



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VILLAGE OF PEMBERTON SECURES FUNDING FOR PEMBERTON AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE SKILLS PARK Park to be delivered in partnership with Pemberton Off-Road Cycling Association

PEMBERTON, BC – The Village of Pemberton has been successful in securing \$974,258 in funding through the Community Economic Resilience stream of the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP) for the construction of the Pemberton Area Mountain Bike Skills Park.

“The Village of Pemberton is delighted that we have received the funding to move forward with the Pemberton Area Mountain Bike Skills Park,” said Mike Richman, Village of Pemberton Mayor.

“The Park will be an important community amenity that will give cyclists of all ages and abilities an opportunity to grow competency and knowledge in a safe and controlled manner while supporting the community's social, economic and health needs. This is wonderful news for our whole mountain bike community.”

The Pemberton Area Mountain Bike Skills Park will be located at the Pemberton & District Recreation Site located on Pemberton Farm Road East. The Park will provide residents and visitors access to a quality, world-class recreation facility, identified as a regional priority due to the area's limited recreation facilities.

The project also supports the vision of the Pemberton & District Recreation Site by providing a local, accessible, safe, positive environment for all members, encouraging active lifestyles.

“The Mountain Bike Skills Park will be a fantastic addition to the Pemberton & District Recreation Site, which will serve Pemberton and the surrounding area, including Area C of the SLRD,” said SLRD Electoral Area C Director, Russell Mack.

“We’d like to congratulate the Village of Pemberton on this successful grant application, and thank them for their ongoing commitment to this work, that enhances the recreation services for our residents.”

The Park will be developed in partnership with the Pemberton Off-Road Cycling Association (PORCA).

“While Pemberton’s world-class bike trails are in high demand, they are extremely technical in nature given Pemberton's terrain and topography. The majority of Pemberton's trails require an intermediate skill level and there are very few flat beginner trails on which to learn or practice on,” said Bree Thorlakson, Executive Director, Pemberton Off-Road Cycling Association.

“We are grateful to the Province of BC for this generous contribution towards the Park. This investment will bolster our local economy while serving our local and visiting biking community. PORCA looks forward



to rolling up our sleeves working alongside our local government partners to deliver this incredible community asset.”

The proposed Mountain Bike Skills Park is one of four outdoor recreation amenities planned at the Pemberton & District Recreation Site. The site concept was informed by extensive community consultation in 2013.

To view Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program project information, visit https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/2.24.2021_CERIP_CER_projects.pdf

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About the Village of Pemberton www.pemberton.ca

Pemberton is one of the most desirable communities in BC and home to family farms, fresh outdoor adventures and stunning vistas. With over 2500 residents and just 30 km from Whistler, Pemberton prides itself on its creative and collaborative approach with the business community, local volunteer groups, neighbouring communities and key business and tourism partners such as Tourism Pemberton and the Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce. Pemberton’s mild winters, warm summers and unique pioneer heritage provide an ideal place to enjoy arts, culture, history, recreation, dining, shopping and comfortable lodging.

About the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District www.slrd.bc.ca

Located in southwestern BC, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) is a local government federation consisting of four member municipalities (District of Lillooet, Village of Pemberton, Resort Municipality of Whistler, District of Squamish) and four unincorporated rural Electoral Areas (A, B, C, D). Headquartered in Pemberton, which is the approximate geographic centre of the region, the SLRD delivers a range of local, sub-regional and regional services to approximately 42,665 residents (2016 Census).

About the Pemberton Off-Road Cycling Association (PORCA)

The Pemberton Off Road Cycling Association was founded to support riders and trails of all levels. Through community involvement and trails stewardship, PORCA strives to maintain and enhance Pemberton's world class riding experience for residents and visitors.

About the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP)

CERIP is providing \$100 million in one-time infrastructure grants for projects that are ready to go throughout the province. These projects will improve community economic resilience, develop tourism infrastructure, support unique heritage infrastructure and support economic recovery for rural communities.



CERIP funding is distributed across five different streams managed by separate partner ministries: Municipal Affairs; Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport; Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development; and Children and Family Development.

All CERIP projects must begin construction in 2021 and be completed by March 31, 2023.

CERIP is part of StrongerBC: BC's Economic Recovery Plan, which sets out the Province's latest steps to help people, businesses and communities recover and come out of COVID-19 stronger and better prepared. B.C.'s total provincial response to the COVID-19 pandemic exceeds \$8 billion.

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