



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

REGULAR AGENDA

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE
OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2022

Please be advised that the HUB Online Network will record and broadcast or live stream today's Council meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to add or delete Agenda items

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended

M/S

THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, April 25, 2022 be adopted as presented.

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 11, 2022 <i>That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 11, 2022 be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 1-4
2.2	Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council held Monday, April 11, 2022 <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council held Monday, April 11, 2022 be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 5-7

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1	Cynders Inc. – Sherri Forget (Co-Owner), Jacob Zigarlick (Co-Owner), Jordan Johnston (Team Member) – Bringing a family-run cannabis store to Ashcroft	P. 8
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4. PUBLIC INPUT

All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	Bylaw No. 851, Five Year Financial Plan Commencing 2022 <i>THAT, Bylaw No. 851, cited as Village of Ashcroft Five Year Financial Plan Commencing 2022 be given first three readings.</i>	P. 9-12
5.2	Bylaw No. 852, Tax Rates 2022 Bylaw <i>THAT, Bylaw No. 852, cited as Village of Ashcroft Tax Rates Bylaw, 2022 Bylaw be given first three readings.</i>	P. 13-14



5.3	CAO Report and Elections Amending Bylaw No. 853, 2022 <i>THAT, Council approves first and second reading of the Village of Ashcroft Local Government Election and Other Voting Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 2022.</i>	P. 15-21
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – CiB Agreement Renewal, Amended Budget and Meeting Report <i>THAT, Council approves the renewal of the CiB Agreement with the Village of Ashcroft for a five (5) year term ending December 31, 2026, and further that, Council approves the Ashcroft Communities in Bloom Committee to step back from competition and focus their energies in 2022 as a transition year for member recruitment.</i>	P. 22-26
6.2	CFO Report – Reimbursement request for Thompson View Manor <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 27-28
FOR INFORMATION		
6.		

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Kat Chatten, President, Desert Mesa Lions Club – Request to use Drylands Arena for the Annual Fall Fair September 9-11, 2022 inclusive and Grant in Aid Request to offset Arena Rental and Insurance for event <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 29-34
7.2	WRAPS – Request for the Annual Grant in Aid in support of the 2022 Canada Day Celebrations including use of Heritage Park and free swimming at the Ashcroft Pool on the afternoon of July 1 st <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 35-38
7.3	Ryan Lake – Outdoor Barn Dance Request – Request support to use Railway Avenue (from 6 th Street to 7 th Street) from 1:00 pm Friday, August 19 th to Midnight, August 19 th . <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 39
FOR INFORMATION		
7.4	Minister Lisa Beare, Ministry of Citizens' Services – Connecting Communities BC Program	P. 40-41
7.5	TNFC – Welcomes New Film Commissioner Gareth Smart	P. 42-43
7.6	TNRD Press Release – Lytton Mobile Library	P. 44
7.7	TNRD Press Release – Call for Applications for Spring 2022 Regional Grants-in-Aid	P. 45
7.8	TNRD Press Release – Guitar Lending now Available at All Library Branches	P. 46-47
7.9	Flip Chart Information Correspondence	P. 48

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager / Motion Tracker	P. 49
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	Trails Master Plan & Asset Management WG Meeting Notes – March 30, 2022 and Trails Master Plan – Draft 1	P. 50-138
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11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden – Report	P. 139-141
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey – Report	P. 142

12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1		
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1		
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14. ADJOURNMENT



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Marilyn Anderson
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Deb Tuohey - Zoom

CAO, Daniela Dyck
CFO, Yogi Bhalla
DPW, Brian Bennewith

Media – 1
Public – 1

EXCUSED Councillor, Jonah Anstett

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the Regular meeting of Council for Monday April 11, 2022 to order at 6:00 pm.

Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people.

Mayor Roden acknowledged the passing of long-time Ashcroft resident Gerry Wong commenting on many of his life's achievements and community contribution.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to add or delete Agenda items
Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended

M/S Roden / Anderson

THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, April 11, 2022 be adopted as s amended to include the recommendation from the April 11, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting to be added under new business.

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2022-84

2. MINUTES

Table with 3 columns: Item number (2.1), Description (Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, 2022), and Action (CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-85)

3. DELEGATIONS

Table with 3 columns: Item number (3.1), Description, and Action



4. PUBLIC INPUT

All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.

No questions from the public were received.

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1		
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Hot Tub Replacement – Contractor Quote M/S Davenport / Anderson <i>THAT, Council approves the Village to enter into a contract with Serenity Pools and Hardscapes for the installation of the Hot Tub and further that cost overruns be allocated from the Capital Reserve fund not to exceed \$110,000.</i> <i>Council asked if there is an opportunity for the hot tub to be installed prior to the pool opening, DPW Bennewith responded that timeline for completion is unknown at this time.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-86
FOR INFORMATION		
6.2		

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Clinton 155th Annual May Ball – Dignitary Invitation M/S Anderson / Davenport <i>THAT, the Village purchase two tickets for the Clinton 155th Annual Ball if the Mayor wishes to attend with a plus one.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-87
7.2	Nature Canada – Resolution in Support for World Ocean Day – June 8, 2022 M/S Roden / Davenport <i>THAT Council support a resolution recognizing and celebrating World Oceans Day 2022.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-88
7.3	New Pathways to Gold Society – Resolution in Support of Government Funding for the society M/S Tuohey / Anderson <i>THAT, Council send a letter of support for the NPTGS work and investments in the region's Gold Rush/Spirit Trails heritage tourism corridor to Premier John Horgan, TACS Minister Melanie Mark and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Minister Murray Rankin urging them to continue providing the NPTGS with the stable, ongoing core funding needed for them to continue providing this valuable service.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-89



7.4	NDIT Marketing Initiative Fund Application Ashcroft M/S Anderson / Davenport <i>THAT, the Village of Ashcroft supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Desert Mesa Club for the Marketing Initiative Grant.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-90
FOR INFORMATION		
7.5	HARS Published Article	
7.6	Teck Highland Valley Copper Partnership – Teck and Royal Inland Hospital Announcement	
7.6	Community Futures Introduces a Free New Tool to help Businesses Plan for Disaster	
7.8	Gold Country Communities Society – April 2022 Highlights	
7.9	Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation (LCRB) – Policy Directive 22-05: Intention to Extend Temporary Expanded Service Area (TESA) Authorizations	
7.10	MLA Jackie Tegart - Letter in Support of the Village of Ashcroft's letter requesting review of BC's Wildfire and Forestry Practices and Response from Hon. Minister of Forests Katrine Conroy	
7.11	Flip Chart Information Correspondence	
	M/S Anderson / Tuohy <i>THAT, the information correspondence items be received for information.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-91

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager and Motion Tracker M/S Roden / Davenport <i>THAT, the Task Manager and Motion Tracker be received for information.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-92
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1	Committee of the Whole Recommendation – Rise and Report M/S Roden / Anderson <i>THAT Council direct staff to amend the Election Bylaw No. 816 as follows:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>remove location of polling station and replace with “the location of the polling station will be determined at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer”</i> • <i>remove additional advance polling opportunities specified days and replace with “additional advance voting will be determined at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer”</i> • <i>include mail voting in the bylaw and bring a report back to Council with mail voting procedures for Council consideration at 1st and 2nd Reading of the amended Bylaw.</i> 	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-93
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1		
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11. COUNCIL REPORTS



11.1	Mayor Roden – Report	
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey	
	M/S Tuohey / Davenport <i>THAT, Mayor Roden’s Report be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-94

12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1	M/S Anderson / Davenport <i>THAT, Council adjourns to a closed meeting under Section 90.1 (c) labour relations or other employee relations.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-95
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1		
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14. ADJOURNMENT

M/S Roden / Anderson

THAT, the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, April 11, 2022 be adjourned at 7:04 pm.

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2022-96

Certified to be a true copy of the
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of
Council held Monday, April 11, 2022

Daniela Dyck
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden
Mayor



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MINUTES

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT:

5:00 PM ON MONDAY APRIL 11, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Marilyn Anderson
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Deb Tuohey - Zoom

CAO, Daniela Dyck
CFO, Yogi Bhalla
DPW, Brian Bennewith

Media – 1
Public – 1

EXCUSED Councillor Jonah Anstett

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

In the absence of the Deputy Mayor Councillor Tuohey, Mayor Roden chaired the meeting.

“Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka’pamux people.”

2. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

M/S Anderson / Davenport

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda for Monday April 11, 2022 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED – Unanimous – COTW-2022-01

3. **MINUTES**

All COTW Minutes are adopted at a Regular Meeting of Council.

4. **DELEGATIONS**

	None	
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5. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**



6. BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1	<p>CAO Report - Village of Ashcroft Local Government Elections and Other Voting Procedures Bylaw No. 816, 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voting machines – some discussion in regards to affordability, research is ongoing, was proven to be previously unaffordable • Tie breaker – discussions regarding resolving tie elections by conducting a run off election or by lot. Council does not wish to amend this portion of the bylaw keeping the tie vote to be determined by lot process. • Additional advance voting – currently the bylaw specifies the number of additional advance voting days as well as when. After some discussion Council agrees that it would be better for the bylaw to enable the Chief Election Officer to make this determination. • Polling place – currently the bylaw indicates the Community Hall as the voting place. Legal opinion indicates it is better to enable the Chief Election Officer to determine the polling station at each election. If the polling station is stated in the bylaw, the bylaw must be amended if prior to moving the polling station, not determining the polling station creates a more fluid bylaw. • Mail in Ballots – many municipalities are moving to this format. Currently do not have the ability to cast a vote by mail. Concerns were raised of someone casting two votes, how is this safeguarded. Council requested more information in regards to process and cost to be brought back at a future Council meeting. 	
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7. STAFF REPORTS

	None	
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8. CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

	NONE	
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Mayor Roden allowed Questions;

Cam Tedford
 Vivian Edwards
 Anne McKague



9. TERMINATION

Motion to Rise and Report

M/S Roden / Davenport

THAT, the Committee of the Whole rise and report to Council with the recommendation that staff look into the ramification of mail in voting and that the polling location and advance voting dates be removed from the bylaw and replaced with "at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer" for both items.

CARRIED – Unanimous – COTW-2022-02

M/S Roden / Anderson

THAT, the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council for Monday, April 11, 2022 be adjourned at 5:45 pm.

CARRIED – Unanimous – COTW-2022-03

Certified to be a true copy of the
Committee of the Whole Meeting of
Council held Monday, April 11, 2022

Daniela Dyck
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden
Mayor



INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS

In order to appear before Council as a delegation, please take the time to complete this form. It will help you in providing Council and staff with an overview of your presentation and the key points you wish to bring to their attention. We ask that you keep your presentation to a MAXIMUM of ten (10) minutes so that there will be a reasonable amount of time for Council to address any questions that may arise. Delegations are generally scheduled for Committee of the Whole meetings that are held on the 4th Monday of the month, however exceptions are reviewed on a case by case basis.

1. Name of Organization or Group (if applicable): _____
2. Name(s) and title(s) of Person(s) making presentation: _____

3. The topic of your presentation: _____

4. What are you seeking from Council as a result of your delegation's presentation? (i.e. funding, a letter of support, a change in a bylaw or policy, to provide information only):

5. If you or your group are seeking some form of financial assistance, please explain why you feel that the Village should be funding your request:

6. If seeking financial assistance please attach a budget for your project and expected sources of revenue.
7. If you require a power-point projector or other presentation tool, please advise staff in advance. Paper copies of your presentation should be brought as back up in case of system failure.
8. If you have additional printed materials that you would like Council to read as support for your presentation, please have 7 copies delivered to the office NO LATER THAN the Thursday morning prior to your date of presentation. This will ensure that all Council members receive your materials prior to the meeting and can be better informed as to the background of your presentation.
9. Date requested to make presentation: _____
Alternate date (if necessary): _____
10. You should not expect a decision from Council the same night as your presentation unless it is a time sensitive item.

Thank you for taking the time to prepare yourself and Council members for your presentation. This form and attachments can be dropped off at the Village Office or emailed to admin@ashcroftbc.ca

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

BYLAW NO. 851 - SCHEDULE "A"

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN 2022 - 2026

	<i>Year 1</i> 2022	<i>Year 2</i> 2023	<i>Year 3</i> 2024	<i>Year 4</i> 2025	<i>Year 5</i> 2026
Revenues					
Property Taxes	1,343,342	1,376,926	1,411,349	1,446,632	1,482,798
Parcel Taxes	166,000	166,000	166,000	166,000	166,000
Fees and Charges					
Sales of Services	267,380	267,380	267,380	267,380	267,380
Other					
User Fees	989,000	989,000	989,000	989,000	989,000
Borrowing Proceeds - MFA	0	0	0	0	0
Other Revenue					
Interest	44,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Grants/Other Gov'ts.	2,129,442	850,000	3,651,939	850,000	850,000
Other	69,850	73,250	73,250	73,250	73,250
Services to Other Gov'ts.	30,000	24,000	26,000	28,000	30,000
Transfers from Funds					
Reserve Funds	0	395,141	845,200	0	0
DCC	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer from Equity	564,000	564,000	564,000	564,000	564,000
Accumulated Surplus	130,684	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	5,733,698	4,750,696	8,039,118	4,429,262	4,467,428
Expenses					
Debt Interest	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Principal	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Expenditure	1,779,200	856,313	3,986,328	281,171	313,904
Deficiency	0	0	0	0	0
Other Municipal Purposes	0	0	0	0	0
General Municipal	1,934,144	2,113,394	2,155,662	2,155,662	2,155,662
Fire Protection	205,931	210,050	194,153	194,153	194,153
Water	517,980	461,939	461,939	461,939	461,939
Sewer	401,451	375,000	380,000	385,000	385,000
Transfer to	0	0	0	0	0
Reserve Funds	330,992	170,000	297,036	387,337	392,770
Amortization Expense	564,000	564,000	564,000	564,000	564,000
Accumulated Surplus	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	5,733,698	4,750,696	8,039,118	4,429,262	4,467,428

**Village of Ashcroft
2022-2026 Financial Plan
Statement of Objectives and Policies
Schedule 'B' of Bylaw No. 851**

In accordance with Section 165(3.1) of the *Community Charter*, the Village of Ashcroft (Town) is required to include in the Five Year Financial Plan, objectives and policies regarding each of the following:

1. The proportion of total revenue that comes from each of the funding sources described in Section 165(7) of the *Community Charter*,
2. The distribution of property taxes among the property classes, and
3. The use of permissive tax exemptions.

Funding Sources

Table 1 shows the proportion of total revenue proposed to be raised from each funding source in 2022. Property taxes form the greatest proportion of revenue. As a revenue source, property taxation offers a number of advantages, for example, it is simple to administer and it is fairly easy for residents to understand. It offers a stable and reliable source of revenue for services that are difficult to fund on a user-pay basis. These include services such as general administration, fire protection, police services, bylaw enforcement and street lighting.

User fees and charges form the second largest portion of planned revenue. Many services can be measured and charged on a user basis. Services where fees and charges can be easily administered include water and sewer usage, building permits, business licenses, and sale of services – these are charged on a user pay basis. User fees attempt to apportion the value of a service to those who use the service.

Objective

- Over the next five years, the Village of Ashcroft will balance the proportion of revenue that is received from user fees and charges with the projected funds operations require.

Policies

- The Village will review all user fee levels to ensure they are adequately meeting both the capital and delivery costs of the service.
- Where possible, the Village will endeavor to supplement revenues from user fees and charges, rather than taxation, to lessen the burden on its limited property tax base.

Table 1: Sources of Revenue

Revenue Sources	% of Total Revenue	Dollar Value
Property Taxes	23%	\$ 1,343,342 *
Parcel Taxes	3%	\$ 166,000
Sales of Service	22%	\$ 1,256,380
Grants/Transfers	50%	\$ 2,854,126
Borrowing Proceeds	0%	\$ -
Other Sources	2%	\$ 113,850
Total	100%	\$ 5,733,698

* contains 17.65% (\$194,943) Capital Replacement Reserve funds

Distribution of Property Tax Rates

Table 2 outlines the distribution of property taxes among the property classes. The residential property class provides the largest proportion of property tax revenue. This is appropriate as this class also forms the largest portion of the assessment base and consumes the majority of Town services.

Objectives

- Maintain the property tax rate as low as possible while still providing for future needs.

Policies

- Continue to maintain and encourage economic development initiatives designed to attract more retail and commercial businesses to invest in the community. New investment from these areas will help offset tax increases while providing more revenue for the Village.
- Align the distribution of tax rates among the property classes with the social and economic goals of the community, particularly to encourage a range of employment opportunities.
- Regularly review and compare the Village of Ashcroft’s tax burden relative to other municipalities in British Columbia.

Table 2: Distribution of Property Tax Rates

Property Class	% of Total Property Taxation	Dollar Value
Residential (1)	60%	\$ 806,656
Utilities (2)	11%	\$ 148,184
Light Industrial (5)	0%	\$ 3,480
Business and Other (6)*	27%	\$ 367,065
Recreation/Non-profit (8)	0%	\$ 681
Farmland (9)	1%	\$ 17,275
Total	100%	\$ 1,343,342

Permissive Tax Exemptions

- The Annual Municipal Report for 2021 contains a list of permissive exemptions granted for the taxation year and the amount of revenue foregone. The list demonstrates the policy of council that permissive exemptions are granted to not-for-profit institutions that form a valuable part of our community. These include religious institutions and some recreational facilities and service organizations.

Objective

- To ensure permissive tax exemptions are utilized to maximize the benefit to the municipality and citizens.

Policy

- To maintain permissive exemptions for religious institutions, recreational facilities, and service organizations.

Capital Asset Reserve

- In 2011 the Village recognized the need to accumulate funds to pay for future replacement of infrastructure. Accordingly a separate tax was established and funds collected are accounted for separately from general municipal taxes.

Objective

- To establish a reserve to fund future infrastructure replacement.

Policy

- To supplement revenues from government grants wherever possible to lessen the amount of funds utilized from the reserve fund.
- To seek out projects which will reduce the operating costs of the Village enabling them to repay funds back into the reserve over time.

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

BYLAW NO. 852

Being a bylaw for the levying of rates for municipal, hospital, and regional district purposes for the year 2022.

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. The following rates are hereby imposed and levied for the year 2022:
 - a. For all lawful general purposes of the municipality on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for general and municipal purposes, rates appearing in column "A" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
 - b. For capital asset reserve purposes on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for general municipal purposes, rates appearing in column "B" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
 - c. For hospital purposes on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for hospital district purposes, rates appearing in column "C" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
 - d. For Thompson-Nicola Regional District purposes on the assessed value of land and improvements for hospital district purposes, rates appearing in column "E" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
2. The minimum amount of taxation upon a parcel of real property shall be one dollar (\$1.00).
3. This bylaw may be cited as "Tax Rates Bylaw No. 852, 2022".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 25th DAY OF April, 2022

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 25th DAY OF April, 2022

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 25th DAY OF April, 2022

RECONSIDERED AND ADOPTED THIS DAY OF, 2022

Barbara Roden, Mayor

Certified to be a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 843 as adopted by Council.

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

YSB/kw

BYLAW NO. 852

SCHEDULE A - TAX RATES 2022

Property Class	Tax Rates (dollars of tax per \$1000 taxable value)					
	A General Municipal	B Capital Reserve	C Regional Hospital District	D Improvement District	E Regional District	F Specified Area
1. Residential	2.8381	0.5009	0.3459		0.7167	0.0000
2. Utility	28.9941	5.1175	1.2106		2.5084	0.0000
2. Utility (Tax Limit Area)	3.6678	0.6474	1.2106		2.5084	0.0000
5. Light Industry	16.7316	2.9531	1.1760		2.4368	0.0000
6. Business	13.2565	2.3398	0.8474		1.7559	0.0000
8. Rec/Non Profit	6.7734	1.1955	0.3459		0.7167	0.0000
9. Farm	10.9886	1.9395	0.3459		0.7167	0.0000

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

MEETING DATE: April 25, 2022
FROM: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 2022 – Local Government Election and Other Voting

Purpose

To provide Council with information in regards to Mail in Voting processes to be considered for inclusion in the amended Election Bylaw.

Recommendation

That, Council approves first and second reading of the Village of Ashcroft Local Government Election and Other Voting Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 2022.

Alternatives

N/A

Discussion

At the April 11, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting Council reviewed and discussed Bylaw No. 816, 2018 in preparation of the upcoming local government election in October. Any changes to the bylaw must be adopted 8 weeks prior to commencement of the nomination period deadline which is July 4th.

The Committee of the Whole recommended to Council the following amendments:

- a. That voting place not be named in the bylaw and be determined by the Chief Election Officer;
- b. That additional advance voting opportunities be determined by the Chief Election Officer and not specified in the bylaw; and
- c. That Mail in Ballots be included in the bylaw.

In addition, Council requested a staff report indicating processes to ensure electors are not able to vote by mail in ballot and cast a vote on election day.

The attached draft Local Government Election and Other Voting Procedures Amendment Bylaw includes the provisions requested by Council, determines the mail in ballot process as per the Local Government Act and Election Act. Further to that, the Elections Manual developed by the Local Government Management Association in collaboration with Election BC includes templates for mail in ballot procedures, which have been added to the amendment bylaw.

In regards to Council's concerns of electors casting more than one vote if mail in voting is provided and maintaining the integrity of our election, the Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer have developed the following process to address Council's concerns:

- The current election bylaw states that Ashcroft does not use a Register of Electors (voters list), therefore we are not able to clearly mark the elector as voting by mail. For communities that do not use a voter list and register electors at the polling station, a copy of the Register of Mail Ballots will be provided to all voting stations so that election staff is able to cross reference the elector registering to vote against those electors listed on the Register of Mail Ballots. Additionally, election staff will have to cross reference the list of electors casting ballots at advance voting opportunities prior to approving a mail in ballot request.

- Mail in ballots will increase the cost of the election, but we are unable to determine what the financial impact will be as most of the cost will be postage expense; and
- Election staff will have to be diligent to follow the process and cross check elector lists.
- Electors swear an oath prior to casting a ballot, if they are found to be in violation of the oath, they could face prosecution for their actions through the Elections Act.

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Legislative Authority

Local Government Act

Financial Implications

Attachment Listing

Draft Bylaw No. 853, 2022

Prepared by:



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Election Officer

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

BYLAW NO. 853

A bylaw for the Village of Ashcroft to amend the Local Government Elections and Other Voting Procedures Bylaw No. 816, 2018

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “The Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft Local Government Elections and Other Voting Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 2022”.
2. Bylaw No. 816, 2018 Local Government Elections and Other Voting Procedures is amended as follows:
Section 5 – Required Advance Voting Opportunity
 - i. The required advance voting opportunity will be held at the Ashcroft Community Hall on the 10th day before General Voting Day; and

Section 5 i. as noted above be removed from the bylaw and replaced with

- i. The required advance voting opportunity will be held on the 10th day before General Voting Day at a location determined by the Chief Election Officer.
3. Section 6 – Additional Advance Voting Opportunities
 - a. In addition to the required advance voting opportunity on the 10th day before general voting day, the following days are hereby established as additional advance voting opportunities:
 - i. The 4th, 3rd and 2nd day before general voting day;
 - b. The additional advance voting opportunities specified in section “6.a.” shall be held at the Ashcroft Community Hall as follows:
 - i. From 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and
 - c. Additional advance voting opportunities specified in section “6.a.” shall not be held on any statutory holiday recognized within the Province of British Columbia.

Section 6 a, b and c as noted above be removed from the bylaw and replaced with:

- a. As authorized under Section 108 of the Local Government Act, Council authorizes the Chief Election Officer to establish additional voting opportunities to be held in advance of general voting day and to designate the voting places and set the hours for these voting opportunities.

ADDITION OF MAIL BALLOT VOTING

4. AUTHORIZATION AND DEFINITIONS

4.1 Voting may be done by mail ballot and registration of elector may be done by mail in conjunction with mail ballot voting.

4.2 The chief election officer may establish the time limits in relation to voting by mail.

4.3 In this bylaw,

Applicant means: an elector who wants to vote by mail and make a request for a mail ballot;

Authorized Person means: a person that the applicant has authorized, on the applicant's behalf, to:

- a. pick up a mail ballot package; or
- b. drop off a completed mail ballot package.

Register of Mail Ballots means: the records that the Chief Election Officer must keep in order to address any challenges to an elector's right to vote.

5. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

5.1 An Applicant shall apply by giving their name and address to the Chief Election Officer during the period:

- c. commencing 7 days before, the first day of advance voting; and
- d. ending at 4:00 pm on the Thursday before general voting day.

5.2 Upon the Applicant making a request for a mail ballot, the Chief Election Officer shall, On the first day of advance voting and 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday before general voting day:

- a. make available to the Applicant, a mail ballot package which contains:
 - i. the content set out in section 110(7) of the Local Government Act;
 - ii. additional instructions; and
 - iii. a statement advising the elector that
The elector must meet the eligibility to vote criteria, and
The elector must attest to such fact; and
- b. record in the Register of Mail Ballots and, upon request, make available for inspection:
 - i. the name and address of the elector to whom the mail ballot package was issued; and
 - ii. the number of the elector, the number of the voting division in which the person is registered as an elector, or "new elector", if that person is not registered as an elector; and
 - iii. any other information that the Chief Election Officer deems helpful to maintain the register of mail ballots.

- 5.3 As per the Applicant's direction, the Chief Election Officer may distribute the mail ballot package in any of the following ways:
- a. sending the mail ballot package by Canada Post;
 - b. sending the mail ballot package by courier at the expense of the applicant;
 - c. having the mail ballot package picked up by the Applicant at a designated time and location; or
 - d. having the mail ballot package picked up by an Authorized Person at a designated time and location.

5.4 The Chief Election Officer may request that the Authorized Person show identification and sign a form before providing the Authorized Person with the mail ballot package.

6. VOTING PROCEDURE

6.1 To vote by a mail ballot, the elector shall mark the ballot in accordance with the instructions contained in the mail ballot package provided by the Chief Election Officer.

6.2 After marking the ballot, the elector shall:

- a. place the ballot in the secrecy envelope provided and seal the secrecy envelope;
- b. place the secrecy envelope in the certification envelope, and complete and sign the certification printed on such envelope, and then seal the certification envelope;
- c. place the certification envelope, together with a completed elector registration application, if required, in the outer envelope, and then seal the outer envelope; and
- d. mail, or have delivered, the outer envelope and its contents to the chief election officer at the address specified so that it is received by the chief election officer no later than the close of voting on general voting day.

7. BALLOT ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION

7.1 Until 4:00 pm on the Thursday, 2 days before general voting day, the Chief Election Officer shall, upon receipt of the return envelope and its contents:

- a. immediately record the date of receipt in the Register of Mail Ballots; and
- b. open the return envelope.

7.2 When the Chief Election Officer examines the certification envelope, the Chief Election Officer shall:

- a. confirm the identity of the elector as an Applicant on the Register of Mail Ballots;
- b. determine the fulfilment of the requirements in section 70 of the *Local Government Act* and the completeness of any application to register, if required; and
- c. determine the completeness of the certification envelope.

7.3 If the Chief Election Officer is satisfied that the elector has met the requirements in section 7.2, the Chief Election Officer shall:

- a. mark the certification envelope as "accepted";
- b. place the accepted certification envelope with the other certification envelopes.

7.4 If the Chief Election Officer determines that:

- a. the Chief Election Officer is not satisfied as to the identify to the elector; or
- b. the elector has not completed the application to register properly;

the Chief Election Officer shall mark the certification envelope as “rejected”, indicate the reason for the rejection and set aside the rejected certification envelope unopened.

7.5 The Chief Elections Officer shall retain in their custody all opened and unopened certification envelopes.

7.6 That after 4:00 pm on the Thursday, 2 days before general voting day, the Chief Election Officer, in the presence of at least 1 other person, including any candidate representatives, shall:

- a. deal with any challenges to the electors involving the accepted certification envelopes;
- b. open the certification envelopes;
- c. remove the secrecy envelopes containing the ballots; and
- d. place the secrecy envelope containing the ballot in the ballot box.

7.7 If the Chief Election Officer receives a return envelope with its contents after 4:00 pm on the Thursday, 2 days before general voting day but before the close of general voting, the Chief Election Officer shall:

- a. handle those return envelopes in accordance with sections 7.1 at the time that the Chief Election Officer receives the return envelopes;
- b. retain all accepted certification envelopes until the close of general voting day;
- c. process the accepted certification envelopes in accordance with sections 7.2 to 7.5 after the close of general voting day.

7.8 As soon as possible after all of the secrecy envelopes have been placed in the ballot box, in the presence of at least 1 other person and any candidate representatives, the Chief Election Officer shall supervise:

- a. the opening of the ballot box;
- b. the opening of the secrecy envelopes; and
- c. the counting of the ballots in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act*.

7.9 If the Chief Election Officer receives a return envelope with its contents after the close of general voting day, the Chief Election Officer shall:

- a. Mark the return envelope as “rejected”;
- b. indicate the reason why the return envelope was rejected on the return envelope; and
- c. place the unopened return envelope with the other rejected return envelopes.

8. CHALLENGE OF ELECTOR

8.1 A person who qualifies under section 126 of the *Local Government Act* may challenge the right of a person to vote by mail ballot on the grounds set out in section 126 of the *Local Government Act* up until 4:00 pm on the Thursday, 2 days before general voting day.

9. ELECTOR’S NAME ALREADY USED

9.1 If, upon receiving a request for a mail ballot, the Chief Election Officer determines that another person has voted or has already been issued a mail ballot in the elector’s name, the Chief Election Officer shall comply with section 127 of the *Local Government Act*.

10. REPLACEMENT OF SPOILED BALLOT

10.1 If an elector unintentionally spoils a mail ballot before returning it to the Chief Election Officer, the elector may request a replacement ballot by:

- a. advising the Chief Election Officer of the ballot spoilage; and
- b. mailing or otherwise delivering by any appropriate means, the spoiled ballot package in its entirety to the Chief Election Officer.

10.2 Upon receipt of the spoiled ballot package, the Chief Election Officer shall, record such fact, and proceed in accordance with Part 5 of this bylaw.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS DAY OF , 2022

READ A SECOND TIME THIS DAY OF , 2022

READ A THIRD TIME THIS DAY OF , 2022

ADOPTED THIS DAY OF , 2022

Certified to be a true and correct copy of Bylaw No. 853, 2022 as adopted by Council.

Barbara Roden,
Mayor

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

MEETING DATE: January 10, 2022
FROM: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: CiB Agreement Renewal and Year End Report

Purpose

Request Council approval to renew the CiB Agreement for a five year term.

Recommendation

That, Council approves the renewal of the CiB Agreement with the Village of Ashcroft for a five (5) year term ending December 31, 2026.

Alternatives

Discussion

The Village of Ashcroft and Ashcroft CiB have collaborated for years to provide beautification in the Village. CiB receives an Unconditional Grant in Aid which was increased by \$100 year over year for the last five years increasing the Grant in Aid from \$5,000 to \$5,500.

The Unconditional Grant in Aid enables CiB to request up to \$5,500 based on the budgeted need for the current years' projects.

