



# Friends of the Harte Trail Newsletter– December 2019

info@hartetrail.com



## AGM 2019

The Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, October 24, 2019, in the large meeting room at Charleswood library. A number of important items were discussed. Unfortunately the attendance at the meeting was rather low. Membership attendance is essential to the continuation and growth of The Friends of the Harte Trail.

As a result of the elections held at the meeting your executive members are:

<b>President:</b>	Phil Jenkinson
<b>Past President:</b>	Barb Hutton
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Murray Morien
<b>Secretary:</b>	Calvin Olson

## Directors at Large:

Eddie Bartmanowicz  
Steve Coates  
Darlene Boettcher  
Susan Bend  
Patrice Wilken  
Jim Anton

## Thank you

Thank you to Barb Hutton for all the work, time and energy she gave to the Friends of the Harte Trail during her time as President. Barb now assumes the role of Past President.

## An Introduction to Phil Jenkinson – President of the Friends of the Harte Trail:

Phil joined the Harte Trail in June of 2017, shortly after moving into Charleswood. Phil uses the Trail daily with the family, adventuring in the woods

with the kids and jogging the length of the trail regularly. A focus on public awareness of the Trail is one of his main goals, as well as growing the membership base. He has a passion for the conservation of the wildness along the trail. Phil will work with City, Provincial and Federal partners along with private business to grow our partnerships, generate programs and projects that maintain and improve our trail.

One of Phil's forward looking steps has been the establishment of a web site for the Harte Trail.

Friends of the Harte Trail Website:

<https://www.hartetrail.com>

If you have items of interest for the web site Phil's contact information is on the newsletter banner.

## A Note from Lois Caron:

As retiring Past-President, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the many volunteers who helped me throughout these past 20 years. It has been a great experience with many wonderful memories. I enjoyed working with so many dedicated volunteers to keep this Charleswood treasure for future generations to enjoy.

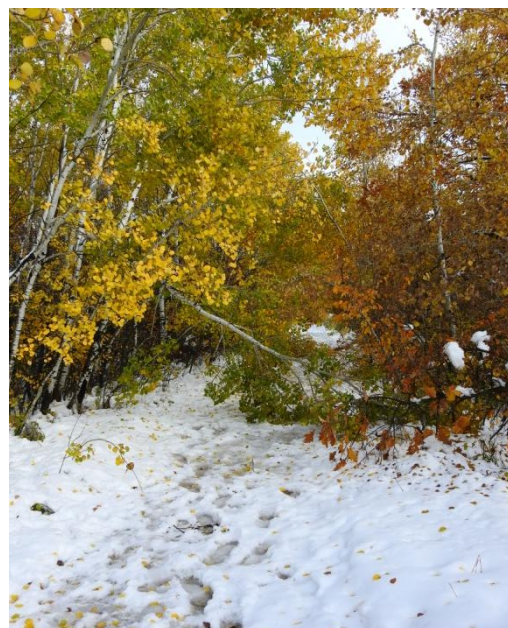
Some of the many memories that I have as part of this group are the birth of the Harte Trail as part of the Trans Canada Trail in July 2000, interpretative signage, benches, bird-houses, Van Roon Gardens, expansion of the trail to Shaftesbury Boulevard, Mayor's Volunteer Award, annual trail cleanups, taking great pride in celebrating our various annual International Trails Days every June. Last but not least the several AG Meetings. Another plus was meeting other trail groups and sharing many ideas. Finally, I enjoyed working with all those involved in the Ridgewood West Development to ensure that we protect the Harte Trail.

I wish this present and future Executives continued success in preserving this great trail in our neighbourhood.

## Harte Trail and the October Snow Storm:

(Cam Ruml)

The heavy snow bent down and broke a lot of trees and shrubs along the trail, making some sections difficult to pass. I noticed however that Harte Trail had relatively less damage than many other areas in the city, because most of the trail is flanked by relatively smaller trees and shrubs. In contrast, parts of Assiniboine Forest had a lot more damage in areas with larger more mature trees. It took a crew almost 2 days to clear the entire Harte Trail. We noticed that trail users had cleared some of the fallen branches which helped us out a lot. So I'd say that although Harte Trail wasn't impacted as severely as some other parks and trails, it still had a lot pruning and debris to clear.



