
Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Summerland Council Endorses Downtown Neighbourhood Action Plan

SUMMERLAND - The Downtown Neighbourhood Action Plan acts as a roadmap for future actions and projects in the Downtown over the next 20 years. The Plan creates a path forward towards a diverse, vibrant, connected, prepared, public, and authentic Downtown which supports community resilience.

"Downtown Vibrancy has been a strategic priority of Council over the last few years," said Mayor Toni Boot; "Our endorsement of the Downtown Neighbourhood Action Plan is a key step forward in making our downtown a more vibrant and active space. By outlining clear actions to take over the next 20 years, the Plan identifies what needs to be done and how to get to where we want to be."

This Plan focuses on three key areas: Land Use Intensification and Density, Infrastructure Renewal and Public Areas, and Gathering Places. Some highlights of the Plan include significant "catalyst projects" that will:

- redesign Memorial Park;
- create a connective pedestrian plaza on Henry Avenue (between Wharton Avenue and Main Street);
- revitalize Main Street and Wharton Street;
- create momentum for private development; and
- align a multi-use pathway connection through Downtown with "Trail of the Okanagans".

"The Trail of the Okanagans is excited the District has identified the Trail of the Okanagans route as a catalyst project. We think this route into and through the downtown core using Quinpool, Kelly, Wharton and extended pathway on Giants Head Road will foster safe active transportation within Summerland and ultimately between communities in the Okanagan.", stated Vic Jensen, Director of Trail of the Okanagans Society.

Chamber of Commerce President, Luke Johnson said: "The Downtown Neighbourhood Action Plan creates amazing opportunities for Summerland. The redesign of Memorial Park creates a key connection to Main Street and downtown as a whole. It connects business to pleasure and people to our beautiful downtown. The Chamber is pleased to support a Plan that will create more business opportunities for our downtown businesses, allow people to enjoy nature within town, and create development potential while keeping Summerland's small-town charm."

This Plan is a result of community input and participation throughout the process including community surveys, a collaborative design session with various community groups and stakeholders, and numerous meetings with the Downtown Neighbourhood Plan Task Force. The District would like to thank all who participated in the development of this Plan, including the dedicated volunteers of the Downtown Neighbourhood Plan Task Force, for all their hard work.

For more information regarding the Downtown Neighbourhood Action Plan, visit <https://www.summerland.ca/planning-building/planning-development/current-projects/downtown-reimagined>

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