Past practice has been to sign a five year agreement in which CiB assumes responsibility for community beautification. CiB presents a year end report, actual costs for the previous years' activities and a proposed budget for the current years projects which requires a resolution of Council to release the Grant in Aid funds.

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Community Beautification

Legislative Authority

Financial Implications

Up to \$5,500

Attachment Listing

CiB Year End Report and Budget.

Draft Agreement

Prepared by:



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Ashcroft CiB - Transitional Plan After Meeting with the Village - 22.04.13
Summary of 2021 Income and Expenses plus Proposed Transitional Budget 2022
2021 Fiscal Year to December 31, 2021

Category	Operating	Trust	Total	Draft Budget
	2021	2021	2021	2022 - V2
Income				
Donations (Plant Swap)	510.00	0.00	510.00	300.00
Interest Earned	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Operating Grant * (Transitional Plan 2022)	5,500.00	5,400.00	10,900.00	0.00
Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Re-Sale	70.00		70.00	50.00
TOTAL INCOME:	6,080.00	5,400.00	11,480.00	350.00
Expenses				
Bank Fees	5.00	5.00	10.00	50.00
Conference (Cancelled 2020 & 2021; out 2022)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Flower Desert Planters (10 for 2022)	2,123.89	0.00	2,123.89	2,850.00
Flowers and Soil in Barrels	1,652.22	0.00	1,652.22	1,800.00
Incidental Expenses	15.00	0.00	15.00	50.00
Judges' Booklets Printing Costs (out 2022)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Judges Hosting Costs (out 2022)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Membership - National CiB * (out - refund \$750.00)	65.00	0.00	65.00	-750.00
Millennium Park Landscaping	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Plaques, Storyboards, & Shields	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Promos: Best Bloomin' Business Prog.	24.32	0.00	24.32	50.00
Promos: Community Celebration	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Promos: Community Parades	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Promos: Fall Fair Regis. + Sponsor	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
Promos: Flags/Banners/T-Shirts/Etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Promos: Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Promos: Miscellaneous Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Promos: National CiB Conference (out 2022)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Promos: School Projects	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Promos: Village Partner Barrels	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Promos: Pre-School Rock Painting	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Projects: Picnic Table for Millennium Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	900.00
Projects: Public Workshop	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Projects: Scotts Best Garden Promo	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Projects: Shade Sails in Pool Park (delay to 2023)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Projects: Tree in Millennium Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Projects: Water Feature in MP (delay to 2023)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:	3,885.43	5.00	3,890.43	7,035.00
Projected Surplus/Deficit 2021 (2022):	2,194.57	5,395.00	7,589.57	-6,685.00
Cash Balances On-Hand at Start of Year	1,569.36	2215.41	3,784.77	11,374.34
TR to Trust (2021 Excess Funds)	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Est. Net Cash Left 2021.12.31/2022.12.31	\$3,763.93	\$7,610.41	\$11,374.34	\$ 4,689.34

FUNDING AGREEMENT

BETWEEN: THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT (Village)
PO Box 129
Ashcroft, BC
V0K 1A0

AND: ASHCROFT COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE (Committee)
c/o PO Box 877
Ashcroft, BC
V0K 1A0

The Village of Ashcroft wishes to provide funding to the Ashcroft Communities in Bloom Committee.

The term of the Agreement shall be from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026.

The Village of Ashcroft will provide an annual grant to the committee based on the budget submitted and will be paid to the Committee by April 1st annually. The amount of the grant will not exceed \$5,500.

The Ashcroft Communities in Bloom will:

1. use the funds to promote and enhance the Village's entry in the Communities in Bloom Competition. (Excused from competition for 2022, beautification only)
2. use the funds to provide community educational opportunities and events.
3. provide an annual report to the Village by January 31st that includes a summary of their activities of the past year, their plans for the coming year and their financial statements.
4. not request any further funding from the Village of Ashcroft.
5. return any unused funds as of December 31st each year to the Village unless permission has been granted by the Chief Administrative Officer that the funds may be rolled over into the next year to complete outstanding projects.

Agreed by both parties this _____ day of _____, 2022.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE
OF ASHCROFT**

**ASHCROFT COMMUNITIES IN
BLOOM COMMITTEE**

Barbara Roden, Mayor

Chairperson

Daniela Dyck, CAO

Treasurer



COUNCIL / CiB

Meeting Notes

10:30 am -- April 13, 2022

Present: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Marilyn Anderson
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Deb Tuohey
DPW, Brian Bennewith
CAO, Daniela Dyck

CiB Chair, Andrea Walker
CiB, Dave Gory
CiB, Paulette Thille

Regrets: Councillor, Jonah Anstett

1. Welcome

Mayor Roden welcomed the members of CiB to the meeting recognizing CiB contribution to the community and that this was the first opportunity this Council has had an opportunity to meet.

2. Discussion Items:

- ❖ Review of 2021 Report
CiB Chair Andrea Walker provided a brief overview of what CiB is about, what they do, how they are judged, community beautification, community involvement/recognition and much more. It was noted that CiB is much more than a group of folks that plant flowers, they instill community pride, cleanliness, beautify areas and among other things assist with park planning.
Regrettably, COVID and volunteer burnout has reduced membership and many of the ongoing projects are a struggle to keep going, as such CiB would like to step back this year focusing only on planting the barrels.
- ❖ Plans for 2022 – Recruitment year
 - Barrels – planting isn't a problem, FD participates
 - CiB is reducing the format program due to lack of volunteers not competing this year – no judging tour
 - What can the Village do to assist?
 - Promotion, newsletters, social media, perhaps develop service group page with contact info
 - Membership drive at Thank you BBQ – CiB invited to set up table for membership recruitment

- Will continue to do barrels, banners, business recognition, garden recognition, best street recognition and plant swap
- Encourage community pride and cleanliness

❖ How can our collaboration be improved?

Continue to discuss projects and invite CIB participation as well as continue to communicate with CIB on a regular basis keeping them informed of projects that may be of interest to the committee.

❖ Other

- Budget discussion in regards to ongoing funding and service agreement. Although CIB is not functioning at capacity this year, it was agreed that the service agreement should be renewed. CIB will manage the barrel project with existing funds and will advise village at the end of the season if reimbursement for unforeseen expenses is required.
- It was suggested that some CIB programs may be able to move forward if program folders were developed enabling a new volunteer keen to coordinate a program to take the file and move the initiative forward. Andrea advised that she has files established for all CIB projects and she is happy to share them, but would like to keep the planters as this project is near and dear to her heart and she has been planting the old fire hall planters for 35 years.

3. Next Steps

CIB Participate at the Thank You BBQ as a recruitment drive

CIB till prep and plant all the planter

VOA will include CIB recruitment in random newsletters and social media promotion

VOA will edit Service Agreement and prepare for signatures

4. Adjournment

Meeting concluded at 12:10 pm

The foregoing is based on the writer's interpretation of the discussion held.



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Office

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

MEETING DATE: April 25, 2022
FROM: Yogi Bhalla, Chief Financial Officer
SUBJECT: Reimbursement request for Thompson View Manor

Purpose

Thompson View Manor solid waste utility reimbursement

Recommendation

Council reimburse a portion of the additional solid waste charge which totalled \$4,842.50 over 5 years.

Alternatives

Deny reimbursement.

Discussion

The Thompson View Manor was scheduled for biweekly pickups 2017 and billed accordingly but the number of pickup remained once a week. We have reimbursed the additional charge in 2022 but require authorization from council to reimburse prior years amounts. The legislation for taxes disallows prior year reimbursements but we retain some flexibility in utility billings.

Staff is of the opinion that although it was an oversight on the part of the village when we did not correctly implement biweekly pickups after the requested change, the matter was not brought to our attention in a timely manner by the client despite it being clearly specified on the annual utility bill.

We endeavour to correctly bill for services and are enhancing our procedures and systems to improve consistency, but mistakes do happen and are corrected as soon as they are brought to our attention.

The council has complete discretion on the amount reimbursed but we recommend a minimum of 50% be refunded to the non-profit.

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Fairness

Legislative Authority

NA

Financial Implications

As discussed.

Attachment Listing

Prepared by:



Yogi Bhalla,
Chief Financial Officer

Approved for submission to Council:



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer



THOMPSON VIEW MANOR SOCIETY
Thompson View Manor and Thompson View Lodge
Box 318, 710 Elm Street, Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0
Tel: 250-453-9223 Fax: 250-453-0059
Email: tvms@telus.net

April 7, 2022

Village of Ashcroft
Box 129
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

To the Mayor and Council:

I recently contacted the Village of Ashcroft to exchange one of our large 1000L garbage bins to two smaller 360L commercial bins. Our tenants at Thompson View Manor are seniors and have difficulty in lifting the lid of the large garbage bin.

I was checking our current utility bill to see what the price difference of the garbage bin exchanges would be. The bill shows "Solid waste-1000 L 2 pick ups per week, 2 units, amount \$2,152". I checked with our maintenance person to confirm if our garbage was indeed picked up twice per week and he confirmed that it was picked up just once per week on Fridays. The Village also confirmed this and informed me that we were billed for 2 pickups from 2017 to 2022. As a result, we overpaid the Village for the total amount of \$6,456.00.

I have spoken to the Village Chief Financial Officer about the issue and was told that the 2022 overpayment will be credited to our account but overpayment from 2017 to 2021 of \$5,380 won't be credited nor reimbursed. As a non-profit society, this amount is significant to us. We were billed for a service that was not provided.

We would like to appeal to the Mayor and Council to reconsider the CFO's decision and credit the overpayment amount of \$5,380 to our account.

I am very hopeful that our request will be granted.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Mimi Kopanyas
Business Manager
Thompson View Manor Society



March 17th, 2022

Mayor and Council, Village of Ashcroft
Box 129
Village of Ashcroft
Ashcroft, BC, V0K 1A0

Dear Mayor and Council;

We would like to book the arena for our annual Fall Fair on September 11th, 2022. This means that we would like to use the arena for the days of Friday September 9th, Saturday September 10th and Sunday September 13th, 2022. Our request includes the arena space as well as the surrounding parking space. We expect food vendors such as the Lions and Rotary club to be parked outside the building but close to the entrance, utilizing the power outlets. We are hoping to host a possible car show in the back parking lot, fingers crossed.

Event insurance for the occasion will be purchased Sept 1st, 2022 as it is non-refundable and we would like to be closer to the actual date before committing to the cost, given the ever changing Covid 19 situation. The Village will be listed as additional insured and a copy of the policy will be provided once it is procured.

The stage would also need to be moved and placed in the appropriate area previous to the set up commencing on Saturday.

We will be using the arena past normal operating hours for Village due to the weekend nature of our event so we will need a contact number for the lucky souls that get to open and close the doors for us. Contact person for this will be Kat Chatten 250 457 0732.

We look forward to hosting a Fall Fair after the hiatus

Yours truly

Kat Chatten
President, Desert Mesa Lions Club



VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
GRANT IN AID APPLICATION – ORGANIZATIONS

Organization Official Name: Ashcroft and District Fall Fair

Mailing Address: Box 353, Cache Creek BC V0K1H0

Phone: 2504570732 Fax: _____ Email: ASHCROFTFALLFAIR@GMAIL.COM

Contact Person: KAT CHATTEN Title: ORGANIZER

Briefly describe your organization’s purpose:

TO PROVIDE AN AGRICULTURAL FAIR IN ASHCROFT

Briefly describe how the requested grant money will be used:

TO OFFSET THE COST OF ARENA RENTAL AND INSURANCE FOR THE EVENT

What amount of Grant in Aid is being requested? \$ 500.00

Total organization operating budget for current year \$ 8000.00

Total budget for project the grant is being applied for \$ 8000.00

Did you receive a Grant in Aid last year? Yes ___ No X

If yes, what was the amount of the grant? \$ _____

Attachments: Please provide the following to your application (if available):

- Financial Statement, Current Year Budget, Project Budget

Forward completed applications to: Village of Ashcroft, Box 129, Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0 or via email: to: ea@ashcroftbc.ca.

Applications will be considered by Council twice per year at the first Committee of the Whole COW) meeting in March and September. Applications must be received by February 28/29th and August 31st to be considered.



**VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
GRANT IN AID APPLICATION – ORGANIZATIONS**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received: _____

Application confirmed to be complete: Date: _____

Checklist: Completed application form: _____

 Financial Statement: _____

 Budget for current year: _____

 Project Budget: _____

Category: Arts & Culture: _____ Sports & Recreation: _____ Museum & Heritage: _____

 Social/Educational/Environmental/Other: _____

Amount of Grant in Aid Applied for: \$ _____ Approved: \$ _____

 Denied: _____

Comments:

Letter sent to applicant regarding decision Date: _____

Cheque sent to applicant if applicable Date: _____

Ashcroft Fall Fair Event Budget

Applicant Organization	Ashcroft and District Fall Fair
Name of Event	Ashcroft and District Fall Fair

--

Revenue	Projected	Actual
	Dollar Amount	Dollar Amount
Earned Revenue		
Registration Fees	\$ 134	
Tickets	\$ 900	
Merchandise/Souvenirs	\$ -	
Concession/Vendor Revenue	\$ 270	
Fundraising	\$ 50	
Other (specify)		
Subtotal	\$ 1,354	\$ -
Contribution from Applicant and Partners		
Applicant Organization	\$ 600	
Local Government	\$ 500	
Provincial Government	\$ 6,500	
Federal Government		
Donations	\$ 200	
Sponsorship	\$ 1,500	
Other (specify)		
Subtotal	\$ 9,300	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ 10,654	\$ -

Expenditures	Projected		Actual
	Dollar Amount		Dollar Amount
Fees			
Programming Fees (Artists, Speakers, Presenters, etc.)	\$	4,650	
Honorariums (Indigenous consultation and blessings, etc.)	\$	200	
Contractor Fees			
Officials Fees			
Sanctioning & Licence Fees	\$	50	
Other (specify)			
Subtotal	\$	4,900	\$ -
Direct Costs			
Venue/Facility Rental	\$	1,200	
Production Fees	\$	1,250	
Event Insurance	\$	915	
Travel	\$	-	
Accommodation	\$	-	
Per Diem	\$	-	
Meals & Hospitality Fees			
Banquets, Receptions & Ceremonies			
Concession/Vendor			
Accreditation			
Security			
Medical			
Equipment	\$	-	
Merchandise/Souvenirs			
Signage & Tickets	\$	60	
Clothing			
Volunteers	\$	225	
Other (specify) prize and ribbons	\$	1,300	

	Subtotal	\$	4,950	\$	-
Communications					
Promotional Materials (program guide etc.)		\$	1,010		
Website Design/Production		\$	350		
Advertising (print, digital)		\$	300		
Photography & Video					
Other (specify)					
	Subtotal	\$	1,660	\$	-
Overhead					
Staff Wages					
Administration					
Office Supplies		\$	150		
Rental of Workspace					
Utilities					
Other (specify) Bank Fees		\$	48		
	Subtotal	\$	198	\$	-
Total Expenditures		\$	11,708	\$	-
Net Profit/Loss		-\$	1,054	\$	-



PO Box 1265
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0
Phone: 250-453-2022
windingriversarts@gmail.com
Web: windingriversarts.ca

April 11, 2022

Village of Ashcroft
PO Box 129
Ashcroft, BC
V0K 1A0

Dear Mayor and Council,

Winding Rivers Arts & Performance Society (WRAPS) would like to ask for your support in our upcoming Canada Day Celebration on Monday, July 1, 2022. As you know, WRAPS is a registered non-profit charitable organization of volunteers dedicated to the promotion of the Arts and Culture in our local communities. Our work is not possible without the sponsorship and support of many organizations and individuals.

At this time, we are requesting the village provide support in the way of the Canada Day Grant, the use of Heritage Park for the event, and free swimming at the pool on the afternoon of July 1.

In addition to support from the village we are hoping to partner with the local service clubs to provide live music, a brief ceremony, and food to the community.

We wish to clarify that this is **not** a grant-in-aid but is the amount that the Village has in the budget to assist in hosting a fun and community-building event as part of Canada Day celebrations.

Sincerely,

Maryann Simpson (for)

Canada Day Committee



**VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
GRANT IN AID APPLICATION – ORGANIZATIONS**

Organization Official Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Briefly describe your organization’s purpose:

Briefly describe how the requested grant money will be used:

What amount of Grant in Aid is being requested? \$ _____

Total organization operating budget for current year \$ _____

Total budget for project the grant is being applied for \$ _____

Did you receive a Grant in Aid last year? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, what was the amount of the grant? \$ _____

Attachments: Please provide the following to your application (if available):

- Financial Statement, Current Year Budget, Project Budget

Forward completed applications to: Village of Ashcroft, Box 129, Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0 or via email:
to: ea@ashcroftbc.ca.

Applications will be considered by Council twice per year at the first Committee of the Whole COW) meeting in March and September. Applications must be received by February 28/29th and August 31st to be considered.



**VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
GRANT IN AID APPLICATION – ORGANIZATIONS**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received: _____

Application confirmed to be complete: Date: _____

Checklist: Completed application form: _____

 Financial Statement: _____

 Budget for current year: _____

 Project Budget: _____

Category: Arts & Culture: _____ Sports & Recreation: _____ Museum & Heritage: _____

 Social/Educational/Environmental/Other: _____

Amount of Grant in Aid Applied for: \$ _____ Approved: \$ _____

 Denied: _____

Comments:

Letter sent to applicant regarding decision Date: _____

Cheque sent to applicant if applicable Date: _____

Winding Rivers Arts & Performance Society
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
 May 2022 through April 2023

4:53 PM
 April 14, 2022
 Accrual Basis

	<u>May '22 - Apr 23</u>
Canada Day Income	
Canadian Heritage Grant	0.00
Municipal Government Donation	550.00
Society, Business Contribution	<u>300.00</u>
Total Canada Day Income	<u>850.00</u>
Canada Day	
Administrative Expenses	61.00
Advertising	150.00
Cake	175.00
Decorations/Supplies	104.23
Food	300.00
Insurance	50.00
Musicians	<u>500.00</u>
Total Canada Day	<u>1,340.23</u>
Canada Day Net Income Less Expenses	<u><u>-490.23</u></u>

Budget prepare for Village Council April 2022

Please note we will continue to seek community partnerships.

From: Lake, Ryan <rlake@stella-jones.com>
Sent: April 11, 2022 2:07 PM
To: Maike Mayden <admin@ashcroftbc.ca>
Cc: Daniela Dyck <cao@ashcroftbc.ca>
Subject: FW: Barn Dance

Ashcroft Village;

The time has come where we can look at moving forward with this project.

We would like to formally request Council and Mayor support to use Railway Avenue (from 6th St to 7th St) from 1pm Friday August 19 to Midnight August 19, 2022.

Plan is to host a free, all ages, by donation concert with all proceeds to the Lytton Fire Dept and as a fun community event as we emerge from Covid restrictions. Outdoors makes the most sense we feel due to Covid which remains a concern, particularly for the vulnerable.

Interior Savings remains the lead sponsor. Expectation is more sponsors will be added as plans develop.

A food truck has been secured for the event and Unitea will be applying for a Liquor License to extend their existing license to cover the event.

Chief White has offered that his crew is onboard, enthusiastically with setup / takedown and any other help required.

CCMA Spotlight award winner Cory Gallant is again the planned headliner with Tanner Dawson, from Kamloops as the opener.

I am more than willing to speak in front of council if more details are required, scheduling may be the only challenge as I believe I am out of country the next two formal meetings but there is some opportunity to adjust those if required.

Please note, Stella Jones is not involved in this at this time, there was some confusion last time, which wasn't a big deal but just wanted to be clear this time.

Sales Support if I am unavailable / Order Status
Tina Gee – 250-572-2089 or tgee@stella-jones.com

Ryan Lake
Sales Manager
Stella-Jones Inc.

D : 604-349-2122

M : 604-349-2122

A :

Ashcroft, BC Canada

W : www.stella-jones.com





April 14, 2022

Ref: 117211

Via email

Dear Mayors, Chairs and Representatives:

Thank you to those that were able to join me and my colleague Roly Russell, Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development, on April 8 to discuss the \$830M provincial/federal funding partnership announced in March, and the plan to connect the remaining underserved rural and Indigenous households in our province to high-speed internet by 2027. With the new program expected to roll out this summer, I wanted to follow up on a few questions asked, and remind everyone how to connect to currently available information.

Connecting Communities BC is the next generation of our connectivity program and a key part of StrongerBC and the Economic Plan. This funding partnership is great news for the underserved rural and Indigenous households that will be able to look forward to the construction of connectivity infrastructure in their community, using multiple technologies such as fibre, cable, and satellite. These investments ensure that rural, remote, and Indigenous communities and businesses have the connectivity they need to succeed in a post-pandemic economy. It means all of B.C.'s communities will have better opportunities to contribute to the success of this province, and that's good for all of us.

We appreciated hearing your questions and feedback as we shape the new Connecting Communities BC program. It was affirming to know our regional approach reflects your previous input, which was our intent. Our commitment to transparency, open dialogue and input will continue via avenues like the Request to Participate process and these roundtables. Our expectation is that the chairs continue to represent the area directors in this forum to share the needs and feedback of communities. We also appreciate the information and learning that the Regional Connectivity Knowledge Network sessions provide, as these meetings with area directors and staff continue to yield valuable insights into what is currently top of mind for communities.

We know that many districts have been working hard on connectivity and have created plans for their regions. My ministry staff have reviewed all publicly available plans and information shared directly by regional districts and this local knowledge has informed the current process.

.../2

The data provided through the Request to Participate process provides an opportunity to engage or re-engage with your local internet service providers toward a shared understanding of gaps and potential options and solutions. Also, it is an opportunity to share with us any insights based on your understanding from local connectivity planning or feedback from your constituents by responding to the Request to Participate. The RTP is accessible via [BC Bid](#) (Number 13183). As requested, directions for obtaining a BCeID can be found [here](#). The deadline for input is April 25, 2022.

If you would like to discuss this further or receive additional information on the Province's activities to expand high-speed internet connectivity, please contact [Susan Stanford](#), Assistant Deputy Minister for Connectivity at 250-217-0026 and for enquiries around the RCKN group or other community planning questions, please contact [Jeanne Holliss](#), Executive Director, Connected Communities at 250-516-3848.

We all have a vested interest in achieving the goal of connecting the remaining underserved households in the Province by 2027 and continue to benefit from the insights each of you shared. Thank you for your participation, ongoing leadership, and collaboration as we collectively work towards a better future for British Columbians.

Sincerely,



Lisa Beare
Minister

pc: Roly Russell
Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development
Ministry of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation

Network BC
NetworkBC@gov.bc.ca

Connected Communities
CommunityInsights@gov.bc.ca



TNFC Welcomes New Film Commissioner

[Information, News, Press Release / April 12, 2022](#)

Kamloops, BC – April 12, 2022 – The Thompson-Nicola Film Commission (TNFC) is thrilled to announce the hiring of Gareth Smart as Film Commissioner, who will take over for long-time Film Commissioner, Victoria Weller.

“I am looking forward to bringing my passion for film to the Thompson-Nicola region,” Smart said. “My parents told me that if I remembered my schoolwork half as well as I can quote a movie that I would be a ‘Smart’ man.”

Smart previously lived in the area for 10 years, and he has worked in Locations Management in the film industry for many years. In that time, he has worked regularly with the TNFC on film locations. He is also a member of the Directors Guild of Canada and an alumni of Vancouver Film School.

“Living in Cache Creek during this time has provided me with a unique opportunity to not only work on films in the TNRD catchment area, but also on many other productions all over BC. I now look forward to the challenge of another side of film, with the role of Film Commissioner.”

Smart will begin in his role with the TNFC in late April. He will succeed Weller, who will be transitioning into retirement later this spring.

Hired as the first-ever TNFC Film Commissioner in April of 2000, Weller has spent 22 years helping grow the local film industry and attract A-list film productions to the Thompson-Nicola region. The region competes against places all around the globe to attract film productions, including regions of B.C. and Canada, the southwest United States, Mexico, the Middle East, Tibet, Australia, Kenya, South Africa, Brazil, and Japan.



Maps



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supportive organization consisting of kind and resourceful staff, and with a supportive, progressive, and trusting Board of Directors,” Weller said.

“I’m so proud of our local filmmakers, crew and actors, who now work professionally creating world-class movies, documentaries and short films. I’m thankful to all TNRD residents, location owners and businesses who have shared their expertise and resources as we worked together to attract and facilitate motion picture productions.”

The TNFC is a full-time, full service of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD), which markets the region worldwide and facilitates all types of motion picture productions. The Film Commissioner is a member of the TNRD Senior Management Team and reports to the CAO.

In 2021, more than \$8.5 million was spent in the TNRD region by film production companies, which resulted in about \$25 million in induced spending. Production companies spent a combined 329 days filming in the region, making 2021 the busiest year for filming on record in the TNRD.

A number of feature productions have already committed to filming in the Thompson-Nicola region in 2022. Discussion also continue on a proposed film studio in the region, following a Film Studio Feasibility Study that was recently completed and presented to the Board in February of 2022.

Media contact:

Victoria (Vicci) Weller, MA, Film Commissioner

Thompson-Nicola Regional District

Tel.: 250 377-7058

Email: vweller@tnrd.ca



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PRESS RELEASE

Mobile Library Stop Officially Launches in Lytton

Kamloops, BC – April 19, 2022 – The Thompson-Nicola Regional Library (TNRL) is pleased to announce a new Mobile Library stop at Kumsheen ShchEma-meet School in Lytton, and area residents are invited to join us for the launch.

The Launch Event of the Mobile Library stop will take place on Thursday, April 28, from 2 pm to 3:30 pm at Kumsheen ShchEma-meet School. Light refreshments will be available, and residents can tour the one-of-a-kind library on wheels. We hope to see you there!

With the support of Teresa Downs, Superintendent of Schools in School District 74, and the warm welcome by Principal Vicky Raphael, the Mobile Library will visit approximately every three weeks.

The Mobile Library offers regular service to 31 stops throughout the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD). It operates as a full-service library and provides a wide range of materials for all ages, including books, audiobooks, magazines, CDs, and DVDs. Patrons can also visit the Mobile Library to use its public Wi-Fi. TNRD residents have access to a free TNRL library card, which is valid at all library branches and the Mobile Library.

To view the Mobile Library schedule, visit: tnrl.ca/using-the-library/locations/mobile-library/.

Media contact:

Mike Brown, Branch Head, Mobile Library
Thompson-Nicola Regional Library
Tel.: 250 554-1124
Email: mbrown@tnrd.ca



PRESS RELEASE

Call for Applications for Spring 2022 Regional Grants-in-Aid

Kamloops, BC – April 20, 2022 – The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) invites non-profit organizations and groups to apply for the Spring 2022 intake of the Regional Grant-in-Aid program.

The program supports projects and events with a broad, regional benefit. It has an annual budget of \$20,000, and applications are reviewed by the Board of Directors in the spring and fall each year. Eligible organizations may receive a maximum of two grants during a four-year term of office for TNRD directors, to a maximum of \$5,000 per year.

“My previous experience on the other side of the application process, where I used to be an applicant of the TNRD Regional Grant-In-Aid program, gives me an appreciation for the work and effort that goes into creating programming and events that benefit the region as a whole,” said Terri Hadwin, TNRD Grants and Research Assistant.

“It is exceptionally wonderful to be able to assist non-profit groups with their application process, and I am here to answer questions for people who may have inquiries on whether their projects or events may be eligible for this grant.”

The Spring 2022 Regional Grant-in-Aid application deadline is May 1, 2022.

The TNRD also offers Community Grants-in-Aid for the 10 Electoral Areas. These grants are intended to provide community benefit, but are more limited in scope than regional grants. Applications for Community Grants-in-Aid can be made at any time.

To apply for a Regional Grant-in-Aid or Community Grant-in-Aid, visit: tnrd.ca/regional-government/budget-finance/apply-for-grants/grant-in-aid-programs/.

Media contact:

Terri Hadwin, Grants and Research Assistant
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Tel.: 250 377-8673
Email: thadwin@tnrd.ca



Guitar Lending Now Available at All Library Branches

Information, News, Press Release / April 21, 2022

Kamloops, BC – April 21, 2022 – The Thompson-Nicola Regional Library (TNRL) is thrilled to announce the launch of guitar lending, in partnership with Riversong Guitars.

Library users in the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) are now able to place a hold on an acoustic guitar, which is able to be borrowed for up to six weeks at a time. Acoustic guitars will be available at all library branches within the TNRD.

“This program aims to increase access in our communities for residents who want to play or learn to play guitar,” TNRL Chief Librarian Judy Moore said. “The program is made possible thanks to the generous support of Mike Miltimore. Riversong Guitars is an award-winning and world famous local company, and the TNRL is grateful for their support of lifelong learning across the Thompson-Nicola region.”

There will be two types of acoustic guitars available, including the Dreadnought and the Grand Auditorium. Both guitars have been designed locally by Riversong Guitars.

“A few years ago when we first started talking about making guitars accessible through the TNRL, I felt a deep personal connection with the idea. Guitars have changed my life for the better, and I know many people who say that guitar has saved their lives,” Riversong Guitars CEO Mike Miltimore said.

Miltimore continued: “A guitar is a voice, a companion and an outlet. On behalf of Riversong Guitars and Lee’s Music, I am very proud to be partnering with the TNRD in such an amazing way.”

To learn more about guitar lending, visit: tnrl.ca/guitar-lending.



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TNRL patrons have free access to many devices and book kits. Many items in the collection will help inspire patrons of all ages start a new hobby. For more information, visit: tnrl.ca/explore/devices-and-book-kits.

Media contact:

Colton Davies, Communications & Marketing Manager

Thompson-Nicola Regional District

Tel.: 250 377-6299

Email: cdavies@tnrd.ca



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Issues



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INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE – FLIP CHART

APRIL 25, 2022 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Interior Health

- News Release: Interior Health expanding withdrawal services (April 12, 2022)
- News Release: Coming together for a somber anniversary (April 13, 2022)
- Info Bulletin: One year at the Penticton urgent and primary care centre
- News Release: Interior Health invests in a greener future

Motion No.	Motion	Staff Responsible	Comments	Time line	Status
	2021 MOTIONS				
R-2021-80	“That Council direct staff to develop a communication strategy for public engagement and not amend Bylaw No. 834, and include a guideline of what and how information can be communicated by Council on social media.”	CAO/AA	Develop a communication strategy for public engagement including guideline for information communicated by Council on social media		completed
	2022 MOTIONS				
R-2022-74	THAT, Council directs staff to coordinate the Annual Thank You BBQ for Saturday, May 21, 2022,	CAO	A Planning Committee has been established to coordinate this event.		completed
R-2022-86	THAT, Council approves the Village to enter into a contract with Serenity Pools and Hardscapes for the installation of the Hot Tub and further that cost overruns be allocated from the Capital Reserve fund not to exceed \$110,000.	DPW/CFO	Contract entered into		completed
R-2022-87	THAT, the Village purchase two tickets for the Clinton 155th Annual Ball if the Mayor wishes to attend with a plus one.	EA	Cheque request be submitted to include with letter for purchase of tickets.		completed
R-2022-88	THAT Council support a resolution recognizing and celebrating World Oceans Day 2022.	EA	Draft Resolution		completed
R-2022-89	THAT, Council send a letter of support for the NPTGS work and investments in the region's Gold Rush/Spirit Trails heritage tourism corridor to Premier John Horgan, TACS Minister Melanie Mark and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Minister Murray Rankin urging them to continue providing the NPTGS with the stable, ongoing core funding needed for them to continue providing this valuable service.	CAO	Letters of Support be drafted & sent		completed
R-2022-90	THAT, the Village of Ashcroft supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Desert Mesa Club for the Marketing Initiative Grant.	CAO	Letter of Support		completed
R-2022-93	THAT Council direct staff to amend the Election Bylaw No. 816 as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove location of polling station and replace with “the location of the polling station will be determined at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer” • remove additional advance polling opportunities specified days and replace with “additional advance voting will be determined at the discretion of the Chief Election Officer” • include mail voting in the bylaw and bring a report back to Council with mail voting procedures for Council consideration at 1st and 2nd Reading of the amended Bylaw. 	CAO	Amend Election Bylaw as per resolution		completed



TRAILS MASTER PLAN & ASSET MANAGEMENT Working Group

Meeting Notes

Wednesday, March 30, 2022 – 2:00 pm

Present: Yogi Bhalla, CFO – Chair
Barbara Roden, Mayor
Deb Tuohey, Councillor
Tom Schoen – Trails Consultant
Brian Bennewith, DPW
Daniela Dyck, CAO

Excused: Kris Hardy, EA

1. Minutes

Meeting Notes are approved by Council and were previously distributed.

