



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Community invited to official opening of Ellis Creek Park

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May 29, 2012

**PENTICTON** — The City of Penticton invites residents, businesses and man's best friend to the official opening of Ellis Creek Park set for Wednesday, June 6 at 2 p.m.

"We hope the entire community can drop by Ellis Creek Park as the newest addition to the City's park network opens to the public," said Mayor Dan Ashton. "Our parks are embraced by so many residents and users, and we suspect that Ellis Creek's features will prove popular for years to come."

Ellis Creek Park and Walkway project transforms a former roadway into greenspace that will serve as a centralized trailhead. It will be the starting point for pedestrians and cyclists accessing various trails and routes including the Okanagan River Channel, Ellis Creek Walkway, the Trans Canada Trail and local road biking networks. Through construction, old asphalt and road gravels were removed and replaced with new soils, mulches and indigenous trees and shrubs, which will help improve the sensitive creek-side riparian ecosystem. Educational signage is throughout the site providing information about the creek corridor, which is crucial habitat for many plant and animal species.

In addition, the park features a new fully-fenced off-leash area for dogs, complete with furniture, bike racks and potable water. The park is located at 100 Industrial Pl., just off of Industrial Avenue West.

The \$130,000 project was bolstered by a provincial LocalMotion grant from 2008 of \$47,250 in support of greener, healthier and more accessible communities.

LocalMotion has funded 122 projects across British Columbia since 2007, providing up to 50 percent of eligible project costs. These include vital pedestrian and cycling infrastructure projects that have promoted healthier, greener and more accessible communities, while creating jobs and stimulating the economy.

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