

Facts at a Glance: Aesthetics of Pedestrian Bridges

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway (the Parkway) multi-use trail system is linked with seven pedestrian trail bridges and two pedestrian tunnels that allow users to travel the length of the corridor without encountering a vehicle. The following *Facts at a Glance* provide an overview of the pedestrian trail bridges.

Design

Based on the project philosophy and supported by comments received from the public, the design of infrastructure features within the Parkway, including trail bridges, will be kept simple and unobtrusive.

- Structurally, the bridges are made of a steel truss and concrete abutment system that can commonly be found throughout Ontario. The steel truss system will be coated with a select colour palette.
- Trail bridges will vary in length dependent upon location and are designed to meet current accessibility and safety standards.

Themes

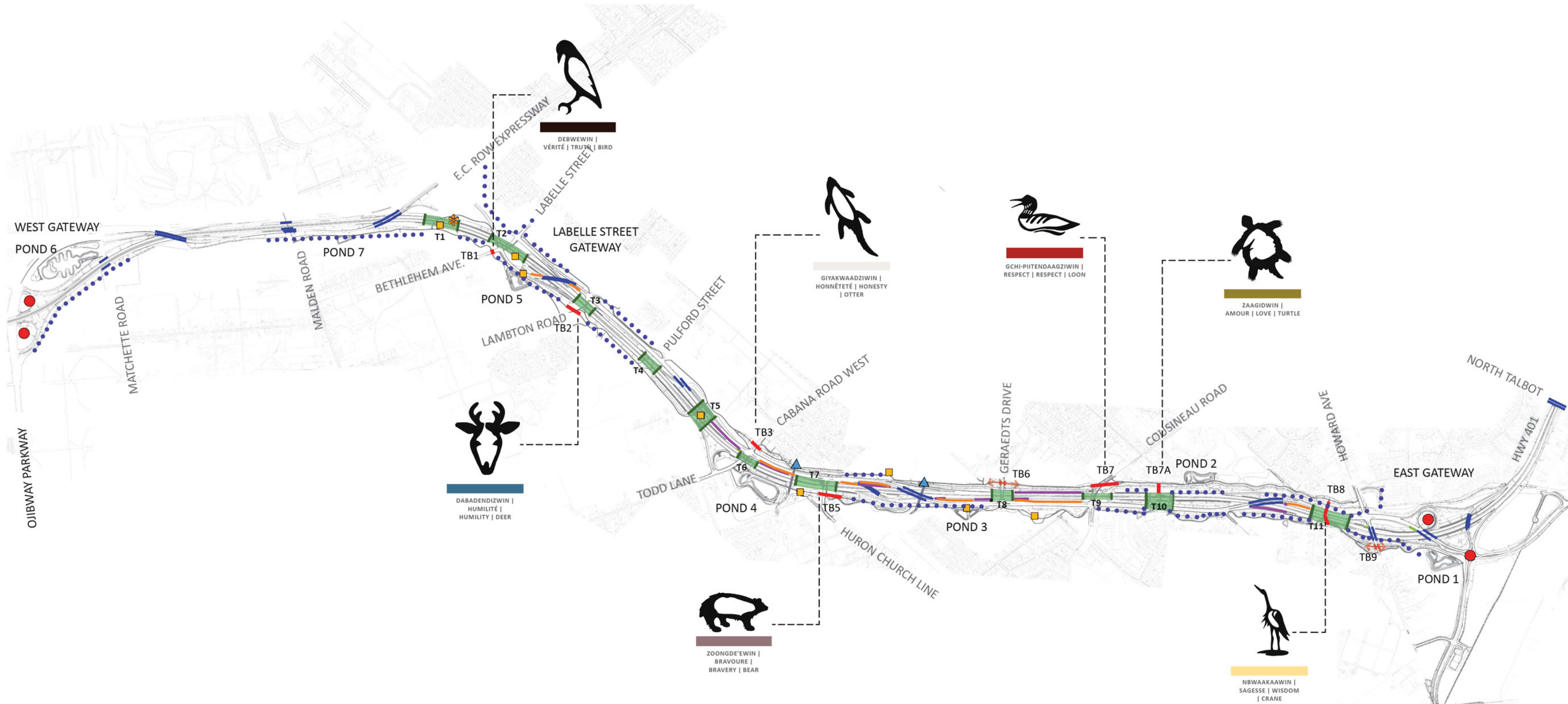
Three themes – colour, teaching and symbol – have been interpreted and then applied to the seven pedestrian bridges for cultural significance.