2. Discussion

- a. Review of the Ashcroft Master Trails Plan – Trails for the People Draft 1 prepared by Tom Schoen, CEO of First Journey Consulting Ltd.
 - Tom presented the Draft Trails Master Plan to the working group and welcomed feedback, suggestions and critique.
 - Tom commented on the many conversations he had with community groups and residents in regards to trails. These conversations directed his research and locations of proposed trails.
 - Tom commented that some of the trails requested by community groups will be very costly to construct; however, these trails are included in the plan and will require multiple levels of government approval.
 - Other comments included a consideration of a proposed collaboration between the Mountain Bike group developing trails and a skills park above the Mesa.
 - Tom is keep for the Village to partner with AIB and develop a trail system that links both communities.
- b. Discussion with Tom
The working group members thanked Tom for his comprehensive research and suggested that a public meeting to present the draft plan be scheduled to introduce the plan to residents and collect feedback prior to Council review and adoption.
It was suggested that edits be forwarded to Yogi who will forward them to Tom.

3. **Next Steps**

Public Meeting for Trail Plan review – May 18, 2022 at 2:00 pm Community Hall

4. **Date for Next Meeting**

TBD

5. **Adjournment**

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm

The foregoing is based on the writer's interpretation of the discussion held.



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer



ASHCROFT MASTER TRAILS PLAN

TRAILS FOR THE PEOPLE



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



This plan was prepared with funding and support from The Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft



This plan was prepared by:
First Journey Consulting LTD.
Thomas A. Schoen, CEO

The authors would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their contribution to this trail plan:

- Ashcroft Slough Society
- Ashcroft Trail Advisory Group
- Ashcroft HUB Society
- Ashcroft Off Road Cycling Association
- Ashcroft First Nation
- River Path Society
- Dora Winwood
- Jim & Martina Duncan
- Anne McKague
- Vicky Trill
- Kristine Hardy
- Travis Storkon
- Jodene Blain
- Deb Tuohey
- Gloria Mertens
- Yogi Bhalla

NOTICE TO READER

This report utilizes the phrase “**Unceded Indigenous Territory**” when referring to publicly held “Crown Lands”, to reflect recent court decisions that have upheld Indigenous Rights and Title to lands that have not been surrendered or are ceded through treaty, as required through the Royal Proclamation of 1763.

To learn more, visit:

https://indigenousfoundations.arts.ubc.ca/aboriginal_title/



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Village of Ashcroft recognizes the importance of trails and pathways to the community.

The *Official Community Plan* (OCP) includes a policy that states:

“Encourage the development of trails for walking or cycling between key locations”¹

The OCP further addresses trails and pathways:

“Requiring trails, pathways and/or sidewalks to be incorporated within the design of new subdivisions”² and

“Working with the community to formalize trails throughout the community”³. On page 61 of the OCP Policy number 8.2.1.5 addresses an action item under the leadership of the Village of Ashcroft to:

“Develop a trails master plan to review where trails should be located and how they should be funded”.

THE PRIMARY GOAL OF THIS REPORT IS TO INVENTORY EXISTING TRAIL INFRASTRUCTURE AND IDENTIFY NEW TRAIL ALIGNMENTS, THAT WILL AID IN DEVELOPING ASHCROFT AS BOTH, A RECREATION DESTINATION FOR TOURISM AND RESIDENTS ALIKE. THE SECONDARY GOAL OF THIS PROJECT IS TO PROMOTE A POSITIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION EXPERIENCE THROUGH TRAIL OPPORTUNITIES AND TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRAIL STANDARDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FUTURE TRAILS.

This document does not suggest or sanction that the trails discussed in the plan are established, legal, or authorized unless clearly identified. All trails are presented in the context of network development for discussion purposes. This includes all attachments and appendices. Trails fall within different governmental jurisdictions. Trail or pathway ownership may be private or public, and users should ensure that they are not in trespass while using, building or maintaining trails within the Village of Ashcroft and surrounding areas.

1 Page 22, Village of Ashcroft OCP

2 Page 31, Village of Ashcroft OCP

3 Page 46, Village of Ashcroft OCP



LIST OF FIGURES

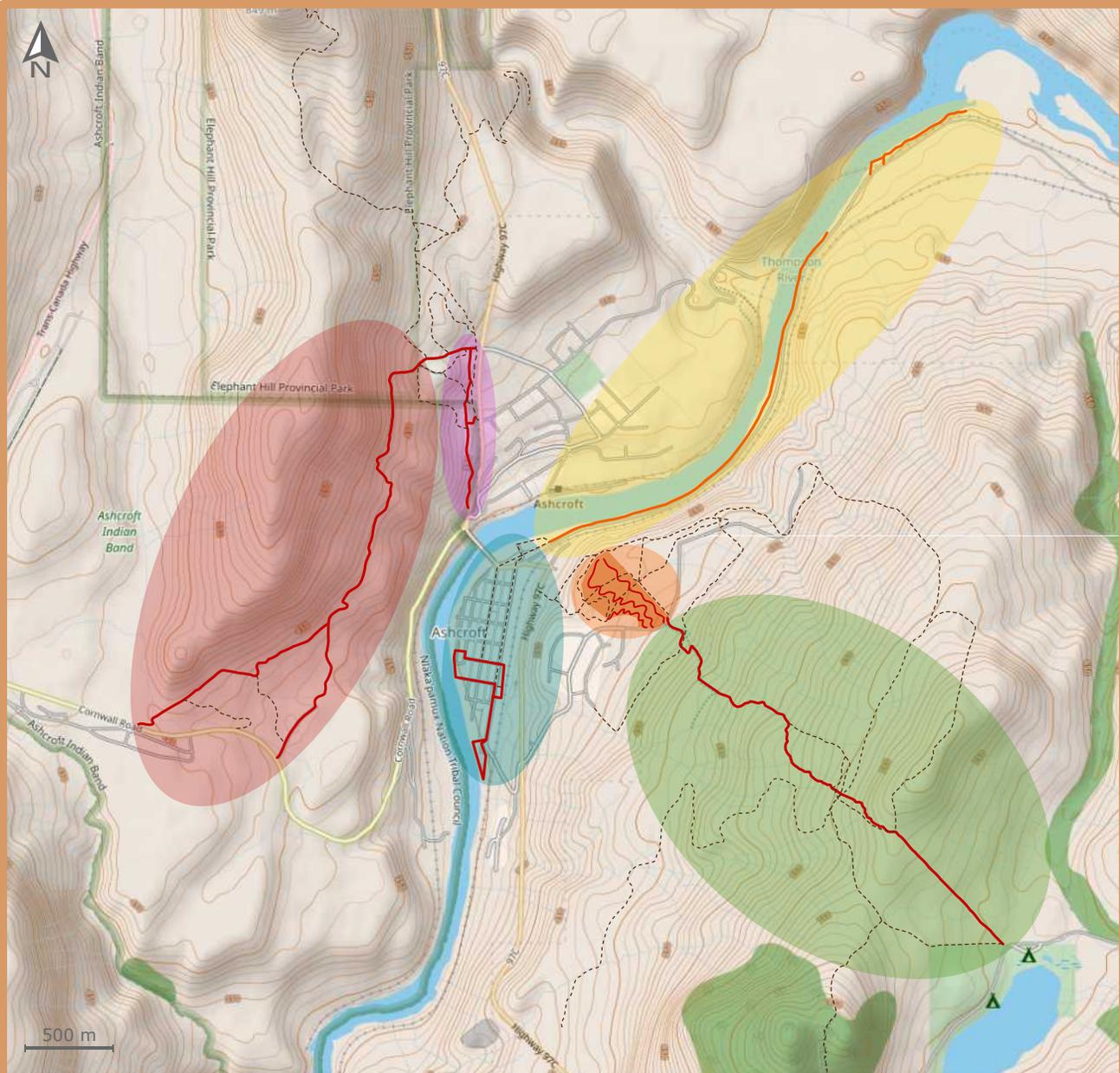


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ASHCROFT TRAILS GENERAL MAP

-  Proposed trail
-  User groups proposed trail

ZONES

- | | |
|--|---|
|  First Nation |  Urban |
|  MTB |  Slough/River access |
|  Multi-use |  Commuter trail |



1 INTRODUCTION

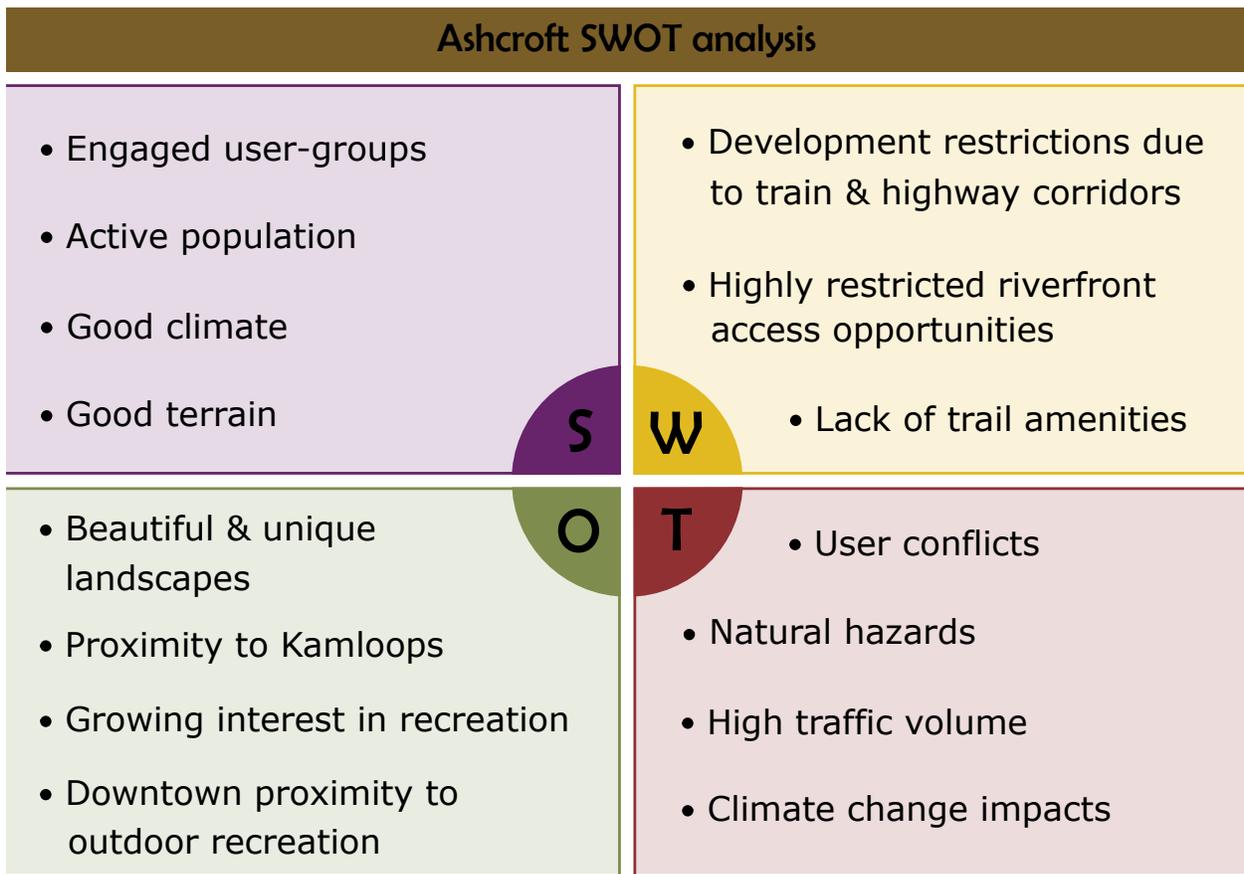
The Ashcroft Master Trails Plan is a planning and strategy document, providing background information, potential future trail development opportunities and an inventory study of existing trails. It describes trail and pathway development criteria, construction standards, recommendations and risk management.

1.1 UNDERSTANDING THE MASTERPLAN

The objectives of the Masterplan are to inventory and assess the existing trails, consult with stakeholders and residents to identify their needs and wishes. Prioritize recommended improvements and new proposed trail construction and suggest maintenance strategies and trail-user partnerships.

This plan stands for the Village of Ashcroft's commitment to future trail- and pathway- planning and construction. Great trail systems are achieved by careful planning and stakeholder collaboration.

The consultants applied a SWOT Analysis and the outcome related to trail- and pathway development, is as followed:





1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

The Village of Ashcroft initiated the planning process in the fall of 2020. The planning process takes time and involves a number of planning stages:

The following table illustrates the steps and timing in the planning process. The trails task force met regularly throughout the planning process. In-person consultation events were limited to meetings with individuals or small groups, in response to provincial health regulations concerning the Covid-19 pandemic. Trails were hiked to collect information on trail conditions and trail connectivity and environmental concerns.

The Village of Ashcroft’s excellent [VILLAGE MAPS](#) page⁴, provided information on existing trails and landownership in the downtown and surrounding area.

PLANNING STAGES		
STAGE 1	General area research and map based background studies to gain knowledge on existing infrastructure, community needs and wants and potential conflicts.	November/December 2020
STAGE 2	First round of community meetings via phone interviews with trail users and stakeholders at large.	November/December 2020
STAGE 3	Stakeholder engagement via a web based community wide survey to gain first hand knowledge of community member’s insight on trail usage patterns.	December 2020 to April 2021
STAGE 4	Area field assessment by the consultants to GPS/survey existing trails and explore future trail opportunities.	Spring/Summer 2021
STAGE 5	On-site meeting with community members to address concerns, identify opportunities and provide process details.	June 2021
STAGE 6	Second round of meetings with the Trails Working Group and local stakeholders.	November 2021
STAGE 7	Draft Masterplan presentation to refine the document and include additional opportunities.	February 2022
STAGE 8	Final Ashcroft Community Trail Masterplan.	Spring 2022

⁴ <https://ashcroftbc.ca/geographic-information-system-gis/>



1.3 BUILDING BLOCKS OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Master Trails Plan document is the result of a 14 months process that included a formed trail advisory group, the Village of Ashcroft's general population, stakeholders and trail user groups and Village staff.

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has created considerable challenges when it comes to holding meaningful consultations with stakeholders and clients. The benefits of community engagement can not be overstated and effective consultation is obtained ideally via in-person meetings meetings and field trips. The consultants kept key stakeholders engaged throughout the process, as much as the pandemic and the 2021 wildfires would allow. Implementation phases of this master

plan however, need to take the 2020/2021 challenges into account and future partnerships need to be viewed as critical building blocks of trail development.

1.3.1 STAKEHOLDERS AND KEY PLAYERS

A number of well organized trail-user groups and trail- and recreational-stakeholders have an interest in trail and pathway development within the Ashcroft and the surrounding areas. In addition informal groups and individual stakeholders contribute to trail planning and sometimes unsanctioned trail construction.

From non-motorized to hikers, from forestry to tourism stakeholders, all play an active role in developing and managing the recreational areas. All stakeholders, organized or not, need to be heard and have a voice in the development discussion.

VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT TRAIL PLANNING STAKEHOLDERS

Ashcroft Slough Society

River Path Society

Ashcroft HUB Society

Ashcroft Off Road Cycling Association

The starting point of any strategic trail planing document is a a group of interconnected stakeholders. The activity of each individual stakeholder affects the activity of the others. Certain common objectives must be defined and achieved in a coordinated way. The public sector should be responsible for the future development of the destination.

1.3.2 PROVINCIAL PARTNERS AND LAND MANAGERS

Recreation Sites
and Trails BC

BC Parks and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Recreation Sites and Trails BC, are the land managers for the areas outside and adjacent to the village boundaries.

BC's Trails Strategy, developed in a spirit of partnership, addresses trail management and usage, recognizing health, social, environmental, economic and cultural values.⁵



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- 20 In Closing**

Trails Strategy for British Columbia 2

The “Trails Strategy for British Columbia” forms the framework for trail planning initiatives in British Columbia

⁵ Trails Strategy for British Columbia: http://www.sitesandtrailsbc.ca/documents/Trail_Strategy%20for_BC.pdf



In 2006, the province created the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts (MoTCA). MoTCA's responsibility was to assume control and direction of recreation sites and trails in BC, along with partner agencies such as BC Parks, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Ministry of Environment. MoTCA's new Tourism Action Plan provided the platform to develop a Trails Strategy as a means to address key issues facing recreational trail use and development in the province.

The Trails Strategy's vision, is to develop "A world-renowned, sustainable network of trails, with opportunities for all, which provides benefits for trails users, communities and the province."

Officially adopted by cabinet in 2013, the strategy identifies guiding principles, key issues and a planning framework for planning and managing trails in B.C. The Provincial Trails Strategy specifically mentions the establishment of a Provincial Trails

Advisory Body⁶ as a key implementation action.

Recreation Sites and Trails BC led the development of the PTAB and worked with the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC on behalf of provincial member groups representing public recreation throughout the province.

Guiding principles of BC's Trails Strategy include:

- Respect and Recognition of First Nations' Interests
- Sound Environmental Stewardship and Management
- Partnerships and Collaboration
- Respect and Understanding among Diverse Trail Interests
- Benefits for Individuals, Communities and the Province

⁶ PTBA Backgrounder: <http://orc.bc.ca/documents/Trails/PTABBackgrounder.pdf>



1.3.3 FIRST NATIONS PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships in trail development, relate to planning, implementing and maintaining trails and trail networks. Meaningful partnerships should also be considered when it comes to the trail construction phase of the project. First Nations communities in BC recognize the value of trail development and started training their own, local First Nations trail crews. In the BC Interior the Williams Lake Indian Band, the Soda Creek Indian Band (Xats'ull First Nations) and the Simpcw First Nations are spearheading this development. Funding agreements for future trails should include a training component for First Nation's trail crews.

First Nations continue to live in the area and are an important part of the Ashcroft community. The First Nations with the closest proximity to the Village of Ashcroft are the Nlaka'pamux Nation communities of Ashcroft Indian Band and Oregon Jack Creek Indian Band and the Secwepemc Nation community of Bonaparte Indian Band.

Ashcroft Indian Band

Ashcroft Indian Band's total membership population is 279.9 The number of those which live on an Ashcroft Indian Band reserve is 72. Tragically, 13 homes were destroyed during the 2017 wildfires, fortunately there was no loss of life. Ashcroft Indian Band is part of the Nlaka'pamux Nation but is not affiliated with any tribal council or association.

Oregon Jack Creek Indian Band

Oregon Jack Creek Indian Band is located approximately 6 km south of Ashcroft. The total membership population is 68 people¹⁰ and most reside off-reserve. The remaining 16 people live on Paska Island IR #3 and Upper Nepa IR # 6.¹¹ Oregon Jack is part of the Fraser Thompson Indian Services Society and the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council.

Bonaparte Indian Band

Bonaparte Indian Band is located approximately 15 km north of Ashcroft. Bonaparte Indian Band is a member of the Secwepemc Nation and the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council. A total of 947 people are members of the Bonaparte Indian Band.¹² Of these, 149 live on a Bonaparte reserve, 50 live on other reserves, and 748 live off-reserve.



1.3.4 THE INDIGENOUS YOUTH MOUNTAIN BIKE PROGRAM

The Indigenous Youth Mountain Bike Program (IYMBP) is a group of riders, coaches and community leaders who wish to support and encourage Aboriginal youth and communities to participate and excel in the sport of mountain biking. The IYMBP is well situated in providing classroom and field training, workshops and pro-crew education. The IYMBP has helped create numerous partnership agreements between indigenous communities and trail user/stakeholder organizations.

The Indigenous Youth Mountain Bike Program is committed to supporting and encouraging Aboriginal youth and communities to get outdoors, reconnect with nature and live healthier active lives.

The goals and objectives of this program include the following:

- Establish Mountain Biking as a viable option for First Nation communities and Aboriginal youth
- Utilize mountain biking to enhance leadership, team work, self-confidence, and athleticism among Aboriginal youth
- Encourage greater connections to nature and promote healthy active living among Aboriginal youth
- Provide First Nation communities and youth with the skills and abilities necessary to develop and maintain mountain biking infrastructure including skills parks and trail networks
- To foster the development and maintenance of trail networks that are socially and environmentally sustainable and respect Aboriginal Rights and Title and the role of First Nations as the traditional stewards and caretakers of their traditional lands



IYMBP Youth Ride near Barrière, BC



More Trails Close to Home

Trails happen through community partnerships. The relationship between grassroots trail stewardship and advocacy organizations and local retailers who benefit from the work of these groups is essential. IMBA seeks to connect retailers and local mountain biking organizations and offer guidance on how to make these relationships more mutually beneficial. The IMBA Retailer Toolkit guides retailers and local advocates on working together for access, new trail development projects and other trail stewardship activities.



2 TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

The British Columbia Ministry of Forests' *Recreation Manual*⁷ states:

Trail concept planning is the first phase in the development of a recreation trail. At this stage, broad objectives and the general characteristics of the trail are determined. The concept plan looks to any pertinent plan(s) for direction (especially higher level plans and the district recreation plan).

The concept plan takes many factors into account, including:

- user group requirements;
- recreation features (including landscape features and existing recreation facilities);
- management requirements and needs for trail construction and maintenance.

Guiding principles in trail development, described in the following chapters, include:

- Environmental Sustainability
- Inclusivity
- Recognition of Cultural Values and Heritage
- Safety
- Creating a Healthy Community
- “Community Driven” Development
- Recognition of Partnership Opportunities
- Respectful Communication
- Alignment with Official Community Plan
- Well Maintained and Signed Trails

⁷ <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfp/publications/00201/chap10/chap10.htm>



2.1 NETWORK AND TRAIL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Trail planning and construction within the Village of Ashcroft lands, does not fall under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (Recreation Sites and Trails BC) and BC Parks. Future projects spearheaded by the Village of Ashcroft, might. We therefore include the following section that lays out a detailed series of goals or guidelines.

The Village of Ashcroft's role can be compartmentalized into four segments, based on land ownership.

Village of Ashcroft Lands	The Village of Ashcroft is in charge and considered a direct provider. The Village can plan, build, manage and maintain trails on land owned by the Village of Ashcroft
Unceded Indigenous Territories	The Village of Ashcroft can lend support to local user groups, enter into partnership agreements and help create capacity. The Village can provide financial and administrative support, help with funding applications and serve as a liaison between user groups and local First Nations.
Private Lands	Land use agreements between private land holders and trail users groups can be drafted and implemented with help from the Village of Ashcroft.
BC Parks	The Village of Ashcroft can collaborate with BC parks to address economic development opportunities and help with the planning of interconnected trails.



2.1.1 DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AUTHORIZED TRAILS

Section 56 of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) allows the Minister to order “the establishment of crown land as a...recreation site or a recreation trail...”. To ensure compliance with FRPA Section 57, all new trail construction, rehabilitation and maintenance will be authorized by the Recreation Sites and Trails Branch. The Ministry may not have the capacity to maintain and manage all the mountain bike trails that are proposed to be maintained and to be built in the future (BC Government, Mountain Bike Policy). The MFLNRO’s strategy, therefore is to enter into partnership agreements with mountain bike clubs or other local organizations. Partnership organizations must demonstrate the capacity to manage the trails

according to a mutually agreed upon management and operations plan.

<p>Section 57 Authorized Trails</p>	<p>Section 57 of the Forest and Range Practices Act (FRPA) prohibits construction, maintenance or rehabilitation of a trail or recreation facility unless authorized in writing by the Minister or under another enactment. Section 57 of FRPA applies to all provincial unceded indigenous land outside of parks.</p>
<p>Section 56 Established Trails</p>	<p>Section 56 of the FRPA enables the Minister to establish, vary the boundaries, or disestablish interpretive forest sites, recreation sites and recreation trails provided they are consistent with any land-use objectives set by government for the area.</p>



2.1.2 FOCUS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Mountain bikers and other non-motorized recreational trail users help protect the environment. Legalized trails have led to a decrease in unauthorized trail construction and trail use. Thoughtful trail planning and trail management helps in the rehabilitation of natural landscapes and funnels recreational users away from sensitive areas. Time spent in the outdoors sensitizes and creates environmental awareness.

Objectives:

- Build sustainable trails according to the Recreation Sites & Trails Chapter 10, International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) Trail Guidelines and Whistler Standards in order to minimize impact on soil, water resources, wildlife and plants
- Follow Recreation Sites & Trails BC's "Best Management Practices"
- Inspect trails regularly and schedule maintenance accordingly
- Close trails when environmental damage occurs
- Consult with the Senior Ecosystems Biologist, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
- Consult with local environmental groups
- Comply with the Water Sustainability Act (WSA) for all stream crossings

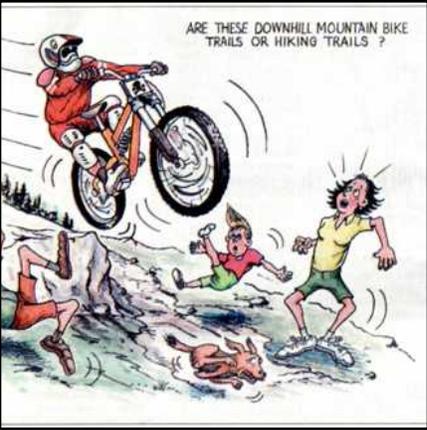
Trail approval and construction will require consultation with the appropriate resource managers to ensure that all planned activities will have no negative impact. Regular trail and TTF inspections will be carried out. As part of the inspections the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations will monitor signs of environmental damage. Repairs and maintenance will be carried out by volunteers and hired contractors. It is important to note that some of the proposed networks may fall within areas with drainages that range from narrow to broad. A number of crossings, from bridges to boardwalk sections are required, therefore a notification or authorization may be required for in-stream works under the Water Sustainability Act⁸

Sensitive Ecosystems

In the process of planning and building trails, builders will strive to minimize the impact on the surrounding natural environment. To meet this goal they need to be aware of, and be extra careful around sensitive ecosystems such as: riparian/wetland areas, woodland meadows and terrestrial herbaceous rocky outcrops. These ecosystem types all fall within the provincial government definition of environmentally sensitive areas, based on the sensitive ecosystem inventory (SEI).

In general, riparian areas are not conducive to mountain biking and will be completely avoided except in the case of a stream crossing. Single track trails will be designed at a minimum width to follow the natural contour of the land in an effort to avoid disturbance of the inherently thin soils and natural drainage patterns. All trail builders and volunteers will be instructed to stay on existing trails and roads as much as possible to avoid unnecessary trampling of surrounding vegetation when hiking in, around, and out of the work area. Everything that is packed in (food, tools, garbage etc.) will be packed out. The trail-building contractor will be responsible for ensuring all of the above goals are met by all trail building staff.

⁸ "Working Around Water" Prepared by Robert Van der Zalm and Lisa Nordin (2017), see appendix



2.1.3 MANAGE USER CONFLICT

A small and well-connected community offers great opportunities for close working relationships with stakeholder groups. Many of the future trail users are part of a number of groups and organizations. This enables streamlined, direct communications amongst user groups. Shared trail use is often beneficial and will be encouraged where appropriate. Where shared trail use is not a possibility, signs will clearly identify the trails as non-motorized only trails, as per legal trail designation by RSTBC.



Public involvement in trail planning is the first step in conflict avoidance. User groups that come to a common understanding of their relationships with each other, become more supportive of a diverse trail plan that satisfies the interests of all user groups.

Demand for outdoor recreation is steadily growing, while undeveloped, suitable lands are shrinking. This combination can lead to conflict unless planners and land managers take proactive measures. Addressing equity between trail user groups needs to be ranked a high priority when it comes to trail planning.

Trail managers need to facilitate dialogue between user groups on an ongoing basis to avoid conflict.

Example of trailhead marker (wand style) clearly indicating prohibited trail use.

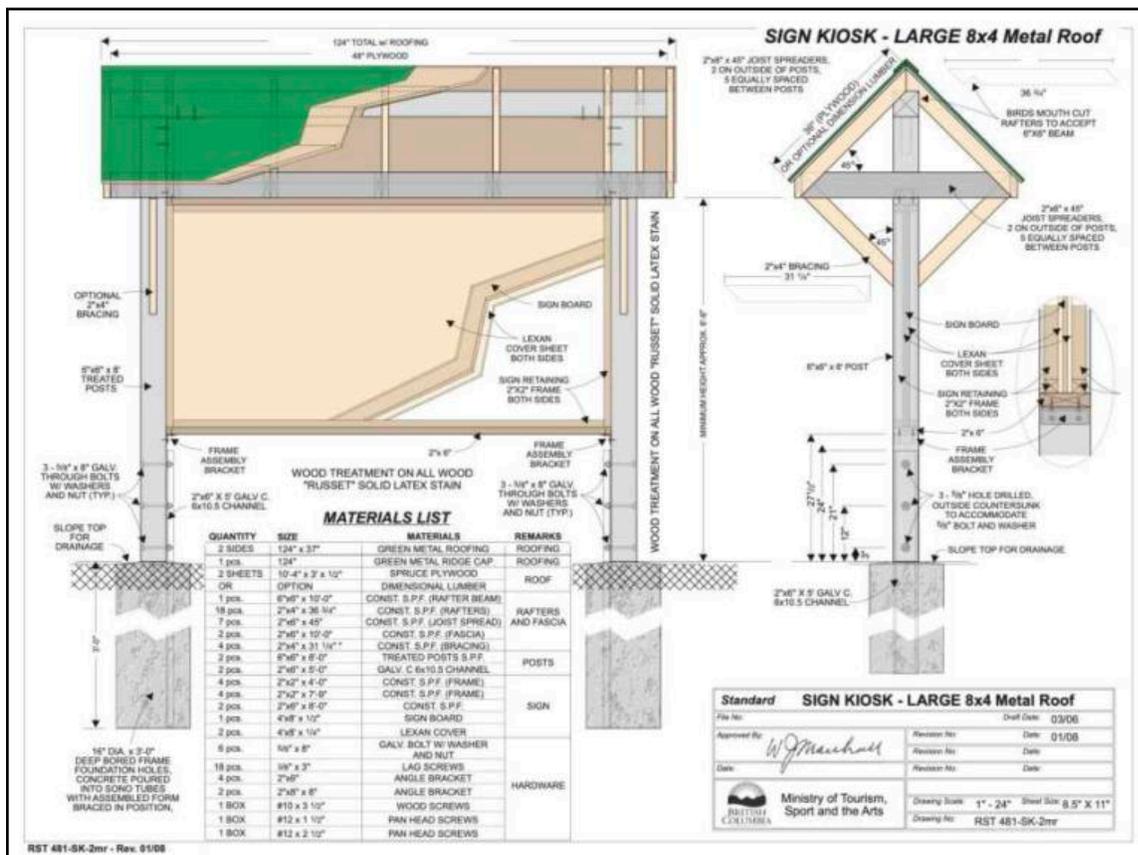


2.1.4 CREATE A CONSTRUCTIVE USER EXPERIENCE

Trail signage, both trailhead kiosks and trail markers, are an integral part to the trail user experience. Equally as important are trail infrastructure amenities, such as tables, benches, toilets, viewing platforms and interpretive signs. Trail amenities increase the use and pleasure of the trail network and should be considered in all long term planning. Most amenities are ideally located at trail access points.

