



NEWS RELEASE

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KVR Trail upgrade supported with provincial grant

Oct. 16, 2012

PENTICTON — The Government of B.C. joined the City of Penticton today to officially reopen a segment of the Kettle Valley Rail Trail that underwent upgrades to increase the accessibility of the trail system.

“This upgrade is a perfect example of the kind of project the Province is supporting through the \$30-million Community Recreation Program,” said Bill Bennett, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. “The Kettle Valley Rail Trail is a prominent attraction and these upgrades enhance a popular recreation spot – now better suited for families and individuals of all ages.”

The City of Penticton received a \$138,694 grant from the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development’s Community Recreation Program to upgrade a 5.5-kilometre section of the KVR Trail from Sutherland Road to Vancouver Place. The total project cost was \$173,367.

The project scope included levelling the trail undulations and upgrading the existing gravel surface to a smoother, more durable surface of recycled asphalt – which significantly enhances accessibility for people with wheelchairs, mobility aids and strollers. The textured surface was also designed to minimize the risk of slip-related injuries, making the trail a more attractive recreation option for people of all ages.

“The Kettle Valley Rail Trail is a much-loved community resource and national treasure,” said MLA Bill Barisoff. “With the support from this provincial grant, we’ve made improvements to the trail, providing our residents with an ideal destination for physical activity and making our community a healthier place to live.”

“The KVR Trail is one of the best-known trails in the province, and this project has made it even easier and safer to enjoy,” said Mayor Dan Ashton. “Residents and visitors alike will enjoy our enhanced trail for years to come.”

The KVR Trail has successfully transformed a historically significant rail corridor, giving it new life as a connection between communities in the Okanagan Valley. The City of Penticton is a gateway community to the trail, functioning as an important hub where users can access three different directions of the trail.

The \$30-million Community Recreation Program was developed to address the unique challenges faced by communities in the Province with respect to meeting their recreational infrastructure needs.

The program invests in local government capital projects that make communities healthier, more active places in which to live.

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