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## Media Release

**For Immediate Release**  
**DATE: June 30, 2021**

### **District of Summerland Completes Flood Recovery Works at Peach Orchard Beach and Rotary Beach**

The District of Summerland is excited to announce that flood recovery works at Peach Orchard Beach and Rotary Beach reached substantial completion on June 15, 2021. Remaining work includes a small amount of grass seeding, plantings, new light standards, and minor concrete work.

The project was initiated following flooding events in 2017 when high water levels eroded areas of the pathway next to Okanagan Lake. The project obtained funding through the Province's Disaster Financial Assistance program to repair areas impacted by the flooding event. In addition, the District contributed to the project for additional upgrades and improvements to the path. The total project budget for the completion of the flood recovery works is \$540,000, with the District contributing \$271,323 and the remainder provided through the Disaster Financial Assistance Program.

"The District of Summerland is grateful for the financial assistance received from the Province to help with the repairs at our treasured waterfront," said Mayor Toni Boot. "We are pleased that the repairs have been completed before summer, in time for the full use and enjoyment of the pathway by Summerland residents and visitors to our town. We thank our residents for their patience as our crews and contractors worked to finalize the repairs."

The repairs to the pathway fall within the Council priorities of *Infrastructure Investment* and *Active Lifestyles* demonstrating Council's commitment to the stewardship of Summerland's capital assets and the completion of community designs that enhance and promote healthy lifestyles.

The project started in 2020 after obtaining a required license of occupation from the Province and the permitting to work in and around the watercourse. Due to high water levels in 2020, the work was suspended and carried forward to 2021 in order to complete the path when lake levels dropped enough for construction. The District also expanded the original scope of work to replace areas of the pathway that had heaved from the roots of nearby trees. Root barrier was installed adjacent to the new pathway next to the trees to maximize the life span of the asphalt path. Concrete walls and curbing, large rip rap rock armouring and plantings were also installed to help prevent erosion during future high lake level and storm events.

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### **Media Inquiries:**

Kris Johnson  
Director of Works and Infrastructure  
kjohnson@summerland.ca  
250-404-4096

*Photo attached – from left to right: District of Summerland Councillor Richard Barkwill, PIB Councillor Tim Lezard, PIB Councillor Clint Gabriel, MLA Dan Ashton, MP Dan Albas, Dave Hellard (True Consulting), District of Summerland Mayor Toni Boot*