Trail amenities include all trail enhancing infrastructure: Pit-toilets, benches, picnic tables, gates and cattle guards, garbage receptacles, dog bag dispensers, viewing platforms, shelters, parking and staging areas. Most trail amenities are not linked to a specific user group trail, but they can be (i.e. coral for an equestrian trail or loading ramp for ATV/snowmobile trail).

All trails need to be clearly identified. Signature trails, serving regional, provincial or national markets require more prominent signage at the trailheads. Adhering to a standardized format is critical. We therefore recommend adopting the RSTBC 2021/22 Sign Standards and suggest the use of the online RSTBC signage creation tool: <https://bc-trails.vercel.app> even if the trails are not situated on unceded, traditional territory. This will help with creating a province wide standard and a user familiarity.



Trailhead Kiosk Sign as per RSTBC Standard



Examples of Trail Amenities

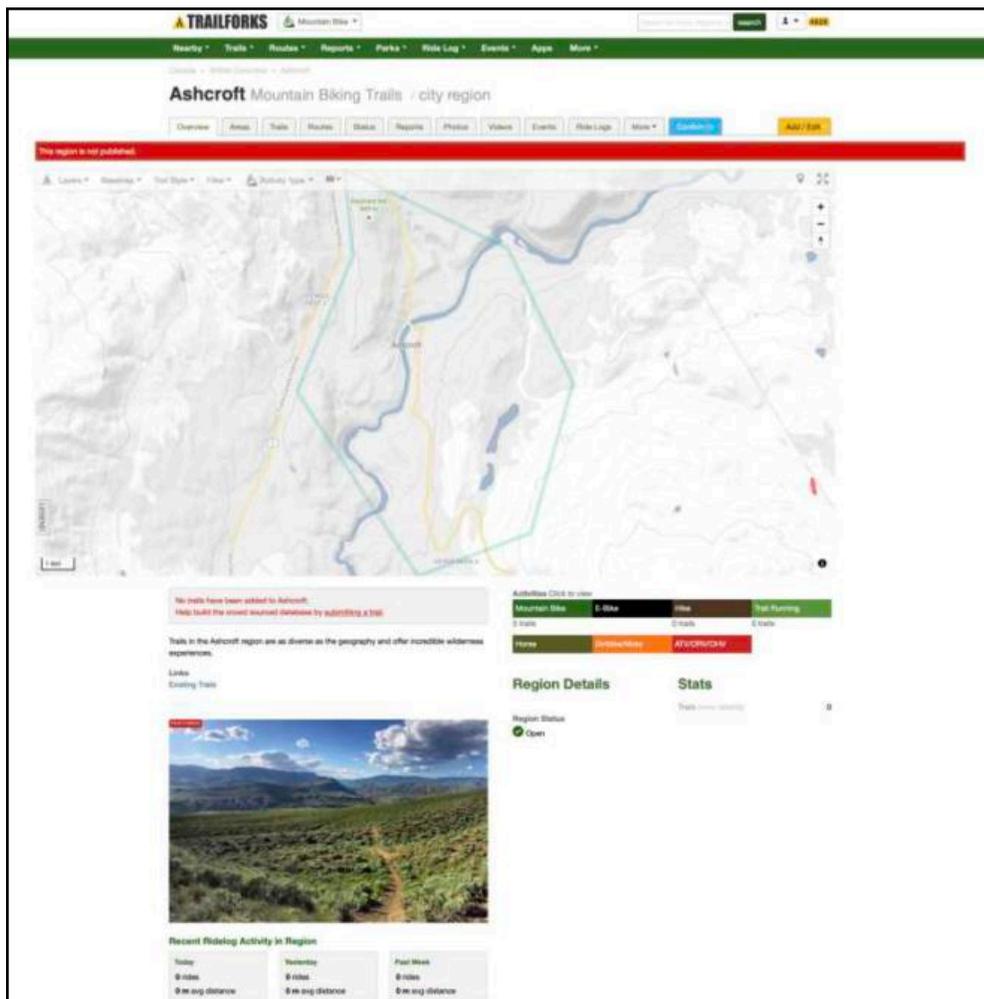


2.1.5 TRAILS AND TRAILFORKS

Trailforks used to be a mountain bike trail database & management system for riders, builders, land managers & trail associations. Since 2019 it moved to an all-inclusive user platform, featuring trails for a large number of user groups, from equestrian trail users to motorized and non-motorized user groups. Users can contribute data and the local trail associations have the control to approve & curate the data. Ensuring the best, latest and accurate data. Inclusion in the Trailforks database assures exposure and promotion of the trails and the network.

Trailforks' "Trail Karma" program makes it easy to donate directly to trail stewards. A "Karma" or donation button can be set-up by the local trail association.

First Journey Trails submitted the newly created "Ashcroft Region" to Trailforks. As new trails get developed, the data should be uploaded and updated on a regular basis.



Screenshot of *Ashcroft Region* Page on Trailforks



2.2 NEW TRAIL CONSTRUCTION & CONSTRUCTION PRINCIPLES

Usually public funded, legal trails are build by, or under the guidance of an experienced trail-building company. Tools used in trail building include chainsaws, pulaskis, mattocks, shovels, tooth and fan rakes, hammers, buckets, 4” and 6” nails, and loppers. Some trails are proposed as machine-build, using a small excavator to further create especially enjoyable rides in a more efficient manner.

Mountain-bike trails will be constructed with the full range of trail difficulty ratings and will be designed to offer the rider a fun, flowing trail that has been built with safety in mind. These trails will be built to last, to shed water, and to require as little maintenance as possible. They will follow IMBA and Whistler Trail Standards. Constructed technical trail features (TTF's) are not a huge priority; however, many small bridges to cross creeks, ravines and wet areas will be required.

Trail concept planning is the first step in recreational trail development. This document takes the following factors into account:

- user group requirements;
- recreation features (including landscape features and existing recreation facilities);
- management requirements; and
- anticipated needs for trail construction and maintenance.

The Canadian Parks Service' Trail manual suggest the following questions be asked prior to any trail development:

- what is the desired level of use?
- what will be the extent of detrimental impact upon the environment? and
- is this level of impact acceptable?

We carefully evaluated the environmental conditions along the proposed trail routes and consider the level of impact fully acceptable. Vegetation, topography, natural features, drainage, soil type, elevation, access, current public use and anticipated future development have been taken into account.

The Village of Ashcroft subscribes to the highest environmental stewardship standards. This includes all stream crossings, as described in 2.2.2

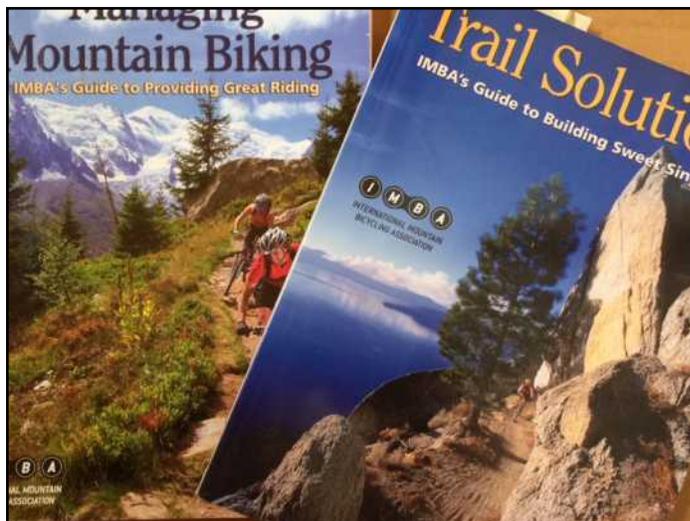


Image: Both, IMBA's "Trail Solution" and "Managing Mountain Biking", are an excellent resource for volunteer and professional trail builders. While aimed at MTB trail construction, the same principles apply to multi-use trail development



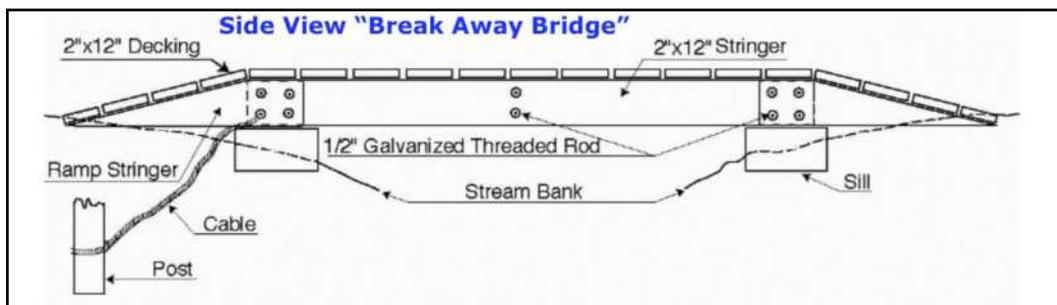
2.2.1 WATER CROSSINGS

Many of the proposed new trails, especially the hiking, biking and multi-use trails surrounding the Ashcroft, demand some sort of water crossings. Because of the environmental effects possible with water crossings, careful planning and environmental approvals are a must before work is carried out. Five main options are available when dealing with water crossings. The most expensive and involved is an engineered bridge. The bridge can be constructed from wood or metal or a combination of both. Bridge loads can be high and the engineered bridges can handle a high traffic volume. At this point, we see no need for engineered bridges within the proposed trail networks. Bridges using dimensional lumber or heavy log stringers can be used where smaller spans are required and/or traffic is restricted to non-motorized use. Span length dictates the stringer size and type. Stringer length

must be determined by the crossing width at high water with additional length added to clear the edge of the stream or creek and to allow for cribbing on both sides. Cedar logs need to have a larger diameter due to its softer wood. Culverts are another water crossing method in low volume water flow scenarios. Careful consideration must be given to the correct culvert size and culvert placement, as culverts have a tendency to plug up or wash out. The so-called French Drain water crossing can be built where low flow streams or spring run-off creeks must be crossed. Large rocks are placed in the creek bottom, covered with layers of smaller rocks and mineral soil. This creates a water flow-through effect preventing washouts. The simplest form of a stream or creek crossing is the in-stream crossing. The entrance and exit of the crossing must be angled and hardened to prevent erosion.

Preferred Bridge Construction Method for Trail Networks

A so called “Break-Away-Bridge” is the preferred method for creeks and streams in the Ashcroft area, that are prone to flooding. This bridge is designed to stand independently of the sills. Sills can be made of concrete or pressure treated 12”x12” beams. Sills should be anchored by rebar to avoid relocation when flooding occurs. A galvanized aircraft cable (rated double the bridge weight) is used to secure the bridge to one or two anchor trees. The on- and off- ramps extend into the existing grade to make the transition smooth. A bridge width of 4 feet meets the construction standard, but a 6 feet width is recommended, due to wet conditions in the area.



Example of Break Away Bridge Construction

Seven main options are possible when dealing with water crossing :

Engineered bridge: the most expensive ones. Bridges can be constructed from wood or metal or a combination of both. Bridge loads can be high and can handle highest traffic volume

In-stream crossing: the simplest form (the entrance and exit of the crossing must be angled and hardened to prevent erosion)

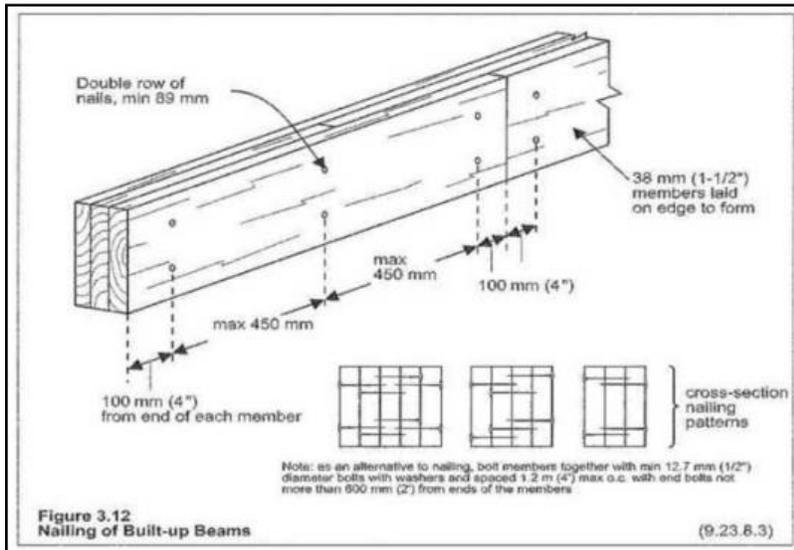
Culvert: for low volume water flow scenarios. Careful consideration must be given to the correct culvert size and placement, as culvert has a tendency to plug up or wash out

The French-Drain: can be built where low flow streams or spring run-off creeks must be crossed. Large rocks are placed in the creek bottom, covered with layers of smaller rocks and mineral soil. This create a water flow-through effect preventing washouts

Break-away-bridge: fixed with a steel cable to a rock or a tree to hold up the bridge during springs' high water volume

Log stringers bridge: made from « on-site » materials

Dimensional lumbers bridge: made from cut to size and square beams and boards. This type of bridge can be used where smaller spans are required and/or traffic is restricted to non-motorized use. Span length dictates the stringer size and type. Stringer length must be determined by the crossing width at high water with additional length added to clear the edge of the stream or creek and to allow for cribbing on both sides. Sometimes the overall span of the bridge makes the stringers too long to transport and difficult to find custom cut. The solution is be to make them on-site with 2" x 10" boards by laminating them, as shown in the image below.



Example of Laminated Bridge Stringers

Material needed: beams, board, nails, decking screws and adhesive. The material will have to be brought on site. As the stringer can be very heavy, we recommend to use an ATV with a steel log skate (photo below), where more conventional methods of transportation are not feasible.



Example of Multi-Use Bridge Construction By First Journey Consulting Crews



3 PROPOSED TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PRINCIPLES

3.1 UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO PUBLIC DEMAND

“Increasingly people are requiring more outdoor recreational opportunities on a finite base of public lands, and land managers and policy makers must have credible information in order to make responsible sustainable use decisions.”⁹

Trail use does not work in a vacuum. We develop, maintain and plan with input from a variety of user groups. This allows and encourages users to identify new opportunities. Trails need to have a value or a significant attribute attached to give the rider a meaningful experience. Attributes considered in this document are scenery, accessibility, connectivity and the riding/hiking/running/walking experience. We know users are looking for scenic trails and vistas. There is no shortage of potential for scenic trails in the Ashcroft area.

Accessibility is another major consideration and all proposed trails and trail networks are within a 15 minute drive from accommodation providers and major services. The riding experience will be enhanced by creating professionally built trails with a variety of skill levels in mind.

Amenities are important in providing a positive experience. Kiosks, washrooms, and parking should be considered. Kiosks should feature maps, trail etiquette, trail closures, work in progress and current notices. Signage should be in place not only on the trails, but on major roadways and junctions leading to the trails. Paper maps are being replaced by easy-to-update phone apps (i.e. Trailforks) or downloadable maps, but there still is a need to provide simple trail maps at visitor info centers, bike shops, and accommodation providers.

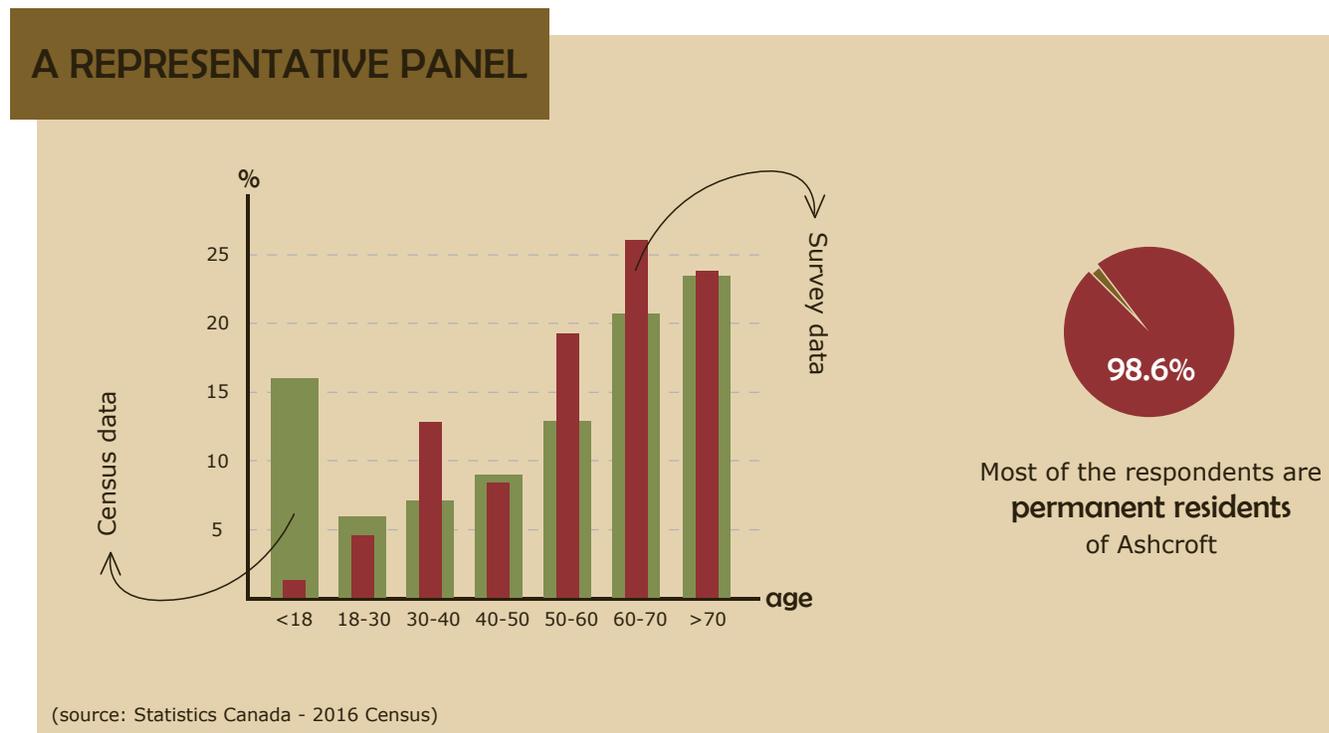
⁹ Planning and Managing Environmentally Friendly Mountain Bike Trails, Dr. Pam Foti, Northern Arizona University



3.2 ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY TRAILS VISION

The development of safe and functional multi-use trails for recreation and commuting needs to be based on a vision supported by the community at large. With help from the Ashcroft Trail Advisory Group and input collected during an extensive online survey process, a trails vision was established.

The following infographics display the highlights collected during the stakeholder input process:



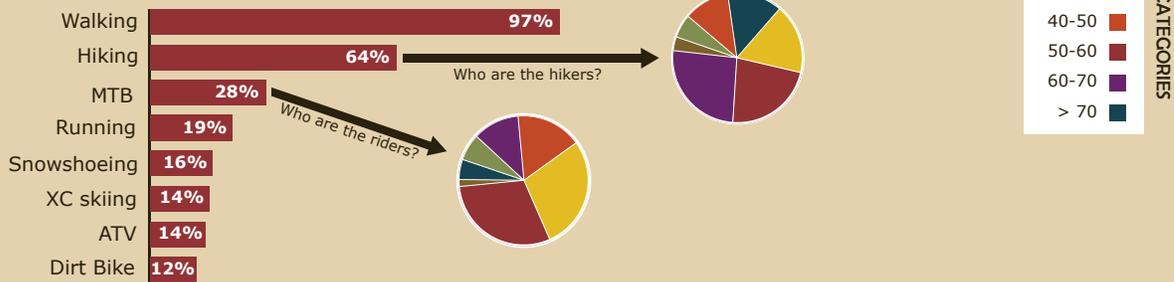
Infographic: Representation

Note: Detailed online survey responses are covered in section 3.3 of this document.



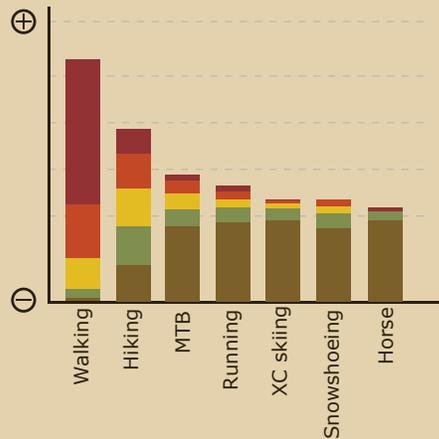
AN ACTIVE POPULATION

Trail-based activities participation

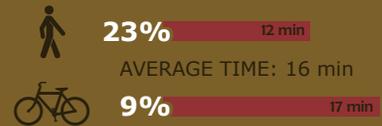


+ wheelchair, road bike, camping, dog walking, geocaching, photography, E-bike, gold panning, horseback riding...

Frequency



Users and time of transportation



60%

of the respondents would walk/bike to work if there were trails that allowed for safer routes

WORK COMMUTING

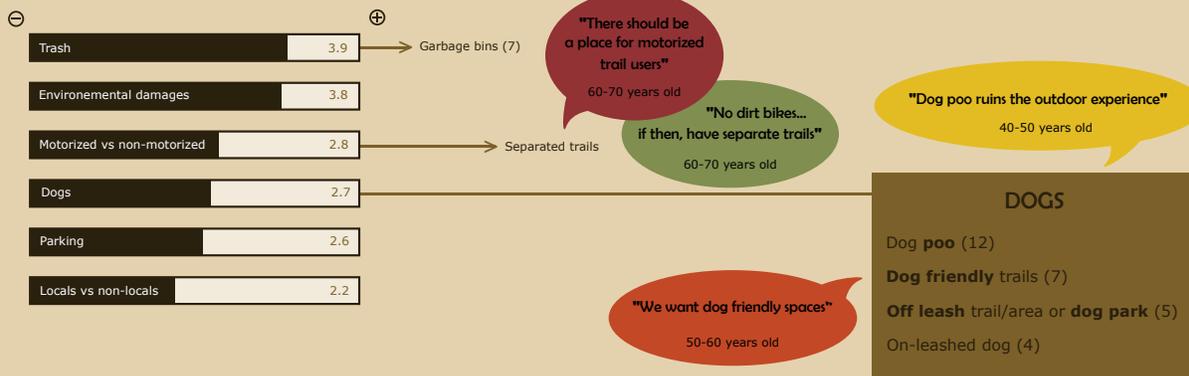
Infographic: Ashcroft's Active Population



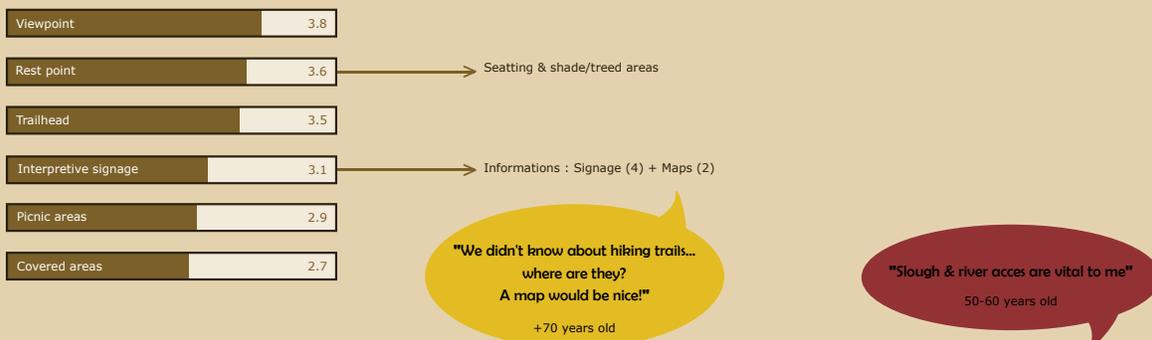
THE POPULATION'S OPINIONS

70 respondents (32%) expressed at least 1 comment

Concerns



Trail infrastructures



Trail aspects



Infographic: Opinions And Input



3.2.1 STAKEHOLDER INPUT REPRESENTATIVES

Ashcroft Off-Road Cycling Association (AORCA)

Founded in 2021, AORCA's membership is steadily growing and now has 26 members. Travis Storkon, AORCA President & volunteers are exploring future mountain bike development and potential partnership agreements with the Village of Ashcroft and the Ashcroft First Nation.

Ashcroft Slough Society

The Ashcroft Slough Society has a current membership of 114 (April, 2021). The grassroots Society is made up of user groups dedicated to re-gaining access to the Ashcroft Slough area¹⁰. They are advocating for one safe legal access, to replace the three access points historically used, on Evan's road north east of Ashcroft BC. The Society's mission statement declares:

"The purpose of the Society is to work with stakeholders having an interest, whether it be recreational, cultural, social, artistic, ecological, geological, spiritual, historical or economical, in obtaining safe and legal pedestrian access to the area known as the Ashcroft Slough and sharing the space with all stakeholders."

Ashcroft Pathways to Wellness Task Force

The Ashcroft Pathways to Wellness Task Force is made up of a small group of local volunteers who support Jim Duncan's plan of establishing an official walking trail along Evans Road¹¹.

Ashcroft HUB

The Ashcroft HUB is an enterprising non-profit society with a mission to reduce the rural population decline by providing more opportunities for wellness, recreation and the arts. Their facility includes a commercial gym, a full-sized gymnasium, a theatre stage, fitness studios & meeting/training rooms. The HUB offers a wide variety of recreational, wellness & arts programs, events & services. The HUB's mission is to: *"Provide a public amenity by operating and maintaining a multi-use recreational facility for the community of Ashcroft; and to undertake activities ancillary and incidental to the attainment of the above mentioned charitable purpose."*

¹⁰ 4.2 Ashcroft Slough Access Trail

¹¹ 4.1 Ashcroft River Path

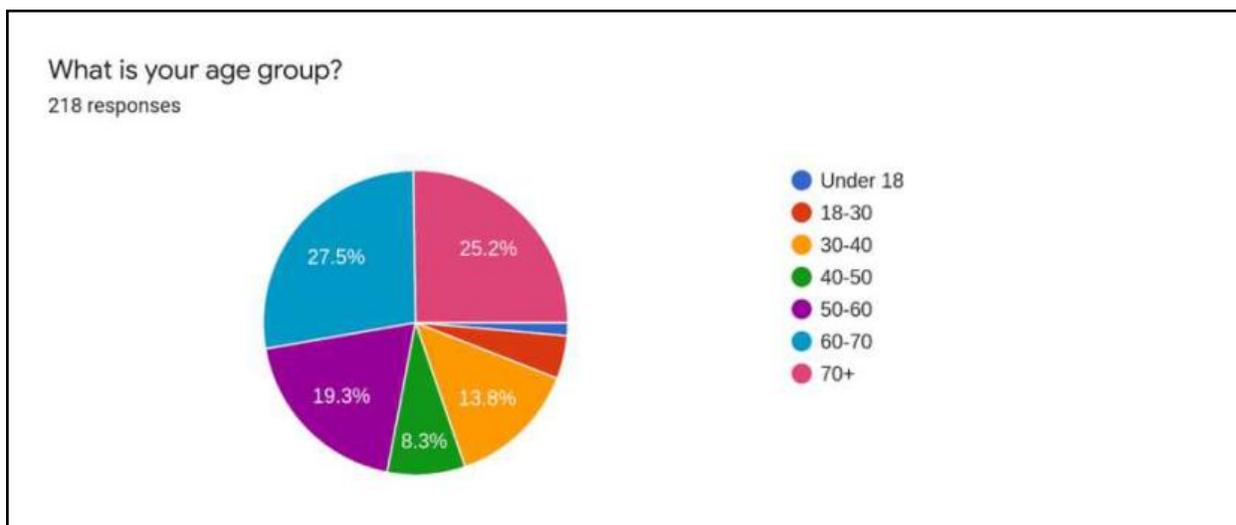


3.3 SURVEY RESPONSES

In addition to in-person meetings, person-to-person phone conversations and stakeholder meetings, an online survey was developed. This survey was open to the general public and inquired about how people use the area trails, what features or amenities they would like to see added, how often they use trails and pathways and more.

The online survey was kept open for three months, and collected 219 responses. This figure represents almost 14% of the Village's population. A summary of these responses is provided below. (The full results of the survey are provided in the appendix.)

