

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGISTRATION

### **Name of Undertaking:**

#### Peaches Cove – Green Bay Multipurpose Trail Upgrade

The Peaches Cove Committee is seeking permission to relocate a section of Multi Purpose Trail from its approved location, to a hard surface ground closer to the shoreline. This new location uses sections of an existing ATV trail. This new section of multipurpose trail is approximately 4.9km.

### **Proponent:**

Peaches Cove – Green Bay Development Inc.

### **The Undertaking**

#### **Nature of Undertaking**

To relocate a section of environmentally approved Multi Purpose ATV trail that crosses a marshland, to hard surface ground closer to the shoreline.

#### **Proposed Rational/and Need for Undertaking:**

The hard surface ground near the shoreline will be better suited to construct a trail suitable for ATV use.

This Multipurpose trail when constructed will:

- Allow people with limited mobility to be transported to viewing platforms placed at strategic locations along the shoreline.
- Provide a means to transport tools and material for construction of the trailways.
- Provide emergency transportation to people using the scenic shoreline walking trail that may need assistance.

**Description of the undertaking:**

This section of relocated multipurpose trail will leave the approved multipurpose trail at coordinates N 48° 28' 3.34704" W-53° 4' 16.89744", and travel a new route on hard ground and existing ATV trail, until it intersects the approved multipurpose trail at coordinate N48° 27' 36.99072" W-53° 4' 23.0754"

**Geographical Location**

This development will not interfere with Adjacent Land or Property of Cabin Owners.

This relocated trail was ground tested and maps were developed using GPS coordinates taken at the proposed trail site.

**Physical Features:**

- The multipurpose trail will be constructed a safe distance from the shoreline walking trail.
- This multipurpose trail will be constructed following the guidelines put in place by from this Environmental Assessment.
- This multipurpose trail will have all trees and shrubs removed to provide a clear-cut ATV trail 8 -10 feet wide.

**Construction:**

During the construction of the multipurpose trail, damage to the Habitat (Environment) will be kept to a minimum.

To construct the multipurpose trail, it will be necessary to:

- Maintain a safe distance from the shoreline walking trail.
- Cut and remove brush, trees & shrubs from the multipurpose trail. The harvested trees (Timber & Rails) will be used for bridge construction along this multipurpose trail.
- Provide secure safety rails where necessary.

- Provide signage along the trail ways, posting distance to travel and distance travelled.

To Construct the Multipurpose Trail, it will be necessary to:

- Cut and remove brush/trees & alders to provide a cleared surface for use with an ATV side by side vehicle.
- The Multipurpose Trail will be constructed on hard surface ground to keep damage to the environment at a minimum.
- During the construction of the Multipurpose Trail, if culverts are needed they will be installed and covered using the materials collected on site. Filter mats will be used to prevent any mudding of the streams.

The following equipment will be used for construction of these trail ways:

- Chain saws / Brush cutting saws
- ATV with equipment carrying capabilities.
- Side by side ATV to transport people.
- Wide soft tire cart capable of carrying and dumping gravel.

### **Operation:**

- Our unique Multipurpose Trail will provide transportation to people with limited mobility, so they can use the viewing platforms that overlook the ocean and capture its scenic beauty.
- This trail will be used in the winter by snow machines, skiers, and snowshoes that like to explore the trails and woodland country during the winter season.
- These trails will provide a means to enjoy clean & safe recreational activity for tourist and local's .This project will also improve summer and winter tourism and economic growth for the neighboring Towns of Trinity Bay North and the Bonavista area.
- This trail will not be snow groomed for winter use.

To ensure that sediments are contained and not permitted to run off into nearby water bodies during the construction, operation, & maintenance of this trail the following will be implemented;

- 1) Ensure proper ditching is in place and maintained along all Trails.
- 2) Ensure as little disruption as possible to all existing waterways to prevent creating water borne sediment.
- 3) Ensure any culverts or bridges that are required to be installed are done so per current Water Resources Management Division and DFO regulations, policies and guidelines.
- 4) Sediment control barriers such as filter fabric and bales of hay will be placed in areas where potential erosion may occur. Erosion control measures such as rip rapping will be used. Any equipment used near streams and other water bodies will be inspected for oil and fluid leaks. Spill kits will be on site at all times during construction.

