



Sentier international des Appalaches
International Appalachian Trail
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News Release
For immediate release

Official Opening of the International Appalachian Trail - IAT-QC

The International Appalachian Trail - IAT-QC would like to inform you of the official opening of the trail for the 2009 season and give you some fresh information about the state of the trail.

We are now able to declare that the International Appalachian Trail, in spite of the winter and the wind, is now accessible. At the moment, some trees are still in the way but the branches were taken off. At some places vegetation is starting to grow over in some parts of the trail. Our volunteer team will be working hard in the first weeks of the season to reduce these hindrances and improve the marking of the trail. The bottom line is that the trail is now practicable. Some parts might be trickier than usual, but nothing major if the hiker is careful. We invite you to consult our online Maintenance Bulletin, which will soon be launched on our brand new web site (www.sia-iat.com). New updates will regularly be posted in the State of the Trail section as well as in other sections of the site.

It is also now possible for you to reserve the camping platforms and the many IAT-Qc camping platforms and cabins with the Sépaq at 1-800-665-6527 (option 3). Our Welcome Center, located at the old lighthouse in Matane, QC, is also open from 9am to 4pm, from Monday to Friday, for any other inquiry. We will gladly help you plan a great hiking journey on the International Appalachian Trail. Feel free to contact us at (418) 562-7885 or by email at info@sia-iat.com.

At this occasion we would like to mention the great work done by our trail partners and our volunteers who undertake the yearly maintenance of the International Appalachian Trail in Quebec. Many other actions will be undertaken by them throughout the hiking season to repair the damages done by the harsh Gaspé winters, and to renew all our sites. We thank them immensely for their precious help as we enjoy cooperating with them to make sure that the IAT-QC becomes a memorable adventure for all.

Welcome on our trails and enjoy the hiking season!!!

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