## Fall Tree Planting:

On a fantastic Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> a fall tree planting took place on the Harte Trail. The tree planting took place as part of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of CN Rail. CN, in partnership with Tree Canada, supplied 100 trees to plant along our trail. These trees and shrubs are part of the ongoing planting project to create a forest along the length of the Harte Trail. As part of the celebrations there were representatives from the City, Province, Tree Canada, CN Rail, Friends of the Harte Trail and an historical Charleswood family, the Van Roons.

### *City participates:*

Councillor Kevin Klein

5 City staff including Cam Ruml from the Naturalists Services

### *Provincial government participants:*

MLA/Speaker Myrna Driedger

MLA Sarah Guillemard

There were many volunteers from the community, and family/friends of staff. Volunteers from other community groups and Green Teams helped with the planting.

A large boulder with a metal plaque was installed to commemorate the occasion.





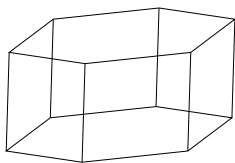
## Natural History

### Snow

We are all very familiar with the concept of snow. It can be beautiful and the basis of a number of winter activities. It can, however, fill our sidewalks and drive ways, clog up our roads and make walking and driving difficult. It can, in sufficient amounts, cause damage to trees, shrubs, buildings, power poles and bring a city or region to a standstill.

We call what we see falling from winter clouds snowflakes. What we see land on a surface is quite different from where and how it began its journey. What we call snowflakes are actually a collection of ice crystals. The ice crystal formed in the clouds some distance above the ground. Before any ice crystal can form a couple of conditions must be present in the atmosphere. There has to be water vapor and minute particles of matter. These particles can be any kind of solid matter including salt crystals.

To start the process water vapour must collect on the particle. The water vapor then turns directly into ice with no liquid water stage occurring. This transition from vapour to ice is just one of the many interesting things about the chemistry of water. Because of the shape of water molecules and the way that they join together the ice crystal takes the shape of a six sided prism.



The prism shape has six sides and a top and bottom surface. As the ice crystal is moved around by moving air it bumps into more water vapour that freezes onto it, thus increasing its size. The growth in size of the ice crystals occurs at each of the six points of the hexagonal prism. The process gives the ice crystal its characteristic six sided shape. The way a snow crystal grows is dependent on the temperature in the clouds and the amount of water vapor. In time the ice crystal is too heavy for

the moving air to hold it up. It starts to fall toward the ground. Because there are so many ice crystals in the cloud and the air is moving, the ice crystals bump into each other. Depending on conditions, the ice crystals that collided with each other may stick together. At the point where ice crystals stick together we have the concept of a snow flake, because a snow flake is many ice crystals stuck together. So what we see falling from the clouds and call snowflakes is in reality a very large collection of ice crystal joined together. The actual shape of the snow flake that we see is dependent on what happens to it on the way to the ground. Atmospheric conditions such as air movement, moisture and air temperature have a significant effect on the final shape of the snow flake.

### What colour is snow?

When we see snow falling or snow on the ground it is described as being white in colour. This observation is interesting because the ice crystals that make up the snow flake are clear. The answer lies in what happens to light when it hits the snow flakes. When an object reflects back all the wavelengths of the visible spectrum we have learned to call the colour of the object white. That is exactly what happens inside a snow flake. The light enters into the snow flake, bounces around from ice crystal to ice crystal and leaves the snow flake to be captured by our eyes. Because all the wave lengths that went into the snow flake come out, we record the colour as white. Sometimes if the light penetrates into the snow on the ground, some of the red wave lengths do not come back out and we may record the snow colour as being slightly blue. Our eyes are good at adapting to such things but if you take a photograph of the snow scene you will more than likely see a blue tinge in the picture.

### Snow noises

Have you ever noticed when walking or driving on snow that it makes a sound. When the air temperature is -10 or lowers the ice crystals that form the snow do not want to slide over each other as readily as they do at warmer temperatures. The

ice crystals grind against each other or actually break making the distinctive crunch or squeak.