Respondent Descriptive Statistics:

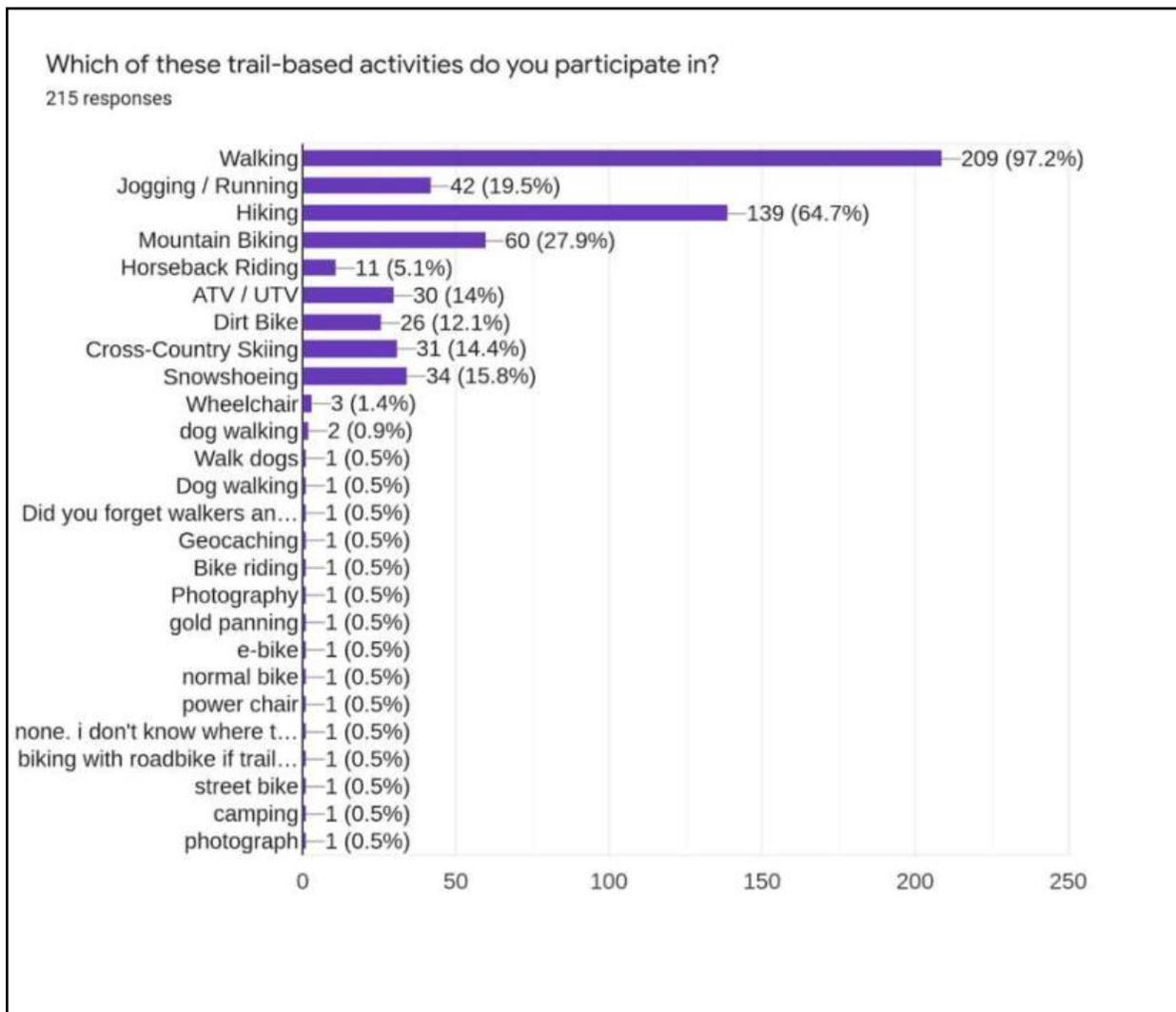


- 219 Respondents
- Average time residing in Ashcroft - 48 Years
- Average number of people under 18 in household - .5
- Average number of people over 18 in household - 1.8



Resident Activity Participation:

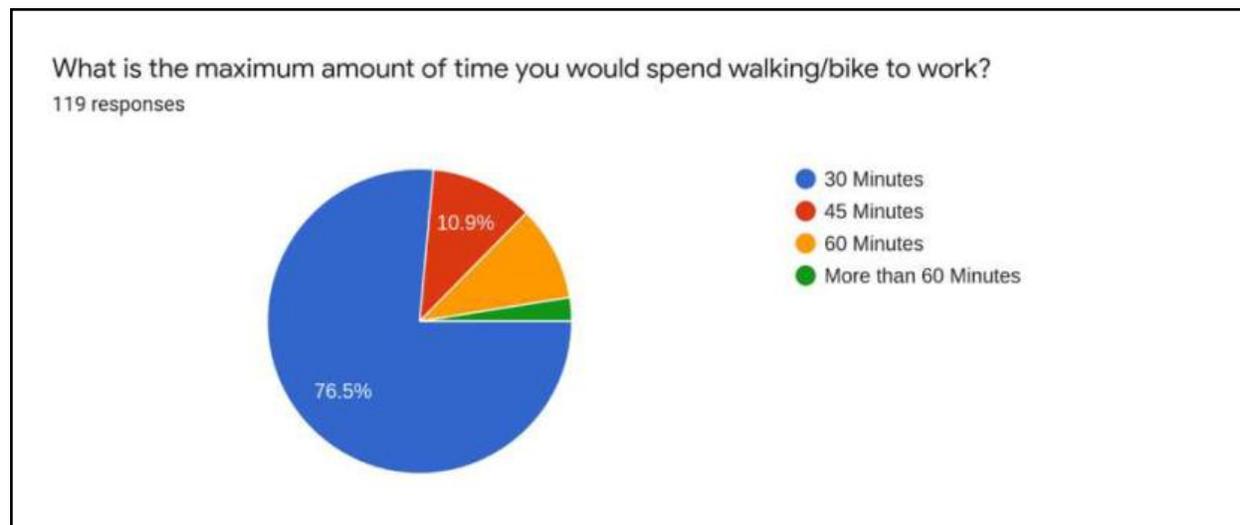
The top activities for respondents and households were the same - Walking, Hiking, Mountain Biking, Jogging/Running (in order of popularity).





Active Transportation:

- 35 (9.6%) Respondents walk to work
- 18 (18.9%) Respondents ride to work
- Average active commute was 14 minutes.
- 84 (60.4%) respondents said they would walk or ride to work if there were safer routes (trails and/or pathways).
- The preferred active transportation time is less than 30 minutes.



Activity Frequency:

Walking (4.2 x Per Week) and Hiking (2.8 x Per Week) are the non-motorized trail activities with the highest weekly participation rate. Jogging/Running (1.6 x Per Week) and Mountain Biking (1.8 x Per Week) are the non-motorized trail activities with the next highest weekly participation rates.

Concerns About Trails:

Trash and Damage to the natural environment are the two top concerns among respondents regarding trail development. However the greatest number of comments were concerning dogs and trails (both dog friendly trails and dog excrement on trails were mentioned numerous times).

Trail Facilities:

Respondents were strongly in favour of interpretive signage, rest points (benches, seating), viewpoints/outlooks, and developed trailheads (parking areas, washrooms, etc.). In the comments access to the river and dog friendly trails were mentioned numerous times.

Trail Features:

The most sought after trail features by respondents are access to views, access to nature, wildlife viewing and accessibility. Access to the river was mentioned in the comments multiple times.



3.4 AREA ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The review of existing conditions in the area of Ashcroft was conducted throughout 2021 and included:

- Reviewing maps of existing trails to understand the current use pattern.
- Walking/hiking the existing trails to become familiar with opportunities and constraints.
- Field work to better understand environmental and industry concerns.

In addition, the consultants took trail braiding, water drainage, private property and the effectiveness of trails within the larger network context, into consideration.

AREA SIZE

The area surveyed for future trail development is approximately 60 square kilometers with a perimeter of 32 kilometers.

ASPECT

In the northern hemisphere south facing slopes are the most ideal for trail construction and trail usage. Aspect is less of a concern in the Ashcroft area, with less precipitation and wide open landscapes in the area.

SLOPE ANALYSIS

Steep slopes and unstable soils make trail development difficult and costly. Limitations due to unfavourable slopes need to be addressed and taken into account. While the ideal slope range for recreational trail development is between 15% and 30%, many potential trail development zones exceed 70%. Typically attempting to construct sustainable trails on slopes of grade are far too costly or not long term sustainable.

LANDSCAPE VARIETY

Ashcroft's landscape is dominated by river valleys, bench lands and terraces.

SOIL QUALITY

Soil texture is determined by the proportion of sand, silt, and clay present in the soil. Soils fall into a textural class defined by the Canadian System of Soil Classification depending on their composition of these mineral particles.

A soil's texture is an important property used to describe a soil because it influences many other soil features. Water holding capacity and infiltration, soil structure, and fertility are among the many features influenced by soil texture.

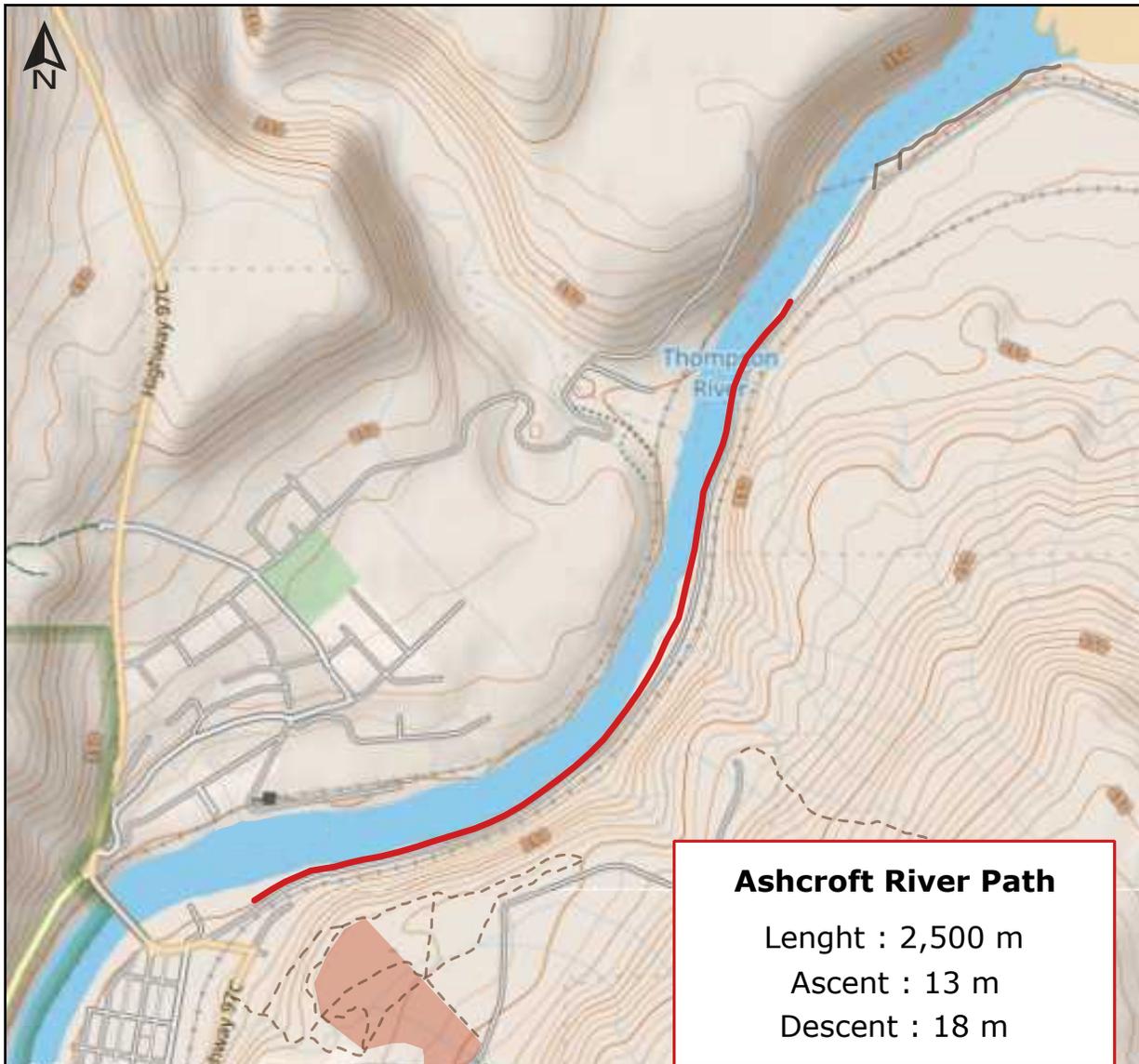
In the Ashcroft area, soils are mostly loam, silt loam or sandy loam. Some well drained areas tend to have more loamy sand while rapidly drained areas (steep slopes) tend to have more sandy loam.



4 PROPOSED TRAIL CONSTRUCTION

4.1 ASHCROFT RIVER PATH

Much has been discussed when it comes to what is locally referred to as the Ashcroft River Path. Development of this proposed pathway is spearheaded by Ashcroft local, Mr. Jim Duncan, as a connector trail to the popular Thompson River slough area and as a scenic view trail.



Proposed Route of the *Ashcroft River Path*



In 2015 the Ashcroft Village Council voted down the notion of a pathway along Evans Road at their April 13th meeting. Council acknowledged that the road is barely wide enough for the vehicles using it. Therefore creating a trail easement by narrowing Evans Road is not an option.

In an article in the Ashcroft-Cache Creek Journal¹², former Mayor Jack Jeyes, who is also a retired Ministry of Transportation manager, states:

“There are a number of things that need to happen in order to have a proper walkway. There is no consistent shoulder width, he pointed out. “People think there’s enough room but it’s actually quite narrow.”

Fencing would need to line the river side of the walkway and between that and the cement barricades, there would barely be enough room to walk: in some places there would be no room to walk.

“The costing for something like this is beyond us to build it the way the Village would be required to build it,” he said.

The consultants have carefully evaluated Mr. Duncan’s proposal and have to agree with former Mayor Jeyes’ evaluation. The following *Pro Et Contra*’s have been taken into consideration:

<h2>Ashcroft River path</h2>	
PROS	CONS
Access to the river & recreational areas	Engineering study needed
Safe walkway as an alternative to Evans Road	High per meter cost for construction budget
Scenic path overlooking the Thompson River	Narrow, unstable shoulder between Evans road and Thompson River
Local volunteer group is spearheading the development (community-driven)	Safety fencing needed for up to 50% of the pathway creating a restricted corridor
Some work completed by volunteers (including benches and portable toilets)	High traffic volume makes pathway unattractive for visitors
Opportunity to plant trees, create shade and stabilize the river bank	Requires excessive amount of concrete cribbing to build up path width and stabilize
Local desire for more trails & pathways	

¹² <https://www.ashcroftcachecreekjournal.com/news/ashcroft-votes-against-evans-rd-walking-trail/>



It is important to highlight the community support for the Ashcroft River Path. A letter of support, dated April 27, 2021, from the Ashcroft Slough Society, expressed the groups support.

Dear Working Group for the Trails Master Plan:

I am writing on behalf of the Ashcroft Slough Society with regards to providing further input for the Working Group responsible for the strategic priority related to the Trails Master Plan.

The Ashcroft Slough Society has a current membership of 114 members. Many of our members walk and cycle regularly or hike around the area. As a group we are keenly interested in having the Village develop a riverine pathway that follows Evans Road along the majestic Thompson River.

To that end, the executive of the Ashcroft Slough Society adopted a motion:

“That the Ashcroft Slough Society strongly endorses the inclusion of a multi-purpose pathway along Evans Road in the Village of Ashcroft’s Master Trail Plan for the enjoyment of the public.”

Thank you for the opportunity for households to complete an Ashcroft Trail Planning Survey and to also add written comments for consideration.

I hope that the planning consultants will weigh the interest in such a pathway according to the number of individual members we represent.

The Ashcroft Slough Society looks forward to hearing back from you.

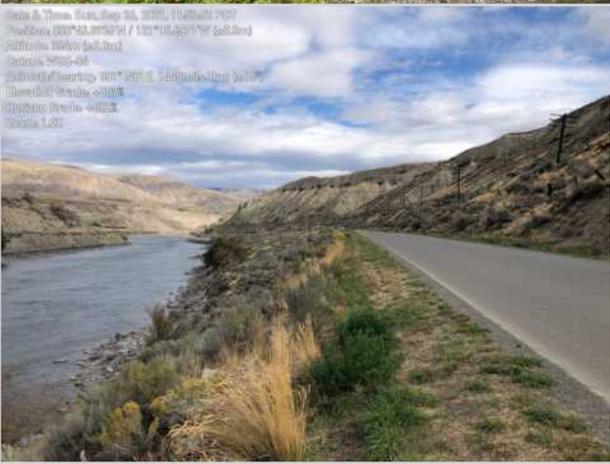
Yours truly,
Dora Winwood, Secretary of the Ashcroft Slough Society

ASHCROFT SLOUGH SOCIETY LETTER TO THE TRAIL WORKING GROUP

Additional comments, both PRO and CONTRA have been received through the online community survey and in conversations with Ashcroft locals. Some highlight the importance of this proposed pathway, others comment on the heavy traffic and narrow shoulder. The consultants agree with all reasons brought forward as to why this trail would be a huge community asset. The suggested construction techniques/methods are simply not implementable and cost is prohibitively expensive.

	Description	Comments/Action
ARP 1	<p> <small>Date & Time: Sun, Sep 27, 2021, 11:48:20 AM Position: 43.6789 N, 121.163477 W, 1566m Altitude: 271m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 085.4155 (true) +10.1 Elevation Grade: +0.0% Horizontal Scale: 0.001 Zoom: 10x</small> </p> 	<p>N50°43.6789' W121°16.3477'</p> <p>210 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid gravelled tread; 45° sloped bank; no space for trail expansion;</p>
ARP 2	<p> <small>Date & Time: Sun, Sep 27, 2021, 11:48:20 AM Position: 43.6780 N, 121.163573 W, 1566m Altitude: 291m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 085.4155 (true) +10.1 Elevation Grade: +0.0% Horizontal Scale: 0.001 Zoom: 10x</small> </p> 	<p>N50°43.6780' W121°16.3573'</p> <p>210 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Same location as above, looking west. Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid gravelled tread; 45° sloped bank; no space for trail expansion;</p>
ARP 3	<p> <small>Date & Time: Sun, Sep 27, 2021, 11:48:10 AM Position: 43.6810 N, 121.163481 W, 1564m Altitude: 294m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 085.4155 (true) +12.1 Elevation Grade: +0.0% Horizontal Scale: 0.001 Zoom: 10x</small> </p> 	<p>N50°43.6810' W121°16.3481'</p> <p>240 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid gravelled tread; 45° sloped bank; very narrow space for trail expansion; high risk of trail erosion;</p>

	Description	Comments/Action
<p style="text-align: center;">ARP 4</p>	<p><small>Date: Sun, Sep 06, 2020, 11:07:07 PDT Position: 43.7267°N / 121°16.0634°W (EAD83) Altitude: 301m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth/Bearing: 263.583W (+7.6144° True (EAD83)) Elevation Grade: +00%Horizon Grade: -001% Zoom: 1.0X</small></p> 	<p>N50°43.7267' W121°16.0634'</p> <p>560 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid gravelled tread; 45° sloped bank; very narrow space for trail expansion; high risk of trail erosion;</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARP 5</p>	<p><small>Date: Sun, Sep 06, 2020, 11:07:07 PDT Position: 43.8036°N / 121°15.8519°W (EAD83) Altitude: 301m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth/Bearing: 263.583W (+7.6144° True (EAD83)) Elevation Grade: +00%Horizon Grade: -001% Zoom: 1.0X</small></p> 	<p>N50°43.8036' W121°15.8519'</p> <p>910 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid but overgrown gravelled tread; 30° sloped bank; less narrow space; less risk of trail erosion; existing bench;</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARP 6</p>	<p><small>Date: Sun, Sep 06, 2020, 11:07:07 PDT Position: 43.8032°N / 121°15.8524°W (EAD83) Altitude: 301m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth/Bearing: 263.583W (+7.6144° True (EAD83)) Elevation Grade: +00%Horizon Grade: -001% Zoom: 1.0X</small></p> 	<p>N50°43.8032' W121°15.8524'</p> <p>910 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Same location as above looking west. Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid but overgrown gravelled tread; 30° sloped bank; less narrow space; less risk of trail erosion; existing bench;</p>

	Description	Comments/Action
<p>ARP 7</p>	<p>Point & Theme Data: Sep 06, 2021, 11:02:30 PST Position: 43.8382°N / 121°15.7759°W (Garmin) Altitude: 302m (±3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 204.52°W 3662mils True (±10°) Elevation Grade: -007 Horizon Grade: -000 Zoom: 1.0X</p> 	<p>N50°43.8382' W121°15.7759'</p> <p>1005 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Drainage tunnel exiting towards Evans Road and leading to drainage culvert.</p>
<p>ARP 8</p>	<p>Point & Theme Data: Sep 06, 2021, 11:02:30 PST Position: 43.8364°N / 121°15.7814°W (Garmin) Altitude: 311m (±3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 194.52°W 3662mils True (±10°) Elevation Grade: -007 Horizon Grade: -000 Zoom: 1.0X</p> 	<p>N50°43.8364' W121°15.7814'</p> <p>1005 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Drainage culvert; Existing path with a trail tread width of 12"; solid gravelled tread; 45° sloped bank; very narrow space for trail expansion; high risk of trail erosion;</p>
<p>ARP 9</p>	<p>Point & Theme Data: Sep 06, 2021, 11:02:30 PST Position: 43.8936°N / 121°15.6871°W (Garmin) Altitude: 309m (±3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 194.52°W 3662mils True (±10°) Elevation Grade: -007 Horizon Grade: -000 Zoom: 1.0X</p> 	<p>N50°43.8936' W121°15.6871'</p> <p>1200 m from trailhead west</p> <p>No highway barriers in place; No path; 45° sloped bank; very narrow space for trail expansion; high risk of trail erosion;</p>

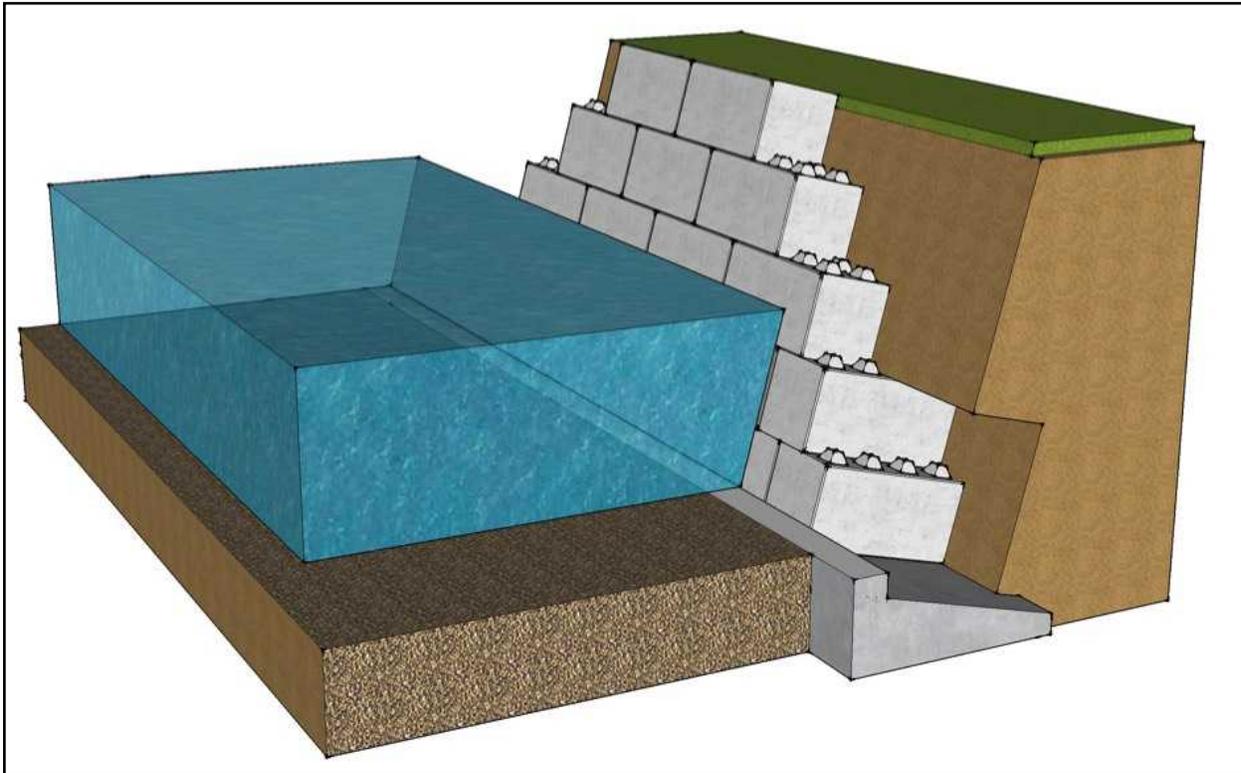
	Description	Comments/Action
<p>ARP 10</p>		<p>N50°44.0229' W121°15.5585'</p> <p>1400 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Drainage tunnel under Evans Road leading to narrow, open drainage channel; would require bridge construction for pathway;</p>
<p>ARP 11</p>		<p>N50°44.0900' W121°15.5099'</p> <p>1600 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Existing table/bench combination; vehicle pull-out with a much wider area for potential development;</p>
<p>ARP 12</p>		<p>N50°44.3081' W121°15.4376'</p> <p>1950 m from trailhead west</p> <p>No path; 45° sloped bank; very narrow space; highway concrete barrier in place;</p>

	Description	Comments/Action
<p>ARP 13</p>	<p>Date & Time Sent: Sep 26, 2021 11:59:01 PDT Position: 44.3065° N / 121° 15.4372' W (+2.0m) Altitude: 820m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 081, N81E 1796mils True (+10°) Elevation Grade: -005 Horizon Grade: 000 Zoom: 1.0x</p> 	<p>N50°44.3065' W121°15.4372'</p> <p>1950 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Same location as above looking west; No path; 45° sloped bank; very narrow space; highway concrete barrier in place;</p>
<p>ARP 14</p>	<p>Date & Time Sent: Sep 26, 2021 11:59:08 PDT Position: 44.6047° N / 121° 15.2000' W (+8.0m) Altitude: 820m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 086, N86E 1529mils True (+10°) Elevation Grade: -013 Horizon Grade: -002 Zoom: 1.0x</p> 	<p>N50°44.6047' W121°15.2000'</p> <p>2400 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Approx. 90 meters from trailhead east; boat launch parking area; existing double track;</p>
<p>ARP 15</p>	<p>Date & Time Sent: Sep 26, 2021 11:59:24 PDT Position: 44.6047° N / 121° 15.1987' W (+8.0m) Altitude: 820m (+3.0m) Datum: WGS-84 Azimuth Bearing: 083, N83E 1476mils True (+10°) Elevation Grade: -009 Horizon Grade: 000 Zoom: 1.0x</p> 	<p>N50°44.6047' W121°15.2000'</p> <p>2400 m from trailhead west</p> <p>Approx. 90 meters from trailhead east; boat launch parking area; existing double track;</p>

One option to build the proposed pathway is to create and/or widen the existing bench by constructing a retaining wall. Retaining walls are often the only option to correct problems caused by steep sidehill areas. Well built retaining walls can transform unusable inclines into usable space for trails and pathways. Despite their simple appearance, retaining walls require professional engineering.

Interlocking Concrete Block Retaining Wall

A typical interlocking concrete block has the following dimensions: 160 cm x 80 cm x 80 cm.



Riverbank Legato Block Wall constructed with inclined front face

Block Quantity Calculation

Approximately 1/2 of the proposed pathway would require a riverbank block wall to build up the area for the pathway. At seven rows in height (560 cm), with the two bottom row blocks placed side-by-side for stability, an estimated 7,000 blocks would be required. At 2021 material prices, the cost of the concrete blocks is estimated at \$1,120,000¹³.

Riverbank Retaining Wall Design Considerations

There are a number of other important considerations that may affect the retaining wall design. Some of these considerations are outlined in the following sections.

¹³ 2021 cost of interlocking block is \$160 without delivery charge



Drainage

Water levels within the ground and the retained fill can have a significant effect on the stability of a retaining wall. The design needs to consider the likely range of water levels and account for the associated water pressures in the calculation of retained pressures acting on the rear face of the wall.

Flooding

Where applicable, the design flood level should be considered. In assessing the stability of the retaining wall, buoyant densities for materials below flood level should be used.

Temporary works

In some situations, excavation may be necessary to provide adequate width for the retaining wall. This is particularly relevant when installing a wall to support an existing slope. In this case, attention should be given to providing a stable excavation which may entail the use of temporary support measures.

Concerns

Because moisture levels in the soil near your shoreline cause an extraordinary amount of ground movement during freeze-and-thaw cycles. This makes it extremely challenging for the retaining wall to remain level and square year after year. Often retaining walls built along shorelines get worn down by wave action, which eventually causes a complete wall failure.

During the winter months, retaining walls give slowly expanding ice sheets something solid and vertical to push against. Potentially the retaining wall will lose the battle against ice jacking.

Retaining walls are very damaging to the near-shore environment. They cause wave action, which scours the riverbed, displaces bottom sediment, and creates a sterile environment devoid of life. Wall structures on a river can disrupt and destroy ecosystems of fish and other wildlife.

Conclusion:

There are many factors to consider when designing a retaining wall. The interlocking block construction method may be used to create cribbing for a trail tread surface that would allow the construction of the Ashcroft River Path. Design and budget calculation are beyond what this document can address. A conservative construction budget estimate, including blocks, delivery, site excavation, road lane closure and engineering study, would be in the 2.5 million dollar range.



4.2 ASHCROFT SLOUGH ACCESS TRAIL

In 2008 access to the Ashcroft Slough has been eliminated. Construction began on land adjacent to the slough to establish an “Inland Port” also called the Ashcroft Terminal. The Ashcroft Terminal¹⁴ is an inland port strategically located to help shippers, manufacturers and producers prepare their commodities for export or import. This around the clock operation is steadily expanding and as of today encompasses 60,000 feet of rail track and supporting infrastructure.

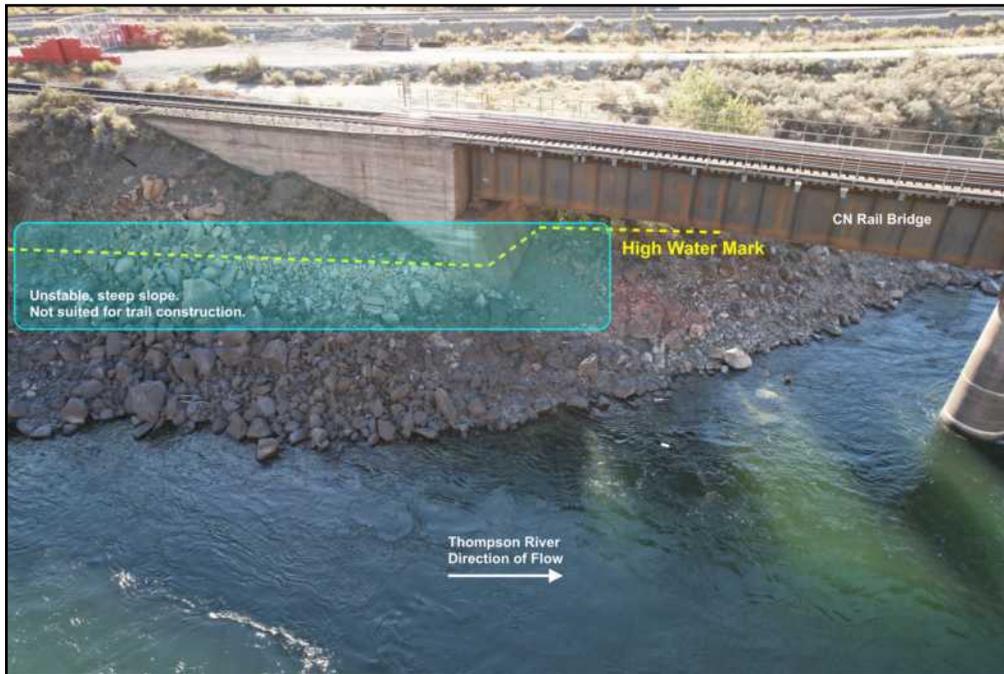
The Ashcroft Slough Society¹⁵, made up of user groups dedicated to re-gain access to the slough, is advocating for legal access. Three historically used access points have been closed to the public.