- For the bridges, the inspiration for the themes came threefold from the significant colours, teachings, and clans of the local Anishinaabe First Nations (Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi people) as interpreted by community members from Walpole Island First Nation.
- The seven colours for the bridges come from the four colours of the Medicine Wheel and the three colours that represent life on earth.
- The 'Seven Grandfather Teachings' are universal values to help guide us in our day-to-day living, including our interactions with the natural environment.
- The animal symbols are artistic representations of the original seven clans of the Anishinaabe people created by Teresa Altman, an accomplished First Nations artist.
- Each colour, teaching and symbol are linked together. See the map on the reverse for locations and details.
- Trail side markers will introduce the themes at the approaches to the bridges.

Seven Grandfather Teachings

Through consultation, the “Seven Grandfather Teachings” were identified as a concept that was both significant to First Nations and also reflected positive aspirations for all cultures.

- The Seven Grandfather Teachings, in Anishinaabemwin, English, and French, are:
 - o Debwewin – Truth – Vérité: do not deceive yourself or others
 - o Gchi-Piitendaagziwin – Respect – Respect: honour all creation
 - o Nbwaakaawin – Wisdom – Sagesse: knowledge, prudence, intelligence
 - o Giyakwaadziwin – Honesty – Honnêteté: be honest in word and action
 - o Zaagidwin – Love – Amour: to know love is to know peace
 - o Dabadendizwin – Humility - Humilité: equal to others, not better
 - o Zoongde'ewin - Bravery – Bravoure: fearless heart



LEGEND

- TUNNEL PARAPETS, grassland pattern
- BRIDGE BARRIERS, grassland pattern
- RETAINING WALLS tree trunk pattern
- RETAINING WALLS stock grave grassland pattern
- WING WALLS for tunnels and bridges, tree trunk pattern
- TRAIL & PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES pattern to be determined
- TRAIL & PEDESTRIAN TUNNELS pattern to be determined
- LENNON + CAHILL SUBMERGED CULVERTS public art murals (Future Potential)
- LARGE SCALE PUBLIC ART for gateways (Future Potential)
- INTERPRETIVE SIGNS for rest areas and laybys
- FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC ART PIECE by First Nations Artist for T1
- NOISE WALLS, grassland pattern (highway), ashlar pattern (community)

INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE THEMES

- TUNNEL 1 REST AREA 2 signs | 'Natural Context' - Black Oak Prairie Heritage Park, Ojibway Park, Tallgrass Prairie, Ojibway Prairie, Spring Garden ANSI & 'First Nations History' - The Landing Rock
- TUNNEL 2 REST AREA 2 signs | 'European Settlement' & 'First Nations Settlement'
- POND 5 LAYBY 1 sign | 'Stormwater Management in the Parkway'
- TUNNEL 3 REST AREA 1 sign | 'First Nations History & Teachings'
- TUNNEL 5 REST AREA 1 sign | 'Species at Risk - Snake Species'
- POND 4 LAYBY 1 sign | 'Fish Compensation & The Submerged Culvert'
- TUNNEL 7 LAYBY 1 sign | 'Seven Grandfather Teachings'
- ST. CLAIR ESA LAYBY 1 sign | 'St. Clair Prairie ESA'
- POND 3 LAYBY 1 sign | 'Stormwater Management in the Parkway'
- PRAIRIE LAYBY 1 sign | 'Prairie Landscape - Species at Risk, Flora & Fauna'

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