

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CVRD receives funding to complete restoration of flood-damaged section of the Cowichan Valley Trail

DUNCAN, BC – The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) has received significant grant funding to restore critical infrastructure along the Cowichan Valley Trail (CVT) that was damaged as a result of flooding in late 2021.

Earlier this month, the CVRD received confirmation that its application for financial assistance to restore critical infrastructure along the CVT between Agira Road and Sherman Road was approved by the Province of British Columbia. Through the Provincial Disaster Financial Assistance Program, the CVRD will receive up to 90% of the project costs, currently estimated in the range of \$900,000. This section of the trail remains closed as a result of extensive storm damage following the November 2021 atmospheric river rainfall event.

"The changing climate has increased the severity and frequency of extreme weather events, much like we saw during the November 2021 atmospheric river event," said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness. "We know that when there's a natural disaster, it's important that communities have the support they need to rebuild. The beloved Cowichan Valley Trail brings family and friends together by promoting healthy lifestyles and I'm excited for its eventual reopening."

Timelines to complete the environmental approval process for this restoration work are in the final stages with the necessary regulatory approval authorities. Once secured, the CVRD will issue a tender for the works and hope to award a contract in the near future. Until the required work is complete, the Cowichan Valley Trail corridor at Bings Creek (from the Sherman Road Trailhead to Agira Road) will continue to remain closed.

"This is wonderful news, as we've been unable to complete the necessary work to restore this well-used section of Cowichan Valley Trail without adding considerable cost to residents of the region," said Aaron Stone, Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District. "On behalf of the Cowichan region I want to extend our thanks to the Province for prioritizing this project and providing funding to cover nearly the entire cost."

To learn more about the Cowichan Valley Trail, please visit the [CVRD website](#).

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