Currently two access options are being proposed. The Ashcroft Terminal (AT) suggests access from under an existing CN Rail bridge, below the high water mark. The Ashcroft Slough Society (ASS) propose an access trail that starts near the CN rail bridge and gains access via a tunnel or culvert under the existing rail track. Both options have been considered by the consultants and the following *Pro Et Contra*'s have been identified:

Ashcroft Slough Access Trail	
ASHCROFT TERMINAL	
PROS	CONS
Inexpensive	Access restricted during spring run-off and high water events
Requires minimum planning	Steep trail grade unsuited for many trail users
	Potentially illegal
	Unstable river bank creating an unsustainable trail tread
	High maintenance requirements
ASHCROFT SLOUGH SOCIETY	
PROS	CONS
Safe & legal pedestrian crossing of CN rail tracks	Easement needed for AT property trail alignment
Rail track crossing outside of Ashcroft Terminal owned property	Cost of tunnelling and engineering study
Excellent visibility adds safety	

¹⁴ <https://www.ashcroftterminal.com>

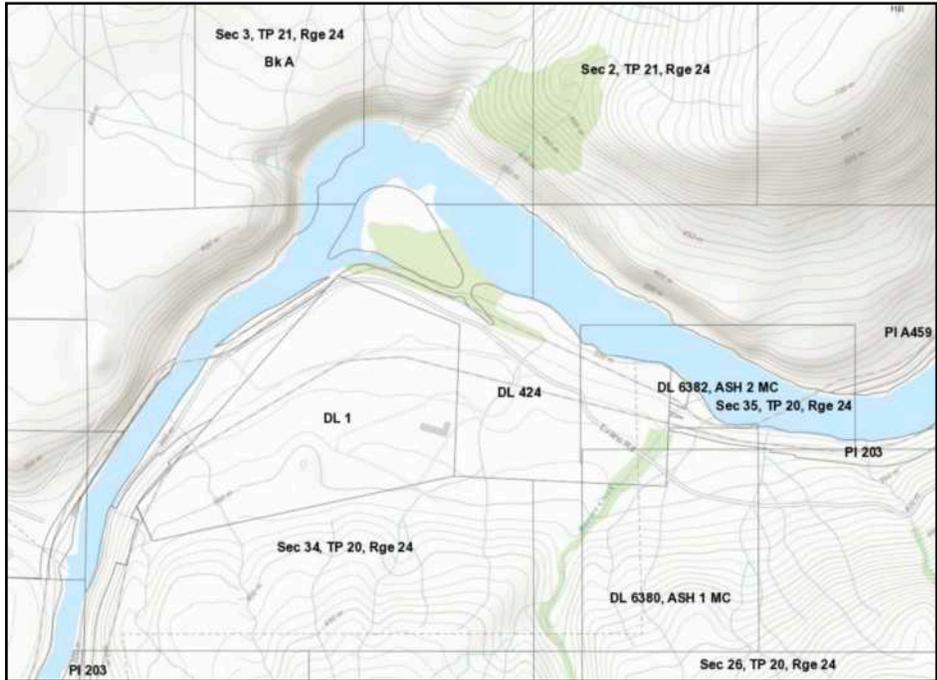
¹⁵ <https://ashcroftsloughsociety.com>



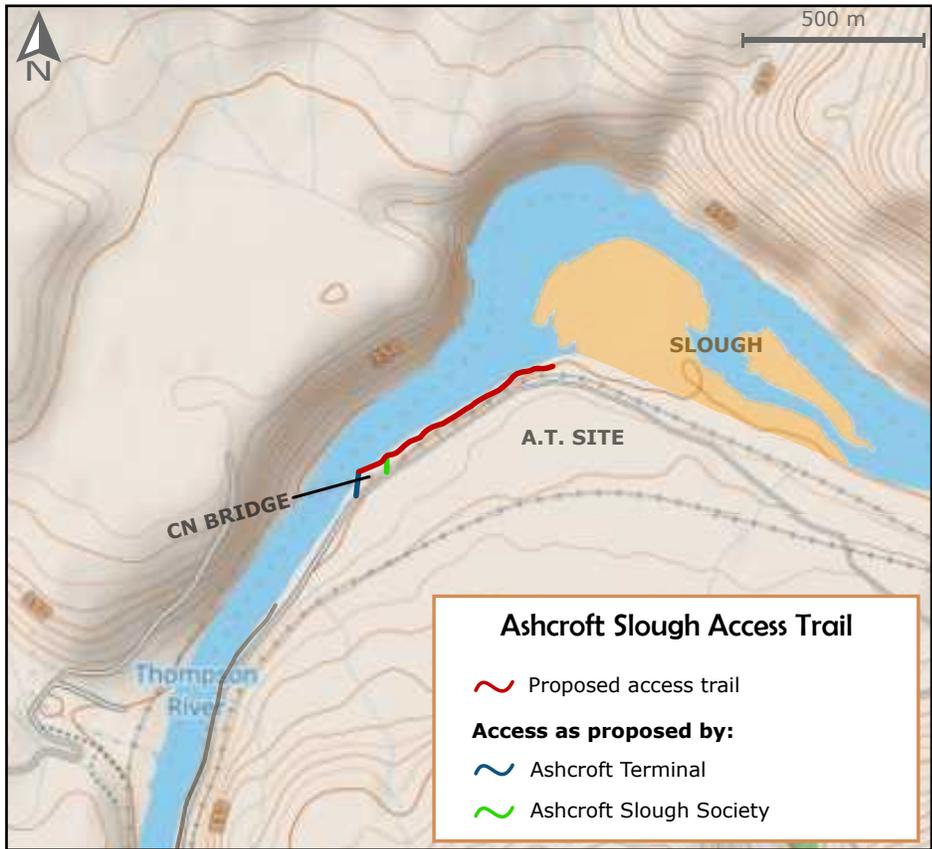
Access as Proposed by Ashcroft Terminal



Access as Proposed by Ashcroft Slough Society



Landownership as per Land Act Survey Parcels



Slough Site Overview & Proposed Access

	Description	Comments/Action
<p>ASAT 1</p>		<p>CN Rail Bridge</p> <p>High water during spring run-off would eliminate site access via the access option proposed by The Ashcroft Terminal.</p>
<p>ASAT 2</p>	<p>Date & Time: Sun, Sep 26, 2021, 12:41:01 Position: 50°44.7343' N / 121°15.0591' W Altitude: 301 m (989 ft) Datum: WGS 84 Azimuth Bearing: 089 / 106°02' 00" True to LHD Elevation Grade: -0.05 Horizon Grade: 0.00 Zoom: 1.0x</p>	<p>N50°44.7343' W121°15.0591'</p> <p>Side view of CN Rail bridge;</p>
<p>ASAT 3</p>	<p>Date & Time: Sun, Sep 26, 2021, 12:03:01 Position: 50°44.7471' N / 121°15.0637' W Altitude: 297 m (974 ft) Datum: WGS 84 Azimuth Bearing: 083 / 87°E / 253°10' 00" True to LHD Elevation Grade: -0.13 Horizon Grade: -0.01 Zoom: 1.0x</p>	<p>N50°44.7471' W121°15.0637'</p> <p>Steep, loose slope to the proposed pathway under the CN Rail bridge.</p>

	Description	Comments/Action
ASAT 4		<p>N50°44.7471' W121°15.0637'</p> <p>Low water scenario under CN Rail bridge;</p>
ASAT 5		<p>N50°44.7471' W121°15.0637'</p> <p>View from North/East end of CN Rail bridge towards the slough and proposed tunnel option;</p>
ASAT 6		<p>Terminal gate sign;</p>



4.3 MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

The potential for mountain bike specific trails in the Ashcroft area is high.

This plan recognizes industry trends and considers the needs of mountain bike trail users in British Columbia. Changing demographics result in changing trail user needs and wants. Climbing- and bidirectional- trails are becoming increasingly popular. Trail based amenities are becoming a must-have for any new network.

Basic facts about the mountain bike market¹⁶

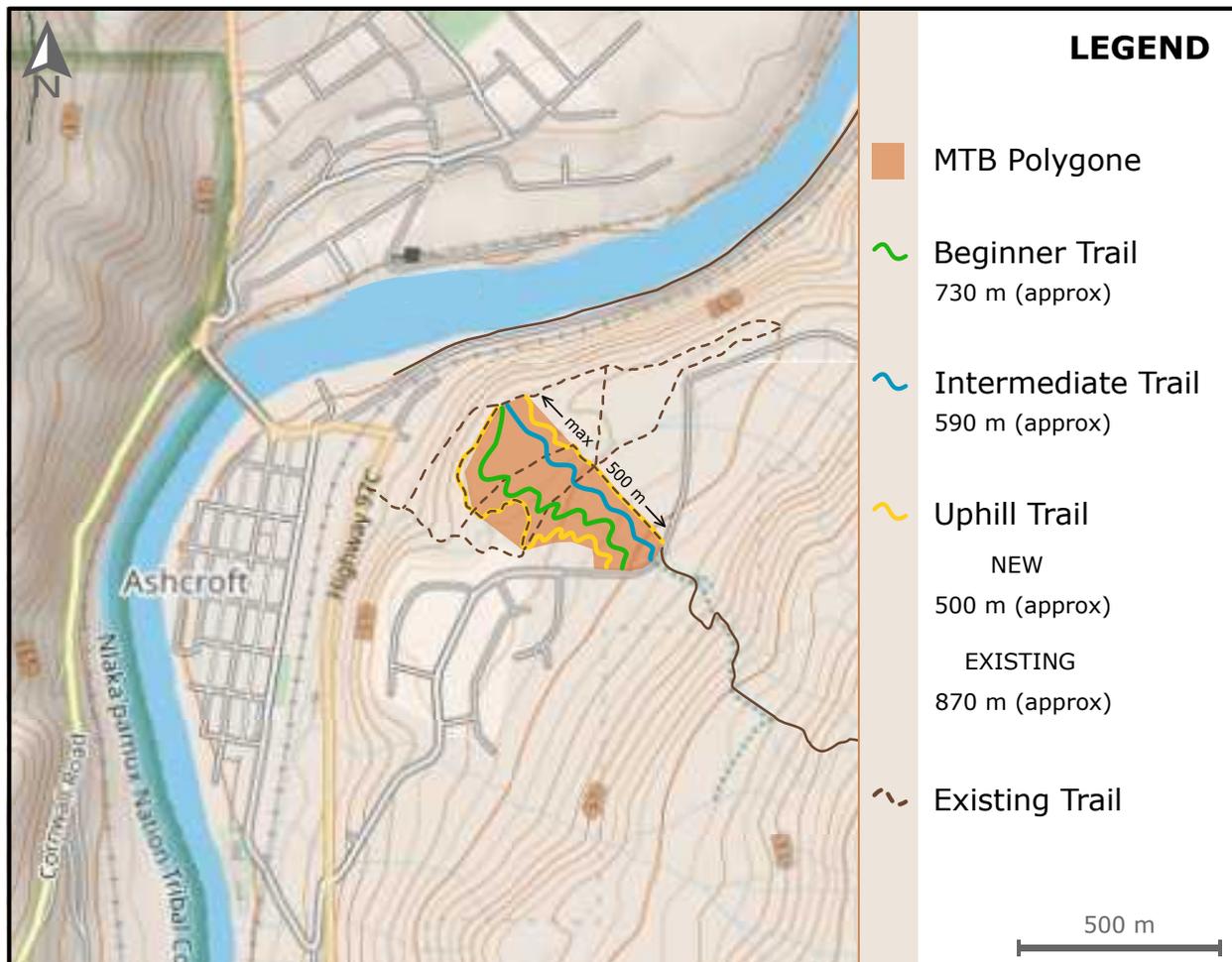
BASIC FACTS ABOUT THE MOUNTAIN BIKE MARKET

MOUNTAIN BIKERS HAVE SPENDING POWER	Every study shows that mountain bikers have spending power. The cost of the equipment is high and travelling riders spend money on amenities.
NATURE IS THE PRIMARY MOTIVE	Nature is what gets mountain bikers motivated to ride. A great trail disconnects mountain bikers from the hustle and bustle of normal lives.
MOUNTAIN BIKERS ARE HIKERS AND SKIERS	Mountain bikers practice other sports. Favourite alternatives amongst riders are alpine skiing and hiking.
MOST MOUNTAIN BIKERS DON'T COMPETE	Competitions are great to advance the sport of mountain biking, but the racing crowd is just the tip of the MTB market and has little in common with most riders.
MOUNTAIN BIKERS ARE GETTING OLDER AND YOUNGER	The average rider is 40 years old, but the normal curve of distribution is getting flatter at its peak. More and more riders from younger and older generations are getting into the sport.
MOST MOUNTAIN BIKING DOES NOT TAKE PLACE IN THE MOUNTAINS	Most riders live in urban areas and stick to local trails. This fact offers great potential for mountain bike destinations.
THE AVERAGE MOUNTAIN BIKER IS IMAGINERY	There is no average mountain biker. The average rider as described in many studies is a purely statistical figure. New subcultures are emerging rapidly and all have different needs.
TRAILS ARE CRITICAL	While nature is the primary motivator to ride, trails are the key element of the mountain bike experience. Trails have the greatest impact on the economy of the destination.
THE MOUNTAIN BIKING SCENE IS NOT THE MARKET	The MTB scene is not representing most riders. It is crucial to the development of biking as a sport and dictates the progression of bikes and equipment. This is highly important when marketing your MTB destination.

¹⁶ By Darco Cazin, Allegra Tourism

4.3.1 MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL POLYGON

AORCA, the newly founded Ashcroft Outdoor Cycling Association is proposing multi-use trail development on a gently sloped area below the Mesa Vista Drive. This relatively small, confined area is well suited for beginner and intermediate trails. Proximity to the Village of Ashcroft centre and the Mesa Vista Drive and Heustis Drive neighbourhood, make this a preferred area for new development. New trails will be build to Whistler MTB Trail standards as mountain bike trails, but are proposed as multi-use, non-motorized trails. User conflict between hikers, trail runners and mountain bikers is anticipated to be very low, however creating separate trails for mountain bike use would reduce the risk of conflict with other user groups, and if shared trails are not possible, then a level of co-education of trail users needs to be implemented. Education could be as simple as trailhead signage with shared-use information.



Mountain Bike Polygon as Proposed by AORCA



Mountain Bike Polygon Development Area

A beginner/intermediate bike skills area could be easily incorporated within the MTB polygon area. A bike skills park can include dirt jumps, technical trail features, a flowy, fun downhill trail and a pumptrack. The park can grow over time. Construction and implementation phases need to be clearly identified within the skills park planning document. Funding and volunteer commitment are the main factors.

The need for recreational facilities for youth and adults continues to steadily rise. Bike parks are fun and healthy places for residents and visitors to get their exercise in. They support a wide age range, from toddlers on run-bikes to anyone that can still ride a bike. Bike parks can serve beginner to intermediate and expert riders, based on the design of bike park features. In many communities whole families adopt the park and make a day of the adventure.

Compared to playgrounds and traditional parks, bike parks offer an incredible value versus the budget spent on them. Well built parks become tourist draws.



Example of Beginner/Intermediate Bike Skills Park. Features include Small Table Tops, Berms and Small Jumps and Rollers.



Sample Images of Wooden TTF's (Technical Trail Features) for Beginner Mountainbikers.





4.3.2 EXISTING AND FUTURE MTB TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

The potential for MTB specific trails in the Ashcroft area goes well beyond the polygon proposed in Section 4.3.1. With assistance and support from the Village of Ashcroft, the newly formed AORCA, can engage with Recreation Sites & Trails BC to explore the legalization of existing trails and planning and construction of new mountain bike trails. Climate, terrain, accessibility are all favourable factors in the Ashcroft area, when it comes to MTB trail development.

We recommend a four phased approach, as outlined in the table below:

MTB TRAIL DEVELOPMENT			
Phase	Description	Term	Lead/Partners
1	<u>Mountain Bike Polygon</u> ➔ Work with AORCA and trail consultant on trail plan for the MTB polygon ➔ Implement phased construction projects with pro-trailbuilders and AORCA volunteers	IMMED (24 Months)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & AORCA
2	<u>MTB Trail Masterplan</u> ➔ Identify and survey final trail alignment ➔ Construct new pathway as per trail plan ➔ Install signage and trail amenities	MED (2-5 Years)	AORCA. Village of Ashcroft
3	<u>Legalize & Sign Existing Trails</u> ➔ Identify and survey existing trails ➔ Apply for Section 56 and Section 57 (RSTBC) ➔ Install signage and trail amenities	MED (2-5 Years)	AORCA. Village of Ashcroft & RSTBC
4	<u>New Trail Construction</u> ➔ Phased trail construction as per trail plan	MED (3-10 Years)	AORCA. Village of Ashcroft & RSTBC



Existing Single Track MTB Trail East of Ashcroft



4.4 HIKING TRAILS

The Village of Ashcroft promotes non-motorized trail use on the Village website:

“For those who like to explore by foot, there are ample opportunities for you to enjoy. What is more, because our climate is so dry, Ashcroft can be the perfect place to escape cloud and rain. Often, when it is raining elsewhere, here it is not! Please be advised that during the summer, it can be hot. It is recommended that people bring plenty of water to drink and protection from the sun. As well, visitors are reminded to watch out for cactus and the occasional rattlesnake. If you don't know where to go, just ask people around town - Ashcroft is a friendly community and residents will be happy to point you in the right direction.”¹⁷

BASIC FACTS ABOUT HIKING

HIKING CAN HELP REDUCE ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION

Hiking allows you to step away from the normal distractions of everyday life and enjoy some peace while away.

HIKING IS AMONGST THE FIVE TOP OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

In the last few years, we've seen a large increase in the number of people that actively go hiking.

YOU GET NUMEROUS HEALTH BENEFITS FROM EVEN ONE WALK PER WEEK

Moving around and exercising for just 30 minutes each day can help with fatigue, sleep issues, creativity, and happiness levels. It may seem surprising to hear this, but being outside in nature can help both mentally and physically.

HIKING IS A VERY INEXPENSIVE ACTIVITY

There aren't too many things that are required to begin hiking. If you have a decent pair of shoes and a bottle of water, the only other thing you need to do is find a location to go. Most areas have a few places that could be perfect for hiking and exercise.

HIKING CAN IMPROVE THE OVERALL SLEEP QUALITY

The avoidance of electronics and the natural workout all work together to allow a better night of sleep after hiking.

REGULAR HIKING WILL STRENGTHEN THE HEART, LUNGS AND MUSCLES

Hiking can be an intense full-body workout in that almost every muscle will be used. You may be sore after a full day of hiking, but just know that the feeling is a good thing that is working to help keep your body and heart strong and healthy.

HIKING IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET NEW PEOPLE

Since there are so many people that enjoy hiking it's a great chance to make some new friends or hiking partners. Going to a popular trail and talking to new people is a great way to enjoy the activity and to find new locations to hike.

HIKING HELPS ELEVATE ALL SENSES

With fewer distractions to focus on every sense can be enhanced. Being on a trail will provide many chances like the smell or sight or nature to enjoy each sense.

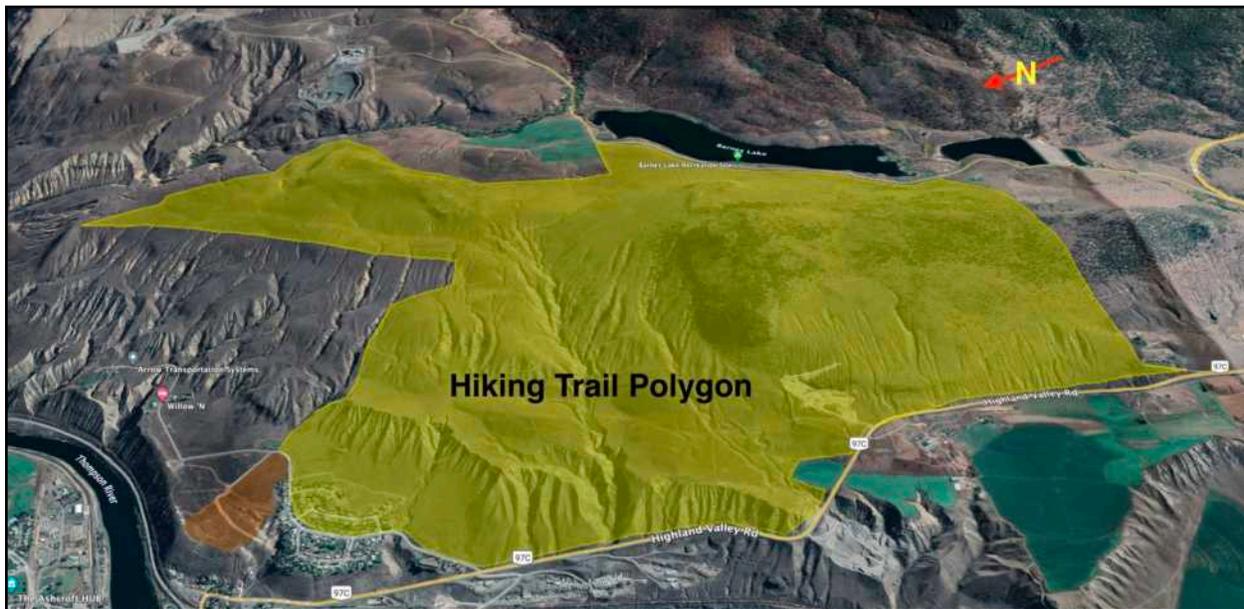
¹⁷ Ashcroftbc.ca/trails/

4.4.1 HIKING TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Ashcroft is surrounded by many existing trails, with some of them featured in the *Gold Country Communities Society's Trail Guide*. Most of the existing trails, frequented by locals and visitors, are located to the east of the village centre. Barnes Lake Road, Highway 97C and the Vista Heights neighbourhood create the approximate boundary of the preferred hiking trail polygon.

Acknowledging the already extensive hiking trail network, based on population and visitation figures, no new trail construction is recommended short to mid-term. What is needed, is trail maintenance, trail improvements and trail infrastructure. Trail infrastructure (or trail amenities) encourages trail use by making the experience safe, comfortable and convenient. While amenities vary from trail to trail, they typically include benches, tables, shaded rest areas, trash receptacles, restrooms, viewing platforms and shelters. In addition, informational trail signage and trail markers are required to inform users.

The Village of Ashcroft recognizes the value of the area's trails. This is evident by promoting the trails via the community website and print publications. Ashcroft's online trail presence¹⁸ is being regularly updated and maintained. Gradually improving the existing trails in partnership with trail user groups, creates opportunities that will move the whole trail network towards an even more desirable and marketable recreational asset.



Hiking Trail Development Polygon

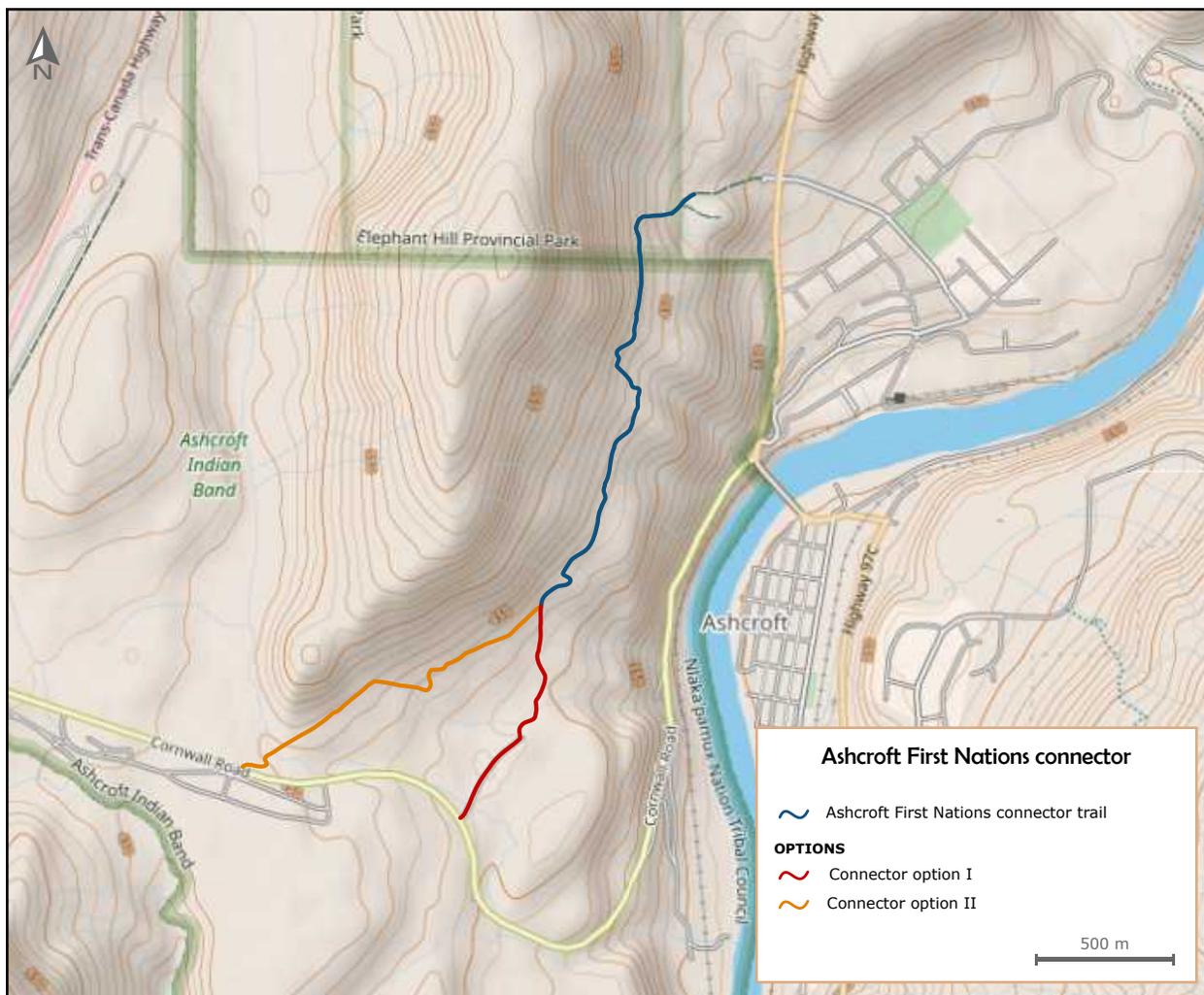
¹⁸ https://mapping.jugaadinnovation.ca/app/tourism/tourist_map.php?muni=Ashcroft



4.5 ASHCROFT FIRST NATION CONNECTOR TRAIL

The Ashcroft First Nation considers the safety and health and well-being of their population to be the highest priority. The community is located along Cornwall Road, a busy arterial road west of Ashcroft. Many of the Ashcroft FN members, including youth do not have access and reliable vehicle transportation and as a result they are forced to walk along the busy road which includes no walk way, lighting, and narrow shoulders and poor site lines.

The proposed trail follows an existing single-track path, that needs improvement to provide a safe and convenient alternative for the public to travel between the village and the First Nations community. As part of the design of the trail, benches and shelters for members to rest, are recommended. The route provides good sight-lines to ensure safety for different users including walkers, runners and cyclists. Two options are proposed on the southern end of the pathway, to maximize connectivity and access bench land overlooking the Thompson River.



Interpretive signs detailing the histories of the Indigenous groups that have lived in the Ashcroft area for thousands of years, will add greatly to knowledge and understanding of trail users. Acknowledging the true history of a place helps to achieve a sense of pride and protection of a recreational asset.

Signs should tell the stories of native plants and their traditional usage and highlight unique landscape features along the trail. QR codes can tell stories that incorporate the Secwépemctsin language and/or explain plants and terrain features in more detail.

Hikers, cyclists and horseback riders can discover more about the Indigenous heritage in BC's Interior and the Ashcroft area.

<p>Proposed Trail Type</p>	<p>TYPE II TRAIL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plan as surfaced single-track trail • machine built • remove all embedded obstacles • use crushed limestone with fines, well compacted gravel, or existing old roadbeds • clear width to 5.0 m • clear height to 2.4 m • provide 2 - 3 m tread width
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Example of Interpretive Trailhead Kiosk



AFN Connector Trail



Option I & II of AFN Connector Trail



4.6 EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

Ashcroft offers a highly attractive landscape for equestrian activities and a number of existing businesses cater to horseback riders. From Guest Ranches to equestrian riding centers, horseback riders enjoy access to local neighbourhood trails and are in need of identifying future trail projects. Riders are encouraged to become members of horseback rider groups (e.g. Horse Council of BC, Kamloops Equestrian Society) and become involved in trail maintenance and development. The Trails Master Plan supports working with organized horseback rider groups to ensure that the interests of riders and horses are recognized in the process of trail planning and development. Equestrian use was raised during the planning process but was not a focus of discussion. Local equestrian user groups may wish to engage in specific trail development projects.

The consultants recommend the following points for the identification of future equestrian trail development:

- Trail design is for natural surface trails with a trail width of 3 to 6 feet.
- Equestrian trail use is not encouraged on trails that are prone to erosion and on trails with soft surfaces.
- Trails are expected to have a significant equestrian use level of over 25%.
- Trails will be recognized as destination equestrian trails and are expected to draw horseback riders from outside the Ashcroft area.
- Trailheads will offer supportive infrastructure such as horse-pens, truck-trailer parking and hitching rails.

4.6.1 ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

In British Columbia 22,000 households own 95,000 horses, with a capital value of \$500 million, that live on 13,700 horse farms, using 145,000 acres of farmland, with \$2.0 Billion in buildings and equipment, supporting \$740 million in economic activity, 7,200 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) jobs, and providing \$73 million in direct government tax revenue.¹⁹

Although equine tourism is considered an important and fast growing segment in the Canadian tourism industry, it has not been extensively researched. Many factors are influencing the development of horse tourism. Horse trail availability is a great opportunity for short leisure trips, satisfying current trends in economy and society. Canadians are taking shorter vacations, such as long weekends and overnight trips in order to stay closer to home.

Horses and horse-culture are already a part of Ashcroft's identity. Planning and constructing equine specific or equine-friendly trails in the Ashcroft area, will help in reinforcing equestrian culture. Tourism packages based on horse-riding will greatly benefit from future trail development.

¹⁹ Horse Council BC, 2010 Equine Industry Study



4.7 MOTORIZED TRAILS

The Ashcroft Master Trails Plan recognizes the significance of establishing trails for motorized and non-motorized trail users. It is important to cater to a broad variety of trail users, while managing trail user conflicts. The most significant challenge with motorized trail use is the frequent trespass onto non-motorized trails and off-trail use. Research has demonstrated that motorized uses to be substantially more impacting. This means careful planning and trail design is of a higher priority, when it comes to off-road vehicle (ORV's) trails. Construction of motorized trails is often less expensive compared to non-motorized trails.

