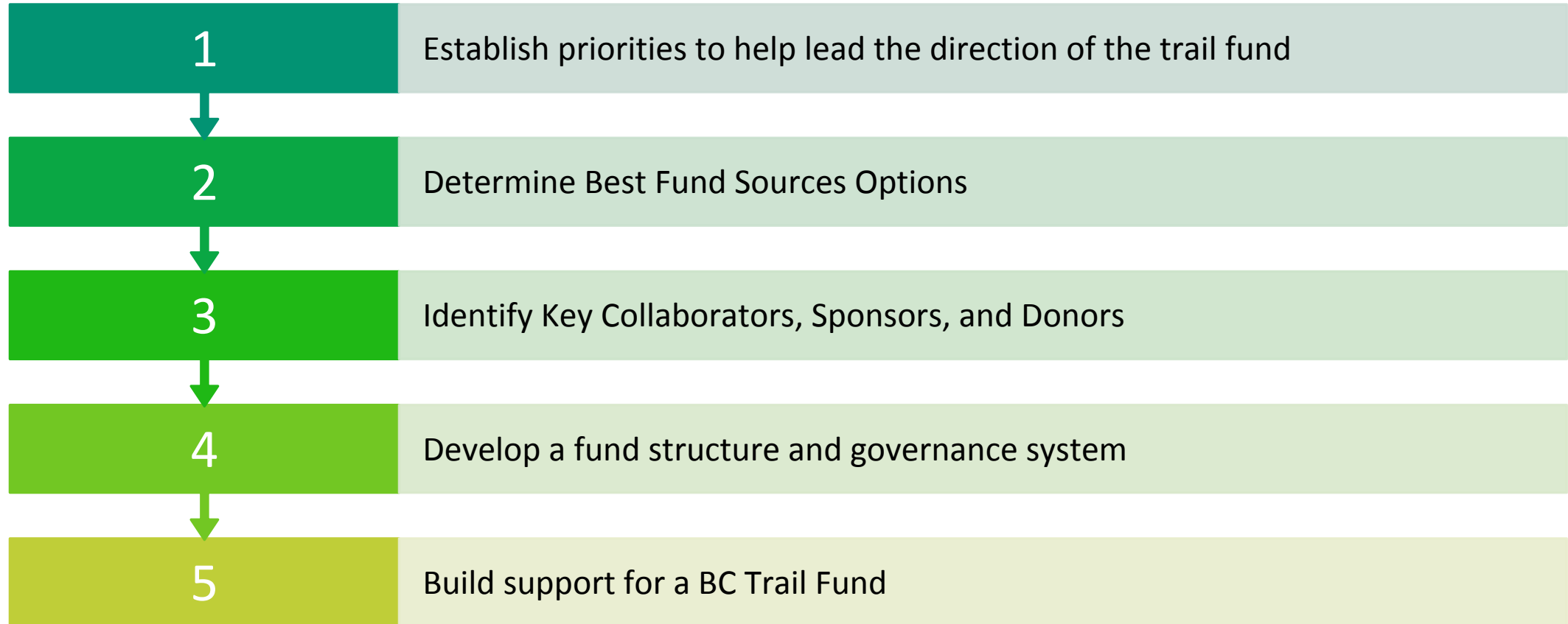


Environment & Safety

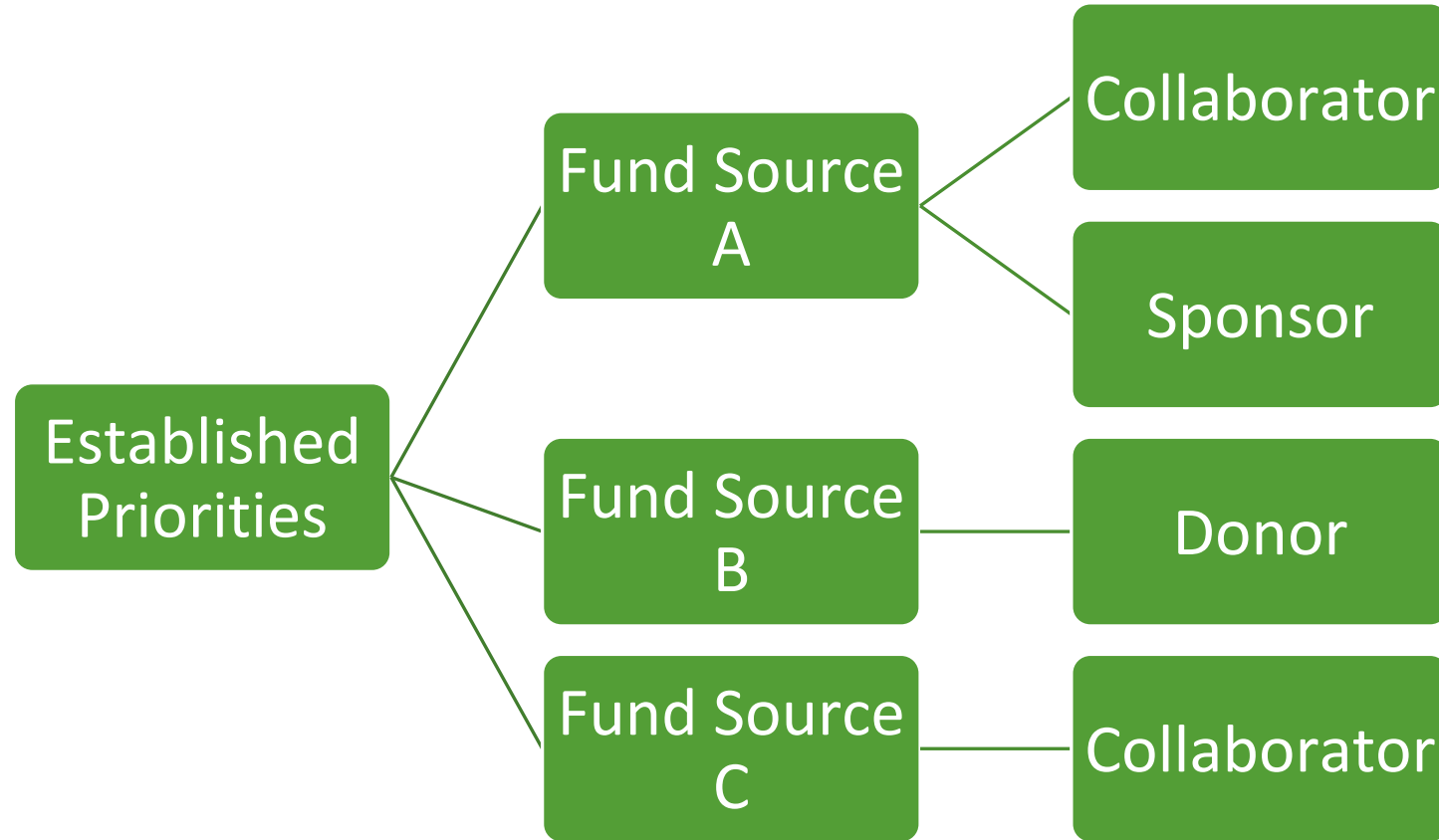
Partnerships through aligned values

Next Steps...

Actions: A Framework to Follow



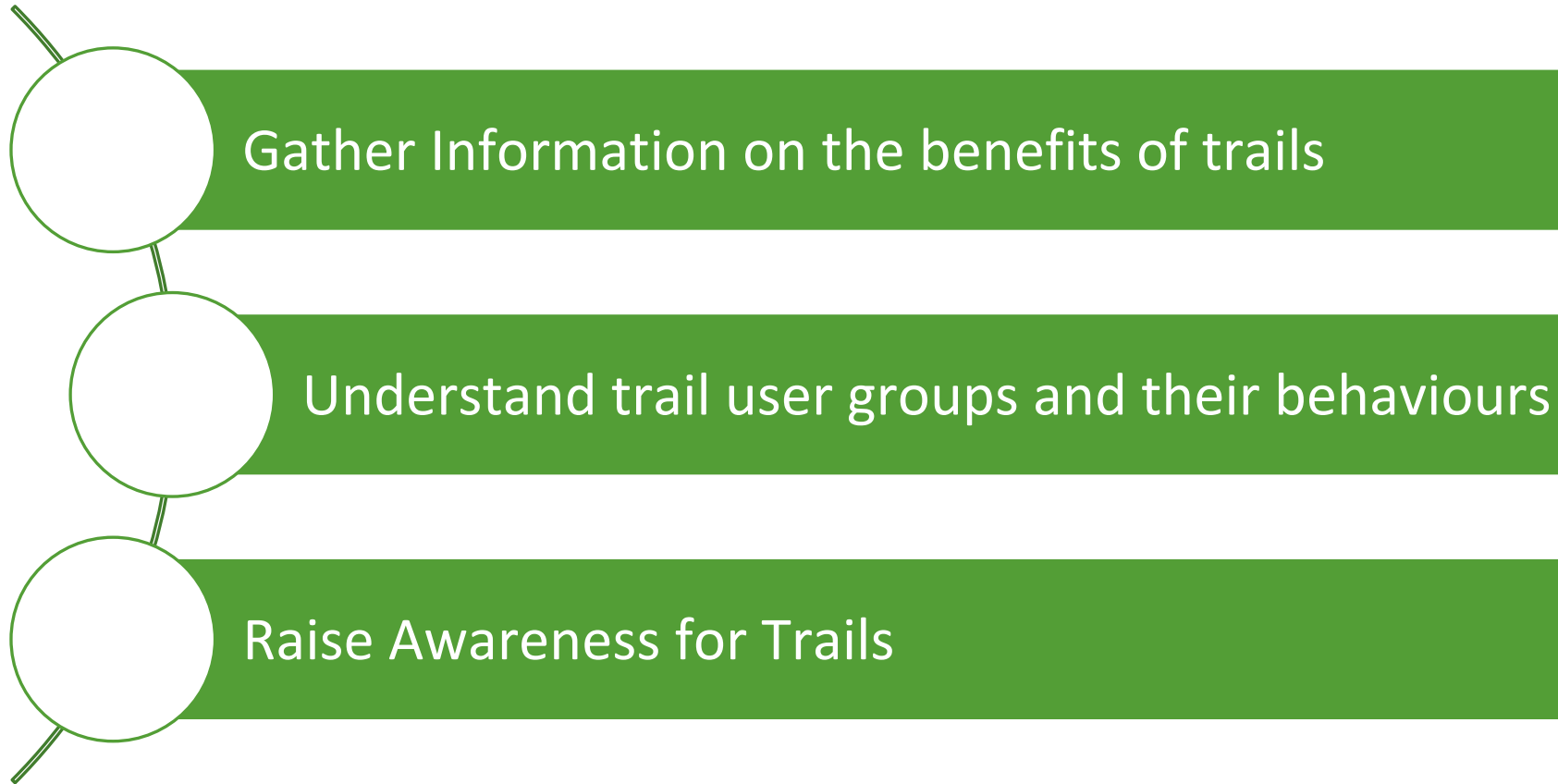
Step 1, 2 & 3: Direction and Funds



Step 4: Structure and Governance



Step 5: Building Support



Summary



Follow Recommended Actions



Use the *Recommended Fund Characteristics*, *Fund Source Options*, and *Trail Survey* as tools to help guide the actions

Questions?

Perceived Difficulty of Performing Each Activity