People using these trail ways during the summer will be required to register at the chalet (a building at the entrance to the trails). This will offer a level of safety for the trail users, knowing they have a contact person at the registration desk to call if an emergency should arise while they are using our trail ways.

This registration desk will also be used to collect a user fee from people out on the trails. The money collected will be used to offset the cost of trail maintenance.

Vegetation debris removed during the construction and maintenance of the trails will be stacked in rows away from the ditch line.

Any other non biodegradable waste material will be disposed of via an approved waste management facility.

No storage of fuel or oil will occur along the trails during either the maintenance or construction phase. During the construction phase fuel and oil will be transported in and out on a daily basis in CSA / ULC approved containers.

Any and all spills will be dealt with promptly to ensure minimal environmental contamination occurs. An approved spill kit will be on site at all times during construction and maintenance operations.

A copy of the Peaches Cove Emergency Contingency Plan is attached and included with this document.

Our Peaches Cove Committee is confident that this trail can be constructed safely with minimal impact to the Environment. The construction of this project will create meaningful employment in the area and once complete it will create seasonal employment for several workers. This project when completed will attract tourist and locals who want to view the scenic shoreline from the trails and viewing platforms. The visiting tourist will bring new money to the business community of Trinity Bay North and the Bonavista Area.

#### Occupation:

During the construction of these trails rental equipment will be used and operated by experienced people.

The construction workers will be hired under JCP and CEEP Government employment programs. These workers would receive training under these programs for any skill they are not trained in.

These workers will have previous work experience in building construction and safe use of required tools.

These workers will also be trained for using ATV's, chain saws and brush cutting equipment.

All PPE for use of chain saws and brush cutting equipment will be provided. Chaps, gloves, visors, glasses, helmets and boots.

The operators using any excavator or earth hauling equipment will be trained as required for the safe use of such a vehicle. Note: This Equipment will be of the mini class type.

The person in charge of the work crew will be responsible to ensure daily tailboards are completed and the appropriate PPE is used for the assigned task.

### Project Related Documents

The Peaches Cove trail ways presented under crown Lands application #155152 were reviewed by an environmental assessment screening committee and permission was given to our group to start trail construction on July 14<sup>th</sup> 2021 under Reg. # 2141.

However during the start of our construction season this year, the work crew assigned to cutting the multipurpose trail discovered a section of the approved multipurpose trail would cross a marshland. The workers were instructed not to cross this marshland because it wasn't suited for ATV use.

The workers then plotted a relocated route on hard ground closer to the shoreline that also took in a section of existing ATV trail. This relocated route for our multipurpose trail will be much easier to maintain because of the hard surface and it will have less negative impact to the Environment. This relocated route will leave the approved multipurpose trail at the hill near Peaches Cove and connect with the approved multipurpose trail near Oarblade Point.

The approximate distance of this relocated multipurpose trail is 4.9 Kilometers.

Another section of multipurpose trail that was identified for use in the Environmental review is the multipurpose trail to South Head, this section of trail is identified on the map that outlines the revised multipurpose trail.

If the Peaches Cove – Green Bay Inc. group is given the Environmental approval to complete this section of relocated multipurpose trail, work will start in the fall of 2023 when funding becomes available.

To better understand the time schedule for construction of this relocated section of multipurpose trail:

- Our committee has plans to complete this section of the relocated multipurpose trail this year by December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023. This section will start at the approved MPT near Peaches Cove and continue to Southern Head. This section of trail will be approximately 5 – 6 Km.
- The time schedule we have allotted for this section of relocated MPT is to start mid
- September 2023 and end December 22, 2023.
- It is estimated the time required to complete this project up to Green Bay may take five years.

The Peaches Cove – Green Bay Inc. Committee will provide any documentation concerning this project and its development to Government Departments on their request.

- Please see attaches maps that have colored lines drawn on them that shows the approved shoreline walking trail, the approved multipurpose trail, the section of relocated multipurpose trail we are doing the Environmental Assessment on and a map that has the coordinates where the relocated MPT leaves the approved MPT and reconnects with the approved MPT up the shore towards Oarblade Point.

