



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 7, 2024

ACRD celebrates completion of Multi-Use Path

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) is thrilled to announce that West Coast Multi-Use Path is officially complete.

The ACRD, our partners, and funders held an official opening celebration on June 7, 2024. The path closes the 1.2-kilometre missing link between the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve ʔapsčiiik łašii Trail and the ACRD Multi-Use Path that begins at the Junction and connects to the District of Ucluelet's MUP.

“The ACRD has been working on this project for more than five years, and it is a great to celebrate its completion,” explains John Jack, chair of the ACRD Board of Directors. “With the completion of this section of trail, safety is no longer a barrier when travelling between Tofino and Ucluelet, and all points in between. This section makes active transportation in our region even better.”

The ACRD received several grants that made completion of this important path possible. The largest was \$500,000 from the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program (formerly Bike BC). The grant made up the missing portion of funding needed for this project. Prior to this grant, the ACRD received \$200,000 of grant funding from Capital and Innovation program of Island Coastal Economic Trust in 2020 and more than \$731,900 Canada Community Building Funds (formerly Community Works Funding) allocated by the ACRD Board.

“This new multi-use pathway will help more people choose greener, healthier options to travel between Tofino and Ucluelet and all points in between,” said Minister Josie Osborne, on behalf of Rob Fleming Minister for Transportation and Infrastructure. “Active transportation projects are essential to promoting safe and reliable alternatives to car travel. With the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant program, we will see more people cycling, walking, or rolling to work and school or simply to be active and enjoy the outdoors.”

Completing this section of trail addresses the many safety concerns raised by residents who are looking to use a separated path to bike, walk, or skate to and from any of the communities on the West Coast. The missing link has raised safety concerns as people use the shoulder of the highway to traverse the section not yet constructed.

“The Yuuʔuʔiʔaʔh Government appreciates the ACRD in overseeing the completion of the Multi-Use Path,” says Charles McCarthy, President of Yuuʔuʔiʔaʔh Government – Ucluelet First Nation. “Since the initial opening with the Pacific Rim National Park, the path has been well used by locals and visitors. While this connector ensures safety and access, it also represents connection of community between our territories.”



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“The West Coast Multi-Use Path will help pedestrians and cyclists go between Tofino and Ucluelet, and around the National Park, easily,” said the Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. “We are proud to support this project and will keep investing in projects that make lives more convenient for all Canadians.”

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About the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District:

Established in 1966, the Alberni–Clayoquot Regional District is in the heart of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. It encompasses more than 6,500 square kilometres, with a population of approximately 31,000. The ACRD consists of member municipalities Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet, as well as Bamfield, Beaufort, Long Beach, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek. It was also the first regional district to welcome full participation on the board from the Treaty First Nations of Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government and Toquaht Nation. The ACRD is within the territory of the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations. The ACRD is governed by a fourteen-member Board of Directors that represent the member jurisdictions. The regional district offices are in Port Alberni.