

Trail links York to Tobermory

BY ROY GREEN
Staff Writer

You may not want to, but it's now possible to hike along a single 2,500-kilometre path using Canada's largest network of walking trails.

The 200-km Oak Ridges Moraine Trail, which runs through the heart of York Region, is now connected to the Bruce Trail, which runs 800 km from Niagara to Tobermory.

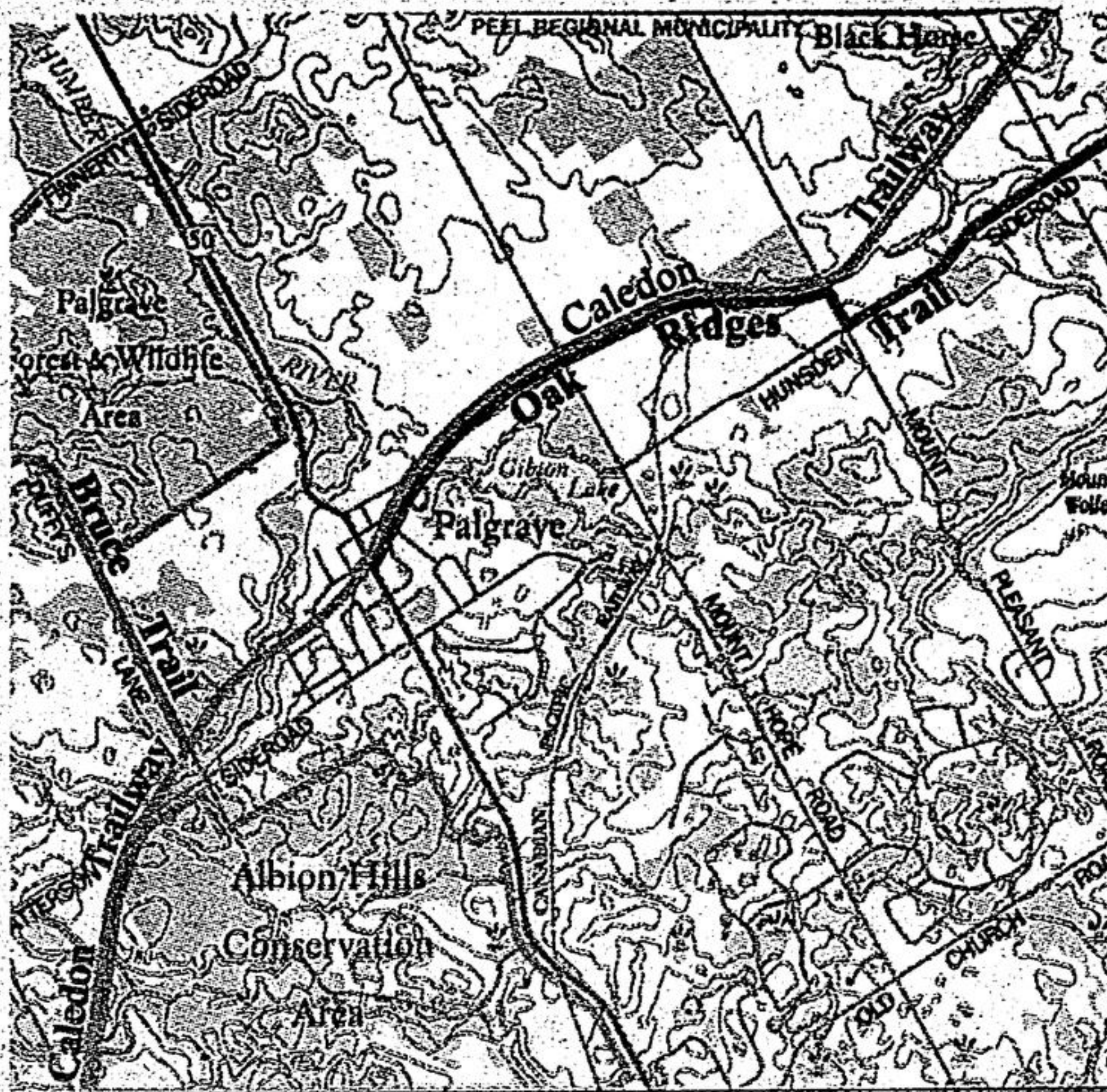
At a news conference at Queen's Park Tuesday, the Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation announced \$250,000 in funding to link the two trails at the Caledon Trailway in Palgrave.

The trail will increase awareness of Ontario's greenbelt legislation and aid in protecting the Oak Ridges Moraine, according to Harold Sellers, executive director of the Oak Ridges Trail Association.

Hikers can now travel from south of Peterborough to north of Owen Sound without stepping off the connected trails, Mr. Sellers said.

The linking of these trails and many others that connect to them has created a network of more than 2,500 km of hiking and walking trails in southern Ontario, much of it in the greenbelt, he added.

Mr. Sellers, who has walked the Oak Ridges trail on a number of occasions, is looking forward to walking the Bruce Trail.



The Oak Ridges trail is entirely on lands owned by individuals, municipalities, conservation authorities and institutions who have granted access to their properties.

In York Region, it passes through King, Aurora, Richmond Hill, Newmarket, Vaughan, East Gwillimbury, Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The Bruce Trail, Canada's oldest and longest marked footpath, provides public access to the

Niagara Escarpment, a UNESCO world biosphere reserve — one of only 12 such reserves in Canada.

Linking the trails in Canada is only the most recent step in the long-term plan for the Oak Ridges Trail Association, Mr. Sellers said.

More trails will be built in Peel and into Dufferin and Simcoe Counties, eventually reaching the escarpment. In the east, the trail will extend to the Trent River, he said.



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Stouffville Sun-Tribune

MARKHAM ECONOMIST & SUN



THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL

will be held on

Wednesday, June 29, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.

in the Auditorium of
Markham Stouffville Hospital
381 Church Street
Markham, Ontario L3P 7P5

James R. MacLean, Secretary

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting
3. Chair's Report
4. President's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Nominating Committee Report
7. New Business
8. Recognition Awards
9. Adjournment

** For an advanced copy of the Nominating Committee Report, call (905) 472-7567.