Considerations in planning and designing motorized trails include:

MOTORIZED TRAIL PLANNING

Provide easy access to motorized trailheads and create designated off-road vehicle parking at destinations (i.e. view points)

Design parking areas with trailer turnaround options and loading ramps

Avoid sensitive environmental areas, provincial parks and potential trail-user conflict zones

Provide clear informational signage, indicating trail use and safety concerns

Ensure sustainable trail construction

Provide soundscape buffer zones by using natural terrain features, if at all possible

Design trails with good line-of-sight

If possible, design one-way loops to avoid possible user collisions

Avoid trail intersections with non-motorized usage trails, if possible

4.7.1 ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAILS

Development and maintenance of trails that permit off-road vehicles offers great potential. The snowmobile and ATV travel market in Canada is estimated to be 8.4% of Canadians. While sales of ATVs are on the rise, many riders lack access to appropriate places to ride. Expenditures such as food, accommodation, fuel to operate the ATV and to travel to and from the riding area contribute significantly to the local economy.

The Canadian Off-Highway Vehicle Distributors Council has released an Economic Impact Study documenting the economic impact of ATVs for the country during the year of 2015. The study shows an annual spending of \$652 to \$836 million for food and beverages in 2015²⁰.

²⁰ www.atvmb.ca



Paid accommodation by off-road riders amounted to \$334 to \$378 million in 2015. The study shows a national total spending of \$5 to \$6,7 billion dollars in 2015, by the ATV and side-by-side users. The potential to develop a tourism product, catering to the ATV and side-by-side user groups, is significant in the Ashcroft/Cache Creek and Clinton area. Economic spinoffs are already in place and can expand as the trail system grows.

MOTORIZED OFF ROAD VEHICLES (ORV'S)

All-terrain vehicles (ATV's)



Motorcycles (Dirtbikes)



Snowmobiles



Side-By-Sides



Four-wheel-drive vehicles





4.8 URBAN TRAILS & PATHWAYS



An active Ashcroft downtown area helps create an environment that fosters business growth. Ashcroft’s economic sustainability is directly linked to a busy downtown core area. Trails and pathways increase the quality of life and also add to the economic prosperity of the Ashcroft downtown area.

An attractive Ashcroft downtown must be complimented by appealing entry gateways to the downtown core. Parking must be highlighted to invite visitors to explore downtown by walking.

Very moderate traffic throughout the downtown core area, invites residents and visitors to explore Ashcroft on foot. Ample parking opportunities further help in creating a “Park & Walk” scenario. Pedestrian sidewalks, in general, are wide enough to accommodate current foot traffic. The existing grid street layout makes it easy to navigate the Ashcroft downtown core, an added benefit to further increase pedestrian traffic.

Pedestrians waiting to cross downtown streets have the benefit of great sightlines for approaching vehicles. As traffic continues to grow, additional street crossings should be considered, to further improve pedestrian safety.

As Ashcroft’s downtown continues to grow and evolve, increased pedestrian traffic can be expected. While pedestrians and vehicles must co-exist, future development should emphasize elements that add to a walkable environment. Balancing vehicle and pedestrian traffic in Ashcroft’s downtown should be given the highest priority.

PROPOSED TRAIL TYPE

TYPE II TRAIL:

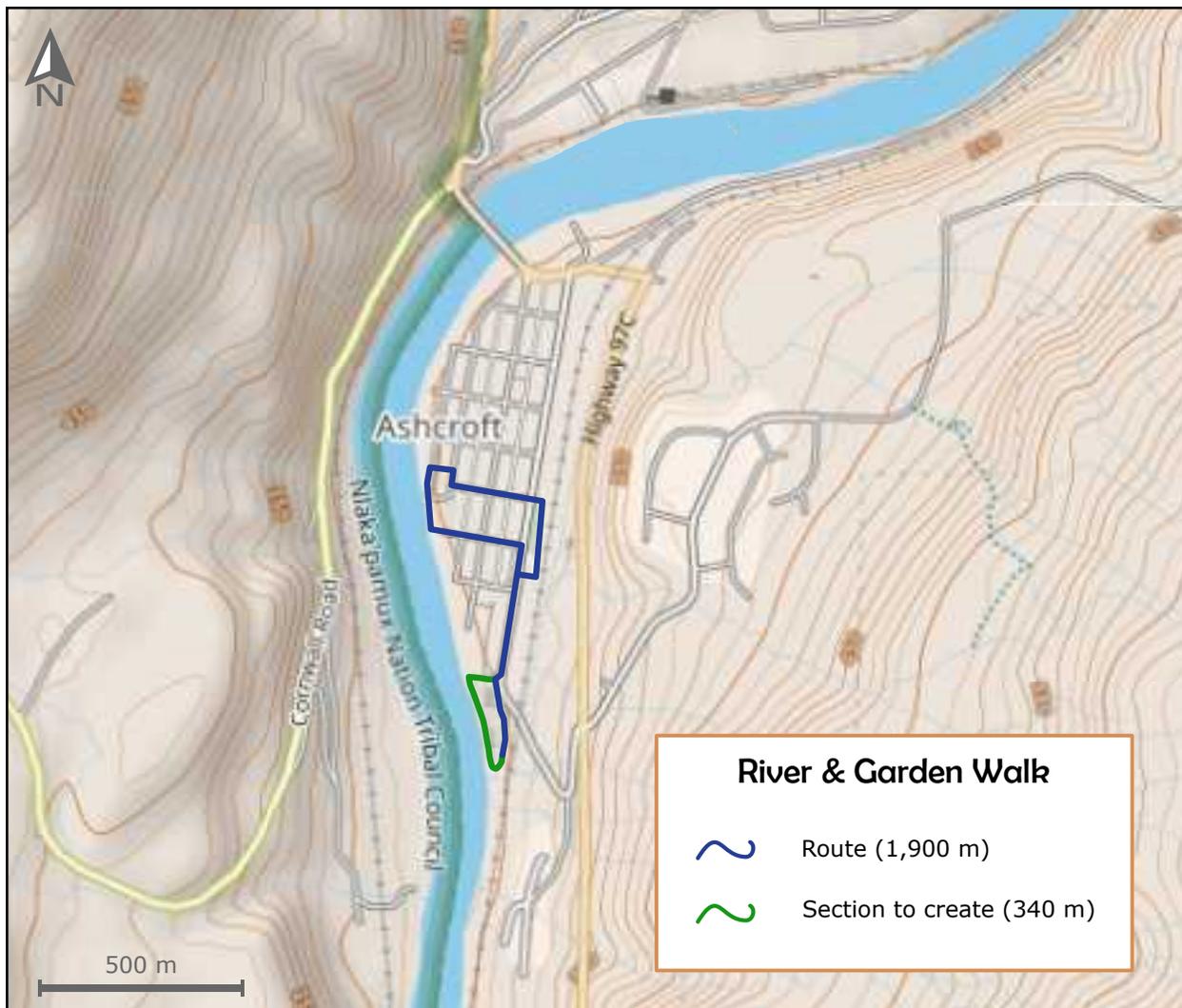
- plan as surfaced single-track trail
- machine built
- remove all embedded obstacles
- use crushed limestone with fines, well compacted gravel, or existing old roadbeds
- clear width to 5.0 m
- clear height to 2.4 m
- provide 2 - 3 m tread width



4.8.1 RIVER AND GARDEN WALK

The small park area between the Thompson River and Railway Avenue, identified in Ashcroft's 2018 Official Community Plan as a community use area²¹, has been identified as the preferred location for a short trail section, overlooking the river.

The Thompson River offers opportunities to potentially grow economic and social capacities adjacent to the downtown area. This could be achieved through the construction of a pedestrian pathway along the river. Private landownership, steep riverbanks and environmental concerns limit opportunities for a river pathway, that runs the entire length from the *Ashcroft Legacy Park Campground* to the *Ashcroft Cemetery*. As an alternative option, a 340 meter section of a pedestrian esplanade could be constructed adjacent to the *Ashcroft Cemetery*. This proposed pathway, overlooking the Thompson River, will additionally serve as an extension to the existing *River & Garden Walk*.



River & Garden Walk Route

²¹ Page 68: Official Community Plan, Schedule B, Land Use Plan

What the proposed pathway is missing in length, can be compensated by adding trail infrastructure such as benches, viewing decks and public art. Trail amenities will slow down foot traffic and invite users to enjoy the esplanade. Esplanades became hugely popular in Victorian times, as areas where couples and families would go for a walk in order to be seen or be part of society. The proposed location invites and encourages locals and visitors to leave the downtown core area and explore the southern end of Ashcroft.

ESPLANADE

Definition: a level open stretch of paved or grassy ground, especially one designed for walking or driving along a shore



Example of Proposed Viewing Deck



4.8.2 DOWNTOWN MOSAIC TRAIL & NORTH ASHCROFT MOSAIC WALK

Glass Mosaics have become a major draw for many visitors to the community of Ashcroft. With over 30 glass mosaics the Ashcroft mosaic walks exemplify how walking can become a new tool for discovery and communication. While not designed as a “classic” art walk displaying art in local businesses, this permanent, outdoor experience benefits businesses by attracting viewers to the village. An online interactive map²², showcasing the various walking routes, is being frequently updated to include new additions to the “Art Walk”. Walking tours and pathways can be selected from the drop-down menu on the lefthand side. Displayed tours have clickable icons, allowing the viewing of full sized images.

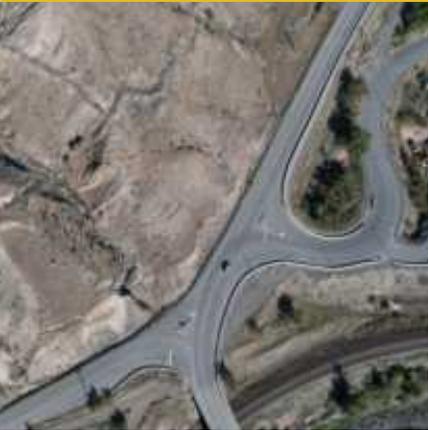
Marina Papais and her husband Daniel Collett, who either created or inspired most of the artwork, provide additional information on their excellent website:

<https://papaiscollettmosaics.com/ashcroft-mosaic-walk>



Ashcroft’s Interactive Mosaic Walk Online Map

²² https://mapping.jugaadinnovation.ca/app/tourism/tourist_map.php?muni=Ashcroft



4.9 COMMUTER TRAIL (GOVT. STREET HILL WALK)

The proposed multi-use commuter trail will follow the existing, Type IV, Govt. Street Hill Walk. The existing route needs upgrading to a Type II or III machine built trail. We highly recommend, budget dependent, to upgrade to a Type II trail with a tread width of 2 - 3 meters and topped with crushed limestone with fines or well-compacted gravel.

The trail will serve as a lower grade, less steep, connector to and from the proposed Ashcroft First Nation Connector Trail. The trail's main justification is to create an easier path connecting Elm Street and Government Street with the Cornwall Road/Highway 97C intersection. In addition, the pathway will allow better access to the Elephant Hill Provincial Park for Ashcroft residents and visitors.

Trail amenities such as interpretive signage, benches/tables, garbage receptacles and a viewing platform would add greatly to the usability and attractiveness of the proposed upgraded trail.



Ashcroft Commuter Trail



Ashcroft Commuter Trails (Govt. Street Hill Walk)

**PROPOSED
TRAIL TYPE**

- TYPE II TRAIL:**
- plan as surfaced single-track trail
 - machine built
 - remove all embedded obstacles
 - use crushed limestone with fines, well compacted gravel, or existing old roadbeds
 - clear width to 5.0 m
 - clear height to 2.4 m
 - provide 2 - 3 m tread width



5 CONSTRUCTION BUDGET

5.1 GENERAL TRAIL AMENITY COST

Trail amenities are an integral part of trail networks. They increase the trail usage and add to the overall user experience. Most trail amenity elements are universal and not trail user specific.

TRAIL HEAD AMENITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE

Single Face Kiosk Signage	\$1,800
Picnic Table	\$1,600
Walkway Bench	\$2,600
Dog Bag Dispenser	\$450
Bear-Proof Garbage Receptacle	\$1,800
Trail Marker Post	\$250
Trail Interpretive Signage	\$800
Bike Rack	\$1,000 - \$3,000
Split Rail Barrier	\$350
Split Rail Fence	\$80/m
Chain Link Fence (1.2m)	\$100/m
Pit Toilet Installed	\$3,500



5.2 TYPICAL TRAIL CONSTRUCTION COST

Construction cost is difficult to accurately predict. Budget estimating principles are based on access to the construction zone, terrain, trail types and demand. Provincial contractors, trailbuilders and businesses have been consulted. Their quotes and estimates form the base of all budget estimates in this document.

COST ESTIMATION FIGURES FOR TRAIL CONSTRUCTION

ITEM	UNIT	UNIT RATE
Clearing and pruning trail corridor	l.m.	\$18
New Trail Construction - Singletrack, unsurfaced, hand-built	l.m.	\$32
New Trail Construction - Singletrack, unsurfaced, machine-built	l.m.	\$55
New Trail Construction - Singletrack, crush/gravel, compacted, machine-built	l.m.	\$72
Climbing Turn Construction	L.S.	\$1,000
Rock Armoured Trail Sections	s.m.	\$150
Timber Retaining Wall Construction	l.m.	\$380
Timber Retaining Wall with Deadman Construction	l.m.	\$480
Basic hiking/biking Bridge Construction - Singletrack, treated Decking	l.m.	\$750
Large Span pre-fabricated Bridge	l.m.	\$12,000
Advanced TTF's - Bike Skills Park Features: log rides, wall-rides, ramps	l.m.	\$260

Notes To Budget:

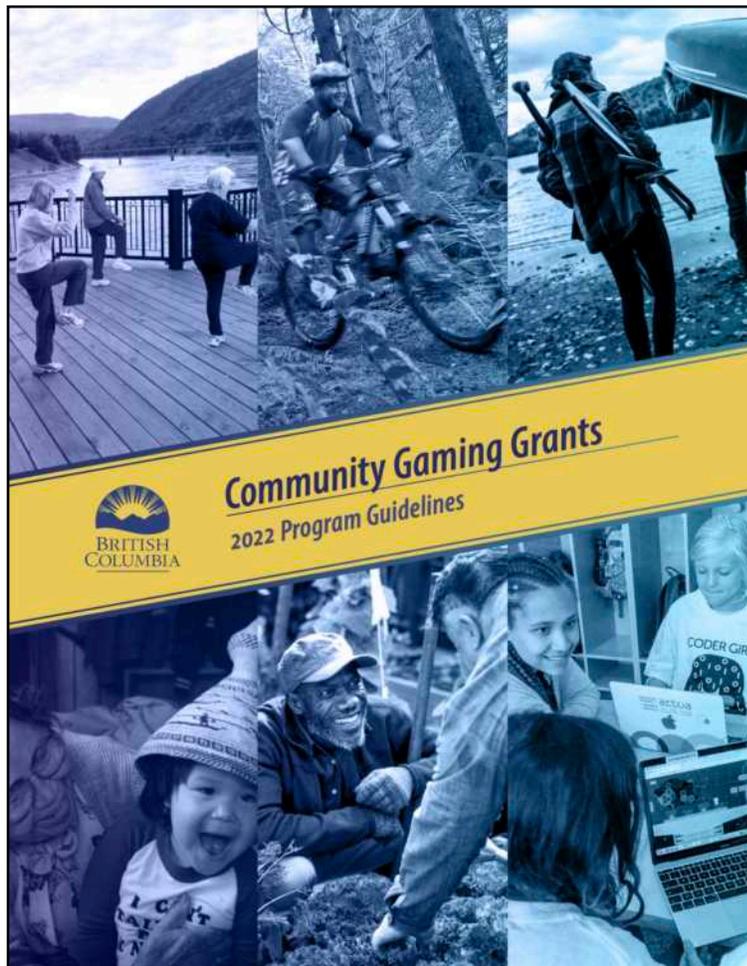
- Prices do not include the costs for design or project management
- l.m. = linear meter
- L.S. = Lump Sum
- s.m. = square meter

5.3 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

A number of funding opportunities are available to non-profit organizations. Trail-user groups can apply for capital project and maintenance grants.

Potential funding organizations:

- Bike BC
<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/transportation/>
- BC Equestrian Trails Fund
<http://www.hcbc.ca/index.php/membership/funding-forhcbcmembers/bc-equestrian-trails-fund/>
- BC Community Gaming Grants
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/sports-recreation-arts-and-culture/gambling/grants/guide-cgg.pdf>
- Work BC - Job Creation Partnerships
www.workbc.ca/Employers/Run-your-business/Community-and-Employer-Partnerships.aspx
- Canadian Off-Highway Vehicle Distributors Council
Environment and Sustainable Trail Development
- Mountain Equipment Co-Op
<https://www.mec.ca/en/explore/granting>
- Young Canada Works
Focus on Historic and Cultural Site Interpretive Projects.





6 ACTION PLAN

In order to meet the goals outlined in the Master Trails Plan, a number of recommendations are fundamental. The Implementation Matrix on Page 70 prioritizes trail projects and outlines project specific steps. Priorities listed below are universal and apply to all trail upgrade and development projects, described within the plan.

Priorities for implementation include:

Community user groups together with local, regional and provincial governments have an interest in trail improvement and development.

Implementation of the plan will be directed by the Ashcroft Trail Advisory Group, who will assist Major and Council in the decision making process. Ongoing involvement of all parties will be required to move forward with the various implementation phases.

Implementation of the plan will be contingent on funding opportunities, fundraising and volunteer efforts. The Ashcroft Trail Advisory Group should assist stakeholder groups (i.e. AORCA) with grant and funding applications, based on the project phases described in the Master Trails Plan. Funding opportunities for trail development will continue to evolve and local non-profit stakeholder groups need assistance in seeking out new grants and funding.

The subject of ongoing trail maintenance needs to be considered. Maintenance responsibilities need to be addressed in partnership agreements with local trail user groups. The Village will develop or assist in developing trails, where there is assurance that capacity for ongoing trail maintenance exists.

The Village of Ashcroft will consider the needs of all trail users, including users with disabilities, children/youth and seniors.

Celebrate Ashcroft's history and culture. Historical and cultural aspects of the trail networks need to be recognized. Celebrate and promote trails and trail use by supporting trail based events.

Authors Note:

A substantial amount of the consultants' time was spent on the *Evans Road River Path* and the *Slough Access Trail*. The planners researched alternative options, discussed the projects with colleagues from other firms and kept an open mind, hoping to find solutions for these difficult situations. We trust, by outlining the constraints, we have given all parties involved in the *Evans Road River Path* and the *Slough Access Trail* project a clear understanding of why these two projects are not feasible as proposed.



ASHCROFT TRAIL MASTERPLAN IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

Action Number	Description	Term	Lead	Financial Projection
HIGH PRIORITY INITIATIVES				
1	<u>Ashcroft First Nation Connector Trail</u> ➤ Complete archaeology and cultural heritage study ➤ Flag final trail alignment ➤ Upgrade existing trail tread and construct new trail as per trail plan ➤ Install signage and trail amenities	IMMED (24 Months)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & Ashcroft First Nation	High to Very High
2	<u>River And Garden Walk</u> ➤ Identify and survey final trail alignment ➤ Construct new pathway as per trail plan ➤ Install signage and trail amenities	MED (1-5 Years)	Village of Ashcroft	High
3	<u>Mountain Bike Polygon</u> ➤ Work with AORCA and trail consultant on trail plan for the MTB polygon ➤ Implement phased construction projects with pro-trailbuilders and AORCA volunteers	MED (1-5 Years)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & AORCA & RSTBC	High
4	<u>Commuter Trail (Govt. Street Hill Walk)</u> ➤ Flag final trail alignment ➤ Upgrade existing trail tread and construct new trail as per trail plan ➤ Install signage and trail amenities	MED (1-5 Years)	Village of Ashcroft	Medium to High
5	<u>Hiking Trails</u> ➤ Improve trailhead facilities ➤ Install trail amenities ➤ Prioritize projects in consultation with user groups	MED (1-5 Years)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & RSTBC & user groups	Medium
6	<u>Motorized Trails</u> ➤ Identify motorized trail users and start trail planning process ➤ Engage planning firm to develop construction and budget document	LONG (5+ Years)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & RSTBC & user groups	Medium
7	<u>Equestrian Trails</u> ➤ Work with the horse riding community and tourism stakeholders on developing equestrian specific trails	LONG (5+ Years)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & RSTBC & user groups	Medium to High
8	<u>Urban Trails & Mosaic Walk</u> ➤ Maintain and enhance urban trail routes ➤ Continue installation of new art displays	LONG (5+ Years)	Partnership: Village of Ashcroft & CoC & Local Arts Council	Medium

Note to Financial Projections:

- More than \$1,000 are rated LOW
- \$10K to \$50K are rated MEDIUM
- \$50K to \$150K are rated HIGH
- \$150K+ are rated VERY HIGH

PROJECTIONS ARE APPROXIMATE 2022 FORECAST FIGURES



APPENDIX A

WORKING AROUND WATER

Working in or around water, builders must take care to minimize the potential risk to aquatic ecosystems and limit water pollution. The Water Sustainability Act defines the terms used to talk about working around water to make the meaning and scope of those terms clear

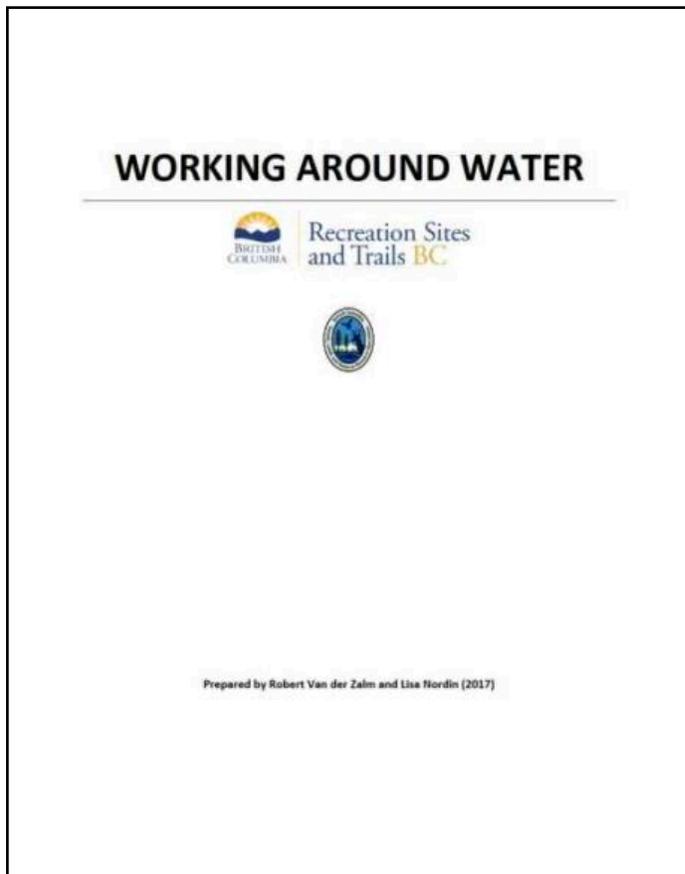


Image: 'Working Around Water' by Robert Van der Zalm and Lisa Nordin, is a great resource for construction projects, that cause modification to the nature of a stream, including any modification to the land, vegetation and natural environment of a stream or the flow of water.

TRAIL CLASSIFICATION

Trail difficulty rating symbols should be included on all signage at trailheads and trail staging areas. The intent is to provide a universally recognizable difficulty rating system area-wide. The difficulty rating begins with the “Easiest” and progresses to “Expert Unlimited”.

The trail rating system is applicable to motorized and non-motorized trail use.

Unsanctioned trails should not be signed unless it is regulatory or trail closure signage.

Trail Type	Low Impact Nature Trail	Unsurfaced Single-track (Double track)	Unsurfaced Single-track (Double track) (Double track)	Gravel Trail (Single-track)	Gravel Trail (Double track)	Forest Trail	Cycle Lanes / Sidewalk	Gravel Road	Forest Road	Undeveloped Rail Bed	Water Route
Trail Type / Winter Trail Standards	Type V	Type IV	Type III	Type II	Type I	Type I					
Trail Difficulty Rating (MBA)											
Trail Difficulty Rating (MBA) Description	Most Difficult to Very Difficult	Most Difficult to Very Difficult	Very Difficult to More Difficult	More Difficult to Easy	Easy to Easiest	Easy to Easiest					
Alberta Trail Classification	Primitive	Primitive	Semi-developed	Developed	Primitive to Semi-developed	Developed	Developed	Semi-developed to Developed	Developed	Primitive	
Trail Difficulty Rating (BCOWMA)											
Category (TCT)	Greenway Trail	Greenway Trail	Greenway Trail	Greenway Trail	Greenway Trail	Greenway Trail	Greenway Trail	Footway	Footway	Yellow Trail	Blueway Trail
Overview	Recreative, hiking-only trails	Recreative, many of Canada's hiking and biking trails	Recreative trails for heavier use by less skilled trail users	Walked potential user group on rough surface trail	Walked potential user group on rough surface trail	Popular non-motorized routes	Popular non-motorized routes	Recreational or utility service or wilderness road - Motor Vehicle or Highway Traffic Act (double track)	Usually public roads, may require connection	Surface in large cross-section be developed into Type II Green Trail (double track)	Established lines of travel along a water course
Appropriate Users	Hikers only Winter activity not expected	Experienced trail users, including hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians	Similar to hard ball surfaced track Winter activity not expected	All non-motorized modes of transportation	Summer and winter motorized or non-motorized	Pedestrian and non-motorized wheeled transportation, equestrian access	Pedestrian and non-motorized wheeled transportation	Appropriate for multiple users with few restrictions in summer or winter	All users subject to "tractor traffic code", "highway traffic act", etc.	Summer and winter motorized use	All users subject to relevant legislation or regulations, including the Navigable Water Protection Act
Material	Anything found in natural landscape	Anything found in natural landscape	Anything found in natural landscape	Compacted gravel or other suitable material	Compacted gravel or other suitable material	Asphalt or chip seal road surfacing	Mulch or gravel, asphalt or chip seal road surfacing	Highly engineered, asphalt, concrete, pavers	Rail and sleepers removed	Water with sections of outcrop trail for portage	Water with sections of outcrop trail for portage
Grade	No grade restrictions	Average grade <10%, short sections may be >10%	Average grade <10%, short sections may be >10%	Maximum grade 10%, short sections may be >10%	Maximum grade 10%, short sections may be >10%	Maximum grade 10%, short sections may be >10%	Maximum grade 10%, short sections may be >10%	Maximum grade <10%	Maximum grade <10%	Maximum grade 3-5%	Portage trail <10% Blue grade <Class 1 or 2 white water
Tread Width	0.3 - 0.5m	0.3 - 0.5m	0.5 - 0.7m (1 way) 0.7 - 1.0m (2 way)	1 - 2.5m	2.5 - 3m (1 way) 3 - 4.5m (2 way)	2 - 3m	2 - 3m	0 - 6m (3 - 4m per lane)		3 - 4m	Portage trails 0.5 - 0.7m
Cleared Width	No requirements for cleared width	Tread width plus 0.5m either side	Tread width plus 0.5m either side	Tread width plus 0.5m either side (plus 1m if equestrian)	Tread width plus 0.5m either side (plus 1m if equestrian)	Tread width plus 1m either side	Tread width plus 1m either side			Minimal	Tread width plus 0.5m either side
Cleared Height	2 - 3m	2 - 3m for hikers/bikers 4m for equestrian	2 - 3m for hikers/bikers 4m for equestrian	2 - 4m	2 - 4m	3m	3m				2 - 3m
Maintenance Consideration	Low maintenance, possible erosion or failure / overgrown vegetation concerns	Erosion mitigation and regular inspection necessary	Erosion mitigation and regular inspection necessary	Low maintenance, occasional grading / mounding	Low maintenance, occasional grading / mounding	Regular inspection, immediate repair of damaged sections	Regular inspection, immediate repair of damaged sections	Regular grading / resurfacing	All discretion of agency in charge of maintenance	Little maintenance needed	Low maintenance, possible erosion or failure / overgrown vegetation concerns

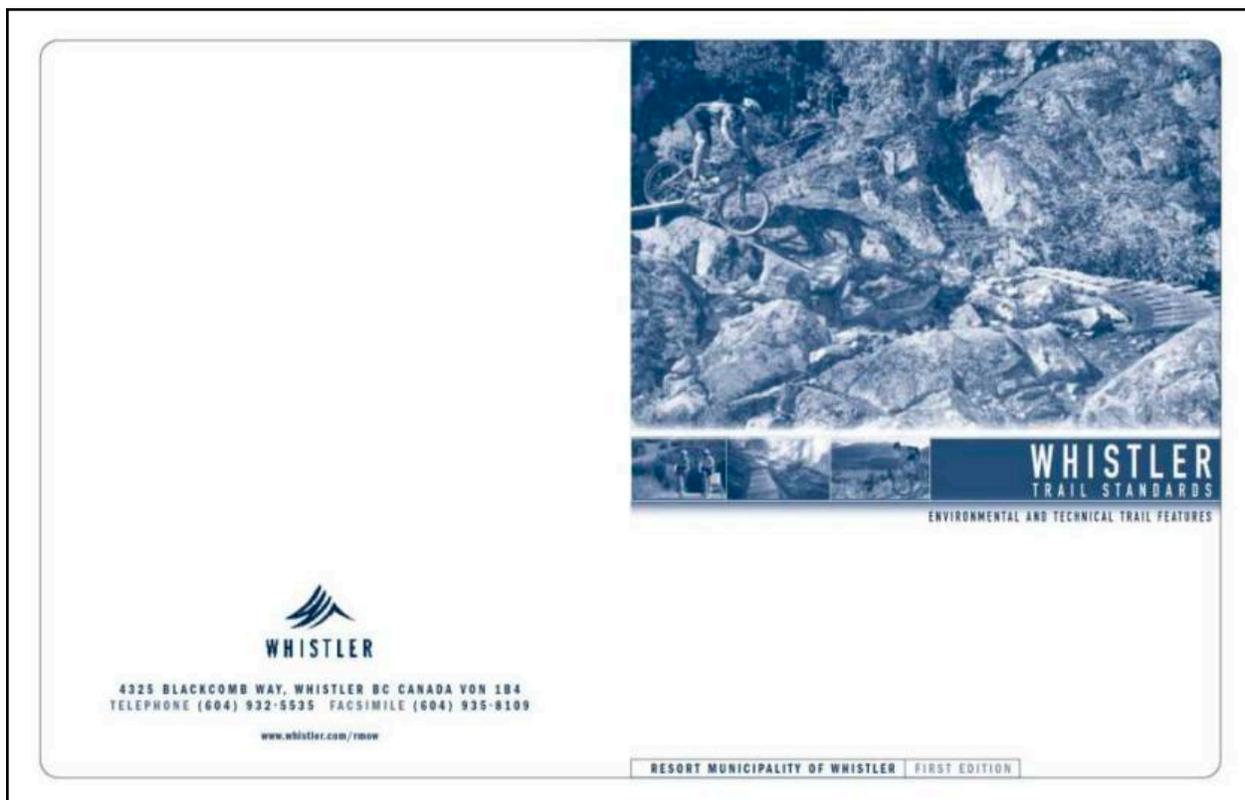


WHISTLER TRAIL STANDARDS

To establish standards for construction and maintenance the use of a combination of the Provincial Trail Standards, Whistler standard and the IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association) guide for trail building, is the preferred method. The Whistler Trail Standards handbook can be downloaded online, IMBA guides can be purchased off the IMBA website.

