



## Media Release

For Immediate Release

DATE: June 23, 2026

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### **Victoria Road Project Completed: Supporting Stronger Infrastructure, Safer Travel, and a Growing Community**

**SUMMERLAND** – The District of Summerland is pleased to announce the successful completion of the Victoria Road Improvements Project, extending from Dunham Crescent to Prairie Valley Road. This major infrastructure investment strengthens transportation and water systems while supporting safer travel and the needs of Summerland’s growing community.

Completed improvements include:

- Upgrades to the watermain system to support long-term water system separation and reliability;
- Road improvements and multi-use pathway network extension north along Victoria Road to the Prairie Valley Road roundabout;
- Pedestrian safety enhancements and a multi-use pathway along Dale Meadows Road to improve access to the sports fields;
- Additional crosswalks and intersection safety improvements.

The total project budget was \$3,881,000, made possible through significant funding support from provincial programs and partners, including:

- Up to \$1,000,000 in matching funds from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food’s Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program, delivered by Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF) for water infrastructure upgrades;
- \$500,000 from the B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program for the multi-use pathway extension;
- \$31,000 from ICBC for road safety improvements.

The District gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Province of British Columbia and the Investment Agriculture Foundation for their contributions to this important initiative.

#### **Investing in Critical Water Infrastructure**

The water infrastructure component of the project supports efforts to maximize water availability for agricultural uses, particularly irrigation, in a water-scarce and drought-prone region of the Okanagan increasingly impacted by climate change.

The completed upgrades will:

- Advance the system separation works identified in the Water Master Plan;
- Move the District one step closer to demand reduction on the water treatment plant during peak summer periods and increase irrigation water availability for agricultural operations;
- Support tree fruit production and help meet growing agricultural water demands.

These infrastructure investments improve the reliability and long-term sustainability of Summerland’s water system while helping prepare the community for future growth.

#### **Enhancing Road Safety and Active Transportation**

The Victoria Road corridor upgrades also improve safety and accessibility for all road users. Approximately 700 metres of new multi-use pathway have been added to Summerland’s active transportation network.

Intersections along Victoria Road, including Dale Meadows Road and Beavis Place, were redesigned to help reduce traffic speeds and shorten pedestrian crossing distances, creating a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

These improvements support safer and more connected travel options for residents and visitors while strengthening essential infrastructure across the community.

For more information, please visit <https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/works-and-utilities-department/victoria-street-phase-2>.

Quotes:

*“One of Council’s top priorities has been to upgrade core municipal infrastructure, including paving more roads. We know road construction causes inconvenience, especially on busy corridors like Victoria Road South, and we thank residents for their patience. We hope people will like the upgrades and see that the roads are finally being fixed, not to mention the water mains that kept bursting.”*

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

*“We rely on Okanagan tree fruit growers for the food they put on our tables, and it’s crucial they have a reliable source of water to keep their crops growing and producing. B.C.’s \$100 million Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program is helping farmers and communities like Summerland plan and prepare for drought by reducing peak summer demand on the water treatment plant, and helping growers in the area access irrigation water, so our food security and economy stay strong.”*

~ Lana Popham, Agriculture and Food Minister

*“With this new multi-use path, residents and visitors in Summerland have a safer way to walk or bike in the community—supporting healthier lifestyles and a cleaner environment.”*

~ Mike Farnworth, B.C. Transportation and Transit Minister

*“Safer road design plays a key role in preventing crashes and protecting everyone on our roads. We’re pleased to support these improvements in Summerland to help people get around more safely, whether they’re walking, cycling or driving.”*

~Paul de Leur, ICBC road safety engineering manager

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**4 photos attached**



*From left to right: Carter Keizer (Okanagan Civil Contractors), Steve Seminof (Engineering Technologist – District of Summerland), Councillor Janet Peake, Mayor Doug Holmes, Brendra Gendron (CFO, Agriculture and Food Minister), Councillor Richard Barkwill.*



*From left to right: Carter Keizer (Okanagan Civil Contractors), Steve Seminof (Engineering Technologist – District of Summerland), Brenda Gendron (CFO, Agriculture and Food Minister), Councillor Janet Peake, Mayor Doug Holmes, Councillor Richard Barkwill, Jake McAstocker (Manager of Engineering - District of Summerland).*



*Victoria Road*



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