#### Schedule:

The Peaches Cove Committee would like to have Crown Land approval to start construction of this relocated section of MPT by the end of July 2023.

#### Approval of the Undertaking:

Our committee has been in contact with the Department of Immigration, Population Growth & Skills concerning funding and labor to get this project started . We will start the application process by mid July 2023 and hope to have a JCP project approved for start by September 11<sup>th</sup> 2023.

The Peaches Cove Project will provide tourist and local residents the opportunity to view the natural beauty of a rugged coastline and its natural attractions such as sea birds, whales and just admiring the power of the ocean waves crashing on the rock cliffs along the shoreline. Local fishermen can be seen on the ocean swaying in their open boats while attending to their lobster traps and fishing for cod with the traditional hand line method.

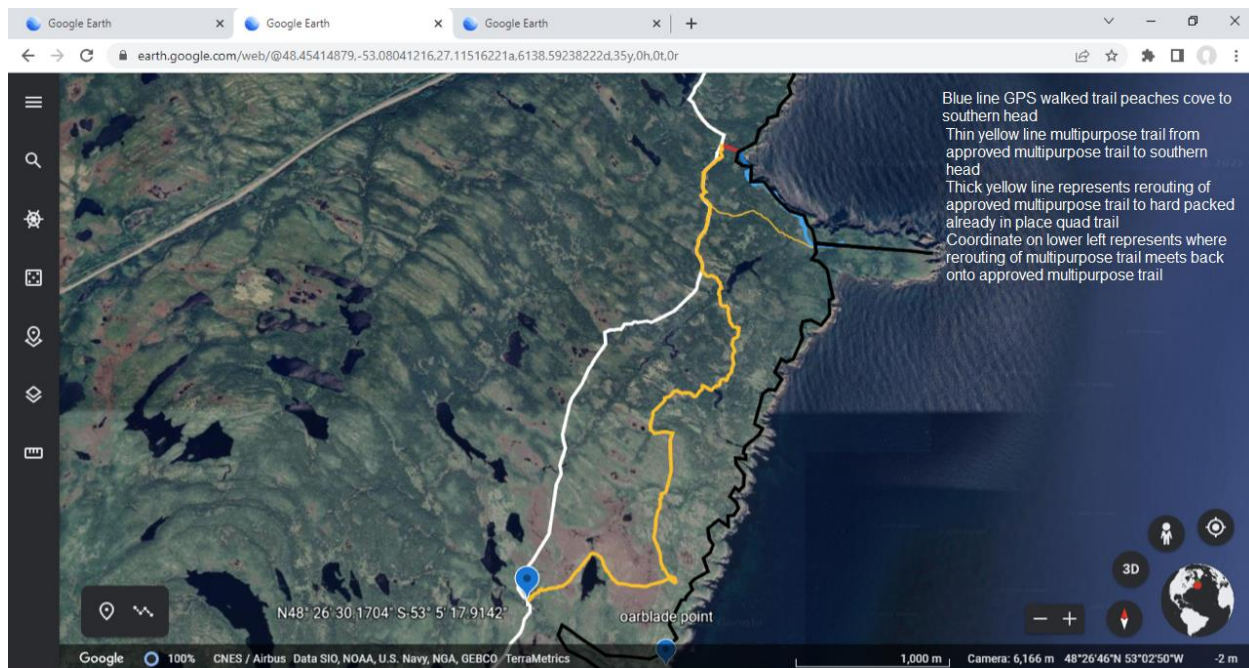
As the trail development progresses the Peaches Cove Committee will be applying for funding to develop viewing platforms, glamping sites and winter warm up shelters further along the trail towards English Harbor.

