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Media Release

For Immediate Release DATE: October 28, 2022

Centennial Trail along Peach Orchard Road Reopens

SUMMERLAND – The rehabilitation and repair work to the portion of the Centennial Trail that runs along Peach Orchard Road is complete. The popular nature trail and connector pathway between upper and lower Summerland is officially reopened.

This section of the Centennial Trail was extensively damaged during the devastating floods of 2017 and 2018. It extends 600m alongside Peach Orchard Road and Eneas Creek which provides a safe, natural, and serene barrier between the trail and road.

Trail safety has been restored through the removal of dangerous and damaged trees as well as placing crushed gravel in the heavily eroded sections. This section of the Centennial Trail contains a sensitive riparian area that required approval from the Province prior to proceeding with the considerable repair work. The project was paused during construction earlier this year to protect nesting birds, then restarted in late August. Partial funding for this project was obtained from the Province through the Disaster Funding Assistance (DFA) program.

"This is a very popular trail for both two-legged and four-legged community residents," said Mayor Toni Boot, "and District crews did an outstanding job in taking a 'build back better' approach to make the trail passable and safe again. Council especially appreciates the conservation and restoration of the riparian/woodland ecosystem, which provides shelter and food for other species."

The repaired trail links the upper, downtown section of Summerland to lower Summerland with destinations such as Peach Orchard Campground, Adams Bird Sanctuary, and Peach Orchard Beach Park on Lake Okanagan. It is part of the 4.5km Summerland Centennial Trail and the 6km Summerland Rotary Trail Lakeshore Loop which can be continued for more hiking and walking adventures.

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For further information/Media Contact/Contact

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Photos attached

IMG_2161B Left to right, Back Row: MLA Dan Ashton, Councillor Richard Barkwill, Joe Mitchell Director of Works & Infrastructure, Councillor Marten Van Alphen, Mayor-Elect/Councillor Doug Holmes, and Carly Davis Associated Engineering (with two colleagues). Front Row: Councillor-Elect Janet Peake, and Mayor Toni Boot.

IMG_2163B & IMG_2170B Left to Right: Councillor Richard Barkwill, Councillor-Elect Janet Peake, Mayor Toni Boot, Councillor Marten Van Alphen, and Mayor Elect/Councillor Doug Holmes.