### **Snow as sound absorber**

Have you ever gone outside after a generous fall of fluffy snow and things seem unusually quiet. The reason is that the light snow on the ground has trapped a large amount of air in it. The sound energy strikes the snow but is not reflected back. The air pockets trapped in the snow act as sound absorbing chambers, thus the reduced sound levels.

### **Snow as an Insulator**

This may sound unusual because we know snow to be cold to the touch. In fact snow can act as an insulator in couple of important ways. As snow falls to the ground it traps a certain amount of air among the flakes. This trapped air prevents heat transfer just like the filling in your winter jacket. The more trapped air the better the insulation value. The longer the snow is on the ground the lower the insulation rate as the snow becomes more compact and thus has fewer air spaces. This snow insulation factor is important in that it affects how cold the ground gets and therefore has an effect on the degree to which the ground freezes. This can be a very important factor for animals that burrow into the soil and leaves to survive the winter. In a similar way the insulator property of snow is important to the mice and voles that do not hibernate and live in the space between the ground and the layer of the snow next to the ground. The space that they live in is called the Subnivian zone. It is created when some residual heat from the ground causes the snow to go straight to water vapour without the liquid stage (sound familiar). The water vapour wicks up into the snow and freezes. The iced layer forms the roof of the tunnels that these animals make in the snow. It does not take many centimetres of snow to keep the temperatures in the tunnels around or slightly above the freezing mark.

In more human terms we have used the insulating value of snow for a long time. An example of this is the igloo. Blocks of packed snow cut, shaped and stacked one upon the other to form a habitable

shelter. Part of a winter survival program may include the idea of using natural or making snow caves to get out of the elements on a temporary basis. Another example would be the making of a quinzee on a winter camping experience. We may or may not appreciate snow but it is a very significant factor in the natural world.



### **Coyotes in the Neighbourhood**

There is evidence that coyotes are present in our neighbourhood. To date they have been heard but not seen. For information about Coyotes and how to coexist with them the Government of Manitoba has produced a document entitled Living with Wildlife in Manitoba. It can be found at:

[https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/wildlife/problem\\_wildlife/pdf/coyote.pdf](https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/wildlife/problem_wildlife/pdf/coyote.pdf)



Along the Trail:



You can support the Friends of the Harte Trail in their important work by becoming a member. Just fill out the membership form included in this newsletter and send it, along with the membership fee (\$10/individual; \$15/family) to

Friends of the Harte Trail  
c/o Naturalist Services Office  
5006 Roblin Blvd  
Winnipeg MB R3R 0G7

Cheques should be made payable to **Friends of the Harte Trail**.

Separate donation cheques must be made payable to Trails Manitoba with the notation "For use of the Harte Trail" in the memo section. Tax receipts will be issued for donations exceeding \$20.



A campaign advertisement for Myrna Driedger. It features a portrait of Myrna Driedger, a woman with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark top and a necklace. The background is dark purple with a white oval shape. Text on the left reads: "Myrna DRIEDGER MLA for Charleswood". At the bottom left, it says "t. (204) 885-0594" and "www.myrnadriedger.com". At the bottom right, there are icons for Twitter and Facebook.

To place advertisements in this newsletter please call:

Murray at 204-452-7515

Cost - small \$25.00

- large \$50.00

For a graphic advertisement jpeg format is preferred.

**Trail – Membership Form (\$10 per person, \$15 per family)**

Please Print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email (important) \_\_\_\_\_

Names of voting family members :(18 years and older)

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**Payment:**

Make cheques payable to: Friends of the Harte Trail

Payment enclosed – Membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations:**

Separate Donation cheques must be made payable to Trails Manitoba with a notation

‘For use of the Harte Trail’ in the memo section of the cheque.

**Mail to:**

Friends of the Harte Trail  
c/o Naturalist Services Office  
5006 Roblin Blvd.  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3R 0G7

**Willing to help with:**

phoning \_\_\_ trail maintenance: \_\_\_ fund raising: \_\_\_ newsletter: \_\_\_ events: \_\_\_

public relations: \_\_\_