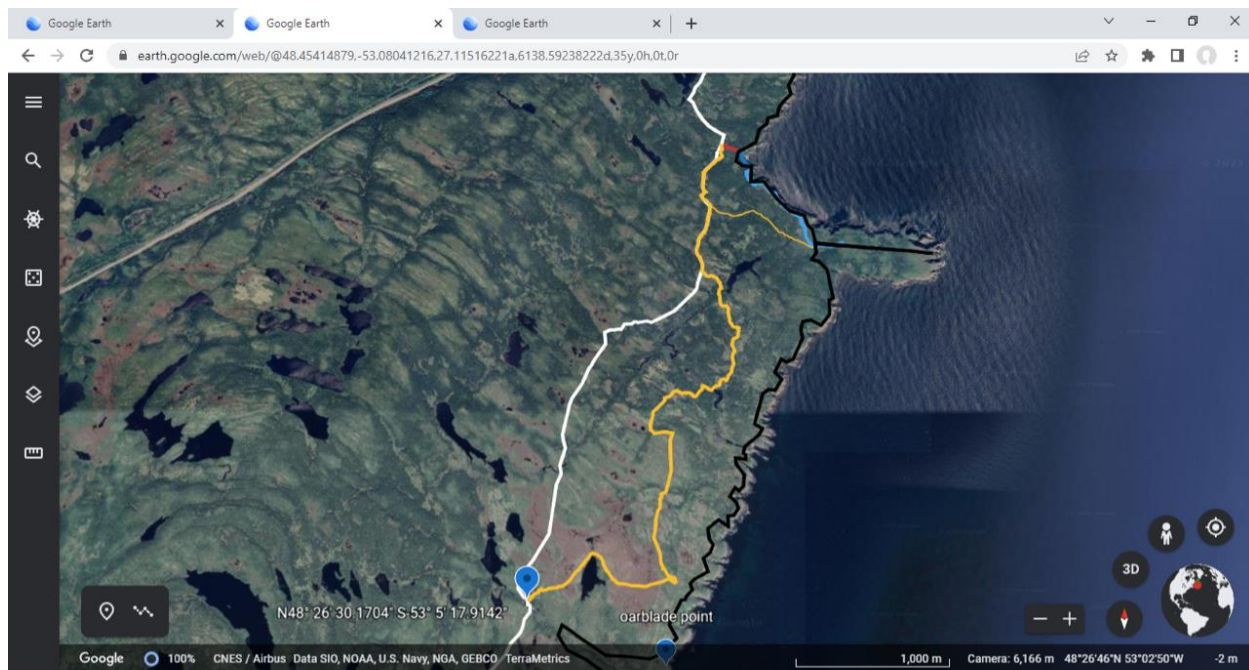
The Municipality of Trinity Bay North, Discovery Geo Park Group, Coaker Foundation and the business community of Trinity Bay North fully supports the Peaches Cove Trail Development and the amenities it will offer once completed. Our committee is confident this development will attract tourist and locals who want to get active and walk these trails. Along with the health benefits of hiking these trails in our beautiful outdoors with its clean fresh air, the hikers will have a chance to admire the beautiful scenery along the rugged cliffs and shoreline that can be viewed from our trails.