The document can be viewed and downloaded here:

https://www.mbta.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/trail_standards_first_edition.pdf





AUTHOR'S NOTES

As planners, we must not lose sight of the fact that guests are here to have a good time, avoid injury and not get lost.

The evolution of mountain bike trails, recreational equipment, and environmental issues require that this document be amendable.

Thanks to North Shore Mountain Bike Association (NSMBA) and the Whistler Off-Road Cycling Association (WORCA) for reviewing the document and providing feedback. Also thanks to Chama Polpo, Ken Neave and Tim Richardson for their feedback and insight. Special thanks to Keith Bennett for his feedback, insight and proactive approach to mountain biking.

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Andrew DeBarr
Whistler Cycling Committee
Summer 2009



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2

INTRODUCTION

Whistler, British Columbia has been recognized as a premier destination resort for mountain biking. For the most part, this can be credited to the Whistler Mountain Bike Park and a network of valley and off-road trails that provide a recreational and commuter experience for a wide range of residents and visitors. To sustain this experience, the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) proposes to restore, sign, maintain and manage this network of trails throughout the Whistler Valley. This document is not a "how-to" on building or maintaining trails; rather it is the standard by which the trails will be managed within the Whistler Valley.

The Resort Municipality of Whistler's Trail Standards, Environmental and Technical Trail Features was drafted in support of two initiatives identified by Volume One of Whistler 2020: Charting a Course for the Future. The first and foremost initiative described under the priority of Moving Toward Environmental Sustainability, states "We've established a trail hierarchy and environmental standards to ensure the type of trail and its maintenance is appropriate to the setting." A land use compatibility matrix was developed to address this objective. The matrix outlines the Trail Type and Trail Difficulty Level acceptable in distinct land-use classes. As well, environmental guidelines were established to minimize the placement of trails in sensitive environments. The second initiative described under the priority of Enhancing the Whistler Experience states "Whistler is one of the top bike towns in North America, with world-class trails." Whistler's trails must continue to provide exciting experiences for all levels of riders from families to advanced riders. Attention to providing a challenging experience, maintenance, a seamless network and an easy-to-use trail system will help position Whistler as one of the top bike towns in North America.

Appropriate management of our on- and off-road trail network is intended to ensure Whistler's status as a cycling destination with minimal environmental impact.



3



TRAILS AND LAND USE

This section is a macroscopic view of the trails, the environment and where trails may be placed. This section outlines the levels of land protection, trail type descriptions and trail difficulty levels. These three classifications interact together as defined by a compatibility matrix.

LAND USE DIRECTIONS

Whistler's environmental values and principles direct us to address land use as an important environmental consideration. Whistler's principle of an ecosystem-based approach advises us to mesh our human purposes with the larger patterns and flows of the natural world, and to study these to inform and guide our activities on the land.

From the draft Whistler Environmental Strategy, six land use directions are defined for the Whistler Valley. Each land use direction has a different level of environmental protection. For the purpose of this document, the LRUP and PAN 3 are given the same level of conservation.

DEVELOPED AREAS – This land use designation includes industrial, commercial and residential areas.

RECREATIONAL GREENWAYS – An important means for creating linkages between the built and natural environments, and between the needs of human communities and natural ecological systems. Incorporating opportunities for both recreational activities and the maintenance of natural features and wildlife habitat, Recreational Greenways are a vital part of environmentally responsible land use planning.

LRUP – The Local Resource Use Plan was developed in response to public concerns over logging effects on the visual quality of landscapes and the recreation uses of the land in and near the RMOW. It was a joint effort from the Ministry of Forests, Scientific Forest District, and the RMOW. The LRUP boundaries extend from Brandywine Falls to the south to Cougar Mountain in the north. LRUP land contains rare and unique species or unique habitat features not found in other ecosystems and are therefore important to protect.



The Whistler Environmental Strategy, Discussion Paper, September 19, 1999, Section 4, Appendix, Page 4.
 Final, Section 4.6, Page 25.
 Final, Section 4.6, Page 25.

PAN PROTECTED AREA NETWORK – Divided into the following three subcategories of protection:

PAN 3 – RESERVE LANDS Large tracts of relatively natural land, which could be subject to recreational or other development provided an Environmental Impact Assessment is done. PAN 3 protection is generally used for second growth forests and other natural areas not included in PAN 1 and 2. In cases of development, key ecological components of reserve lands may be subject to PAN 1 or 2 protection after development. Most trail types are acceptable with the exception of paved Type I trails.

PAN 2 – SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES Well protected and allow some low-impact human activities or development (creation of trails). Priorities for PAN 2 protection include significant streams and riparian areas, significant old growth forests and wildlife corridors. Only low impact trails such as Trail Type III, IV or V are acceptable to be built in PAN 2 areas.

PAN 1 – KEY PROTECTED AREAS Preserved to protect unique and sensitive ecosystems from any human development or use, with the possible exception in individual cases of very low-impact nature trails, boardwalks or wildlife viewing platforms for the specific purpose of habitat protection. Priorities for PAN 1 protection include streams, wetlands, riparian areas, old growth forests, key wildlife corridors and unique or threatened habitat types. No cycling trails are to be built in these areas.

COMPATIBILITY MATRIX

The Whistler Valley effectively has the land use directions. These land use directions relate to the five trail types (reference to page 6-7) and the first four trail difficulty levels (reference to page 8-9) in the following compatibility matrix. The RMOW will construct new trails only in environments compatible with trails.

		LAND USE DIRECTION				
		Developed Areas	Greenways	PAN 3 (outside LRUP)	PAN 2	PAN 1
TRAIL TYPE	II	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	III	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	IV	✓	✓	✓	✓	G, G
	V	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	VI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Legend: ✓ = Compatible, ✗ = Incompatible, G = Grandfather Clause

TABLE 1. COMPATIBILITY MATRIX

The Whistler Environmental Strategy, Section 4.1, Page 21.
 These hiking trails in residential areas are only low-impact nature trails, boardwalks or wildlife platforms for the specific purpose of habitat protection and are permitted to be constructed in PAN 1.
 Refer to page 46, this document.

TRAIL TYPES

'Trail Types' are a description of non-motorized trail road characteristics. Trail Type I has the highest amount of traffic and the most impact on the environment of the trail types. Conversely, Trail Type V has little traffic and the trail road is minimal.



TRAIL TYPE I

- TYPE I**
- plan as paved double-track trail for smooth, all weather use to provide access to village, parks and subdivisions
 - use asphalt or chip-and-seal road surfacing
 - clear width to tread width plus 0.5 m gravel shoulder and adequate drainage on each side
 - clear height to 3.0 m
 - provide 2.0 m tread width
 - provide illumination for night use if appropriate
 - provide interpretive and directional signs, benches, viewing areas where appropriate



TRAIL TYPE II

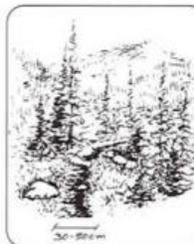
- TYPE II**
- plan as surfaced double-track or single-track trail
 - machine built
 - remove all embedded trail obstacles
 - use crushed limestone with fines, well-compacted gravel, or existing old roadbeds
 - clear width to 3.0 m for double-track and 1.5 m for single-track trails
 - clear height to 2.4 m
 - provide 2.3 m tread width for double-track trails, 1.5 m for single-track trails
 - provide illumination for night use if appropriate

* Sources for these classifications per: BC Parks, BC Forest Service and RMOW. For Back Management, Trail Classifications, 4/2004/12

- TYPE III**
- plan as unsurfaced single-track trail
 - may be machine built
 - clear width to 1.0-1.5 m
 - clear height to 2.4 m
 - provide 1.0-1.5 m tread width on native soil



TRAIL TYPE III



TRAIL TYPE IV

- TYPE V**
- plan as low-impact nature trail or lightly used wilderness trail
 - no high impact users, such as motorized vehicles or horses
 - clear height to 2.4 m
 - provide 1.0-1.5 m tread maximum, avoid trail grubbing, sections of very rough terrain
 - in the case of low-impact nature trails use boardwalks to traverse sensitive areas



TRAIL TYPE V



MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL DIFFICULTY LEVELS

The following identify all the levels of trail technical difficulty as they apply to mountain bikes, starting with easiest and moving up to expert unlimited. Included are general and detailed description of trails and Technical Trail Features (TTFs). This section quantifies what characteristics compose the trail difficulty for mountain bikes.

NAME: Easiest **SYMBOL:** White circle

GENERAL

- Flatly flat, wide and paved. Suitable for all users.*

DETAILED

- Maximum grade: 10%
- Profiled average grade: no more than 5%
- Minimum radius: 2.5 m curve radius
- Usually associated with Trail Type I

EXPECTED TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES

TTFs are not appropriate for this trail level.

NAME: More Difficult **SYMBOL:** Blue Square

GENERAL

- Challenging riding with steep slopes and/or obstacles, possibly on a narrow trail with poor traction. Requires riding experience.**

DETAILED

- Maximum climbing grade: 45%
- Maximum sustained climbing grade: 30%
- Maximum descent grade: no one-side surface: 35%
- Curve radius: 3 m minimum
- Usually associated with Trail Type III or IV

EXPECTED TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES

GENERAL

- TTF width to height ratio of 1:1
- Small bridges (flat, wide, low and reliable from section to section)
- Small rollable drops
- Small water-courses
- Small jumps
- Moderate sized logs

DETAILED

- Embedded trail obstacles: up to 20 cm high
- Elevated bridges: less than 1.8 m (6') high above surface
- Minimum width of flat decking is one-half the height above surface
- For connected sections, the bounding angle between each connected section must be large enough to allow the bicycle to complete maneuvers without requiring any wheel lifting techniques
- Turn-outter: maximum pivot height, less than 60 cm (2') high above the surface
- Minimum width of flat decking is one-half the height above surface at pivot point
- Back or ramp descents not to exceed 45%
- Drop-offs not exceeding 30 cm high with one shored off all obstacles
- Jumps
 - No jumps with consequences for lack of speed (for example, coffin jumps or gap jumps)
 - Table top jumps: maximum height for cm (2') jumps maximum height 45 cm (18")

NAME: Easy **SYMBOL:** Green circle

GENERAL

- Gentle climbs and easily avoidable obstacles such as rocks, roots and potholes.**

DETAILED

- Maximum grade: 15%
- Maximum sustained climbing grade: 8%
- Curve radius: 4 m minimum
- Usually associated with Trail Type II or III

EXPECTED TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES

GENERAL

- Small roots & logs to cross
- Embedded rocks to avoid
- Wide bridges

DETAILED

- Embedded trail obstacles: up to 10 cm
- Logs and roots perpendicular to direction of travel (1:1*)
- Bridge minimum 50 cm wide, handrail required if height of bridge above surface exceeds 60 cm
- Back fare descents not to exceed 45%
- No drops
- No jumps

*Foot Restraint
**Risk Register, Queen's New Zealand Mountain Bike Rules, 2016
*Foot Restraint
**Risk Register

NAME: Most Difficult **SYMBOL:** Black Diamond

GENERAL

- A mixture of long steep climbs, loose trail surfaces, numerous difficult obstacles to avoid or jump over, drop-offs and sharp corners. Some sections are definitely easier to walk.**

DETAILED

- Maximum climbing grade: 30%
- Maximum sustained climbing grade: 15%
- Usually associated with Trail Type III, IV or V

EXPECTED TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES

GENERAL

- TTF width to height ratio of 1:1
- Elevated bridges and turn-outters with maximum deck height
- Connected bridges
- Mandrup air
- Larger jumps
- Steep descents with sharp transitions

DETAILED

- Elevated bridges: less than 3 m (10') high above surface
- Minimum width of flat decking is one-quarter the height above surface
- Turn-outter: maximum pivot height less than 1.8 m (6') above surface
- Minimum width of flat decking is one-quarter the height above surface at pivot point
- Mandatory air less than 2.8 m (9.5') vertical
- Back or ramp descents not to exceed 20%
- Jumps
 - Table top, no maximum height
 - No gap jumps or flyover sections

NAME: Expert Unlimited **SYMBOL:** Double Black Diamond

GENERAL

- Exceptional bike control skills and balance essential to clear many challenging obstacles. High-risk level. Only a handful of riders will enjoy these rides.
- The BMOV recognizes Expert Unlimited as a difficulty level but due to the small size of the user group, the BMOV will not pursue ownership of these trails, however there may be some of these elements on a trail provided there is a clearly defined alternate route around.

DETAILED

- Similar to Most Difficult
- Usually associated with Trail Type III or IV

EXPECTED TECHNICAL TRAIL FEATURES

GENERAL

- Risk exceeds Most Difficult due to height, width and exposure
- Fall zones may not meet fall zone standards
- The consequences of errors may be severe and rescue may be difficult

DETAILED

- Exceeding Most Difficult

SUPPORTING GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

This section is a macroscopic view of trails. It contains guidelines and standards about the placement of trails, construction and strength of technical trail features and the signing of trails.

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES

The benefits of a trail for recreational purposes must be balanced with the desire to protect the environment. All intrusions into the environment have some degree of impact. However, these impacts can be minimized to balance the objective of a recreational experience with minimal impact on the surrounding environment. Trails that adversely impact the environment will deteriorate in time, have a low aesthetic value and incur a high maintenance cost. Trail construction must strive for minimal impact on the surroundings and be designed with consideration for the specific environment and the intended use of the trails.

TRAIL PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

- Trail placement should avoid hazard areas such as unstable slopes, soil prone to erosion, cliffs, embankments and undercut stream banks, etc.
- Avoid shallow rooted trees with high windthrow potential and snags.
- Avoid routes that impact on wildlife species.
- Avoid critical habitat of rare or fragile plant species. If there are fragile plant communities next to the trail, delineate the trail edges by using logs or rocks.
- Avoid sensitive or fragile archaeological or historic sites.
- Avoid building trails in community watersheds.
- Avoid trail routing that encourages users to take shortcuts where an easier route or interesting feature is visible. If an interesting feature exists, locate the trail to provide the desired access to the trail user. Use landforms or vegetation to block potential shortcut routes.
- Avoid routing a trail too close to another trail section to prevent trail proliferation or shortcuts between the two trails.
- Ensure trailbeds on bedrock or hard packed surfaces and avoid organic materials.
- Use placed stones in sensitive areas and steep descents to minimize trail erosion.



AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS

- Trail construction of Trail Types III-V near an aquatic area within 30 m of streams and within management zones as per Forest Practice Codes must minimize vegetation removal and soil disturbance. Construction standards should be consistent with trail use, thereby minimizing trail width requirements.
- Structures in direct contact with water should be inert (for example, natural untreated cedar, treated concrete or steel) to avoid water quality impacts associated with chemical leaching from treated wood. Pile supported structures are preferred over slabs or floats for bridges requiring supports in contact with streams.
- Locate bridge crossings to minimize disturbance to streambeds and banks. Sections of the roadway that are straight and where banks are visible are preferred for crossing.
- Construct bridges across streams to top-of-the-bank. This minimizes erosion of stream banks and sedimentation of streams.

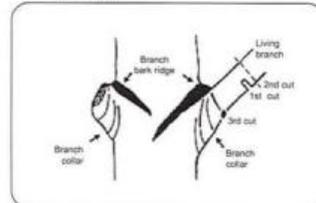
GENERAL

- Avoid cutting down live trees.
- Tree branches must be cut at the collar, both longer or shorter are likely to cause infection to the tree (Figure 1).
- Cover exposed roots.
- If pretreated wood has been selected for structures being placed in the ground, the structure should be isolated in poly wrap below grade.

USE OF MACHINERY

- Limited access trails that penetrate sensitive areas should be constructed manually with materials and equipment that can be easily transported by small work crews.
- If machinery is required, minimum standards as per Forest Practice Code should be adopted (i.e. no machinery within 3 m of any waterbody). Low impact construction techniques should be employed such as small underderrilled, rubber tired vehicles, and construction pads, platforms or cranes. Prefabricated structures that can be manually assembled on site should be used, if possible.

FIGURE 1 BRANCH BARK RIDGE AND BRANCH COLLAR



*"Pruning Basics and Tools" (<http://www.nrc.ca/publications/5419/5419main.pdf>) (April 2, 2002)



TTF CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

Trails with constructed Technical Trail Features (TTF) must exceed a minimum standard to protect the trail user.

SAFETY

TTFs must exceed the minimum strength and stability standard. Also, the finish must be such that if a rider were to fall, the structure or other protrusions would not increase the degree of the injury.

STRENGTH AND STABILITY

Each span of the TTF must be capable of withstanding a centered vertical load of 400 kg (880 lb), a three-harmonic roller/hoop and gear. Every single rung should be capable of holding a rider/bike and gear's weight.

TTF DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

• Gateways

By placing a narrow section or difficult turn early while the TTF is still close to the ground (known as a gateway), inexperienced riders may dismount prior to the TTF getting too high above the ground where the rider is more likely to be injured should a fall occur. For example, place a 10 cm wide gateway 40 cm off the ground as a gateway to a 30 cm wide section 1.2 m off the ground.

Make the highest difficulty section visible from the entry:

- By placing the difficult section in view, the rider can make an informed decision before they may get into trouble with a TTF that may be beyond their ability.
- Avoid wide, easy sections leading to high, narrow exposed features.

TTF HEIGHT AND WIDTH

As outlined in the Technical Trail Difficulty section, maximum height and minimum width are dependent on the TTF's difficulty. As the height above the ground increases, the consequence of injury in the case of a fall increases.

Height is measured vertically to the lowest point within 1.0 m adjacent to TTF (figure 4). Tread width is the amount of flat tread (figure 5).

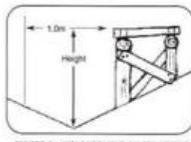


FIGURE 2 MEASUREMENT OF TTF HEIGHT

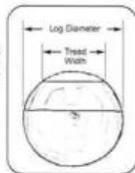


FIGURE 3 TREAD WIDTH MEASUREMENT

FALL ZONE GUIDELINES

Being a mountain bike on trails and technical trail features involves challenging oneself and with that challenge comes risk of injury. Challenges come from terrain that contains many natural and man-made features. Risk is relative to riders skill level in relation to the difficulty of the trail.

FALL ZONE

The fall zone is the area adjacent to the technical trail features, bottom of descents and the outside of corners that the rider may deviate into. To help reduce the incidence and severity of injuries, fall zones should be reviewed for hazards. Hazard mitigation efforts can be limited to those items that can be reasonably expected to be replaced or removed using hand tools while maintaining the natural characteristics of the terrain surrounding the trail.

METHODS

Methods to reduce risk in fall zones (1.5 m on each side of the trail) include but are not limited to:

- Cutting or digging out any sharp objects
- Trimming tree branches to branch shoulder (see figure 1)
- Covering of hazards in another option if material such as cotton logs, bark, mulch, dirt, etc. is available
- Areas where falls are frequent may need periodic re-covering
- Drafting of sharp points or edges of exposed rocks

NOTE: The fall zone need not be cleared of all foliage; the purpose of fall zone guidelines is to reduce the chance of injury should a fall occur. Replanting of the fall zone with a durable locally occurring species may be considered.

FOCUS

The primary focus for fall zone clearing should be on trails rated "More Difficult". Riders may be learning to ride TTFs and their fall recovery may not be perfected.



CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

Cross bracing of vertical members is required (figure 4). Also, TTFs should not be mounted to living trees for the following reasons:

- The tree will continue to grow, compromising the integrity of the TTF.
- The tree may snap due to wind, weakening the TTF.
- Nailing to live trees is harmful to the tree.

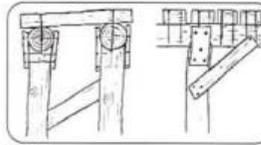


FIGURE 4 BRIDGE STRINGER SUPPORT AND CROSS BRACING

CONNECTED MEMBERS

The methods for joining members in order of preference is nuts and bolts, lag bolts, wood screws or arbolos nails. Ensure two-thirds of nail or screw's length penetrates the stringer. Loading on a member should be done in such a way as not to rely exclusively on the shear strength of the joining method.

BRIDGE RUNG SPACING

Deck rungs must be placed tightly so that children will not catch their feet between rungs, arms will not fit between rungs and all users including dogs will use bridges as opposed to walking adjacent to the bridge, compromising the sensitive area the bridge was intended to protect. An appropriate spacing between rungs is 3 cm to promote drainage of water and mud. Overhang rungs post-stringers by less than 3 cm (2 in) (figure 5).

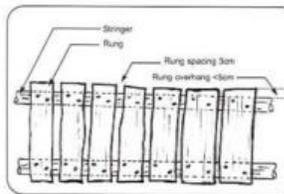


FIGURE 5 BRIDGE RUNG SPACING, RUNG OVERHANG

BRIDGE SURFACING

It is recommended that wood surfaces with a slope exceeding 10% with the exception of split wood having a rough surface finish, have an applied anti-slip surface. One recommended material is expanded diamond lath. Chalkboard and redwood material traps moisture preventing pressure treating. Note: TTFs must be reinforced to withstand the additional loading of anti-slip surfaces against the direction of the braking forces.

WOOD PREPARATION

Woods must be stripped off and wood in contact with the earth should be treated to minimize rotting. For natural cut resistant wood, use cedar.

SIGN GUIDELINES

Signs are a necessary component of trail management. They provide the user with information that will allow them to make an informed and educated choice. The hierarchy of signs in Whistler will be comprised of three levels. The first is a Trail Network Sign book that contains a map, general information about the area and safety suggestions. The second level is a Trailhead Sign that would contain information specific to the trail. Third, In-Route Signs along the trail to promote confidence in the user that they are following the correct route and to be posted on features that are a higher difficulty rating than the trail rating.

TRAIL NETWORK SIGN

Located at a parking lot or similar entrance to a network of trails. Information for trail network signs may contain a combination of the following:

- Topographical map of area
- IMBA rules of the trail
- Safety
 1. Ride on open trails only
 2. Leave no trace
 3. Control your bicycle
 4. Always yield trail
 5. Never speak animals
 6. Stay ahead
- Trail etiquette
 1. Stay on trail, use side-sweeps
 2. Do not alter trail
 3. Ride don't slide
 4. Avoid riding in muddy conditions
 5. Remove your limits
 6. Support trail maintenance
- Notes about keeping dogs out of fish bearing streams and educational components
 - Information on who to contact with trail maintenance concerns or how to get involved.
 - Acceptable trail user groups
 - Emergency contact phone numbers
 - Description of trail phone coverage
 - Background information on the surrounding area and trails
 - Trail maps for distribution
 - Bulletin board
 - Reference to work at other resource

TRAILHEAD SIGN

These signs are to be located at the entrance(s) of a particular trail to provide the user with the information necessary to make an informed and educated decision whether to proceed or not.

SUGGESTED INFORMATION

- Trail name
- Topographical map of trail
- Trail length
- Elevation gain and loss
- Use at own risk disclaimer

DETAILS

Signs size 140 mm X 120 mm. Selected to be mounted without overhang on 120 mm X 120 mm posts (figure 6).

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

- Trail difficulty rating and a written explanation of what the user may encounter on the trail
- Warning and quantity of higher difficulty TTFs if present
- Conditions subject to change
- Inspect TTFs prior to riding
- Time range to complete
- Trail profile
- Disclaimer – most trails will be a level or two harder to ride when slippery



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TEL: (250) 305-4464

First Journey Trails has completed a large number of trail design and construction projects over the past 8 years. Most recently the Desous Mountain Masterplan and the Bella Coola Valley Trail Masterplan.

Though our primary field of expertise is the design and construction of mountain bike facilities, we offer a comprehensive list of recreational services. Satisfied clients include: municipalities, mountain bike clubs, Ministry of Recreation Sites & Trails, First Nations, and private landowners. Thomas Schoen has been building trails since 1998 in the Interior of BC. He started building multi-user trails as a volunteer in the Wells/Barkerville area on Mt. Murray, Mt. Agnes and the Cornish Mountain trails system. Lately he has been building trails in the McLeese Lake and Williams Lake area and is specializing on TTF's (Technical Trail Features). In 2009 First Journey Consulting entered into a trailbuilding agreement with the District of Wells and carried out the construction of the areas' new multi-use trail network.

Since 2009 First Journey Consulting has authored many trail-planning documents and trail-network masterplans including the masterplan for the Williams Lake Westsyde network, the Desous Mountain Masterplan, the Soda Creek and Deep Creek networks and the Williams Lake Indian Band trail networks.



Thomas is a Director for the Williams Lake Cycling Club, the Aboriginal Youth Mountain Bike Program and is the President of the Cariboo Mountain Bike Consortium. He is a Provincial trail advocate and teaches trail design/building to First Nations trail crews in BC.

We specialize in Trail Network Masterplans, community network development, stakeholder consultations, trail building workshops and First Nation's MTB development projects. Award winning tourism development and consultation background and non-profit management expertise.





COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORT

DATE: April 25, 2022
TO: Council
FROM: Mayor Roden

Assigned Committees:

Finance Committee
Gold Country Communities Society (GCCS)
Historic Hat Creek Ranch
Cache Creek Environmental Assessment
TNRD
Municipal Insurance Association (MIA)

Alternate Committees:

Health Care
Communities in Bloom (CiB)

Working Groups:

Economic Development/Tourism WG
Storm Drainage & Run Off WG
Trails Master Plan WG
Fire Department Sustainability WG

April 8: Interview with CBC Kamloops (radio)

Was asked to speak about the sudden passing of long-time Ashcroft resident and Highland Valley Teck employee Gerry Wong.

April 8: Interview with Radio-Canada

Did an online interview with Radio-Canada about the recent Federal budget, specifically the spending that was announced for wildfire/disaster funding and what it might mean for the region.

April 13: Meeting with Ashcroft Communities in Bloom

Members of staff and council met with members of Ashcroft Communities in Bloom to discuss the challenges that CiB is facing, the partnership with the village, and plans going forward as the group moves ahead after having had to curtail many events and activities over the last two years. The community barbecue on May 21 was mentioned as a place where CiB could set up a table and connect with community members old and new who might want to learn more about the group and get involved.

April 13: HUB community helpline

Discussion about the community helpline for Ashcroft/Cache Creek/Clinton/Spences Bridge residents and related matters, involving representatives from the HUB, E. Fry, Equality Project, Community Resource Society, Sage Hills Church, Ashcroft Moving Forward, Better at Home, Soup's On, Spences Bridge Community Club, BC Ambulance Service, VOA, and Village of Clinton. Deb Tedford reported on the hospice society and an upcoming fundraiser, Better at Home is looking for more housekeepers, I spoke about the community barbecue and the opportunity for local non-profits and groups to have a table, and the E. Fry society talked about mental health supports for those who have been affected by disasters and emergency preparedness for future disasters. There was an acknowledgement that the one-year anniversary of the Lytton fire on June 30, followed almost immediately by the five-year anniversary of the Elephant Hill wildfire a week later on July 7, might prove triggering/difficult for some people.

April 13: Public meeting for TNRD Area 'I' residents around Lytton

As TNRD vice-chair, helped facilitate a meeting between the TNRD and Lytton Area 'I' residents so that they could ask questions directly of TNRD staff about what is happening in and around Lytton as the clean-up continues.

April 14: Meeting with Carl Meadows of IH

Spoke/'met' with Carl Meadows of Interior Health, who is taking on the role of Acting Executive Director, Clinical Operations, Rural Acute and Community, Thompson and Cariboo regions while Lisa Zetes-Zanatta takes a leave of absence. Among the items discussed were the 'whittling away' of services at the Ashcroft Hospital over the last two decades or so, concerns about physician turnover and the current business model at the clinic, and frustrations around the continued curtailed hours at the Emergency Department.

April 5: Landfill monitoring committee meeting

The committee was to review the applications from members of the public who want to be on the committee, but there were not enough committee members present (only Coun. Wendy Coomber and me). The applications will be forwarded by email to committee members for review and a decision.

April 20: TNRD Utilities committee

All 1,050 water meters have now been installed in the 11 water systems operated by the TNRD. Mock bills (based on metered usage) must be sent out for four quarters alongside the flat-rate bills, with users continuing to pay the flat rate for the time being. The committee discussed the question of extremely small water systems (fewer than 20 users), and the fact that most small (fewer than 500 users) systems can never break even.

April 20: Meeting with MP Brad Vis

CAO Dyck and I met with MP Brad Vis for an informal discussion about challenges and issues facing Ashcroft. The need for housing development emerged as a major challenge, and MP Vis provided information about a possible avenue to pursue.

April 20: Friends of Historic Hat Creek Ranch board meeting

The board received updates about various projects, both underway (a new deck) and planned (relocation and renovation of the Indigenous site). The Ranch is scheduled to open as planned on May 1.

April 21: TNRD launch of new music program

Attended the launch of a new partnership/program between the TNRD/Library System with Lee's Music, which will be available through all TNRL branches.

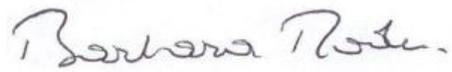
April 21: Regular TNRD board meeting

This meeting took place after this report was prepared. BC Wildfire Service was scheduled to make a presentation about the upcoming wildfire season. There was also a recommendation that the board approve a new full-time, permanent position, specifically a fire training officer/FireSmart coordinator.

April 22: TNRD Committee of the Whole meeting

This meeting took place after this report was prepared. Items under discussion were to include the BC Step Code, as Step 3 has already been adopted by many municipalities and may be mandatory across the province by the end of 2022, and a presentation by Film Commissioner Vicci Weller.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Roden,
Mayor



COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORT

DATE: April 25, 2022
TO: Council
FROM: Councillor Tuohey

Deputy Mayor – November 1, 2021 – October 31, 2022

Assigned Committees/WG:	Alternate:
Heritage	Cache Creek Environmental Assessment
Health Care	Seniors
Communities in Bloom	Municipal Insurance Association (MIA)
HUB Society	
Trails Master Plan WG	
Heritage Park / Community Garden WG	

April 13: Meeting with Ashcroft Communities in Bloom – via Zoom

Council met with CiB. The CiB Committee is continuing with the program, however are in need of more members! The plant swap is happening now at 210 Brink Street until May 21st. Plants have been ordered for the planters around town. Planting will take place in May.

April 20: HAWC Meeting – via Zoom

Not good news on their part. The proposed new health care model has been placed on hold. The group has not been able to get a response from Interior Health (IH). It appears that this proposal that everyone has been working on has stalled at the IH Board and as far as anyone knows has not been sent to the provincial government. The lack of emergency room openings does not appear to be improving any time in the future. The lab is now being closed on Wednesday and not because of a lack of patients but due to sending the lab technician to Clinton. What is needed is a full-time lab technician in Ashcroft as well as one or two days in Clinton.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Tuohey,
Councillor