



Commerce  
**CHELSEA**  
Commerce

April 7, 2014

Mayor Caryl Green  
Municipality of Chelsea  
100 Old Chelsea Rd.  
Chelsea, QC J9B 1C1

**OBJECT: Commerce Chelsea support for Sentiers Chelsea Trails'  
railway corridor initiative**

Dear Mayor Green,

At its October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Board of Directors meeting, Commerce Chelsea had the opportunity to receive a presentation from Sentiers Chelsea Trails representatives, Marc Allain and Alain Piché, on the draft Active Transport Master Plan and on the current and future use of the Chelsea railway corridor.

This presentation was yet another positive example of how Chelsea is building on its brand as a healthy, active and walkable community. Sentiers Chelsea Trails' vision is nicely aligned with Commerce Chelsea's current  *Ici, ça marche !*  initiative in that it incorporates a community-led plan for an accessible pedestrian network. As unequivocal supporters of the Active Transport Master Plan, our Board views this particular initiative as having a positive impact on the work we are doing to reinforce Chelsea as a walkable community.

The Chelsea Community Winter Trail, located along the railway corridor, is a great example of a successful collaboration between the business community, Sentiers Chelsea Trails and the Municipality of Chelsea. We are very appreciative of both the Municipality and Sentiers Chelsea Trails for the magnificent 16 km of the municipally owned railway corridor; a groomed recreation trail accessible for Chelsea residents during the winter months.

Our board agrees that the vision of a cost-effective conversion of the railway corridor, into an all-season, non-motorized multi-purpose community trail would be of significant social and economic benefit to our community. We also understand that the future use of this corridor will have an impact on our neighbouring communities, as well as our own, and are aware of a number of proposed projects for the railway corridor North of Carmen Road. Commerce Chelsea encourages and supports these project proponents in their efforts to use this railway corridor to enhance the economic and tourism potential of their community. However, a trail following the railroad corridor in the Municipality of Chelsea, connecting the Loretta Loop area to Carman Road, would link local clubs and neighbourhoods and would be a tremendous asset for walkers, runners and recreational cyclists.

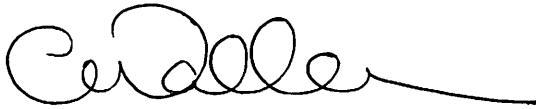
Commerce Chelsea endorses and supports the proposal to convert the Chelsea-owned railway corridor into a multi-purpose community asset because we believe it will be a tourist draw and will have positive spin-offs for our local business community.

We encourage municipal efforts to make this vision of rail corridor conversion a reality for Chelsea.

Sincerely,



Todd Evans, President  
Commerce Chelsea



Carrie Wallace, Vice-President  
Commerce Chelsea

cc: Chelsea Councillors  
Monsieur Charles Ricard  
Monsieur Michel Gravel, SCT President