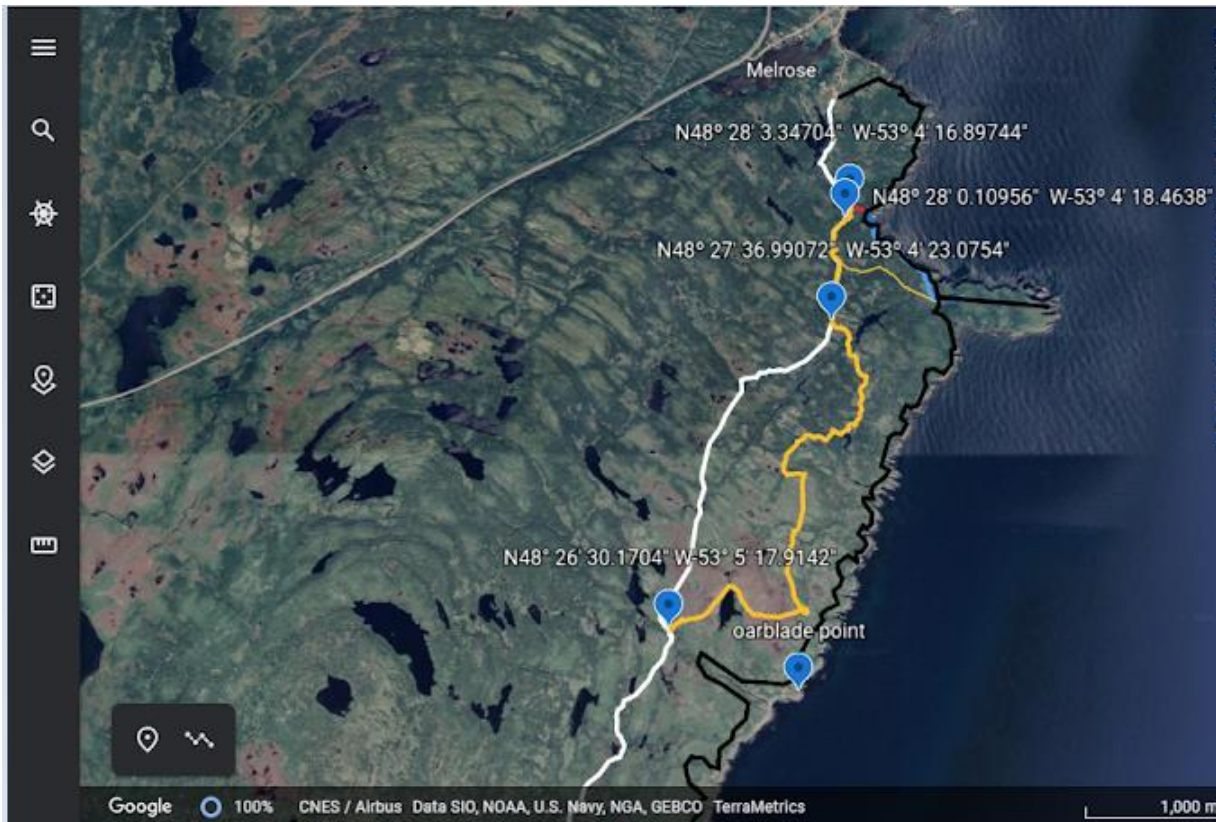


It is anticipated that the following organizations/departments will be contacted for permits/approvals where and as required;

- a) Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment.
- b) Water Resources Management Division;
- c) A permit for any alteration to a water body for any stream crossing, bridges, culverts, etc.
- d) Crown Land permission to occupy this land.
- e) Department of Government Services.
- f) Department of Natural Resources.
- g) Forestry Branch for cutting permits.
- h) Construction Permit from the Municipality of Trinity Bay North







### **Coordinates Listed Top to Bottom:**

1. N48° 28' 3.34704" W-53° 4'16.89744" intersection multipurpose trail to Peaches cove.
2. N48° 28'0.10956" W-53° 4'18.4638" coordinate where approved multipurpose trail and revised trail start to share the same path.
3. N48° 27'36.99072" W-53° 4'23.0754" coordinate where revised multipurpose trail exits approved multipurpose trail.
4. N48° 26'30.1704" W-53°5'17.9142" coordinate where revised multipurpose trail meets back into approved multipurpose trail.

### **Line Colors and Description:**

1. Black Line: approved walking trail
2. Blue Line: Updated GPS walking trail from Peaches cove to Southern Head
3. White Line: Approved Multipurpose Trail
4. Thin Yellow Line: Trail from multipurpose trail out to Southern Head.
5. Thick Yellow Line: Revised multipurpose trail.

**Distances:**

1. Approved multipurpose trail and revised multipurpose trail share a distance of approximately 450 meters.
2. Total distance of approved multipurpose trail to be omitted is approximately 2.6 kms.
3. Total distance of revised multipurpose trail is approximately 4.9 kms.

## Appendix A

### ECC Minister's Release Letter



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Environment and Climate Change  
Office of the Minister

JUL 14 2021

COR/2021/01877

Reg. # 2141

Richard Feehan  
Chair of the Board of Directors  
Peaches Cove – Green Bay Development Inc.  
Trinity Bay North Town Hall  
10 Main Street, P.O. Box 91  
Port Union, NL A0C 2J0  
[jduggan@persona.ca](mailto:jduggan@persona.ca)

Dear Mr. Feehan:

**Re: Peaches Cove – Green Bay Walking & Multipurpose Trails**

Your proposal has been reviewed by an interdepartmental environmental assessment screening committee and an opportunity to comment has been provided to the public as required by Part X of the Newfoundland and Labrador Environmental Protection Act, SNL 2002, cE-14.2. Please be advised that this undertaking is **released** from further environmental assessment subject to the following conditions:

