



SPECIAL THANKS

The Mashkinonje Provincial Park now has 35 km of trail available for healthful enjoyment by area residents, cottagers and tourists alike. By hiking boot or by snow shoe - the park offers great opportunities for people to explore nature, make memories with friends and get physically active.

We extend a **special thanks** to the **Municipality of French River** for its ongoing assistance with the Park.

Such nice facilities come about only by hard work. In May of 2006, the Friends of Mashkinonje, the Municipality of French River and Ontario Parks signed a Memorandum of Understanding to both protect and make Mashkinonje accessible. The Friends of Mashkinonje is a small, hard working group of people that accomplishes a tremendous amount, but does not have the capacity to administer employees.

This is an area where the Municipality of French River was able to make a significant contribution by applying for and administering a HRSDC program to hire 3 staff for 3 months and to secure grants for boardwalk materials. The Municipal staff handled the entire project administration. The crew worked to complete boardwalks on the southern end of the park trail system at the Samoset, Coastal and Lapin's Trails. French River Councilors also took the opportunity to hike the trails and see the improvements made. We plan to work with the Municipality of French River on a similar project for the north half of the park in the future.

The Municipality of French River contributed gravel to our first parking lot at the Loudon Peatlands Access and has always been ready to provide letters of support for our grant applications.

The Friends of Mashkinonje would like to offer our "special thanks" to the Municipality of French River for their support and we look forward to working with all our partners in this important project for the community.

Thanks to all those partners who care and help to make our community a better place.