- You are required to uphold all commitments made in your environmental assessment submission to mitigate the effects of the project on the environment.
- The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture requires the following:
  - A minimum 30-metre undisturbed buffer must be maintained along all water bodies and wetlands that appear on a 1:50,000 topographical map, except where crossing is permitted, to protect sensitive riparian and aquatic species, and their habitat.
  - No vegetation clearing is to occur within 800 metres of a bald eagle or osprey nest during the nesting season (March 15 to July 31) and 200 metres during the remainder of the year. The 200-metre buffer also applies to all other raptor nests (e.g. Northern Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, American Kestrel, Great-horned Owl, Boreal Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl). The location of any raptor nest sites must be reported to the Wildlife Division.



- An Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) must be submitted to and approved by the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture prior to the start of construction. For further information, please contact the Wildlife Division at (709) 637-2025.
- You are required to advise the Environmental Assessment Division when each of the conditions of release has been met, by emailing a written description, documents, and images (where applicable) to demonstrate that the conditions have been fulfilled to [EAPProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAPProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).
- You are required to update the Environmental Assessment Division on the status of the project, including a copy of all permits, licences, certificates, approvals and other authorizations required for the project, within one year from the date of this release letter and to provide additional updates, if requested. Please email project updates to [EAPProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAPProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).

**Federal and provincial government departments and agencies that reviewed your project during the environmental assessment provide the following advice:**

The Water Resources Management Division of my Department advises that you must obtain permits for any work in a body of water including wetland and for any infilling work within fifteen metres of a body of water. For further information, please contact the Water Resources Management Division at (709) 729-1646.

The Local Governance and Land Use Planning Division of the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs advises that a development permit is required for new trails within the Town of Trinity Bay North's municipal planning area. For further information, please contact the Local Governance and Land Use Planning Division at (709) 729-3090.

The Forestry Division of the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture advises that a commercial cutting permit is required prior to any harvesting or timber removal in the area. An operating permit is required prior to the start of any work during the forest fire season and can be obtained from the local forest management district office. During the forest fire season, a permit to burn must be obtained to ignite a fire on or within 300 meters of forest land. For further information, please contact the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture at (709) 729-1140.

The Tourism Product Development Division of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation has indicated that the trails should be developed as part of the Hike Discovery Trail Network on the Bonavista Peninsula, and, you must consult with the Discovery UNESCO



Global Geopark to ensure that the ATV trail is aligned with the land use guidelines of the geopark. For further information, please contact the Tourism Product Development Division at (709) 729-4518.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recommends that in order to avoid nest destruction and to accommodate the breeding season of migratory songbirds and waterfowl, operations should consider nesting locations between April 15th and August 15th in this region. ECCC requests that you provide a GIS file of the project boundaries and study area so that the project can be mapped for consideration of cumulative effects. For further information, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at (709) 772-4221.

Although the undertaking as proposed is released from further environmental assessment, it is still subject to other legislative requirements. A summary of the comments received from government agencies during the review is attached to provide an indication of likely applicable permits, approvals and legislative requirements. You must comply with all relevant legislation and obtain all necessary permits and approvals. You are required to inform this Department of any proposed significant changes to the undertaking.

Please note that in accordance with Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, the Minister's decision is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter. If you have not commenced your project within this three-year period, you may apply to extend the three-year period for a maximum of three one-year periods, if needed. For further information, please email [EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca](mailto:EAProjectComments@gov.nl.ca).

If you have any questions, please contact Joanne Sweeney, Director (A), Environmental Assessment Division, at (709) 729-0673 or [joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca](mailto:joannesweeney@gov.nl.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard Davis", written over a circular stamp or seal.

**BERNARD DAVIS, MHA**  
District of Virginia Waters - Pleasantville  
Minister

Enclosures

c: Craig Parady, MHA Bonavista  
Town of Trinity Bay North



## Appendix B

### Trail Maps 1

Peaches Cove/Green Bay walking Trail Map 1



Trail maps taken from approved environmental assessment Reg. # 2141

## Appendix C

### Trail Maps 3

Peaches Cove/Green Bay Walking Trail Map 3



Trail maps taken from approved environmental assessment Reg. # 2141